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(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)  
कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

# UPSC

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हॉशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए  
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Name - SRISHTI DAGAS

Test Date - 26 August 2023

Time - 2:27 - 5:33 pm

MGT+ (GS4 Sectional Test 5 - 614201)



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① (a)

Ahimsa is not only the negative refusal to do harm, but also the positive doing of good. In this perspective, discuss the significance of 'ahimsa' in modern times. (10m)

cc Ahimsa Parmo Dharma

Ahimsa, referred to as 'Non-violence' has been emphasised upon by Mahatma Gandhi as well as Buddhist philosophy.

Negative refusal to do harm

→ not killing anyone, including animals

→ philosophy of Jainism

→ not causing harm or injury

→ narrow vision

positive doing of good

→ contributing to welfare of society

→ international peace, harmony mutual coexistence

→ broad vision

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Hence, ahimsa is a wider concept  
of → spreading love  
→ tolerance  
eg Serva Sharma Sambhar.

Significance of ahimsa in modern times

① for individual growth - mental peace  
and inner harmony.

eg self nourishment

② for society - to enhance brotherhood  
eg among different religions.

③ for nation - development of  
ecology and economy. Balanced.

eg not excess deforestation.

④ Global peace : to avoid war and  
instead enhance cooperation (sahyog)  
and dialogue (samvad)

Hence, Ahimsa is the touch to light  
the future of the world.

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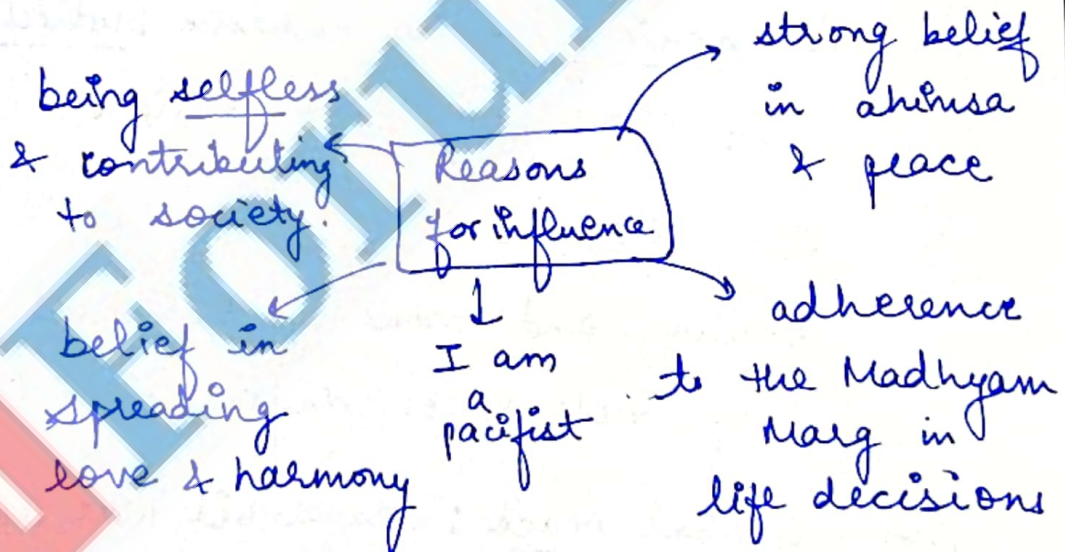
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① (6)

Which famous personality has influenced you and why? In what ways have you emulated their example in your own life?

(10 m)

Gautama Buddha has greatly influenced me in my personal as well as professional life, both as a thinker and practical person.



In my life, I have emulated the ideals of Buddha as —

① Respecting my parents and



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elders, and striving to make them proud of me.

- ② Adopting the Ashtang Marg -  
The Eight Fold Path, to ~~add~~  
incubate → Right Actions eg planting trees  
→ Right speech eg trying not to speak ill of anyone.  
→ Right Meditation eg practicing yoga  
→ Right Effort eg dedicately pursuing my goals.

- ③ The Madhyam Marg - Middle path of Buddha is something that I truly believe in to enhance my Emotional Intelligence - to stay calm & composed in stressful situations eg during family fights.

At times, I do deviate from the ideals, but always strive to rectify my course of actions to contribute towards Self Nourishment as well as Social welfare

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②(a)

What does the following quotation mean to you?

(10 m)

"The greatest wealth is to live content with little." - Plato.

In our daily lives, we tend to complaint & crib over things we don't get, instead of being content and satisfied over things that we have achieved. This never quenching thirst for 'More and More' has been explained by Plato in his quote.

We need to learn to live content with little as →

① Lord Rama lived for 14 years in exile, with the bare minimum he had.

② Luxuries of life are not money, power or comfort,

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rather peace, harmony & satisfaction  
eg Lal Bahadur Shastri - lived life with bare minimum comforts, yet happily.

③ The definition of 'wealth' should be expanded.



Wealth to some



Wealth for me.

④ Great leaders like APJ Abdul Kalam lived with utmost SIMPLICITY - had no AC / no car, yet showed way to the growth of India.

⑤ Mother Teresa is known for her simple living & high thinking.

As responsible citizens and happy souls we must imbibe GRATITUDE towards all that we have in our life.

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②(b)

"Whatever is begun in anger, ends in shame" — Benjamin Franklin. (10m)

Anger is a vice that converts rationality into foolishness and objectivity into destruction. The same belief has been shown in Benjamin's quote.

We know have RAVANA and DURYODHAN faced their ends — all because of their 'anger' and hatred.

In our daily lives as well, we can realise this that anger ends in shame —

(1) we destroy relationships due to anger and rage of the moment & later repent.



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② Societies are destroyed due to communal hatred & violence leading to riots, mob lynching

(eg) Muzaffarpur riots, Delhi riots.

③ A nation forms a bad image & reputation in global arena because of lack of tolerance.

eg. Pakistan communal image.

④. Historically, we know how Hitler's anger towards Jews, led to destruction of Germany.

Hence, we must realize that anger can never cause good, for it affects

Belief → value → Attitude → Behaviour

Anger → leads to intolerance → leads to attitude of disgust → thus behaviour of violence.

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②(c)

"Happiness is that state of consciousness which proceeds from the achievement of one's values."  
- Ayn Rand.

(10 m)

Happiness is a subjective construction which varies from person to person and time to time.

As Aristotle said EUDIMONIA, i.e. happiness is in the achievement of justice. Indian philosophy also emphasises on value of 'Sukh' and 'Anand'.

Achievement of One's Values leads to Happy state of Consciousness

① A child attaches tremendous value to friends → hence gets happy by joyfully playing with them.



