



UHV-II: Universal Human Values – Understanding Harmony and Ethical Human Conduct

Module 5 – Implications of the Holistic Understanding – a Look at Professional Ethics

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(6 lectures and 3 tutorials/ practice sessions)

Lecture 23: Natural Acceptance of Human Values

Lecture 24: Definitiveness of (Ethical) Human Conduct

Tutorial 12: Practice Session PS12 *Exploring Ethical Human Conduct*

Lecture 25: A Basis for Humanistic Education, Humanistic Constitution and Universal Human Order

Lecture 26: Competence in Professional Ethics

Tutorial 13: Practice Session PS13 *Exploring Humanistic Models in Education*

Lecture 27: Holistic Technologies, Production Systems and Management Models-Typical Case Studies

Lecture 28: Strategies for Transition towards Value-based Life and Profession

Tutorial 14: Practice Session PS14 *Exploring Steps of Transition towards Universal Human Order*

It may be pertinent to mention that this course also presents a rather ‘unconventional’, but more fundamental approach to professional ethics where the major focus is on the development of the ethical competence of the individual rather than relying only on codes of conduct, oaths, whistle-blowing etc.

Placement of Module 5

Understanding	Harmony	} Modules 1-4
Feeling	of relationship mutual fulfilment, values	
Thought	Principles and Guidelines for Ethical Human Conduct	} Module 5 (examples and case studies...)
Behaviour	Ethical behaviour	
Work and Participation	Ethical work Ethical participation	
Outcome expected	Continuous happiness at individual level and Fulfilment of human goal at societal level	

For more details

UHV-II: Universal Human Values – Understanding Harmony and Ethical Human Conduct
A one-semester 3-credit mandatory course in the AICTE Model Curriculum 2021

Presentations, Handout of Class Notes:

<https://fdp-si.aicte-india.org/download.php#1>

Recordings on YouTube: Professional Ethics lectures of UHV-II Lectures 23-28

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BikdYub6RY0&list=PLWDeKF97v9SPFYVPis99I9eD-wZf0RypK>



Lecture 23: Natural Acceptance of Human Values

Basis for Universal Human Values

Recap

- In previous lectures, we concluded by identifying co-existence in the entire existence.
- In the following lectures, we will try to understand how right understanding provides the basis for universal human values enabling their natural assimilation.

Natural Acceptance of Human Values

- Based on our understanding of harmony, we participate in the larger order.
- Our participation at different levels is our value.
- The identification of values is based on realisation and understanding.
- The participation of the human being is in the form of behaviour and work.
- We studied about the values of **behaviour** as the nine values in relationship: trust, respect, affection, care, guidance, reverence, gratitude, glory and love.
- It results into mutual happiness
- Likewise, **work** with material things, ensuring their right utilisation, enrichment and protection is our value.
- It results into prosperity for human being and preservation of the rest of nature (enrichment, protection and right utilisation)



Consolidated List of Human Values

1. In the Self – Continuous happiness- Happiness, Peace, Satisfaction, Bliss
2. In Human Being- with Body- Feeling of self-regulation in self, health in body
3. In Human-Human Relationship – Justice
(established values- trust,... love + expressed values- ... compassion)
4. In Human-Rest of Nature Relationship – Prosperity in human being, preservation (enrichment, protection and right utilisation) of rest of Nature
5. In Universal Human Order – participation in different systems -Perseverance, Bravery, Generosity, Kindness, Beneficence, Compassion –

The value of a human being is something definite

In that sense, human values are definite

The participation of a human being living with human consciousness is definite – in the Self, in human-human relationship, in human-rest of nature relationship and in the human society (universal human order)

NOTE: That definite participation can be described in multiple ways

This is one description of that definite participation (human values)

Implications of Value-based Living

- At the level of individual:
 - Transition towards happiness and prosperity, slowly getting rid of the contradictions and conflicts within through self-exploration and thus getting rid of the tension, frustration, depression, one-upmanship, psycho-somatic disorders etc. facilitating definite human conduct.
 - The feeling of self-regulation will reduce the occurrence of diseases and in turn the feeling of insecurity. This will help the individual lead a more fulfilling life.
- At the level of family:
 - Value-based living facilitating peace and harmony in the family, with more occurrences of just and fulfilling behaviour raising the feeling of togetherness in the families and reducing the family feuds.
 - People will feel prosperous and the feeling to nurture others will grow in the families.
 - Such harmonious living will also help reduce the consumerist behaviour in family celebrations like marriages, parties and other social functions.

