

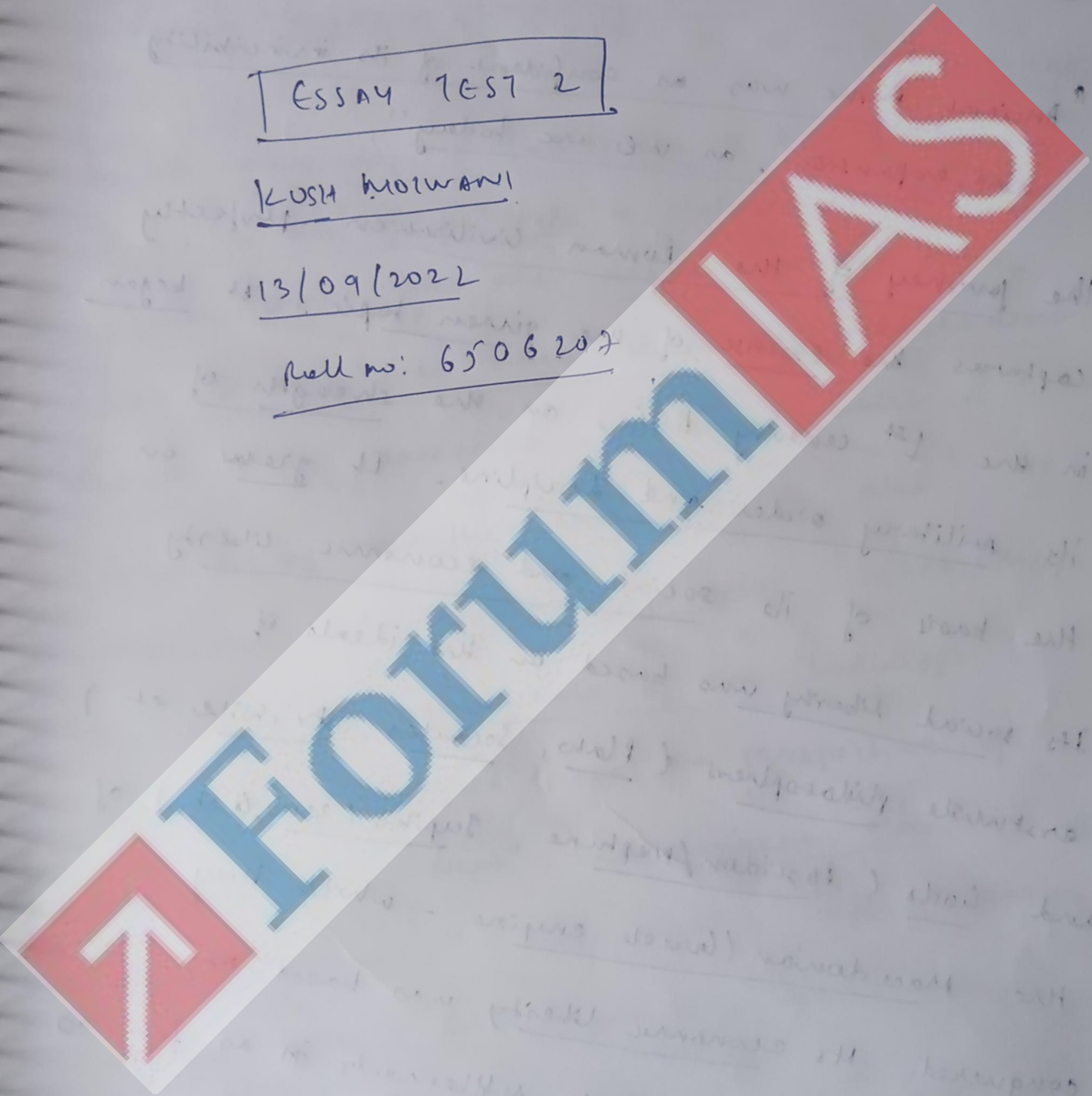
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ESSAY TEST 2

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SECTION - A

CIVILIZATION BEGINS WITH ORDER,
GROWS WITH LIBERTY and
DIES WITH CHAOS

"Ancient Rome was as confident of its invincibility
and expansion, as we are today".

The journey of the Roman civilization perfectly
captures the essence of the given topic. It began
in the 1st century BCE, on the strength of
its military order and discipline. It grew on
the basis of its social and economic liberty.