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- ② Someone who values 'wealth' → will be happy on earning profits, yet unhappy due to more yearning.
- ③ Ecologist attaches value to environmental sustainability → will find happiness in conservation of ecology  
of Medha Patkar
- ④ person valuing healthy living → will be happy on balancing diet, exercising  
of yoga enthusiasts
- ⑤ civil servant valuing public welfare → will find immense happiness in servng people  
of IAS Saumya Pandey
- ⑥ Someone valuing selflessness → will be immensely happy on helping others  
of sonu sood

Hence, happiness can be found in little things, yet huge contentment.

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3 a

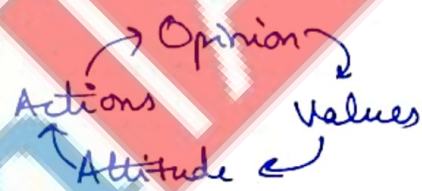
Differentiate between the following -

(10m)

- (i) Attitude & Opinion.
- (ii) Emotions & feelings.

(i)

Opinions originate from our beliefs and further shape our attitude as well as behaviour.



### Attitude

### Opinion

→ predisposition to feel favourably or unfavourably towards people, events, things

→ formulation of mind to like or dislike something or someone.

→ formed through socialisation and life events.

→ Formed by life events & experiences

→ can be positive or negative

→ can be biased / prejudices

eg Attitude of disgust towards poor will lead to behaviour of discrimination

eg The opinion that poor are worthless shapes such an attitude.

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eg positive attitude  
of gender sensitivity  
comes from the  
opinion that women  
are equal.

eg The opinion about  
disabled will be  
reflected in the  
bureaucratic attitude  
of empathy or  
apathy.

(ii)

Emotions and feelings

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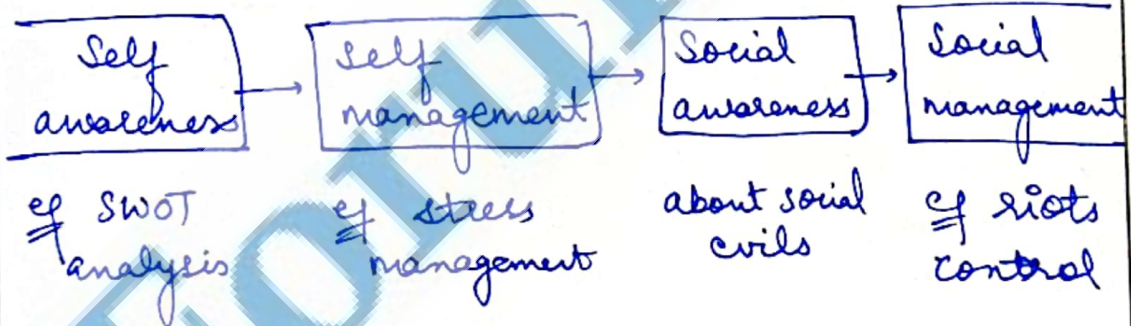
3 b

What do you understand by Emotional Intelligence? Examine the importance of Emotional Intelligence in personal and professional life.

(10m)

Emotional Intelligence refers to the ability to understand and manage one's own emotions as well as those of others.

It includes:



## Importance of EI

"We must control our emotions, lest our emotions control us."

### I Personal Life

a) in determining career choices

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eg Dhoni opted for cricket.

b) managing family conflicts  
eg a mother resolves fight between brother & sister.

c) in anger management.  
eg practicing yoga to stay calm.

d) progressing in life despite hurdles  
eg Stephen Hawking.

## I] Professional life

a) managing employee - employer bonding  
eg Tatas

b) managing crisis situation -  
eg IAS Saunabh Kumar in Dantewada

c) being compassionate & empathetic  
eg IAS Kaustabh Diwegaonkar set on floor with a disabled.

d) bringing innovation  
eg IAS Awanish Sharan's Bike Ambulance.

Hence, life's success is 20% because of IQ & 80% due to EI. (David Goleman)

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4(a)

Political attitude has as much to do with society as with politics. Discuss with suitable illustrations. (10m)

Political attitude refers to certain predispositions of thought and beliefs which apply to political arena. Yet, they are also applicable to Society.

① Equality and equity

politicians must treat all communities equal, without biasness

Societies must be acomodative, inclusive & tolerant.

②. Inclusion of tribals in both political & social arena.

②. Persuasion

politicians utilize persuasion to garner votes.

Societies must use it to prevent ills of child marriage



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## ③ Interpersonal skills

political leaders do mass campaigning

societies must communicate for exchange of ideas.

(eg) of <sup>PM</sup> Modi to bring together people through Mann ki Baat.

## ④ Empathy & Compassion

politicians must not prejudice lower castes or classes

Societies should be cohesive, living in harmony

(eg) Tatas 'Atulya' initiative for tribal empowerment.

## ⑤ Honesty & Integrity

both politics & society must be based on uprightness & morals

(eg) No treachery in any sphere of life, no corruption.

Such an attitude will provide roots to the soil of polity & society.

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(A) (b)

The influence of ethical principles on shaping socially responsible behaviour is widely acknowledged. How do ethical values facilitate individuals in cultivating a proactive & constructive attitude towards fulfilling their social responsibilities?  
Can the subjective nature of ethical principles lead to divergent attitudes regarding social responsibilities?

(10m)

Our ethical values are the set of beliefs and principles that guide our conduct, character and behaviour, due to giving priorities to certain things, events and people.  
≠ value to career over family.

Ethical value

→ cultivates proactive and constructive attitude towards fulfilling social responsibility

① of respect →

attitude of gender sensitivity ≠ allowing wife to advance in career.

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- ②. of equality → nourishes attitude of inclusiveness  
eg IAS Har Singh  
inducted 2 transgenders
- ③ of religious harmony → leads to attitude of Tolerance and Sama Dharma Sambhav
- ④ of empathy → compassionate attitude  
eg IAS Rahul Kumar  
ate food by widow.

However, subjective nature of ethical principles leads to divergent attitudes

value to money over ethics  
eg Nirav Modi

value to religion with fundamentalism  
eg Ajmal Kasab

value to personal interest over public  
eg Chanda Kochhar.

Hence, we need to inculcate positive values to develop responsible citizens

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5 a)

Write short notes on the following:

(10 m)

i) Moral equilibrium refers to balancing various values and arriving at a Middle path, just like the Madhyam Marg of Buddha.

eg



Personal life = professional life

eg: IAS Geumya Pandey joined duty 14 days after delivery with her child.

ii) Emotional Strength refers to strong determination & conviction towards our values & beliefs.

