

59
125
SCORE

contents very rich, but architecture of the write up needs improve
Presentation and articulation may be far better; it is not w.r.t. language but architecture of the write up. Test - 1 merit

Roll No. _____

- you can straightaway explore -
- (a) what is growth and development and what is human development?
 - (b) Enumerate the deficiencies of conventional measures of growth - GDP, S, I, Cons etc.
 - (c) Enumerate the importance of measuring human development.
- Time Allowed: 3 hrs. Max. Marks: 250

ESSAY

Instructions to Candidate

- (a) Analyse the correlation between growth and human development!
- Both sections are compulsory.
- Attempt one essay from each section.
- (b) Argue for right prioritisation of political, economic, social objectives to make a free, equal, inclusive and happy society.
- 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 Faisal Khan

Mobile No. _____

Date _____

Signature [Signature]

1. Invigilator Signature [Signature]

2. Invigilator Signature [Signature]

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Essay 1

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125

The write up has valuable insights and analysis, no doubt.

But connection of points and arguments with the central theme is not very explicit/visible. Arrangement of points/sequencing is also not good enough. Lastly, the sense of proportion is missing as you have devoted a very big space to intro → and moving to - description and analysis. For ex. try to directly explore what does inside? when? how? why it is painful? Is it ^{more} painful than death? why? How can the situation be improved?

These direct questions help you to categorise and sequence your arguments and points better.

SECTION - A

1. Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall
2. Health is not valued till sickness comes.
3. Death is not the greatest loss in life; the greatest loss is what dies inside us while we live.
4. People who are in a fortunate position always attribute virtue to what makes them so happy

SECTION - B

1. The only answer to climate change is "change"
2. Science and technology revolutionize our lives, but memory, tradition and myth frame our response
3. Universities should be a place for 'creativity', 'out of the box thinking' and 'ideological disruptions'
4. Development means only human development; all other measures of growth are misleading.

Section - A

Death is not the greatest loss in life; the greatest loss is what dies inside us while we live.

Homo sapiens are one of the latest inhabitants of Earth which has a history of more than 4 billion years. Nature has created humans as a unique species which have placed themselves at every nook and corner of the world, from mountains to the deserts and now even space. One unique quality separates humans from rest of the lifeforms - free will. They can do tremendous good as well as horrible wrongs. However, there is one thing which they cannot conquer, perhaps only delay in some cases due to medical advancements, death.

Given that humans enjoy their superior status due to nature's gifted qualities to them - brain, limbs, adaptability, it is only fair to accept that the death being an

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inevitable truth should be considered not as a loss in life but only a way which nature has created for humans to live.

It is this inevitable truth that the sufis and saints have ~~acceptible~~ accepted which makes them dance even at the death of loved ones as was seen during the recent terrorist attacks on sufi community in Pakistan. Indian tradition celebrates death in the form of a feast after the 13th day of death of ancestors in the family.

Only those things can be lost which someone possessed. Since, life and death are beyond human control, the loss of loved ones is not a true loss in the true sense. But it is the loss of character, ^{on} which humans have full control, which is the greatest loss in life. ~~Only~~ It is the abuse of the free will which can lead to decline in character and cause irreparable loss.

Buddha remarked that desire is the cause of all sufferings. The lack of control over human

desire ~~cause~~ is one of the greatest loss to humanity. Today's problem of global warming has its genesis in the consumerism promoted by the developed west. Climate change has caused increase in global temperatures by around 0.9°C since industrial revolution which may rise to $3-4^{\circ}\text{C}$ by 2100. Loss of temperance is the cause of the problem which has brought droughts to developing countries. Intensified conflicts in Sahel region of Africa and Syria. Orphaning innocent children, forcing vulnerable women into human trafficking is bigger loss caused by the failure to control human desire.

The consumerist tendencies are driven by greed which has made people blind to human sufferings. This greed has caused the weapons manufacturers from the west to increase militarisation across the world. Many problems in West Asian countries or Afghanistan could be easily solved by providing technology and developing these countries to pacify the agitated youth, who have taken to arms.

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Such people could take a cue from the saying that "Earn your success at the service of others, not at their cost".

The greed is driven by lack of contentment in life, having misplaced priorities - seeking pleasure from gadgets rather than human interactions, appreciating the nature. The loss of humility leads to tendency to show off, flaunt the wealth causing damage to others.