Its social liberty was based on the ideals of
erstwhile philosophers (Plato, Socrates, Aristotle, etc.)
and Gods (Poseidon/Neptune, Jupiter/Jesus, etc.) of
the Macedonian (Greek) empire - which they
conquered. Its economic liberty was based on

trade - evidenced by their settlements as far as
~~Arikamedu~~ Arikamedu in the near Indus valley
in India. Its downfall though, started

around the 3rd century CE, with the spread of Christianity. The ideas of Christianity were often incompatible with the ideas of the Roman Empire - creating chaos.

In the remainder of his essay, firstly, the terms in the given topic - civilization, order, liberty, chaos, etc are defined. Next, the link between the three seemingly independent parts in the statement is explored, which is followed by how the same idea is also represented in Indian philosophy. After this, the continued sustenance of the Indian civilization is analyzed from the perspective of the given topic. Next, the current global "human civilization" is examined, before looking at the threats faced by civilizations today, and concluding.

DEFINITIONS:

Civilization is simply an advance

Civilization is simply an advanced state of culture.

Order refers to an organized state of affairs.

Growth means the process of becoming older /

wiser / more developed. liberty according to

~~Indian Constitution~~ Dr Ambedkar is

an environment wherein people can become

the best version of themselves. chaos is disorder -

the opposite of order.

On first look, the three parts of the given

topic may seem ~~interrelated~~ independent, yet,

there is one idea that ties together

all the three parts - "culture". Culture is

"way of life", an umbrella term encompassing

art, knowledge, beliefs, social institutions, etc -

the human made environment which is passed down from one generation to the next. Culture comes from the Latin word world root "cult" - which means "to grow / to refine".

It thus binds the three parts of the statement - civilization being an advanced state of culture; culture being related to the Latin word for growth; liberty being a means to express culture, and disorder being the absence / decline of culture. This aspect is crucial to the analysis in the remainder of the essay.

This same idea is also present in Indian philosophical discourse - beginning with the word root "kru / kri" which means "to do" - in the words "prakriti", "Sanskriti", and "vikriti". "Prakriti" (nature) is

the foundation of culture ("Sanskriti"). "Sanskriti" is

the ~~foundation of~~ basis of "sabhya" (civilization). And if "Sanskriti" doesn't continue /

keep pace with "sabhayata" - it leads to

"vikeniti" (chaos). This is because, according

to Indian philosophy, while it is humans

which create culture ("sanskriti"), it is

culture which sustains us as humans.

(hence the link to culture being the thread ^{spinning}
the three parts - in the previous paragraph).

It is this philosophy that is responsible for

the sustenance of Indian civilization to this day -

while contemporary ancient civilizations such as

Egyptian / Persian, etc have not survived. It

has ensured that our culture keeps pace

with the time, and liberty, growth, and

order are not compromised. The ideals

of unity in diversity, "vandeham

kutumbakam", etc - have enabled our

diverse culture to simultaneously strike

harmony, as well as retain individuality. Order

has been ensured by different means at different points of time - via Ashoka's dharma

during Mauryan rule; rule of law according

to Kanandaka's Nitisastra during the Gupta

rule; sometimes on the strength of

strong monarchs - at other times on the

strength of decentralization; and in present

day flowing from the constitution - a living,

breathing document. Liberty is evidenced by

flows from our philosophy - whether it is

the Shad Darshans - Nyaya via its faith

in logic; Vaisheshika via pluralism; or

Vedanta in quest for knowledge; or whether

it is Buddhism via its middle path & Jainism

via Anekantvada, Lokayatva via materialism;

and finally neo-vedanta (Rambhadracharya Perambhadracharya

and Swami Vivekananda) via "sarva dharma"

Sambhava". In fact - the different forms of liberty mentioned in the previous sentence - are the evidence of culture keeping pace with civilization - to sustain its order.

This is why Dr Ambedkar said of his liberty - "let no one say that veg I am inspired by the French revolution, I am not - my philosophy is rooted in my religion". It was an understanding of India's civilization - and capturing it via the constitution - for the next phase of her journey.

It is also in this context that the famous quote "the art of fast progress is to preserve order amid change, and change amid order" must be seen. civilizational progress, as evident from India's journey - comes from a nip of order, and change, and liberty //.

The ^{humanity} world today, according to "cosmopolitan"
theory of international ethics is a "human
civilization". The growth of this civilization
too represents the given quote. Over present,
global human civilization is founded on the
post-world war-II order - which comprises of
decolonization and international institutions
such as the United Nations (UN). It has grown
with liberty. This liberty has come from
various sources. First is the principles of
human rights - enshrined in the Universal
Declaration of Human Rights 1948. Second is
UN Charter's principles of non-interference
in internal affairs - that is - giving countries
liberty of self-determination. Third is
economic liberty - based on Adam Smith's ideas
of invisible hand and economic development as

the means to lift millions out of poverty.

