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AMIT YADAV

RANK - 502

GS MAINS ESSAY

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GS SCORE

Test - 2

Roll No._____

ESSAY

Time Allowed: 3 hrs. *Max. Marks: 250*

Instructions to Candidate

- Both sections are compulsory.
- Attempt one essay from each section.
- Each essay carries 125 marks.
- Write each essay in about 1000-1200 words.
- After finishing the first essay, attempt the next on a fresh Page.
- Any page left blank in the answer-book must be crossed out clearly.

(Examiner will pay special attention to the candidate's grasp of his/her material, its relevance to the subject chosen, and to his/her ability to think constructively and to present his/her ideas concisely, logically and effectively).

Remarks

Name Amit Yadav

*Mobile No.*_____

Date _____

Signature _____

1. Invigilator Signature _____

2. Invigilator Signature _____

SECTION - A

1. A free woman is one, who does not live in the shadow of others' judgment, but one who makes her own choices based on her own wisdom.
2. Expect the best. Prepare for the worst. Capitalize on what comes.
3. We are good architects of future, if our coming generations are not victim.
4. The more you sweat in peace, the less you bleed in war.

SECTION - B

1. Patriotism is to support your country, not your government.
2. In a healthy politics, the leaders do not serve any ideology or political party, but people.
3. The difference between insanity and genius is success.
4. Intelligence is not IQ, but capacity of imagination.

Section A → (2) Expect the best, Prepare for the worst. Capitalise on what comes

Why do people fail? It is a crucial question in present day societies which give so much importance to individual success. As class and status of people are not determined by birth (in principle), the credit and blame of success is often attributed to individuals. There have been given many explanations. Some of them blame the structure of societies, which are so inequitable and stratified that many of us are doomed to failure. Though the truth in the above rationale can not be refuted completely, there are also individual causes of success and failure. Lal Bahadur Shastri, B.R. Ambedkar, Chandragupta Maurya are some personalities who achieved success even though societal conditions were unfavourable to them.

The essay aims to deal with such individual aspects of success and failure which are rooted in the strengths, weaknesses, values and attitude of individuals.

Remarks

The first important aspect, which has far reaching consequences, is setting the goal itself. Sometimes people choose such goals which they are not ready to pursue and, thus, leave the path in the Mid way. Abraham Linkon, while aknowledging this, said that we must choose are goals very thoughtfully and then must stand firm on them.

After the goal has been chosen, there is a need to understand the difference between "what is" and "what ought to be". For this, we need to do rational assessment of our strengths and weaknesses. complacency, over-confidence and under-confidence are all means to achieve failure. Thus, balanced assessment is required. once we understand this gap, there comes the most important part, which will decide whether we will be successful or not.

First of all, this requires hard-work. There is no shortcuts to success. Success comes to people who are ready to sacrifice their comforts, keep their goal in

Remarks

mind all the time, and work hard to achieve it. Our national leaders like Gandhi, Nehru, Tilak left their comforts and worked throughout their life for freedom of our nation. They could sit in their homes comfortably, but they chose not to.

The second most important aspect is internal or self-motivation, which keeps us going; which fills our hearts and minds with the will to achieve and with the energy and enthusiasm required to achieve success. Though self-motivation is the best form of motivation, there comes moment in the life of even the heros like Arjuna, where self doubt arises. what we need is the company of people like Krishna to push us in those hard times.

The real challenge to the pursuit of success comes with our first setback. How we respond to this setback determines not only our character but also our chances for success in future. Right attitude, and self-motivation motivates us to expect the best results when we have

Remarks

put our effort. However, achieving success may not always be that easy. We must learn to prepare ourself for the worst as well. Mohammed Gajnavi lost to Prithviraj Chauhan seventeen times. He had the option to give up after the first lost battle. Gandhiji could not achieve the goal of swaraj in the Non cooperation Movement. He could choose not to move ahead. But always and everywhere, the stories of success are not a cake walk but the stories of bouncing back from failures. A failure is never a failure until it is considered a failure. If one can always choose them to be but a step to success.

Successful people have one quality for sure. When they fail, they don't see failure in it but opportunities to learn; to understand their failure; to find out the reasons; to see how they are going to overcome the present challenges. Thomas

Remarks

Elva Edison said he never lost heart when he failed. He just discovered more ways to fail and finally he succeeded.

