

# Ethics\_SS Class 13

3rd July, 2024 at 9:00 AM

## ETHICS IN HUMAN INTERFACE (09:01 AM)

### CONCEPT OF ETHICS (09:03 AM)

- It is defined as a set of do's and don'ts that govern human action in a social setting.
- It can be summarised as "**Aatmana Pratikulani Paresham na Samacharet**" i.e., Do not impose anything on others that you yourself don't want to go through.
- Ethics is defined as the systematic study of **human behavior** with respect to **right or wrong** with the ultimate aim of **happiness**.

### CHARACTERISTIC ATTRIBUTES (09:13 AM)

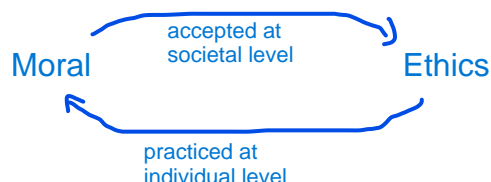
- Ethics do not dictate a single course of action however it will provide or prescribe the means to evaluate action with respect to right or wrong.
- For ex. Virtue-based, Action ~~base~~ <sup>based</sup>, Justice, or Rights-based ethics
- Every society has a code of ethics to ensure peace, harmony, conformity, uniformity, and check deviance.
- For ex. Norms of the ~~ethics~~ <sup>society</sup>
- Ethics remains the same within the context but changes with context.
- **Society, time, and culture.**
- For ex. With respect to time- Child marriage, widow remarriage, Sati paratha, etc
- With respect to culture- ~~Matrilianity~~ <sup>Matriliniality</sup>, Patrilinearity, Rules to respect cross-cousin marriage, etc.
- With respect to society- ~~Living relationship~~ <sup>Live-in-</sup>, Serogacy, ~~Medical~~ <sup>Medical</sup> termination of pregnancy, etc.
- Ethics operates at multiple levels
- For ex. **Organizational ethics, professional ethics, and Societal ethics.** <sup>Personal ethics.</sup>
- A man not only learns from ethics but also ~~shakes~~ <sup>shapes</sup> it.
- For Ex. Socio-Religious examples, Constitution makers, **legislature**, judiciary, etc. can help shape the society's ethics.
- Ethics is maintained and sustained by a sense of responsibility, not mere accountability to **external agencies**.
- For Ex. Voting in the election, Charity from personal wealth, Helping the accident victims.
- Ethics are abstract and do not have a concrete manifestation. Therefore, many times people do not realize the meaning and significance of ethics and **digress** from ethical behavior.

### **Conformity to Ideals and not Idols is the need of the hour.**

(09:39 AM)

For ex. The constitution helps to give concrete **manifestation** to the ideals such as unity in diversity, Freedom of speech and expression, religious freedom, Etc.

- Ethics is beneficial for both individuals and society as it helps us to establish a good life (**Consequences of ethics**).
- Ethics are applicable with respect to voluntary actions i.e., If someone forces you to perform a task under a **gunpoint** then you will not be held morally responsible for your action because the choice is severely constrained.



-> i.e. Moral is at individual level and when practiced at societal level then it becomes Ethics and when Ethics practiced at individual level then it becomes Moral.  
Ex: Socio-religious reformers, parliamentarian (so they not only learn from ethics but also shapes it)

## ESSENCE OF ETHICS (09:52 AM)

- Individuals are capable of making **informed and intelligent** choices.
- Every choice they make has implications both for themselves and others.
- Hence, every Individual should be morally responsible for their actions.
- It is the ethics which enables you to make the **right choices**. (this is the essence)
- The essence of ethics lies in determining what is **morally right or wrong** and guiding behavior based on the principle of fairness.
- It involves considering the consequences of actions on individuals and society, respecting the rights and dignity of others, and striving to do good.
- Lastly, ethics seeks to cultivate virtues like **Honesty, Empathy, Justice**, etc.

## DETERMINANT OF ETHICS (10:00 AM)

- Determining what is right or wrong is neither universal nor absolute.
- There is no objective way of determining something to be right or wrong for all time to come. Hence, there are different determinants of ethics.
- **Different determinants of ethics.**
- **1. God and religion**
- Religion-based ethics trace the source of ethics to god.
- It believes something is right because god says so.
- According to this- Ethics is **eternal**, universal, and absolute.
- However, religion is one of the sources of ethics but cannot be equated with ethics because ethics are applied to **ethics** also.  
athiest
- **2. Human Intuition**
- A: We should not harm animals for fun.
- B: Why?
- A: Because it will cause them pain and we should not cause pain to others.
- B: why?
- A: we should not treat others as we want to be treated by them. (Golden rule of life)
- B: Why?
- A: Because it is the right thing to do and now don't ask why.
- Sometimes, "**Good is good because it is good**".
- **Moral Intuition:**
- The gut-level response to ethical dilemmas without **deliberation** is referred to as moral intuition.
- For Ex. When seeing a child in distress the moral response is to help.
- Intuition-based decision-making is quick. **individual's**
- It is highly subjective as it depends upon **individual** moral disposition.
- Moral intuition is driven by the attitude of empathy and emotional intelligence.
- The people who make decisions based on moral intuition are found to be compassionate and **virtuous**.
- **Question:** Differentiate between moral reasoning and moral intuition.