It involves utilizing emotional intelligence to take rational decisions and face adversity.

eg IAS Keerthi Jalli during Assam floods did not lose courage & maintained perseverance.

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(iii) Ethical pluralism refers to co-existence of various ethical values, which together comprise the ethical spectrum of people.

eg The value for environmental protection, sustainable development, equality and equity, efficiency and effectiveness, all simultaneously.

(iv) Moral courage refers to strength & conviction of one's morality which does not deviate even in times of crisis, pressure or conflict of interest.

eg IAS Ashok Khemka

(v) Ethical fading refers to the dilution in ethics - either due to external pressures or influence, or due to internal lack of integrity. It occurs when voice of conscience is overheard.

eg IAS Pooja Singhal - Jharkhand coal scam.

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5 6

Through their actions, interactions & teachings, schools have the power to mold the moral compass of next generation. In this perspective, discuss the significance of value based education in preparing the youth to address contemporary challenges of society.

(10 m)

" Schools are the institutions which shape the future of generations."  
— Rajni Kothari

Schools play a crucial role in molding moral compass of next generation, through

Actions

- Teachers as role models
- (ep) Queen Dronacharya
- children learn values of discipline & punctuality

Interactions

- learn team building through sports.
- co-curricular activities teach creativity & innovation

Teachings

- science teaches scientific temper
- Literature teaches about Society (ep: blem chand)
- Maths teaches rationality

## Significance of value based education

- ① Love, Kindness, Harmony are taught — which will tackle challenge of communal hatred & violence & celebrate Diwali & Eid together
- ② Common mess & dining prepares children for future inter-caste marriages' acceptance & inculcates value of tolerance.
- ③ Exams held in schools, prepare for the larger exams of life in future. & develops values of optimism through rewards after exams.
- ④ Scientific knowledge address menace of superstition.

Hence, Education forms 'Foundation' of the future of the world.

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6 (a)

What do you understand by the term 'Situation Ethics'? Critically analyze its strengths & weaknesses in making moral judgements. (10m)

Situation ethics refers to the set of principles that people apply as per the context and situation.

eg A man in order to save his life may injure a terrorist.

It signifies MORAL RELATIVISM which helps make judgement in given circumstances.

### Strengths

✓ helps make tough choices, without compromising values.  
eg balance personal & professional life

### Weaknesses

✓ gives enough reason to people to deviate from ethics  
eg capital punishment justified in name of justice.



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- ✓ aids in making decisions  
eg abortion needed to save life of mother or in case of rape victim.
- ✓ prevents absolutism of ethics.  
eg. a man will starve and die if he does not beg.
- ✓ Treats humans as ends in themselves (Deontology)  
eg <sup>saving</sup> life of man more important, even if one has to lie.
- ✓ can hamper people's rights & freedom  
eg AFSPA justified in name of national security.
- ✓ emphasise on ends over means (Teleology)  
eg Theft to save ill wife.
- ✓ might create havoc & destruction  
eg Russia Ukraine war, leading to danger to peace.

Hence, ethics & values are never monolithic, they vary as per application → personal & cultural values. Yet some universal values must remain the same.  
eg Love, kindness.

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(b) (b)

Maintaining traditional bonds and familial relationships in an increasingly globalised world requires personal relationships to be governed by ethical principles. Discuss. (10m)

In the wake of globalization, family relationships have seen a drastic change

↳ rise of nuclear families.

↳ live-in relationships.

↳ single child parents.

↳ acceptance to adoptions.

↳ working parents using tech

Hence, there is need to apply ethical principles to traditional bonds.

(1) value of festivity & togetherness

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Family get together in festivals, bringing children together.

② principle of extended family - respecting neighbours.  
Help provided by neighbours during times of emergency.

③ acceptance and tolerance to inter caste & inter faith marriages

④ 'Equality' among children of all genders - including transgenders

⑤ effective utilization of digital technology to keep families intact - through video conferences.

⑥ Athiti Devo Bhavah principle to respect guests.

⑦ giving due respect and having communication with elderly to make them feel connected.

All this will families Bonded & Intact.

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)  
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# UPSC

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## Section - B

Q.7) Akhilesh is a young 22-year-old man living in Utsav Nagar, who is preparing for the prestigious Civil Service Examinations, conducted by UPSC. Akhilesh is the younger of the two siblings in the home. The elder sister of Akhilesh, Sarita, is an economic graduate and works as a teacher. Akhilesh and Sarita are from a family of modest means. Their father is a retired government employee and mother is a house wife. Sarita and Akhilesh contribute to the household income by giving tuitions to the children. Recently, Sarita's marriage has been finalized by her parents. Everyone in the family is happy about the prospects of Sarita's marriage. However, the groom's family has expressed their wish for a car and furniture as gifts for the groom. Sarita's father agreed to their demands happily as he did not want to break the prospective alliance. It was also the dream of Sarita's father to wed her daughter in a grand manner. During a dinner conversation at home, he tells his family members that he has decided to sell off their ancestral land in order to arrange for the wedding. Akhilesh and Sarita are well aware that the family has limited means, and a lavish wedding, in addition to the gifts, may further aggravate the already strained financial condition of the family.

Akhilesh, in the course of his preparation, has studied about the menace of dowry in the society. He knows that making a demand for dowry, in any form, is illegal and a punishable offence. After consulting his sister, Akhilesh decides to talk to his father. However, when Akhilesh presents his concerns to his father, he gets surprised by his reply. Akhilesh's father tells him that dowry is a social norm and as a member of the society they are duty bound to accept the demands of the groom's family. He also tells Akhilesh that marriage ceremony is a matter of social prestige for the whole family. A lavish wedding will not only appease the groom's family but also increase the social status of their own family. Further, his father tells him that it is out of his own love and volition that he has agreed to the gifts. He also explained to Akhilesh that the car, furniture etc., will be used by Sarita at her in-law's place.

Akhilesh could not argue with his father, even though he was not in agreement with his father's view. He and Sarita believe that giving/accepting dowry would lead to propagation of a social evil. They also are of the view that a profligate wedding, without due concern for family's finances, is illogical.

a) What are the various ethical issues involved in the above case study?

b) You are a close friend of Akhilesh. What advice will you give, in this situation, to Akhilesh in order to convince his father to abstain from giving dowry and organising a lavish wedding?

