

**GS SCORE**

**An Institute for Civil Services**

**IAS TOPPER'S**

**TEST COPY**

**KHUSHBOO LATHER**

**Rank - 98**

**Essay**



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## 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).

Name KHUSHBOO LATHER

Mobile No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature *Khushboo*

1. Invigilator Signature \_\_\_\_\_

2. Invigilator Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### Remarks

Essay 1

*Excellent!*

*Excellent! Structured, analytical, critical thinking, effective communication!*

*you can still work on the "feel factor" of communication through punch lines and quotes that touch.*

*11. good!*

*The distinction between patriotism and nationalism is not very objective.*

*Otherwise you are at your best in structure, analysis, critical thinking and impact.*

**SECTION - A**

1. To be successful in Men's world, a woman must be more man than men.
2. Laws are spider webs through which the big flies pass and the little ones get caught.
3. True equality means holding everyone accountable in the same way, regardless of race, gender, faith, ethnicity - or political ideology.
4. Wise men speak because they have something to say; Fools because they have to say something.

**SECTION - B**

1. India hasn't unraveled true potential of its long coastline.
2. We forget that the water cycle and the life cycle are one.
3. One should like to be able to love one's country and still love justice.
4. Sustainability is about Ecology, Economy and Equity.

To be successful in men's world, a woman must be more man than men.

Ms. Indira Gandhi, the only female prime minister of India is regarded as one of the strongest by many. Her success is ~~attributed~~ defined in terms like aggressive, forthright, masculating. Everything from her physical demeanour to the way she dealt with the Bangladesh crisis of 1971 shows ~~how~~ a ~~masculine~~ woman following the man's path to success and excelling at it.

On the other hand we have Ms Indira Nooyi, one of the most successful and celebrated CEO's of all time. Indira is known for her proficiency at handling conflicts and her ability to negotiate. In one of her interviews she once said - 'I call my mother everyday. It is important to ~~uphold~~ me to be able to handle both work and home.'

Executive

These tales of the two Indiras and many more women show their unique path to success. In this essay we try to understand how women can and do succeed in a largely patriarchal setup. We start by understanding the impact of men's world on women, the ideas of femininity and how success is defined. We conclude with what constituents are needed successful women to succeed.

### men's world and women

It is no secret that men enjoy certain advantages that women are denied.

Historically, once we developed into settled societies and the ideas of inheritance and property were developed, men were assigned the role of working ~~while~~ due to their physical attributes while

women were defined ~~as~~ to be home makers, more property than human.  
~~This led women to be~~

Politically too women were latecomers to enfranchisement. Even developed countries like the United States gave women voting rights as late as the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Economically even today women are not an equal part of the economy. India has a labor force participation rate of 52% but women's labor for this figure is only 27%.

All this is exaggerated by our social setup which condemns women to a life of unpaid labor at times or underpaid, unfair wage differential <sup>at others</sup>. They are ~~of~~ suffering from a unique double burden as well where in they not only contribute economically to the household but also spend significant amount of time on care activities. Living in this world

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Remarks

implies that to be successful women have to meet certain criteria. as defined below.

The virtuous one - Successful women

In a world run by men we have a very narrowly defined notion of femininity which says that women must prioritize family above everything else. Thus mothers ~~are~~ and wives are celebrated for their role in extending the family line and women who choose to marry according to their own choices are at times condemned.

Similarly, if and when a woman finds her way to work she is at times asked to shed her feminine side. She is accused of being weak. Issues like maternity, menstruation, child rearing are considered a sign of weakness. To be successful

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Remarks

In such a world women must follow ~~men's~~ rules set by men for men.

In the case of Ms Hillary Clinton it was obvious from her  sartorial choices of a pant suit and her short hair along with the need to re-affirm her strength by propagating war and aggressive choices that she chose ~~the men~~ to be a man to succeed in a man's world. ~~However as our world is changing~~ she chose to highlight how strong she was compared to other candidates but not what unique contribution she could make as a woman in most of her campaign. Despite this some say she did not succeed due to prevalent misogyny.

However, there is another path to success. Last year a woman parliamentarian in Europe took her baby to the

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Remarks

Parliament session, and breasted her while working, she chose to not suppress her femininity or to adopt characteristics of her male colleagues.

