

Chapter 9: Harmony in the Society – Understanding Universal Human Order

1. What is the building block for harmony in society? Explain with examples.

A society is composed of families living together for the common human goal. The base of a harmonious society is harmony in the family, for which the base is harmony in the human being.

1. The goal of human being living in society (Human Goal)
2. The system required to achieve human goal
3. Scope of this system

2. Describe the human goal. Explain how this is conducive to sustainable happiness and prosperity for all.

- The goals of human being living in society are:
 1. Right understanding and right feeling (happiness) in every individual
 2. Prosperity in every family
 3. Fearlessness (trust) in the society
 4. Co-existence (mutual fulfilment) in nature/existence

The priority and order in which these four goals can be fulfilled are 1-4.

Without right understanding and right feeling, it is not possible to identify the need for physical facility, therefore, right understanding and right feeling has to come before prosperity. Similarly, fearlessness can take place only with the acceptance of relationship and prosperity

3. Critically examine the goals of the present-day society with respect to human goals. What is the outcome?

The first goal is to ensure right understanding and right feeling (happiness) in every human being.

The second goal of prosperity, is similarly replaced by accumulating more and more, as we are not able to identify our need for physical facility, due to lack of right understanding. It is felt that if one has money, one is

prosperous. However, without having an idea of our needs, we keep on accumulating.

With these as the driving assumptions in the society, it has led to people living with three kinds of obsessions:

1. Obsession for consumption
2. Obsession for profit
3. Obsession for sensual pleasure

4. List the dimensions (systems) that comprise a human order. Explain how each dimension contributes to the fulfilment of the human goal.

Education-Sanskar -- (leads to) → Right understanding and right feeling (happiness)

Having a system of human education-sanskar ensures right understanding and right feeling (happiness) which is the first goal.

Health-self-regulation -- (leads to) → Health of the Body

Having a system for health and self-regulation ensures health of the Body. This indirectly ensures co-existence with nature as well.

Production-Work -- (leads to) → Prosperity

Production-Work ensures the production of more than the required physical facility. The health-self-regulation and production-work dimensions together lead to fulfilment of the second goal of prosperity in every family.

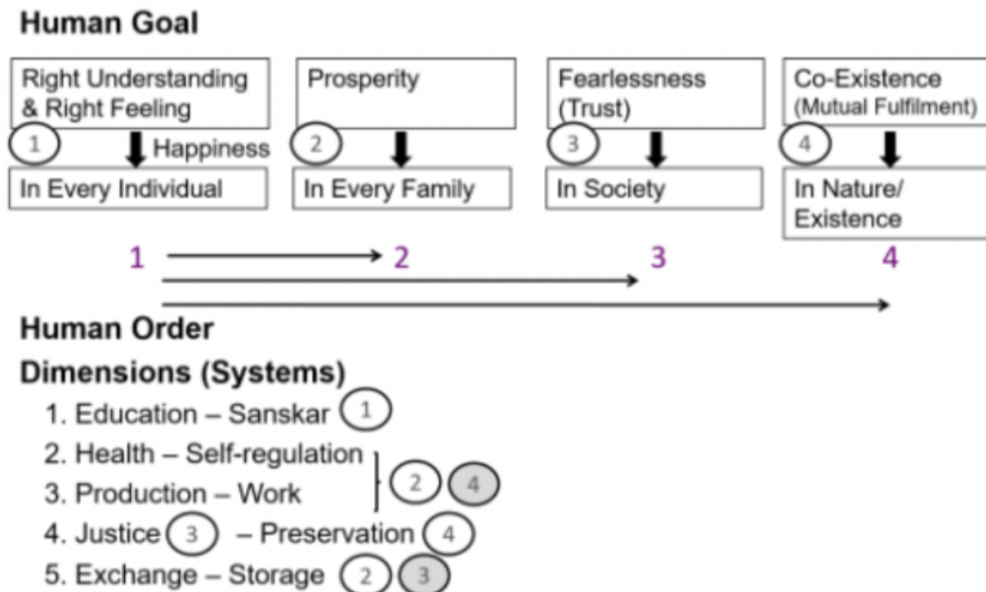
Justice-Preservation -- (leads to) → Fearlessness and Co-existence (respectively)

Then comes justice which has to do with human-human relationship. If human-human relationship is understood, accepted, fulfilled and rightly evaluated, it ensures mutual happiness or justice.