Implications of Value-based Living...

- At the level of society:
 - Mutual trust and fearlessness developing in the society, reduction of discrimination on the basis of body (in terms of gender, age or race), physical facility (in terms of wealth or posts) and beliefs (in terms of isms, sects, etc), solution emerging to problems like terrorism, communalism and international conflicts etc.
 - The feeling of undividedness will grow in the society.
 - Fulfilment of human goal will start getting to the fore in our plans and projects at all levels and gradually a human order based on trustful relationships will slowly emerge.
- At the level of nature:
 - Human order fulfilling all the other three orders of nature, problems of pollution and resource depletion being handled smoothly when people are able to judge appropriately their needs for physical facility themselves and the mode of fulfilment is eco-friendly.
 - Better methods of farming and production will help cut down problems of greenhouse gases, ozone depletion, ecological imbalance, etc.
 - The various species of animals and birds can be saved from extinction and forests can be replenished.

Key Takeaways

- Human Values are naturally acceptable
- Living with Human Values leads to mutual happiness and mutual prosperity
- Value-based living is a natural outcome of the right understanding.
- Its implications can be seen at all levels of living of human being.



Lecture 24: Definitiveness of (Ethical) Human Conduct

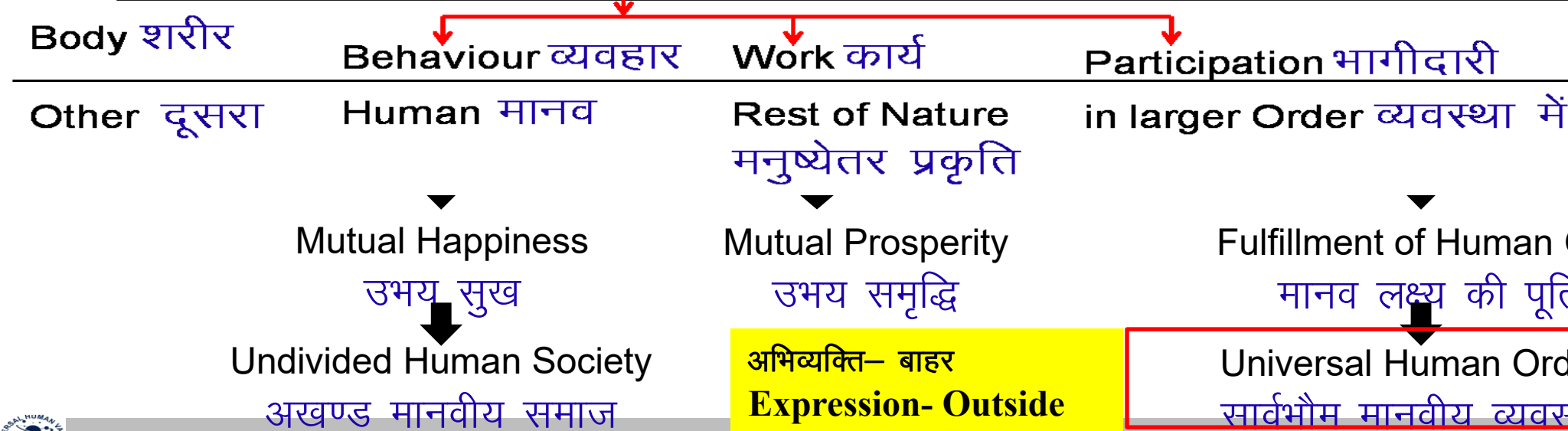
Definitiveness of Ethical Human Conduct

Harmony at Different Levels	Expression & Achievement
Harmony at the level of Self	Happiness
Harmony of the Self with the Body	Feeling of self-regulation at the level of Self and Health at the level of body
Harmony in the family, in human-human relationship	Mutual happiness, trust, fearlessness... justice
Harmony with rest of nature	Mutual prosperity – prosperity in human being and preservation of rest of nature
Harmony with the whole of nature/ existence	Co-existence (mutual fulfilment) with entire Nature