(20 marks, 250 words)

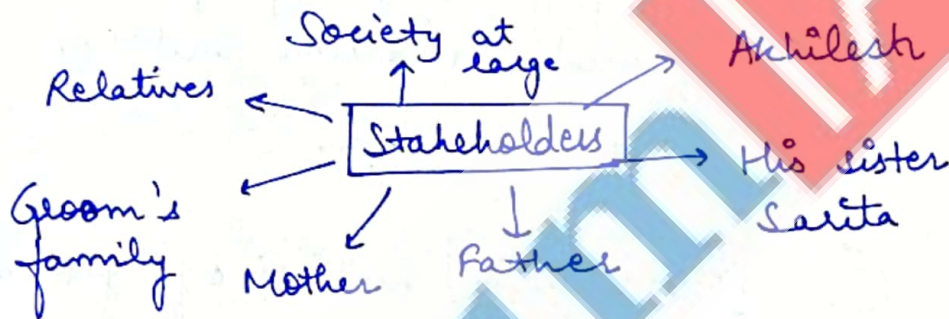
The given case is a classical example of the widespread prevalence of 'DOWRY' in the society, seen as a 'Normalized' and 'Social' responsibility.

Page

My Vision = 'Girdles are not commodities to be bought and sold in exchange of gifts.'

(a)

Ethical Issues involved in the case :-



① Menace of dowry - normalized & internalised in the society as a "duty" of the bride's family and as "social prestige".

② Financial condition of the family is not so good that they can afford a lavish wedding.

③ The Groom's family has expressed

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their wish for car and furniture - reflecting indirect methods of taking dowry.

④ Dowry as a "punishable offence" and illegal, yet people consider it social tradition out of "love & volition."

⑤ Hedonistic motives of groom - to gain pleasure from material things, over ethical principles.

⑥ Violation of deontological ethics - as girl not treated as end in herself & deprived of dignity

⑦ Akhilesh, despite preparing for civils and Sarita, an economic graduate - both educated individuals unable to convince father.

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(b)

As close friend of Akhilesh, if I will give him the following advice —

- ① make Akhilesh realise that the dowry must not be given at any terms, for someone who is asking for material things does not truly value relationships.
- ② convince father using method of Persuasion and good use of communication and Interpersonal skills — appealing to his morals, values & conscience.
- ③ Show father the fear of law as dowry is a punishable offence and can invite legal action.
- ④ talk to relatives of bride, and make them convince Sarita's

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father - as they have social influence over the father.

⑤ have a dialogue with the groom's family - to tell them that they will be booked under law for illegally taking dowry.

⑥ finally talking to Sarita, to have a say in the matter as it is her life and she has to live with such a family in the future - to take a stand for herself.

Dowry's menace must be & can be overcome through societal values change, as weddings must not be LAVISH but filled with values of LOVE and COMPANIONSHIP.



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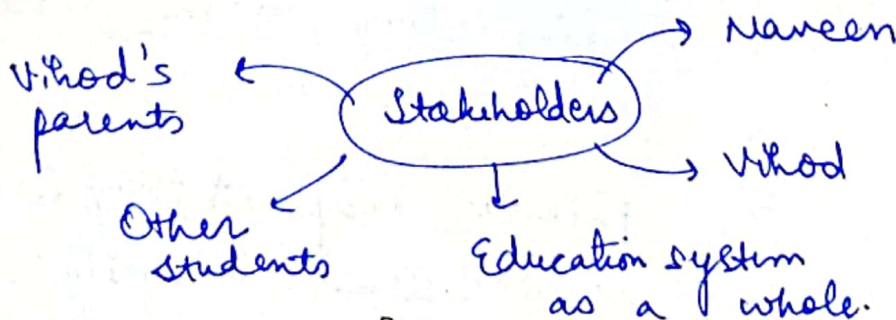
Q.8) Naveen and Vinod, final year undergraduate students at ABC college of engineering, are close friends. Naveen has been a meritorious student and got appointed as the secretary of the training and placement cell, which has the mandate to oversee the campus placements of the students. Vinod, on the other hand, spent more time on leisure activities and paid less attention to his academic performance. However, the lackadaisical attitude of Vinod began to reflect on his grades. His poor performance in the majority of subjects meant that he had to complete some courses again, in order to graduate in time. As Vinod struggled to complete his extra courses, he barely had any time left for anything else. The immense fatigue was also evident from his deteriorating physical and psychological health.

Around this time the campus placement in the ABC college had started. While all other students were preparing for the recruitment tests, Vinod had barely any time for the same. Vinod's parents, who had taken loan for Vinod's education, are expecting Vinod to get a good job. The guilt of wasting his college years and letting down his poor parents was becoming unbearable for Vinod, as a result of which he had a nervous breakdown. Naveen, who in his capacity as secretary of training and placement cell, was busy organising the recruitment drive, was aware that the chances of Vinod getting recruited were very slim. He also knew that Vinod was repenting in true sense and working very hard to complete his courses, despite his deteriorating emotional health. Naveen was afraid that if Vinod did not get a job, he may take some extreme step.

Naveen has in his possession the question paper for the recruitment test to be held next week. Vinod had in the past requested Naveen to help him in any way possible to get a decent job. While Naveen knows that sharing the questions with Vinod may help him get through the exam, it would be ethically incorrect. Now, Naveen is in a dilemma over the course of action he should take.

- a) What are the ethical dilemmas before Naveen in this case?  
b) Identify and evaluate the various courses of actions available before Naveen. If you were in Naveen's shoes, which course of action would you choose and why? (20 marks, 250 words)

The given case study reflects the ethical dilemma between personal relationships and professional ethics hence pointing towards Conflict of Interest.



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My vision = slightest of unethical step will lead to Cognitive Dissonance

(a) ethical dilemmas in front of Naveen :

- 1) Vihod's mental health versus a recruitment test.
- 2) Vihod's parents expectations versus other students' right to fair examination.
- 3) Vihod's repenting versus Vihod's laziness in the very first place.
- 4) short term helping Vihod by sharing question paper versus developing long term lesson for Vihod.
- 5) friends responsibility versus professional integrity

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6) Narrow vision of getting a placement versus broader life aim of becoming a ethical person.

(b) courses of Action available with me, (ie Naveen) -

Option I = Sharing questions with Vihod

## Merits

- save Vihod from nervous breakdown
- ease Vihod's parents hardships
- Vihod might get job & repay loan

## Demerits

- unfair to other students
- crisis of conscience in me
- Vihod will never learn a life lesson

Option II → Not share questions with Vihod

## Merits

- save me from crisis of conscience.
- would be just for other students
- ethically right.

## Demerits

- Vihod may take extreme step
- his parents will be disappointed
- Our friendship break.