At a time when the world is fast changing we see example of women reasserting their femininity ever so subtly while also being successful at work. Facebook COO Sheryl Sandberg ~~to~~ did not shy away from dealing with the loss of her husband publicly and grieving. This did not take away from her work where she still performed well. ~~That~~

~~process~~ The process of feminization of workforce as seen the world over ~~is~~ due to women reaching higher posts, getting better education etc. has led to a transformation in the work place.

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Remarks

With options like telecommuting, work from home, virtual meetings etc. women no longer need to follow previously rigid set of rules.

Beyond the workplace to for a woman to succeed in life she doesn't need to follow the path of men. ~~For~~ she can leverage her own strength. For example, the ethics of care as ~~against~~ is a feminine, more care and emotions based approach to decision making. ~~These~~ women don't need to follow the aggressive ethics of justice rules. Thus success is much broader than just following what men do.

What truly is success?

For a woman or man to succeed there is no blueprint or prototype to be followed. Situational leadership which is based on

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Remarks

responding in the most appropriate manner to unique situations is what constitutes success. This implies there is no right or wrong path to success.

One must choose from available set of tools to ~~use~~ after analysing the unique situation and environment.

This implies that women can follow both masculine and feminine activities to succeed. They might be aggressive and accomodating as per the situation. Given that we live in a man's world, there might be limits on the opportunities available to women but of the opportunities available they must ~~to~~ respond in their own unique manner. There are different paths to learning respect. ~~from men and women~~ ~~and these~~ as shown by the

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Remarks

tale of the two Indiras. Our focus should be on empowering more and more women so that they get access to more opportunities.

### Conclusion

A McKinsey report says that if women's participation in the labor force increases our GDP will increase by 24%. Further empowering women will help improve our human development outcomes as well. This is what will aid the success of women. This is what will transform the world from being a man's world to being a more egalitarian society with ample opportunities.

We must remember the following paraphrased words from the father of our nation Mahatma Gandhi —

'Woman is man's companion, his intellectual equal'

Erinmurti

One should like to be able to  
love one's country and still love  
justice

where the mind is without fear  
And the head is held high  
where the world has not broken up  
into fragments by narrow domestic walls

where words come out from the depth  
of truth  
and tireless striving stretches to perfection  
The clear stream of reason hasn't  
lost its way

into the dreary sand of dead habit  
where the mind is led forward by thee  
into ever widening thought and action  
into that heaven ~~my~~ of freedom  
let my country awake...

This poem by the Indian  
Rabindranath Tagore depicts the  
ideal country where love of for  
one's country goes hand in hand  
with reason and fairness and  
where the lack of fear allows  
one the freedom to make their  
own choices.

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Remarks

In this essay we delve on the notions of nationalism and patriotism to understand their balance with justice and limits to the same. We conclude the essay with the idea of an ideal citizen who ~~so~~ strives to strike this balance.

Patriotism, Nationalism and <sup>their</sup> limits

Patriotism is defined as the love for one's country because one was born there and less extreme form of love for one's country. An individual should be able to love their country as they please.

This love manifests in various ways. ~~and that~~ We see it when we compete in international sports tournaments and our love for cricket. We see it when we cheer for Indian businessmen doing well. We see it in the way we respect our national flag or anthem and how we teach our children to love the country.

Explain a little more Patriotism is a natural connect with the soil and air which are part of one's growing.

Nationalism is a post colonial creation serving as basis of modern states.

Patriotism

Remarks

does not need a paradigm of enemy, the other, superior or inferior culture, identity and power unlike nationalism which does.

Our love for the country is also codified in the ideals of our constitution which not only recognises us as a one country but also calls for citizens to uphold national honor and respect to flag and anthem as a fundamental duty. Clarity and integrity of the nation also act as constraints on certain fundamental rights like freedom of expression as well. These are further made legal by various acts like Prevention of National Honour Insult to National symbols Act etc.

Thus loving our country is our duty and we must fulfill the same. Those who partake in antinational activities are traitors and in violation of their duties. We must also promote love for country, too. However there are certain limitations that come with

extreme forms of patriotism.

During the dark period of emergency love for the country was replaced and redefined as love for the government and state. Those against the state ~~but~~ and critical of its policies were jailed. Citizens were denied their rights. This ~~so~~ promoted a reactive, aggressive form of nationalism.

which was narrowly defined.

More recently love for the nation translated into love for the milk animals for some. It was equated with a nationalism that promotes a particular religion and lifestyle choice.