Exchange-storage -- (leads to) → Prosperity and Fearlessness

Finally, exchange and storage with a feeling of mutual fulfilment, rather than a feeling of exploitation, will be an aid in ensuring prosperity in the family and also contribute to fearlessness (trust) in society.

5. Is there a particular sequence in which these goals can be fulfilled? Explain.



6. Why is education and sanskar the first human goal? Distinguish between education and sanskar.

Education is to develop the right understanding of the harmony at all levels of being – from self to the entire existence (individual, family, society, nature/existence).

Sanskar is to develop the basic acceptances of the harmony at various levels.

7. What are the two important issues to be addressed in the dimension of production? Explain with two examples.

There are two important issues related to production-work. These are:

1. What to produce?
2. How to produce?

We have to produce physical facility required for nurturing, protection and right utilisation of the Body.

Regarding how to produce there are two criteria:

1. The process must be cyclic and mutually enriching – it must be eco-friendly
2. Justice must be ensured in relationship with human being – it must be people-friendly

8. Explain, giving examples, how pollution and resource depletion are both the direct outcomes of not understanding nature the way it is.

Resource depletion is the symptom of using a natural resource at a rate which is greater than the rate at which it is produced in nature. For example, if we use petroleum at a rate greater than the rate at which it is produced in nature, there will be a shortage of petroleum.

Similarly, pollution indicates that we are producing something which does not return to the cycle in nature or it is produced at a rate that is faster than the rate at which it can return to the cycle in nature.

Plastic, for example, does not degrade, it does not return to the cycle of nature for many years. Carbon dioxide today is produced at a rate much higher than the rate at which nature can absorb, and therefore, there is rise in the percentage of carbon dioxide, resulting into global warming.

**9. How can exchange of physical goods be mutually fulfilling?
Evaluate the motivation of exchange in today's scenario.**

Exchange means sharing or exchanging of physical facility with a view of mutual fulfilment.

The family order is the smallest unit of a society. Family order refers to the system in a family of responsible people living together for the common human goal. In particular, the family is making effort for

- Mutual development of right understanding and right feeling (trust, respect and so on) in every family member, including the next generation, leading to mutual happiness.
- Participation in production of required physical facility in the form of labour, leading to prosperity.
- Contributing to a human society by way of participating at the next higher-level order.

10. Write a short note on the three aspects of preservation.

Preservation is the recognition of relationship of human being with the rest of nature, its

fulfilment and evaluation leading to mutual fulfilment.

Precisely, preservation would mean enrichment, protection and right utilization of the entire nature.

Preservation => 1. Prosperity in human being

2. Enrichment, protection and right utilisation of nature

11. There are three kinds of obsession. List them. Give any three examples of each from your observation in the society.

1. Obsession for consumption
2. Obsession for profit
3. Obsession for sensual pleasure

12. Why is storage required in a society? Suggest any two ways in which you can store the produce for right utilization in the future.

Storage is keeping physical facility with a view of mutual fulfilment and not with the obsession for profit or for accumulation or exploitation.

- Both try to take both the pieces of bread. They struggle and fight. Eventually, they decide to take one each. Each decides separately that henceforth, they will make more effort to grab more of the available food. This would be the economics of “take-take”. Both are trying to maximise their returns. Both are unhappy.

- They logically work out that they can get only one piece each, so they divide it equally, but neither is fully satisfied. This is the economics of “give-take”.
- Both persons have a feeling of relationship, like a mother and child. They know that two pieces of bread are not sufficient even for one person. Each offers both pieces of bread to the other. They discuss and eventually decide to take one piece of bread each. They also decide to work together to make more pieces of bread in future, so they can both fulfil their needs. This is the economics of “give-give”.

13. Indicate a few steps to promote harmony in the society and co-existence with nature.

The society is composed of families living together, making effort for the common human goal. They are interconnected and interdependent from family order to world family order.

My participation (value) vis-à-vis the society is to develop the clarity of society, its goals, programme and scope; and with that, playing a part in the family order and then in the larger society.

In the family order, my participation (value) is:

- Ensuring happiness in the family by way of helping in the development of right understanding and right feeling in the Self of every member of the family, particularly the next generation.
- Ensuring health in the family by way of a system of nurturing, protection and right utilisation of the Body for every member of the family.
- Ensuring prosperity in the family by way of helping the family recognise the need for physical facility, its production, its protection and its right utilisation.
- Facilitating one or more members of the family to participate in the larger society, in one or more dimensions of human order.