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Option III → convince and persuade Vihod to work harder without using unfair means.

### Merits

- important to make Vihod realise the value of hard work.
- change lackadaisical attitude of Vihod.

### Demerits

- Vihod might not understand.
- Our friendship will be dented.
- Vihod's emotional health deteriorate.

I would choose Option II and Option IV simultaneously, along with:-

- ① Effectively and firmly communicating to Vihod that I would not do any unethical act., and that our friendship should not be based on such events, rather should be strong enough to face adversities.

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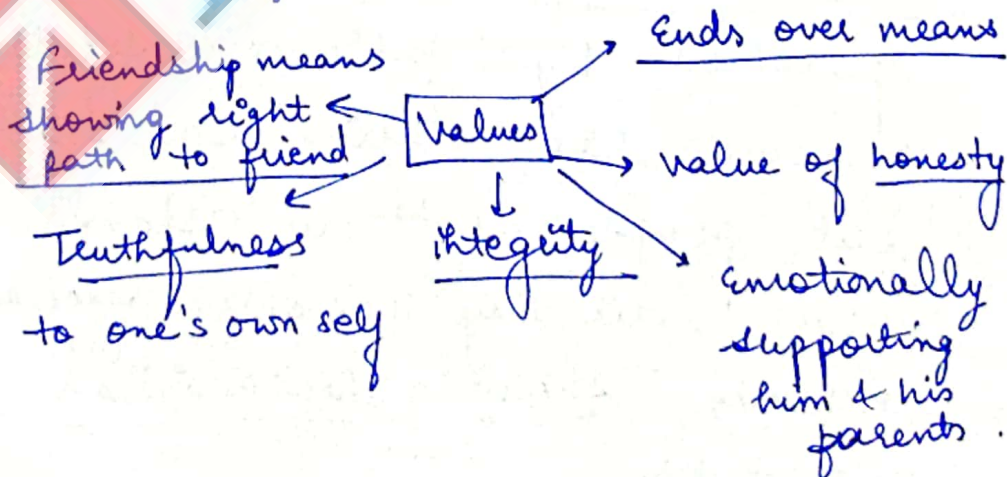
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- ② Talk to Vinod's parents to make them understand that Vinod might take some more time to get a job, but he will definitely so with his hard work.
- ③ Make Vinod realise value of time as he has already wasted lot of time.
- ④ Helping Vinod in studying for exam by explaining him concepts.
- ⑤ Helping Vinod's parents pay the loan through alternate methods of availing government schemes

Reasons for the advice include values of



Q.9) Alok works in a multinational company in USA. He was visiting his family in India on a vacation. While reading the newspaper at home in India, Alok noticed a particular news item. As per the news article, a family of seven, travelling in an SUV, had died in a road mishap. The vehicle lost control and rammmed into a roadside boulder. The police report said that none of the passengers had their seat belts on. It was also highlighted that the fatal injuries could have been avoided by the use of seat belts. A few days later, Alok and his family members who lived in Delhi, decided to travel to the hills of Himachal Pradesh, by road. While driving across Delhi, all the family members had their seat belts on. Alok mentally felt satisfied about the good sense of road safety in his family members. However, as their vehicle crossed the borders of Delhi, all the family members removed their seat belts almost immediately. Alok found this a little unusual. When he enquired about the same, his father told him that wearing a seat belt was necessary in Delhi and non-compliance attracted penal action. However, Alok exhorted all his family members to put on their seat belts for their own safety. He also told his family members that in USA people wore seat belts not to escape legal action, but to ensure their own safety as they understood the importance of seatbelts in reducing and mitigating the impacts of accidents. At this, his family members made fun of him and also chided him for having become an "angrez".

After some time, their vehicle passed by a deep gorge. There they all witnessed a road accident, where a passenger vehicle had lost control and fell into the gorge. Alok immediately remembered the news report he read a few days back. Concerned about the safety of his family members, he again requested them to put on their seat belts. This time, all the family members got irritated and belittled Alok for being so scared. Alok could see that his family members had a very negative attitude with regard to wearing safety belts.

Despite the effective role of seat belts in saving human lives, their usage by people in India remains abysmally low. As per a WHO report, wearing a seat belt can reduce the risk of being killed or injured in an accident by 25% and 75% respectively. A study conducted by Maruti Suzuki revealed that approximately 75% of passenger vehicle users in India do not wear seat belts leading to an average 15 deaths every day.

- a) Why is there a negative attitude in people with regard to wearing seat belts?  
b) What measures can be taken to bring positive changes with regard to this attitude?

(20 marks, 250 words)

One fourth of deaths can be prevented by following safety measures like wearing seat belts but people don't understand this until they themselves face a tragedy; showing lackadaisical attitude

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My vision :- Prevention is better than cure

(a) People have a negative attitude towards wearing seat belts due to -

(i) Human nature is such that they don't value things until they lose it, same goes with life.

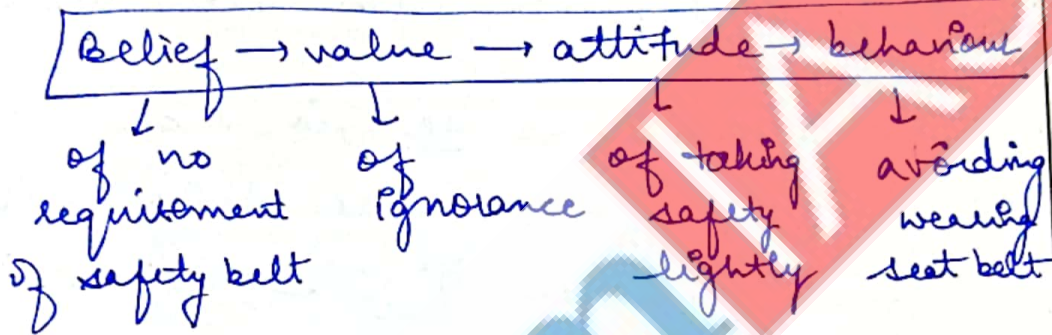
(ii) Impaired belief system that makes people think that tragedy cannot happen to us because we will drive safe. They fail to understand that mishaps don't happen after an alarm bell.

