

Ethics_SS Class 16

17th July, 2024 at 9:00 AM

BRIEF ABOUT THE LAST CLASS (09:01 AM)

PLATO'S CARDINAL VIRTUES

- **Wisdom**
- **Courage**
- **Temperance**
- **Justice**
- According to Plato, **Justice** exists at two levels.
- **1. At the individual level**
- Justice will be ensured when the soul of the individual is in the Harmony.
- That is The component of the soul are performing their rightful purpose.
- Ex. 1. Reason: To think and Learn (Resides in mind).
- 2. Spirit: To remain motivated (Resides in Heart).
- 3. Appetite: To know what one needs. (Resides in the stomach).
- A wise is one who uses emotion to motivate oneself to do what intellect finds valuable.
- An unwise man is one who overindulges appetite.
- Sometimes we know, we are doing wrong still we do it as our emotions are siding with our appetite.
- **2. At the state level.**
- Ruling class Quality- Wisdom.
- Military class Quality- Courage.
- Economic class Quality - (Temperance).
- If the above class has this quality, then **Justice is Served.**

Aristotle: (09:22 AM)

- According to Aristotle, the **Golden mean** is a virtue.
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Apathy **Composure** Irritability

Flattery **Friendship** Quarrelsome

Stringy **Generous** Extravagance

Indecisive **Self-Control** Impulsive

JUSTICE BASED ETHICS (09:25 AM)

1. Concerning crime.

- Retributive
- Reformative
- Compensation as a means of justice.
- Quid pro Quo in exchange.
- **Principle-** Proportionate Justice; No Double Jeopardy; No retrospective implementation of the law.
- Without reformative justice it is meaningless. i.e., without change in values/beliefs/ ethics. Falling into a spiral of criminal activities is high.
- "Every saint has a past and every sinner has a future."
- **Reformative justice** in the absence of Retributive justice has no deterrence.
- Ex. Dr. **Kiran Bedi** prison reforms in Tihar Jail.

2. Distributive Justice.

- **Aristotle:**
- It is unjust to treat unequal equally as it is unjust to treat equal unequally.
- Hence, equals should be treated equally equals should be treated unequally.
- According to Aristotle, Justice will be served when resources are distributed as per your merit.
- Justice is a virtuous mean between the vices of giving more or less than what is deserved.
- His theory was criticized for being elitist as he ignored historical injustices, social barriers, and the Social positioning of an individual in a society.
- **Rawl's Theory of Justice:**
- Rawls was a philosopher known for his book, "**Theory of Justice**".
- According to him, an Individual is capable of making rational decisions to ensure objectivity the concept of the **veil of ignorance** was put forward.
- It was a hypothetical situation where before the starting of the society, people had to decide the principle on which society is built.
- People are unaware of the social position they will acquire in the future society.
- This would ensure the development of just and fair principles as provisions will be made to benefit the entire society keeping in mind the worst case scenario.

- **Principles:**
- 1. Equal opportunity for all.
- 2. Liberty for all.
- 3. Difference principle provided it benefits the marginalized (It creates hopes for state intervention).
- Ex. Reservation; Dalit capitalism; Ekalavya residential model school.
- **Amartya Sen's Idea of Justice.**
- Justice will not be served by only focusing on resource distribution as
- 1. It is not sustainable.
- 2. It will make individual depends
- 3. It denies them the freedom to live a life of their choice.
- Hence, he gave the concept of the capability approach.
- Contemporary relevance:
- Human capital formation
- Demographic dividend.
- Penetration of AI
- Digital divide
- Sustainable development Goals
- Longevity dividend (Currently 10.5% population is above 60 age; 20% by 2050).
- Make in India start-up.

RIGHT BASED ETHICS (10:11 AM)

- **What are Rights:**
- Rights are the entitlement enjoyed by the individual acknowledged by the society, backed and sanctioned by the state.
- **Natural rights:**
- Ordained by nature
- Given the virtue of existence.
- Universal, Inalienable, Indivisible
- Not codified, abstract.
- Difficult to enforce.
- **Human Rights:**
- During the Inter-war period, the rise of the fascist regime led to the persecution of Jews, which shook the collective conscience of world leaders.
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948).
- **John Locke:**
- According to him, There are three Rights:
- Right to life, Liberty, and Property.
- Locke was an advocate of freedom and governance by consent.
- According to him, Govt derived its legitimacy from the consent of the governed and it exists to serve the interest of the people.
- It implies a limitation on the power of the govt as their prime objective should be to serve and protect individual rights and these Rights should not be infringed upon without a just cause.
- Contemporary Relevance:
- Development induces displacement.
- Marital Rape.
- Custodial Death
- Human Trafficking
- Child marriage
- Child Labour
- Media trial

QUOTE BASED QUESTION (10:25 AM)

- **Start with Interpretation (Introduction)**
- Premise
- Anecdote
- Current example/ event
- Historical Example
- Defining the key term in the question.
- **Explanation (Body)**
- Break down the statement into small components and answer each with an argument + Examples.
- Argument 1 - Example 2
- Argument 2- Example 2
- Through example, you are explaining the argument.
- **Exemplification (Body)**
- **Prescription (Conclusion).**

QUESTIONS: (10:39 AM)

- Q1. Judge your success by what you have to give up in order to get it.
- Q2. Every work has got to pass through hundreds of difficulties before succeeding. Those that preserve will see the light, sooner or later.
- Q3. "life doesn't make any sense without interdependence. We need each other and the sooner we learn that, it is better for us all"

ETHICS SYLLABUS HAS BEEN COMPLETED IN THIS CLASS