Such extreme forms of patriotism might lead to flourishing of a majoritarian view at the cost of the minorities. This again is against principles and ideals of our constitution.

✓ good!

very good observation.

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Remarks

Similarly, love for one's country must not translate into hatred for another or Xenophobia. Recently certain Indians were assaulted when they celebrated the victory of another country over India in cricket. This narrow form of love for our country promotes unnecessary aggression.

Excellent  
amazingly

- (a) Identity
- (b) culture
- (c) Polity
- (d) Values

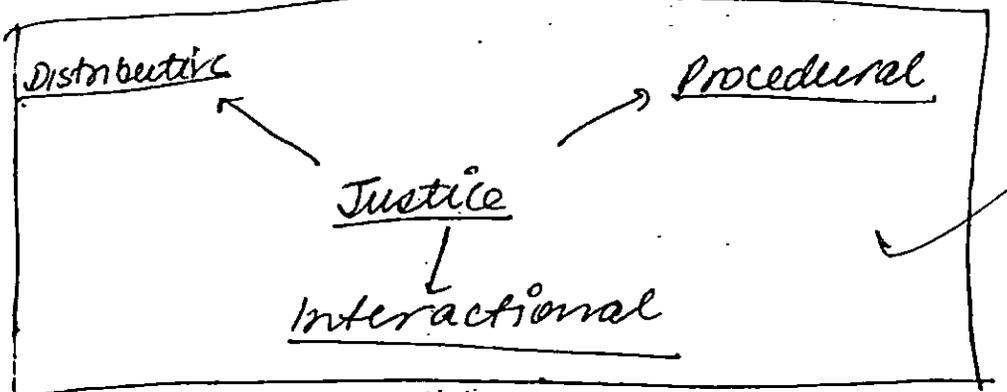
All the above examples show that there is no one form of love for our country. Extreme love needs to be balanced with the ideals of justice of focus to fulfil our constitutional obligation. ~~that is~~

Probably all, but in a multi-identity society

ideals of justice  
Justice is a means to ensure fairness and equity. Our constitution calls for justice in politics, society and economy and ensures the same with fundamental rights and directive principles of state policy defined in constitution.

Remarks

patritism cannot and ideally should not be expressed



Distributive justice calls for fairness in allocation of ~~outcomes~~ <sup>outcomes</sup> and resources ~~in a~~ <sup>in a</sup> fair manner. Thus the love for our nation ~~can~~ is upheld only when we prevent concentration of resources and ensure everyone gets equal opportunities.

Procedural justice ensures that the above outcomes are decided on by a fair process that is considered so by all. India's judiciary system ensures a fair procedure for all. However there are times when mediocrity is promoted at the cost of meritocracy. ~~Our~~ Our love for the country should ensure due process.

Interactional justice ensures that people feel they are being treated properly in the society. Our love for the nation shouldn't come at the cost of fair treatment of others. For example the recent cases of mob lynching show a fragmentation in the country on various lines while ostensibly promoting welfare of the nation.

These ideas of justice should help us decide the ideal citizen for our country.

### Ideal citizens

An individual should be able to balance their love for the nation with the idea of justice in all spheres. Thus criticism and open culture of sharing of ideas should be promoted by the ideal citizen. They should promote the various forms of nationalism practiced in the country.

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Recently the Supreme Court said in a ruling that extrajudicial killings in Manipur by army officials under ~~the~~ the cloak of AFSPA 1958 were to be ~~regulated~~ investigated. This ruling doesn't imply that the Supreme Court is antinational as it compromised our security but actually enhances its reputation as the protector and provider of justice. By doing so it also ~~performs~~ performs its duty to the nation and practices ~~the~~ its love.

Similarly one must be able to love their country while upholding justice. This ideal of being an ideal citizen is possible if one is able to separate the love for nation from their political affections. It also requires one to promote diversity while respecting the unity and integrity of the country. It also lies in holding the government

Very good!

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Remarks

accountable for its actions so that justice is served. The most important way to strike the balance is by being true to the ideals of our constitution.

### Conclusion

Nationalism is a positive virtue and must be promoted but not at cost of ideals that form the basis of our nation.

A narrow, reactive, partisan form of nationalism should thus give way to an open, reason based, harmony seeking ~~and~~ form of nationalism.

Democracy; by treating one like the other and all as equals gives us the true platform to practice such a nationalism and to promote justice.

Very good!

1000

Remarks