-> It is would not be quick decision.  
-> It would be less subjective.  
-> It is deliberative decision making to dilemma w.r.t right and wrong.

-> It is quick decision.  
-> It would be highly subjective.  
-> It is gut level response to dilemma.

-> give one-one example also.

- **3. Society and culture (10:25 AM)**

- Although culture and society determine what is ethical but one should not equate them with ethics as sometimes they deviate from what is ethical.

- For Ex. dowry, Caste-based discrimination, Patriarchy, etc.

Agencies of

- **4. Agency and Socialisation.**

- Ex. Cinema, Life experience, Peer group, workplace, Teachers, family, etc.

- Leadership also helps in determining the conduct of the followers as they set Vision, Goals, Strategy, Motivation, and Value systems.

- "The character of an institution is shaped by its ~~characteristics~~"

leadership

- **5. Philosophy**

- **6. Leadership**

- Leadership also helps in determining the conduct of the followers as they set Vision, Goals, Strategy, Motivation, and Value systems.

- "The character of an institution is shaped by its ~~characteristics~~"

leadership

- **7. Constitution.**

- It is the way to establish a moral disposition of society.

- Ex. Fundamental duties, DPSPs, Preamble, etc.

- Whenever you are in a dilemma always follow constitutional morality.

- **Question:** Customary morality should not be the guide for modern-day life. What do you mean by this statement? (10M/150 words) [Discuss with examples.](#)

### **DETERMINING THE ETHICALITY OF HUMAN ACTION (10:37 AM)**

- **1. Nature of action.**

- It is the primary determinant.

- Ex. Telling the truth = morally right; Telling a lie = morally wrong; Jogging/sitting = morally indifferent.

- **2. The circumstances.**

- Impact the morality of actions.

- Ex. Giving food to a starving person. (Good act = Better).

- Sitting with a lonely person.

- (Indifferent act= Good)

- Robbing a beggar of his only meal of the day.

- (Bad act= worse)

- **3. Intentions.**

- It can alter the ethicality of action.

- Ex. Telling a lie to save a friend. ( Wrong act+Good intent).

- Charity to increase Instagram followers. (good Act + Bad Intent).

- Doctor running in traffic to save patient

- (Indifferent act + Good Intent)

Nature of Action.

Circumstances

Intention

## CONSEQUENCE OF ETHICS (10:48 AM)

- **Individual level:** Ethical life is the source of ultimate happiness.
- For ex. Act of blood donation makes us feel good.
- Ethical behavior makes a person of higher order being who is beyond the lower order needs.
- Ex. **Lord Ram** never cared about lower-order needs such as **power wealth, or Kingship** but always focused on the virtues of compassion, kindness, responsibility, etc.
- Ethical people will always be acknowledged and appreciated.
- Honest civil servant or **Sonu Sood** during COVID-19.
- Ethical behavior leads to mutual kindness and good interpersonal relations.
- Ethical behavior will ensure peace of mind, quick decision-making, and overcoming <sup>crisis</sup> ~~crises~~ of conscience.
- Strengthening social capital, reducing social conflicts.
- Helping us to establish **Ram-Rajya** (Morally virtuous society).
- It will ensure good Governance.
- Ethics of care, Justice, and Rationality will motivate us to bring desirable changes.
- Ex. Abolition of **Talak-e-Biddat**, recommendation of Supreme Court to treat sex workers and their children with dignity.
- It will ensure **equitable and inclusive development** as ethics will ensure fair, opportunity and distribution of resources.
- Ethical behavior will help in establishing sustainable social order by **socializing** the younger generation with respect to ethical values.
- **Question:** It is believed that adherence to ethics in human actions would ensure in smooth functioning of an organization/system. If so, what does ethics seek to promote in human life? How do ethical values assist in the resolution of conflicts faced by him in his day-to-day functioning? (10M/150 words) 2022

## TOPIC FOR NEXT CLASS: DIMENSION OF ETHICS

Hint: Put yourself in four different profession like Doctor, IAS, Teacher and common man and make situation accordingly.

Prospects of Ethics in Human Life:

-> At individual level, at family level, at societal level, at national level.

Ethics: Resolution of Dilemmas

Conclusion: How Ethics can inculcate in society