(iii) Lack of awareness among people about need for safety protocols, as governments focusses more on penal actions than emotive appeals

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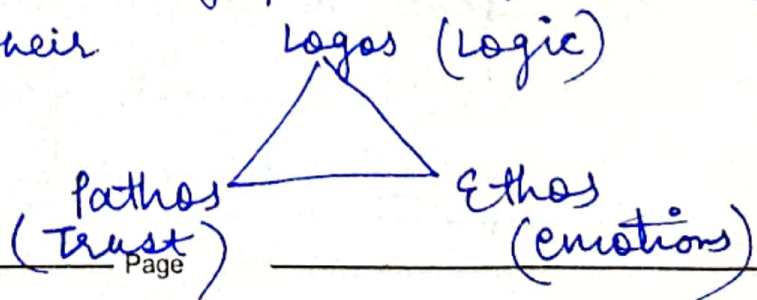
(iv) Lack of attention & seriousness  
given to concerns of road safety,  
due to lax attitude, which  
shapes the behaviour.



(b) Measures that can be taken to bring  
positive changes include -

i) using real life anecdotes to  
showcase the seriousness &  
gravity of the matter  
of recent accident of Kishabh  
Pant.

ii) persuading people by appealing  
to their





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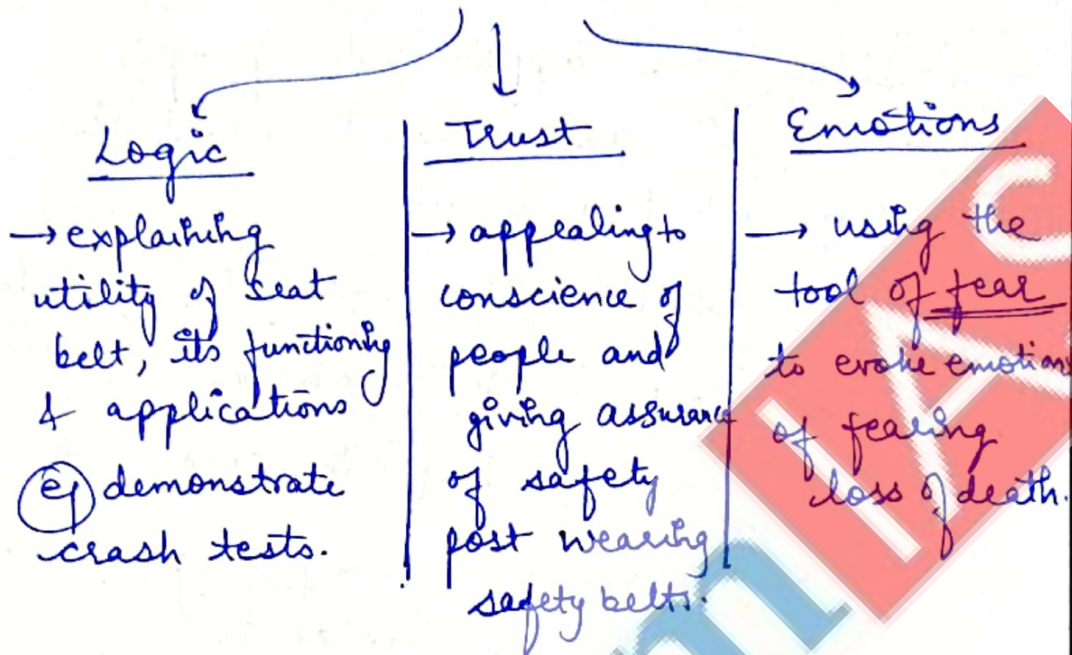
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iii) utilizing community participation - NGOs and civil society organizations

to appeal to people through :

- ↳ Nukad natakas
- ↳ Role plays
- ↳ Story telling
- ↳ poetry

iv) using voice of leaders like Amitabh Bachan & Narendra Modi

(through Mann ki Baat) to request & advise people to follow safety measures

कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

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Besides, the appeals to people, there is also urgent need to pay attention to :

- 1) structural engineering of roads
- 2) speed limit checks.
- 3) safety bags in cars.
- 4) fast emergency response in case of accidents.
- 5) importance of Good Samaritan

Road accidents & road safety are in our hands as little diligence can save many lives.

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Q.10) Prakash and Meena were a married couple living in Gurgaon, Haryana. Both Prakash and Meena were corporate executives, working in XYZ retail and ABC enterprises respectively. The two were leading a rewarding professional life. However, as both worked in different companies and often had different office timings, their personal lives were getting affected. Due to their busy schedules and official commitments, they were unable to find sufficient time for each other. Things came to such a pass that the two could not spend their last anniversary together. While Prakash was working on an important project, Meena was busy with the launch of a new product. Though the two understood the importance of professional commitments, the lack of quality time with each-other was increasingly becoming a cause for concern and frustration.

One day Prakash informed Meena about a vacancy in his company for the post of regional manager. Prakash, who himself was working at the same position, knew that this post was an ideal opportunity for Meena professionally. While Meena's work in her company was well appreciated and her prospects for growth were sound, she was still willing to grab the present opportunity. This would have enabled the two of them to work in a common office space, with relatively more coherence in their office timings. Consequently, she applied for the vacancy in Prakash's company. As Meena was reasonably qualified for the job and had good experience, she was hired by Prakash's company. The two were very happy about the prospects of working together.

Besides working from a common office space, Prakash and Meena were able to go to and return from work together. The two were, resultantly, very happy about this positive change in their lives. Meena quickly adjusted to the new office environment and began her work in the same department as that of Prakash. Meena's positive work came into the notice of her superiors. She was frequently appreciated for her diligence and sincerity. XYZ retail was in the process of preparing a presentation for a potential government contract. While Prakash was expecting that he would be chosen for preparation, the branch head of XYZ retail entrusted Meena with this strategically important task. Prakash was visibly disappointed with this, as he had been preparing for this task for a long time. Meena could also sense Prakash's dejection, as he not only didn't congratulate Meena but also pointed out how it should have been him doing the job.

Meena, as was her nature, worked hard on the report, and successfully made the presentation to the client. As the report was made and presented in an efficient manner, XYZ retail gained a big contract from the government. While the entire office was congratulating Meena for her success, Prakash remained indifferent towards Meena's achievement. Meena was visibly hurt by Prakash's behaviour. Meena's success with the government contract earned her a promotion, and she was made the head of her department. This further enraged Prakash, as now he was supposed to report to Meena. Moreover, Prakash's behaviour at the workplace changed significantly. He started misbehaving with his juniors over small things. He became careless in his work, often leading to mistakes and errors. Prakash's behaviour at office had a spill-over effect on Prakash and Meena's personal lives. One day he slapped an office peon for entering his cabin without knocking. After an enquiry about the incident, Meena recommended suspension of Prakash. While the two had continuously quarrelled over trivial things since her promotion, this time Prakash's career was at stake leading to a huge fight. Earlier Prakash and Meena tried to spend time together whenever possible, now the two despised being together at home and office. While Meena could not comprehend Prakash's behaviour, Prakash was jealous of Meena's success. Meena began to re-evaluate her decision to join XYZ retail.

a) In your opinion, what qualities do Prakash lack? Do you think that Meena also lacks some qualities?

b) As a common friend of Meena and Prakash, what advice will you give to the couple?

c) How can they develop the qualities that could have prevented such a distressing situation?