Human civilization has made enormous progress
over the past 300 years - leading to our

present day hubris - mentioned in the

beginning of the essay. This is thus a

good place to discuss threats to ~~over~~ the
growth of our "human civilization". ~~the foremost~~

~~is "threats to liberty over the~~

"Threats to liberty become harbingers of chaos". This

represents the foremost threat - and is also linked

to the other topic. This is manifested in the

rise of authoritarianism, and hegemonic

expansion of nations (China, etc). We must

learn from history - the most recent

instance being rise of Nazism and fascism

in Germany. It unleashed a wave of chaos -

and ended the so called "colonial civilisations".

The rise of "Big Tech" - Google, Facebook, etc -
is another threat to liberty - and is already
creating chaos in the digital world -

through the spread of false news, "infodemics"
(Supreme Court in Alka Nath Shivastava case),
and "echo chambers". This chaos poses another

threat to social harmony and culture.

The second, biggest threat, and a source of chaos
is that of climate change. We must remember

that no matter what we do, we cannot destroy

our planet completely, but it can destroy us
in entirety. It is already creating chaos via

more extreme weather events (recent floods in

Pakistan, drought in Europe); and via

crisis of climate refugees.

These threats can be faced by an unerring
focus on sustainable development: In fact, the
given topic itself gives us hints on
how to approach these threats.

Liberty and
sustainability - a value based lifestyle - are

rooted in our culture; we just need to
build upon it - as given in the topic - "grow
with liberty".

For example - tag method of
housing in Jammu and Kashmir is earthquake

resistant. Similarly, skill based construction
using bamboo is flood resistant (North East).

Scaling up these initiatives, via coalition for
Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI), and

simultaneously empowering border area
population - can go a long way in growth

of our civilization.

to conclude adversaries, we need to take lessons
from history and not take our civilization
for granted. Sustained growth of civilization
can only come with order and growth of
culture, with the aim of liberty and
empowerment of all (Sarvodaya).

FORUMIAS

SECTION - B :

SCIENCE GATHERS KNOWLEDGE
FASTER THAN
SOCIETY GATHERS WISDOM

FRITZ HABER - "THE MAN WHO ^HKILLED ^MMILLIONS, AND "SAVED" BILLIONS".

Fritz Haber was a Jewish Jewish scientist in Germany in the early 20th century. He discovered the Haber process - the process that is used to convert nitrogen gas to ammonia. He is known as the "father of chemical weapons" - because of use of his chlorine gas based weapons during World War - I. Moreover, some of the work he did was utilized by Hitler in gas chambers for Jewish genocide. At the same time - 2/3rd of all fertilizer today, and 1/2 of ALL food production today is attributed to Haber process. But simply, it is completely impossible

for the world, and India, to feed her
population without the Haber process. This is

thus a classic case of science having gathered
wisdom ~~from~~ those (of the Haber process)

faster than society having gathered the
wisdom to use that technology for global growth.

In the remainder of this essay, the terms
knowledge, science and wisdom are first defined.

Historical examples are given, followed by

an analysis of why this is so, the present

day relevance ~~to~~ of this phenomenon is

discussed next - across polity, economy, society,
culture and environment. This is followed by

a discussion on how we can gather knowledge
first, before concluding.

Science is simply the study of the world, and a vehicle of modern progress. Knowledge refers to information, skills and complex ideas acquired through reasoning and study of science.

Wisdom is ~~the~~ about application of knowledge in the real world - at the right place, right time, to the right extent, and in the right way.

History is full of examples - where science - the vehicle of human progress has moved faster ahead to acquire more information and knowledge, whereas the wisdom to bear fruits from the knowledge acquired is still evolving.

One of the foremost examples is that of the repression faced by Galileo and Copernicus from the church for proposing the heliocentric model - that the earth revolves round

the sun. The examples example from the 2nd world war is that of nuclear technology.

The knowledge of nuclear technology was first used for death and destruction (Hiroshima and Nagasaki)

More recently, the techniques of cloud technology is said to be first embraced

by the dark web for the purpose of pornography.

But this initial misuse - today - nuclear technology is used for disease treatment, food irradiation, and a variety of other benign causes in the wisdom of society.

Similarly, cloud technology forms the backbone of e-governance, and applications such as

JAM Trinity (Jan Dhan - Aadhaar - Mobile), for Direct Benefit Transfer of subsidy; UPI for digital financial inclusion, etc:

WHY DOES THIS HAPPEN?