Greatest loss is that of sensitivity towards each other. Farmer's have committed suicide for a paltry sum of Rs 30,000/- which can be the expenditure of few people on meals of exotic animals.

This indifference is creating a counter-indifference where the poor take sadistic pleasure at the suffering of the rich. Many were ready to face hardships during demonetisation because they knew the wealthy have been hit harder. Such a society loses trust which is essential for the working of a society.

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Currency ~~desires~~ derives its value from the fact that people trust the government over it. When such trust erodes, the economy can collapse. Venezuela saw something similar due to which they had to adopt US dollar as the currency in the country. That is a greater loss which takes away the hard earned money from that family which may have been preparing for the marriage of its daughter or would have funded the tuition fee of its children. No grief can be bigger when parents see the life of their children affected by such problems.

The trust deficit has caused dehumanisation. It has become a routine affair to see someone being lynched on mere suspicion. In many cases, this is driven by prejudices towards communities. The inability to look good in everyone, having hatred towards each other is a bigger loss than death. Death simply ends life but such a mindset is full of violence towards each other, causing repeated harm unlike one time death.

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Such an environment prevents humans to move freely, express themselves freely, do what they like. What can be a greater loss than imprisoning human mind due to such actions. This takes away from humans their ability which differentiates them from mechanical creatures in nature. The torture inflicted on Jews during holocaust was a greater loss than the deaths caused during world wars. Torture dehumanised people and made them intolerant towards each other. At least wars had death in one go and were far less miserable than such torture.

In many cases, wars are fought on just principles and the martyrdom achieved during it is never seen as a great loss but indeed a sacrifice which was worth it. The soldiers who fought Nazi Germany didn't fear death, their death in fact gave hope that humanity is still alive. Even during India's freedom struggle, Bhagat Singh surrendered voluntarily after throwing bomb at

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the Central legislative assembly because he knew that the message he can give to the British and hope it would give to Indian masses was more important than his life which would someday come to an end. Mahatma Gandhi was never hesitant to fast unto death for pursuit of justice.

It is the loss of such virtue which is a greater loss than simply death. Human souls which favour cowardice ~~too~~ over courage are a liability. In a modern democracy, which is the most desirable political system today, if the masses become coward and don't come forward to elect honest politicians with integrity it would simply lead to an autocracy where tyrants would rule. Death for the sake of defending civil liberties is more desirable than life which perpetuates tyranny.

It is said that "all that is required for evil to triumph is that good men do nothing"

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It is important for those who can diagnose the problems of ^{the} society to treat ~~the society~~ it. That's ~~was~~ what the freedom fighters did to defeat the British. Education of masses by those select few, made them realise the immense potential they have to do good and bring about a change in the society.

There are various tools which can be used to create a value centred society. RTI can be filed by people so that they can expose corruption as was done during 2G scam, Adarsh scam, etc. Indians have shown an appetite for such change when they came out on the streets for Lokpal Bill in 2013. Similarly, respect for each other can be promoted by various protest marches as was done after Nirbhaya incident. After the incident, the reporting of cases has increased even from rural areas.

Social media rather than being ^a tool of spreaded hatred can be used to promote harmony, organise people on various issues facing

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the society., many of the environmental issues, which are ~~important~~ because it is the responsibility of humans towards other creatures, can be addressed through social media. Creating a mass movement to prevent cutting of trees as done in Delhi recently to protest felling by MCD is an example.

when the society values life more than anything else, everything falls in line. The inequalities can be addressed by paying more taxes. Conflicts can be solved by valuing peace and human dignity over pride and vengeance.

Happiness can be achieved in personal life by spending quality time with parents and children, improving efficiency at workplace, reducing road rages on the way. The society should imitate the idea of Albert Einstein who said, "Try to become a man of values, rather than a man of success."

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Section - B

Development means ^{only} human development, all other measures of growth are misleading.

A mother's care for her child is ^{one of} the best ways of demonstrating what development should look like. She feeds her child with quality food, gives her best education, protects her from any harm and ensures that the child remains happy in the adult life by being empowered enough to make life choices. The child should be the master of his own destiny rather than slave of societal norms of success. States today also play a similar role due to their welfare motive. However, any deviation of welfare from that of mother's way can be misleading and also ineffective in achieving welfare. Excellent imagery and inferences touches!