This quality develops perseverance in us, and quality of Excellence. we prepare ourselves to make ourselves better and better with every instance of failure until we achieve our aim. we are able to capitalise on whatever comes in our way.

Thus, positive attitude to see the world, even our failures, hard work, self-motivation, perseverance, Excellence are qualities which are guarantees of success.

However, still we find large number of people in our societies, who have developed a fatalistic attitude. There are arguments that there is corruption, the structure of society is inequitable, success or failure are decided by God. People tend to blame outside forces for their failures. They do not want to listen that it is their own weakness of character because of which they are not able to

Remarks

achieve what they want.

People tend to be inspired by cinema where they see people reaching from rags to riches in few moments. They see from serials like Kaun Banega Crorepati, that one can win crores in matters of hours. They also see genuine effort is not valued and rich people are rich because of large scale corruption.

The most important thing is to understand that success does come overnight. Even those who become overnight stars are doing hard work in the background for long time.

There is a need for society to take responsibility to break these myths among people and inculcating right values and attitudes in the minds of people. Family and Schools are two such institutions, which will have to play the role. Our collective weakness has been that - we focus so much

Remarks

on goals and so less on means and values, that people forget to value these values and means.

The school examination pattern, where one day of examination decides success and failure, sets wrong precedent. by showing that success is just one day affair. we must set this system right and evolve examination pattern which really judge the hard work, and continuous effort of students. This will inculcate right values among children.

Even at home, parents judge their children in terms of marks. There is a need to teach students and children how should they take their failures. failures are never final. These are opportunities.

Even in the larger society, the avenues of making quick money and quick fame need to be discouraged. for instance, people make fortunes in stock market in matter of days, while others have to work

Remarks

day and night to achieve that much. Such quick fortune making avenues must be discouraged : so that genuine effort can be appreciated.

Though some argue that such avenues must be present for people of lower strata, it must be remembered the larger harm they do to society. There is much to gain from inculcating values like hard-work, perseverance, positive attitude. For the individual, it will always keep his/her morale high and his self-worth intact. For society, it will get members who are ready to contribute so that society can achieve higher endeavours and prosper to great highs. The first baby step to achieve this is to start valuing and appreciating people by virtues and values they have, not just by what they achieve in the end.

Remarks

Space for comments

P.T.O

Part B – Topic 1 — Patriotism

In the last few years, governments at both the centre and at the state level have used the sedition provisions of the Indian Penal Code, to charge people for seditious activities. Maharashtra, for instance, used the Information Technology act to arrest people who had said something against some politician on the social media. There have been voices that if one can not say 'Bharat Mata ki Jai", they are not patriots and are anti-national. This calls for the need to understand what patriotism actually means and what it is not, and how truly patriotic behaviour can bring positive changes in the life of the nation.

As the modern Indian state is of recent origin, the idea of patriotism can be taken from the document which created modern India, that is, the

Remarks

constitution of India. The constitution begins with Preamble which starts with 'we the people'. The important idea of this is that people of India have come together to create the Indian nation, which provides some rights and assign some duties to all the citizens. What it could not guarantee, were mentioned in the Directive Principles, so that people work in that direction as and when they develop capacity to do so.

The idea of patriotism must arise from this. Striving to maintain territorial integrity is just a small part of showing patriotism, which is done by the armed forces. The idea of patriotism extends to even the civil citizens of the nation.

There is a general tendency to see the armed forces as the symbol of patriotism and people adore and link themselves with them to show their patriotism. Flags are hoisted, put on coats,

Remarks

army Jawans are saluted to show patriotism. Though it is certainly a way to show one's adherence to the idea of India, it is just a part of it. Armed forces do not just protect the physical territories. They protect the culture and structure of the society. Suppose the armed forces are there to protect a decadent culture, where most of the people are suppressed, it can not be called an act of patriotism but just loyalty to the ruler.

So, it is the culture and society, which decide the meaning of patriotism. The constitution creates a society which works for even the most disadvantaged, and marginalised people. Thus, this way, everyone develops a stake in the protection and promotion of such culture. It is the act of protection and promotion of the nation's

Remarks

culture, its values and its goals, which must decide patriotism.