(20 marks, 250 words)

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The given case study reflects the issues faced in reconciling private & public lives.

My vision = Respecting personal values and professional ethics is the key to happy life

- (a) Prakash lacks qualities of -
- ↳ being an appreciating husband on success of wife
  - ↳ accepting someone's else's success over himself (that too his wife)
  - ↳ managing his emotions (slapped peon)
  - ↳ emotional intelligence to deal with complex situations.
  - ↳ cordially behaving with juniors due to personal issues.

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Meena also lacks the quality of emotional intelligence, as she did not talk to Prakash to effectively communicate with him before recommending his suspension. She should first have had a dialogue to persuade Prakash to change his attitude.

(b) As common friend, my advice would be :-

① respecting each others' professional competencies.

② appreciating & celebrating each others success.

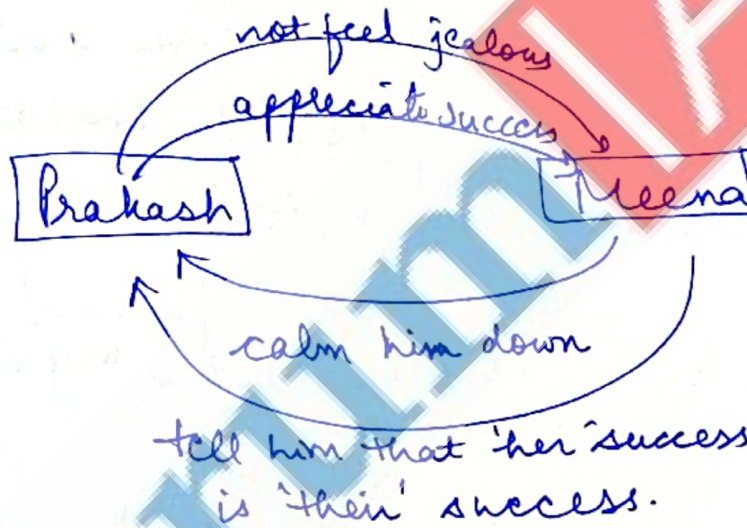
③ not seeing success merely in terms of position / promotion, rather focussing on hard work and dedication.

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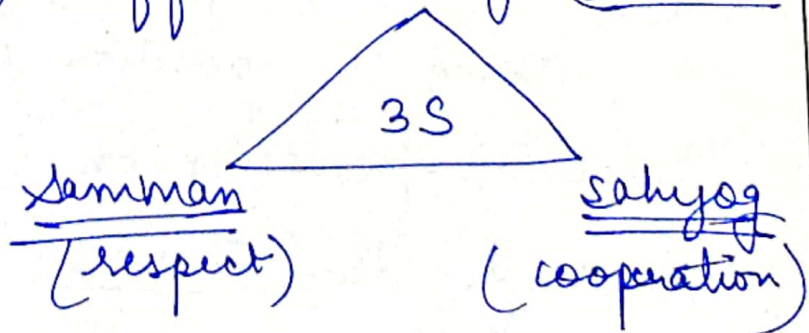
① staying calm & composed  
and not reacting in fit of anger

② understanding each others' emotions & try to reconcile



(c) To develop the qualities of :

- 1) companionship
- 2) effective dialogue (samvad)



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Prakash & Meena must -

- ① frequently talk & resolve differences.
- ② understand that relationships require peaceful resolution of disputes.
- ③ have selflessness and benevolence towards each other.
- ④ not be envy or jealous of each other's success.
- ⑤ balance private & professional life both.

Relationships built on Trust, mutual respect and Love can cross the choppy waters of professional huddles.

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Q.11 Jiya is a first-year student studying political science in a metropolitan city. Jiya belongs to Viddhi, a village located in the state of Satya Pradesh. Even though Jiya is very fond of her ancestral home, she has limited knowledge about the socio-cultural aspects of the region.

One day, while talking to her father, Jiya expresses her desire to visit her ancestral place. Her father readily agrees, and advises Jiya to inform her paternal uncle, Suresh, who lives in Viddhi, about her travel plans. On the destined day, Jiya arrives at her village to a grand welcome organised by her uncle. Later in the day, Suresh informs Jiya that in the evening they were all to attend a marriage function in the village. At the function, while having dinner, Jiya noticed that a separate seating arrangement was being made for some people. Unlike others, these people were waiting for their meals sitting on the floor, at a substantial distance from the main dining area. This made Jiya curious. On enquiring Alakh, a 15-year-old boy, told Jiya that the members of his communities were not allowed to sit on chairs in any public occasion in the village. Alakh also told Jiya that even though he did not like the idea of sitting down in front of his friends, his mother and father, both advised him to follow the norm. Jiya asked him as to why different treatment was meted out to some people despite belonging to the same place. Alakh informed Jiya that even though they all belonged to Viddhi, members of his communities lived in separate habitations; had separate wells; and even worshipped in separate places. He also told her that various prohibitions were put on them like they were not supposed to ride a horse as part of their wedding procession, not allowed to wear turbans, which was a common head gear for others etc. Upon returning from the function, Jiya talked to her uncle about the matter. Suresh told Jiya that it is an accepted practice in the region and it is not wise to question the age-old traditions.

Next day, while going to the market with her aunt, Jiya passes by the local government school. She at once recognized Alakh in the school uniform. To her surprise, instead of studying inside with other students, he, along with some other students, was sweeping the school corridor. While Jiya was perplexed, her aunt passed it off as a routine affair and told her that it was not out of ordinary for the likes of Alakh to do such jobs.

Though Jiya left for her home in a few days, the incidents in Viddhi left an indelible mark on her psyche. As a political science student, Jiya realised that such practices and traditions were a blatant violation of an individual's rights. However, what she did not understand was the reasons behind overt acceptance of such practices by the society.

The things witnessed by Jiya at Viddhi are not isolated incidents, but a part of larger systematic cycle of exclusion and marginalisation. Such incidents are commonplace in many parts of the country even today.

a) Discuss the role of various stakeholders in checking such biases and building an egalitarian order.

b) Why do such discriminatory practices continue in the society? (20 marks, 250 words)

The given case study represents the presence of discrimination and violation of article 14, 15, 16 as well as article 23, 24 of Indian Constitution



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My vision = Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere

a) Role played by various stakeholders in checking biases & building an egalitarian order :-

① Jiya → Even a single person can bring change by questioning the prevalent practices.

ee "One can atleast create ripples in the water"  
— Mother Teresa.