One of the most effective way of empowering people is to impart them quality education. However, in the name of education development measures like number of teachers employed,

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schools built, universities opened is misleading. If children are not able to pass classes without cheating as seen in states like UP, Bihar, then ^{that} education is of hardly much use. A better metric is the quality of public discourse in university campuses, research output in the form of research papers published in quality conferences. If the ~~new~~ recently opened Atal Tinkering labs across the schools in the country show innovation, then it can be a better measure of educational development of the masses. ~~Even~~ Bill Gates had become an entrepreneur at the age of 13 when he was in school by writing software for Altair computers!

Even an ~~be~~ educated mind is incomplete without quality health which ensures that more days are spent in doing something which people like rather than visiting hospitals. A highly prosperous economy may have a booming food industry but it is often a misleading metric of development. Packaged meat industry has been associated with

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obesity and carcinogenic elements found in the food. In what may look like a desirable situation is actually a big problem. Obesity degrades quality of life - regular visits to hospital, heart attacks, restricted mobility, etc. A less earning but more healthy person may be far more desirable state than a rich person who spends his income on hospital bills.

There are various other sectors of the economy like the electronics sector which are adding significantly to the GDP growth but are not totally a reliable way of assessing development. Such sectors have been

causing serious social problems. Children spend more time on smartphone than talking with parents or family. In one extreme case, a woman was given divorce at her wedding

during the marriage rituals. The associated health problems like eye glasses may add positively to the GDP but are actually undesirable, exposing the misleading claims of development based on GDP growth.

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A highly productive company may have very high growth rate but if its employees cannot have a work-life balance then such a company is not doing great service to the nation. A stressed employee may indulge in domestic violence affecting the fundamental rights of the wife. The respect for women which is declining in recent times is not accounted for in the pursuit of productivity of the company.

Many such businesses have often scant respect towards ethics and human rights. Mining resources have led to displacement of large number of tribals from Jharkhand and Chattisgarh. By starting the mining operations, the companies have added positively to the economic growth but they have not factored in the cost to the people.

The principle of equity is often ~~lost~~ due to such misleading metrics of development. The tribals displaced by such projects become domestic or construction labour in cities, vulnerable to human trafficking whose cost are not accounted for.

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The inequalities which present today due to top 1% owning 99% of total wealth is not factored into ~~de~~ by GDP like development metrics. In fact, such unequal societies add more to tensions, crimes as compared to poorer but egalitarian societies. v-good!

The negative externalities caused by development projects on environment is hardly accounted for. Beijing every year faces deadly fogs which are having toxic elements. This prevents the citizens of the city from moving outside. It is ironical that "development" here is never actually enjoyed by the people due to poor air quality. Development here restricts freedom of movement, enjoying travel or scenic beauty. Similar is the case for global warming. Given the expected rise of 3-4°C temp in global temperatures, a time is not far when people will carry hand held air-conditioners. Ironically, this would add positively to economic development but not human development. Playing outdoor sports ~~to~~ will become impossible affecting health

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of the youth, reducing their life expectancies. Thus, achieving the opposite of what development means to the people as far as good health is concerned.

Humans cannot be totally satisfied with mere economic, environmental and social ^{needs} factors. Political rights are also essential. The desire to express themselves via free speech, movies, protests, etc. is essential to fulfill the idea of human development. Many Chinese today would be ready to barter their places with liberal countries despite having good quality of life in many Chinese cities. The state's failure to protect fundamental rights from mob lynchings, criminals, terrorists, etc. has to be accounted for in any measure of human development. Some global indices do rate people on countries on level of freedom exercised by press like the Press Freedom Index.

Theoretically democracies like India have issues of ensuring free and fair elections by

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failing to prevent use of money or muscle power. Lok Sabha has 31% MPs with criminal charges. Also, women representation is only 12% in Parliament. Unless these parameters are accounted for in human development, any measure for the same would be incomplete.

Human development can be achieved when government intervenes actively in all such areas. The elections should be fought not on who achieved how much GDP growth but who ensured clean environment, gave at least 33% party tickets to women, condemned anti-social elements in the party, etc. Even though certain parameters like happiness are difficult to quantify but we can take measure of anti-depressants sold in an year, number of road rage deaths, cases of domestic violence to ~~compose~~ create a composite index which can act as a substitute for prevailing development metrics, largely the GDP growth rate. Only then can it be said that the welfare state truly acts like a mother caring for the citizens.

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