Definitiveness of Ethical Human Conduct- View 1

	Power शक्ति	Dynamic Activity गति क्रिया	State Activity स्थिति क्रिया	
Self (I) ऋ	1.	Authentication प्रमाण	Realization अनुभव B1	Co-existence सह—अस्तित्व
	2.	Determination संकल्प	Understanding बोध	Harmony in Nature व्यवस्था
	3. Desire इच्छा	Imaging चित्रण	Contemplation चिंतन	Participation in Larger Order, Relationship व्यवस्था में भागीदारी
	4. Thought विचार	Analysing विश्लेषण	Comparing तुलन B2	Co-existence, Harmony, Justice Guided Senses, Health, Profit
	5. Expectation आशा	Selecting चयन	Tasting आस्वादन	Goal, Value Guided Sensation

अनुभव— स्वयं में
Realization- Within



Human Tradition
मानवीय परंपरा

Definitiveness of Ethical Human Conduct- View 2

The ethical human conduct can be further grasped in terms of

- Values,
- Policy and
- Character

Values, Policy and Character – Ethical Human Conduct

- **Human Values** – Understanding "What to do as a human being" and "What not to do as a human being"

- **Policy** – Detail, thought of "how to do"

Includes plan, program, implementation, results, evaluation

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| – Policy for enrichment | of Self (I), Body, Physical Facility | (Human Economics) |
| – Policy for protection | of Self (I), Body, Physical Facility | (Human Politics) |
| – Policy for right utilisation | of Self (I), Body, Physical Facility | (Human Sociology) |

- **Character** –

- Compassionate behaviour, work and participation in larger order
- Rightfully acquired wealth
- Chastity in conjugal relationship

Values

- Understanding "What to do as a human being" and "What not to do as a human being" *1
- Understanding of role of Human Being in Existence
- Once we have the right understanding (of relationship, harmony and co-existence), we are able to see our natural participation or values at all levels of being – from individual, to family, society, nature/existence.
- This participation or the human values are definite and form the basis of our ethical human conduct.

*1 To be able to distinguish between “source of continuous happiness and temporary excitement”...

Policy

- Thought of how to express (live with) Human Values
- Detail, thought of "how to do"

Includes plan, program, implementation, results, evaluation

- Policy for enrichment of Self (I), Body, Physical Facility
(Human Economics)
- Policy for protection of Self (I), Body, Physical Facility
(Human Politics)
- Policy for right utilisation of Self (I), Body, Physical Facility
(Human Sociology)

Priority

Right utilization
Protection
Enrichment

Character

- Expression of Human Values in Behavior, Work and Participation in the Larger Order
- This can be understood in terms of the following:
 - Rightful acquisition and utilization of wealth – by way of labour, using cyclic and mutually enriching production processes.
 - Compassionate behaviour, work & participation in larger order on the basis of human values
 - Behaviour– ensuring justice, mutual happiness (while filling the gaps created in ignorance)
 - Work – ensuring preservation, mutual prosperity (while filling the gaps created in ignorance)
 - Participation in larger order- leading to fulfilment of the comprehensive human goal
(while filling the gaps created in ignorance)
 - Chastity in conjugal relationship i.e. chastity in husband-wife relationship.

Rightfully Acquired Wealth

Production- through labour on rest of nature (using cyclic and mutually enriching production processes) or physical facility obtained in exchange of service

Gift – wealth shared willingly / happily (with the feeling of relationship) from one's rightfully acquired wealth on various occasions like festivals (ex. gift in relationship)

Award – physical facility / wealth given with joy in a function to recognise one's contribution to society (participation in the societal order) and for motivating others

Further

- ‘Ethical conduct’ implies that it is naturally acceptable to me and does not give rise to conflict within
- ‘Ethical conduct’ implies that it is in consonance with the right understanding of the reality – the underlying harmony at all levels.
- ‘Ethical conduct’ implies that it leads to mutual fulfilment with other people and mutual enrichment with rest of nature

Thus, the ‘ethical conduct’ is self-satisfying, people-friendly and eco-friendly for all time, place and individual.