This way, there can be many ways to exhibit patriotism. first are the citizens who protect the boundaries within which this culture resides. They protect it from external threats, which can destroy the culture if enter into it. for instance, the Europeans entered into America and not only physically subjugated them but also destroyed their tribal culture. so, protecting it is the first act of patriotism.

second, the society has created mechanism regarding how it aims to protect the ideas, values and ways of life of people. for instance, Police has been given responsibility to preserve law and order, so that the order prescribed by constitution can prevail. Thus, serving in police is also an act of Patriotism.

Apart from these obvious acts, next comes, those who promote the culture. Thus, teachers, professors who inculcate the

values of society among students are patriots as if these values did not exist in the next generation, the whole ideas of the nation may be challenged. Bureaucrats and politicians who have been given the tasks of governing the country in good faith and implement the directive principles are also patriots.

Finally, citizens of the country have been expected to follow the fundamental and other social duties. For instance, those who respect the dignity of women, who does not destroy public property, who send their children of age 6 to 14 are also equally patriots.

Thus, every single citizen has got the chance to show their patriotism. Patriotism involves each citizen's duty towards each other by developing brotherhood so that each community can live happily

and coexist peacefully. Those who do even these small acts of promoting inter-communal harmony at individual level are patriots.

As argued above, the idea of patriotism is very broad. Those who do not contribute to this or rather those who deliberately do act in ways to belittle the idea of India can not truly call themselves as patriots.

The idea of patriotism, however, sometimes seen in a very narrow perspective. It is seen as adherence to the government, which is but just one organ of state. Those who do not adhere to the ideology and perspective of the government are declared as seditious. Arresting someone for saying something against a politician on the grounds of sedition is a huge misunderstanding of the idea of patriotism.

However, it is not just misunderstanding

Remarks

of the idea, which is the result of such behaviour. Most often it is done for political expediency and suppress dissent, which is otherwise a fundamental right of citizens in a democracy like India. Finding no other way to suppress opposition, patriotism as a tool is utilised. In the name of patriotism, the emotional appeal is made to the citizens so that they do not rise against government's acts. Large scale illiteracy, poverty and ignorance results in acceptance of such shallow notions among the masses. Allowing such notions to develop, may lead to rise of anti-democratic politics, which may not augur well for the future of the vibrant democracy like India. They result in emergence of neo-fascist forces.

Thus, there is a need to counter such forces. Media and civil society has a crucial role to play here as

Remarks

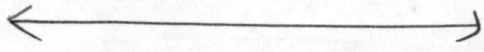
these are social institutions which have not only alternative channels of information gathering but also capability to educate the masses, so that they do not fall for such narrow notions. The Intellectual class in India has always fought against such acts by returning awards, vehemently opposing such government acts. They must publish their views in leading newspapers, especially in Hindi and regional languages to reach masses.

Finally, family, schools and other institutions must inculcate in the children the broader idea of patriotism, which will not only help in their own development but will create conducive environment for all citizens to adhere to the founding ideas of the Constitution. They will understand their duties and responsibilities as citizens and will make positive contributions in national life. Finally,

Remarks

the idea of patriotism should not restrict us to our national space only, where we look at other nations with contempt. It should not breed hatred for others, which Tagore once so categorically said.

we should always broaden our horizon and move from nation to outwards where our duty is not only towards our nation but grows towards whole humanity and even the whole complex of species residing on earth.



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Patriotism

Govt support → ① Gandhi — civil obedience.
② Anna Hazare
③ JP movement

Country → Those who follow fundamental duties.

① Armed forces
② Civil side →

[Protect the culture & society]
[Support the growth of culture & society]
is also patriotism.

* Why shallow definition → for narrow gains
* Why people accept → Ignorance

Patriotism
we the people

Remarks

Goal → Then (Present status)

* cap → what is and what ought to be.
* Preparations
* failure → Being ready for failure, as it is nothing but a step to success.
* capitalise → Build upon what you have.
* How expectations help → no positive expectation,
→ fatalism ← Breeds,
→ Maintain level of motivation → Perseverance
* for that → be firm on goal

* Why people fail? How our weaknesses, our attitudes become fetters in our own way of success and achievement.

Structure: ① Intro → Why people fail?

② Main → Recipe for success? → Unions
Stand firm

Don't follow shortcuts ←

(3) How to inculcate these habits?
Role of society in inculcating these habits?
Role of family (Socialisation)

(4) Benefits to Individuals & society — conclusion
[Higher endeavour
Excellence]
Prosperity.
[Moral strength]

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