There are several reasons for why science gathers knowledge ~~fast~~ faster than society gathers wisdom. First is related to lack of ethics and character development in education. "Education without values seems to make man only a more clever devil" - CS Lewis said. This leads to faster acquisition of knowledge, for reverse objectives. It is in this context that Oppenheimer said, after invention of the nuclear bomb - "Now I have become death - the destroyer of the worlds". It is in this context that "science without humanity" was one of Gandhiji's seven sins.

The second reason is the greater motivation for illegitimate / illegal objectives - to experiment with

new technology. Use of cloud technology by

the dark web fits into this category. Because of

constant crackdown on dark web by law
enforcement agencies across the world - stakeholders

in that ecosystem more readily ~~adopt~~ attempt

to use science to acquire new knowledge.

Gradually, social wisdom catches up with
the knowledge, and the knowledge is put into

use for benefit of humanity.

The third reason is more benign - it is related
to the hunger for knowledge amongst mankind.

Scientists constantly innovate, and humans

always have new ideas. The wisdom to experiment

with those new ideas for good is inherently a

process requiring time, effort and patience.

The fourth reason is more practical - lack of academia - industry linkages. This creates a situation wherein research in academia is today related to optimization of technology such as sensor networks - a technology that has not even been adopted by the Small and medium Enterprises (SMEs) across the world.

The fifth is linked to the fourth - peer incentives design in research - researchers and scientists are today judged by the number of papers they publish / citations they get - and not by whether or not their work is getting used somewhere / where their work is used. This has become especially a major problem in blockchain technology - the

constant new innovations in blockchain technology are only being used by criminals for money laundering and drug trafficking. This is because of a lack of interest in the innovators about what their innovations are being used for - as the performance of innovators in academia is being judged by the number of papers published.

PRESENT DAY RELEVANCE:

The enormous technological progress made in recent decades has the potential to revolutionize the world. It also has the potential to harm a lot of people.

In the demenin of policy - internet can be used as a tool of democratization of information - for the benefit of all - ~~to gain~~ so that all can gain from the wisdom of society. If we

don't evolve our wisdom through, to realize these gains, ~~it can easily run ahead of us~~ the knowledge of internet acquired can easily be misused by dividing people on social media, fake news and foreign interference in democracy (e.g. alleged Russian interference in US elections).

In the domain of economy, wisdom of society

can be used to create a circular economy -

integrating modern technology and traditional practices, for inclusive growth. (such as

TRIFOOD initiative - value addition of tribal

minor forest produce - such as mahua drink, amla juice, etc). ~~On the other hand, science~~

In the domain of society, wisdom can be used to build technology such as the

Bandicoot robot - which can clean sewers -
thus removing the need for manual scavenging
(which leads to 45 deaths (year)). Continued

acquisition of knowledge without wisdom can
lead to misuse such as financial frauds,
cybercrimes, etc.

In culture, wisdom of society can be used
as to utilize knowledge and science to
express oneself better. Examples are NFTs -
based (Non fungible tokens) - digital art using
blockchain technology; and movies such as
log gun: Maverick - which is shot in actual
US Air force jet. fighter planes.

With respect to environment, wisdom of society
can help science via initiatives such as
disaster resilient infrastructure, and sustainable

agriculture. A good example is that of
Padma Shri awardee Pahibai Popere - known
as "seed mother" - ^{awarded} for conserving landraces -
i.e. wild varieties of cultivated plants. - to
preserve our genetic biodiversity. ~~the~~ lack of
inculcating wisdom would simply lead to
"business as usual" - new technologies harming
the environment in new ways.

How to INCULCATE AND GROW WISDOM FASTER?

Several steps can be taken. First is a strong

focus on character development in education.

Dr. Kalam said - "if the nation is to progress -

three people have a role to play - father,
mother and teacher". Parents and children

must inculcate in children a value of using

science as a means of human development.

Second is reforming higher education, and creating incentives for industry-academia linkage. This steps such as Unnat Shakti Hobiyon and Yuleh (for COVID related innovation) have been recently taken in this regard, and must be ~~built~~ built upon.

A third is a more interdisciplinary education - as envisioned by NEP. This would lead to innovators, industry, government and grass-root citizens, including civil society working together to tackle challenges. Our response during COVID-19 pandemic in fact followed this approach. We need to make it that spirit of collaboration the "new normal".

to conclude,

to summarize, the essay looked at various

examples of the given topic - across space

and time, analyzed the reasons for the

same followed by a discussion on its

~~present~~ present day implications.

was followed by remedies.

to conclude :

Aristotle said " Science is an ornament in prosperity and refuge in adversity" -

We must take steps to break the lag between acquisition of knowledge and its wise application,

to realize Aristotle's statement.