Key Takeaways

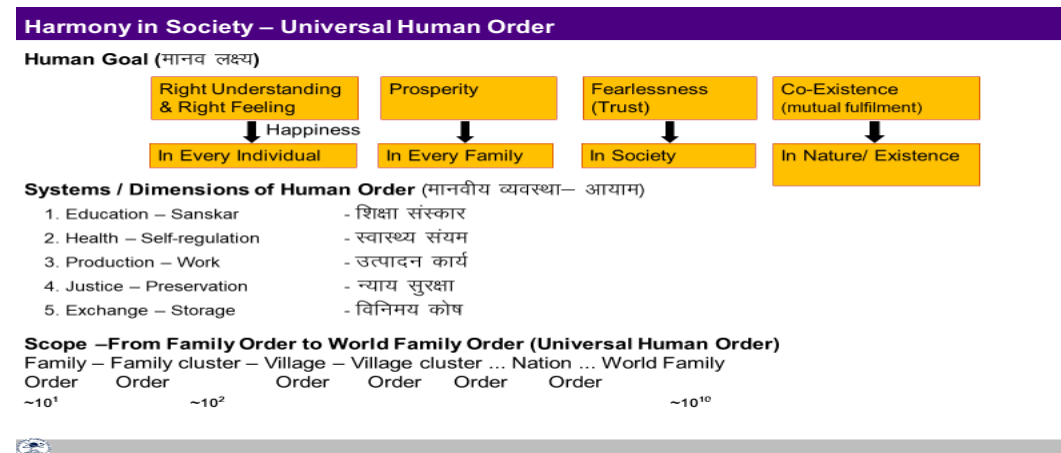
- Ethical human conduct emerging out of right understanding leads to harmony at all levels of being – from oneself to family, society and nature/ existence.
- It is definite for all time, place and individual.



Lecture 25: Professional Ethics in the light of Right Understanding

Profession – In Context of the Comprehensive Human Goal

- A profession is a mode of participation by human beings in the larger order in pursuance of comprehensive human goal-individual & collective.
- The excellence or the success of any professional activity is to be judged from this comprehensive point of view only and not in terms of merely wealth generation.
- The profession is not only a means of earning one's livelihood, but also a means of one's evolution by appropriate participation in the larger order.
- It is an important activity to authenticate one's understanding, whereby we interact with other human beings and with rest of nature in a mutually fulfilling manner.



Professional Ethics

- Professional ethics can be seen as the code of ethical conduct of the profession (as defined above).
- Ethical conduct of profession implies the right utilization of one's professional skills for participation in the larger order towards the fulfillment of comprehensive human goal.

Harmony in Society – Universal Human Order

Human Goal (मानव लक्ष्य)



Systems / Dimensions of Human Order (मानवीय व्यवस्था— आयाम)

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Education – Sanskar | - शिक्षा संस्कार |
| 2. Health – Self-regulation | - स्वास्थ्य संयम |
| 3. Production – Work | - उत्पादन कार्य |
| 4. Justice – Preservation | - न्याय सुरक्षा |
| 5. Exchange – Storage | - विनिमय कोष |

Scope – From Family Order to World Family Order (Universal Human Order)

Family – Family cluster – Village – Village cluster ... Nation ... World Family
Order Order Order Order Order Order
~10¹ ~10² ~10¹⁰



Salient Features Characterizing Professional Ethics

1. Clarity about the comprehensive human goal
2. Confidence in oneself as well as confidence in the harmony, coexistence and self-regulation prevailing in entire existence
3. Competence of mutually fulfilling behaviour
4. Competence of mutually enriching interaction with nature
5. Holistic vision about technologies, production systems and management techniques.
6. Understanding of one's societal responsibility

Issues in Professional Ethics – The Current Scenario

- The issues in professional ethics are becoming very complex in the current scenario.
- The unethical practices are rapidly increasing and their impact is also becoming far-reaching.
- As a result of this ‘epidemic’ of unethical practices, we are frequently coming across serious scams, major economic offences, kickbacks in large scale purchases etc.