Jiya's sensitivity and wisdom to challenge the unjust practice must be appreciated.

② Jiya's Relatives → Her uncle and aunty → ask her not to question age old traditions, &

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consider such discriminatory practices as routine & normal.

→ They show lack of sensitivity, lack of emotional intelligence, lack of empathy & compassion.

As rightly said :-

“The victory of evil is for good men to do nothing.”

③ Society at large → Exclusion & marginalization perpetuates when society gives legitimacy to ills.

→ The different arenas of sitting, worshipping, habitations, wells & even studying have been created, harmony cohesion & equality.

④ Alakh was sweeping school corridor showing child labour and absence of constitutional morality.

→ He must be made aware of his

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rights and entitlements; providing Education to him.

(b) Discriminatory practices continue in society because →

(i) Historical reasons - Time tested customs become engrained & carved in stone.

(ii) Social factors - of lack of equity and tolerance, the gap between "upper" & "lower" castes

(iii) Political factors - politicians use such distinctions as tools for mobilization & polarisation

(iv) Administrative reasons - bureaucratic apathy & lack of compassion to act to prevent such practices.

(v) Ethical reason - crisis of Conscience among people.

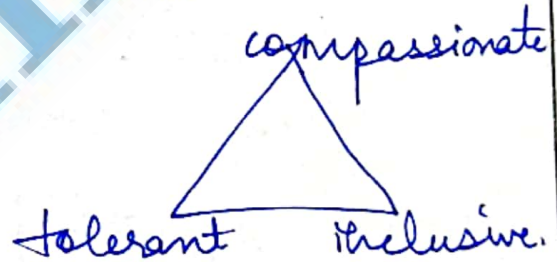
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→ lack of righteousness & moral decay.

→ lack of moral education & awareness about constitutional morality & fundamental rights.

Hence, there is urgent need to bring behavioral change by nudging people to become more



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Q.12) Pratap is a data engineer working in ABC Infocom. Pratap is a sincere employee who is liked equally by his superiors, colleagues, and subordinates. One day, during the lunch hour, a few colleagues were discussing a news item. There was a rally/parade in support of the LGBTQIA+ community which was to be held on the coming Sunday. While the news item was a matter of intrigue and fun for all, Pratap was sensitive about the issue. He explained to his colleagues the importance of understanding the demands of the LGBTQIA+ for equal civil rights as enjoyed by others. (Kama), a colleague of Pratap, believed such tendencies are not in the favour of the traditional values of the society. Another employee, (Sushma), said that she has heard some experts on various news channel talking about how the demands being raised by the LGBTQIA+ community are against the laws of nature. (Bhanu) the sales team manager, too agreed with the majority opinion; Bhanu said that his parents believe that the inclinations of LGBTQIA+ people are a manifestation of mental illness. Pratap's reasoning in favour of equal rights for all was of no consequence to his colleagues who seemed to have a rigid attitudinal build up against the community as a whole.

On the designated day when the rally was to take place, Kamal was watching the coverage of the parade live from his home. To his astonishment, he saw Pratap in the LGBTQIA+ rally. Next day at the office, when Kamal told Pratap that he saw him participating in the parade, Pratap agreed, and told Kamal that he was gay. After this incident Pratap began to see visible changes in the behaviour of not only his colleagues and subordinates but also the management of the office. While earlier all pestered Pratap to be present for various official and personal occasions, now he increasingly felt unwanted. Even his colleagues started taking their lunch separately. Pratap was earlier respected and revered by all for his sincerity and dedication. But now his professional qualities were overlooked and he became an object of amusement for all. He noticed that people started calling him by different names which he realized were a slur on his personality.

Matters came to head when Pratap was overlooked for promotion. Earlier, Pratap's superiors on various occasions had told him that his good work has benefitted the organization immensely and he was due for promotion after the next appraisal. Therefore, this supersession came as a rude and disappointing shock to Pratap, and he fell into a mire of self-doubt and loathing. The conditions came to such a pass that, Pratap, who was earlier a happy go lucky, caring, and a self-aware person, started remaining depressed.

- What are the qualities lacked by the colleagues and superiors of Pratap?
  - What could be the possible reasons behind the negative attitude of office employees towards LGBTQIA+ community?
  - As a friend of Pratap, what advice will you give him?
- (20 marks, 250 words)

The case study presents the prevalent societal attitude towards transgenders who are discriminated, neglected, made fun of, given slurs, loathed and deprived of equality.

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(a) Colleagues & superiors of Pratap lack qualities of :-

- ① accomodation & tolerance
- ② respect for differences
- ③ unity without uniformity, yet differences without fragmentation.
- ④ inclusive outlook towards fellow citizens.
- ⑤ constitutional morality of equality.
- ⑥ humanity and value of brotherhood
- ⑦ respecting merit, dedication & sincerity.
- ⑧ professional ethics.
- ⑨ acceptance to diversity
- ⑩ Affection & love for fellow beings.

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(b) Reasons behind negative attitude include:-

i) as shown in the case, myths  
of

transgenders  
seen against  
traditional  
values

seen as  
against  
law of nature

manifestation  
of mental  
illness

These conceptions are wrongly being carried forwards across generations

ii) lack of awareness & literacy about different gender identities and orientations.

iii) the tendency to 'Hush' such discussions, i.e. even when children ask about such different observations (of transgenders asking for money at street lights), parents simply silent them.

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iv) poor self confidence among members of LGBTQIA+ to be able to raise voice for themselves though rainbow movements take place but are far from creating behavioural change.

v) lack of government initiatives to raise awareness about different gender identities  
≠ lack of inclusion in school curriculum

(c) As friend of Kratap, my advise would be —

① Firstly, Kratap must not lose his happy go lucky & calm attitude, due to comments & insensitivity by colleagues. His self doubt would do more harm than others' behaviour.



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② Secondly, I will advise Pratap to try to mingle with the colleagues and make them understand about the naturalness of his identity.

He must have patience and courage of conviction as such as social change will take time to come.

③ Pratap must go and talk to his superiors and make them realise the value of  
↳ work over identity  
↳ equality over discrimination  
↳ company's growth over rigid attitude.

④ Lastly, Pratap must have faith in himself & humanity.

My Vision -

The society will surely move from

TRANSPHOBIC TO TRANSFRIENDLY.