Some Salient Categories of Unethical Practices Today

- Corruption in multiple forms and at various levels
- Tax evasion, misappropriation and misuse of public funds
- Misuse of political power and bureaucratic authority
- Misleading propaganda, unethical advertisements and sales promotion
- Cut-throat competition
- Exploiting the weakness of consumers through various enticements, bewildering advertisements
- Adulteration and spurious production
- Endangering the health and safety of public at large
- Hoarding and over-charging etc.

The list could be much longer...

Prevailing Approaches towards Promotion of Professional Ethics

- Promoting awareness about professional ethics by introducing new courses, refresher programs and case studies
- Administering oaths and prescribing codes of ethical conduct for specific professional disciplines
- Setting up mechanisms for intensive audit inspection and monitoring the activities
- Framing more stringent laws and devising harder punishments for offences Promoting transparency in working systems through mechanisms like RTI (Right to Information Act), etc.
- Carrying out 'sting operations' and widely publicising serious lapses in ethical conduct of profession through media
- Encouraging whistle blowing by individuals or groups
- Setting up Lokpals, vigilance commissions, ethics committees, tribunals, consumer protection forums, etc.
- Filing public interest litigations (PIL), etc.

Inadequacy of Prevailing Approaches

- Looking at the various methods and mechanisms which are being presently employed to check these trends and their effectiveness, one can see that most of the methods being adopted are either of symptomatic nature or punitive measures or crisis management techniques rather than real solutions to the whole problem.
- The focus in these methods is primarily towards curbing the ill effects rather than rectifying the root cause, namely the faulty world-view which continues to remain dominant (managing the disease rather than ensuring health).

Inherent Contradictions and Dilemmas

- We can understand more clearly through examples how the contradictions and dilemmas are inherently generated by the prevailing worldview in which wealth maximization is perceived to be the prime objective.
- Thus, the other person's happiness (assumed to be related to wealth accumulation) seems to be in conflict with my happiness.
- In that case, the other people have to be exploited for one to gain affluence and there is no possibility of mutual fulfillment in a sustainable way.
- In the same way, exploitation of nature also becomes inevitable as it helps a person to accumulate wealth easily and there is no limit to this.
- Take the example of business circles, whenever there is a scarcity of commodity due to say – monsoon failure or other natural disturbances or wars etc., the people in general are in distress and need support. However, in such a situation, the businessmen endowed with prevailing (inhuman) world view will feel elated and look at it as an opportunity to make maximum profit.

The Way Ahead

- To resolve the situation, sincere effort towards building up the ethical competence of human beings in general and professionals in particular through human education [starting with value education and value based education leading to value-based living]
- It can be an effective way to safeguard professional ethics.



Practice Sessions

For Module 5 (Lectures 23-25)

1. Watch the video “Hiware Bazaar”. It is a documentary about a progressive village in Maharashtra, India about how good governance, along with the people of the village have made significant change in their society
(Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cb0Qvh9BJ0s>). Discuss:
 - a. The goal of this village and the systems that they have to fulfil these goals
 - b. The outcomes – achievements and areas of improvement You can additionally pick current social problems in the campus or neighboring community and discuss how they can be solved with the involvement of the students and teachers.
2. Recollect any situation in your life when you had to face a strong ethical dilemma. Explain how, with the help of proper self-exploration and understanding, the dilemma could be resolved.

Expected Outcome

The students are able to clearly visualise the correlation between lack of Human Values and the prevailing problems. They are also able to visualise tangible steps and a roadmap for moving in the cherished direction – for a humane society.



FAQs for Lectures 23-25

Ethics

Questions

- What can be a sustainable solution to the problem of corruption?
- The planet has already entered the state where so much of destruction has taken place. How to recover the damage done already?
- ...





Self Reflection