14. What is the meaning of 'universal human order'? What is its scope? How is the family order related to universal human order?

If there is effort for these goals in the family, the family is in harmony. In other words, there is a family order. The society is many families living together in a relationship of mutual fulfilment.

The scope of harmony in the society starts with the family order and extends all the way to world family order in steps, from family order, family cluster order and so on to nation family order and ultimately world family order. This extension of harmony, from family order to world family order, is universal human order.

Chapter 10: Harmony in Nature

– Understanding the Interconnectedness, Self-regulation and Mutual Fulfilment

1. Explain why it is essential to study about nature.

Nature is the collection of all the units – the air, soil, water, plants, trees, animals, birds, other human beings and even things that are a little distant from us like the sun, the moon, the other planets, etc.

When we look around, we see all kinds of units. For example, in a classroom there may be units like chairs, tables, copies, pens, blackboard, projector, laptop, etc.

Outside the classroom, in a garden or forest, we may see other kinds of units like trees, shrubs, butterflies, flies, birds, animals, pond, stones, etc. If we look further, we see the sun, moon, stars, the Earth itself – all of these are units.

2. List the four orders in nature with examples of units in each order. What is the basis of this classification?

1. Physical order – this includes units like air, water, metal and so on.
2. Bio order – this includes grass, plants, trees, etc.
3. Animal order – this includes animals and birds.
4. Human order – this includes human being.

3. Units in nature, other than human beings without right understanding, are interconnected in a relationship of mutual fulfilment. Examine this statement with a few examples.

Wherever the soil is fertile and there is sufficient water available, seeds germinate and plants grow. In this way, the units of the physical order nourish the units of the bio order. Similarly, when the leaves, flowers and fruits of plants fall to the ground and degenerate, they get converted back into soil. These plant residues are manure for the soil, making it more fertile. Plants also help in maintaining the level of oxygen in the air, participating in the water cycle on the Earth and so on. In this way, the units of the bio order fulfil units of the physical order. We can also see that the soil gets converted into plants and the plants get converted back into soil.

4. Why is the human order, by and large, not mutually fulfilling for any of the four orders? Is your natural acceptance to be fulfilling for all four orders? What does human being need to do to be mutually fulfilling for each of the four orders?

The human being needs to awaken to the activities of realisation, understanding and contemplation in the Self to actualize its natural characteristic, innateness and inheritance.

Once this happens, the human being will also exhibit definite human conduct, i.e. conduct in accordance with its natural characteristic (perseverance, kindness... compassion). The process of education-sanskar is the key to awakening these activities, thus enabling the transformation. Therefore, human education-sanskar is one of the most important activities for human society. Human education-sanskar enables a child to develop right understanding and right feeling within and also to develop the necessary competence to live accordingly. Further, these children go on to become individuals who are a source of human education and sanskar for the next generation.

5. Processes in nature are cyclic and mutually enriching. Explain this statement with three examples.

The natural process of production is cyclic and mutually enriching. All the physical facility that we use is produced by working with the three orders of nature. To be mutually fulfilling, our production processes have to also be cyclic and mutually fulfilling. In this way, the entire nature, all orders in nature can be in harmony, since the first three orders are already in harmony.

This soil-plant interaction is an example of the interconnectedness and relationship of mutual fulfilment between the physical order and the bio order.

Animals and birds (units of the animal order) depend on plants (units of the bio order) for their food.

For example, a cow (a unit of animal order) eats grass (unit of bio order) as its food. In turn, the cow is also fulfilling for plants. Animals and birds help to spread the seeds of plants from one place to the other. They protect plants from harmful insects and pests.

6. The four orders in nature have been classified on the basis of their distinct activity, innateness, natural characteristics and inheritance. Explain with one example for each order.

These orders can be understood on the basis of their activity, innateness, natural characteristic and inheritance. They have definite activity through which they self-organise in accordance with their innateness. They interact with other units in a mutually fulfilling manner which is their natural characteristic. Their innateness and natural characteristic is maintained, generation after generation, by way of their inheritance. In this way, nature is self-regulated and in harmony. In this manner, they have a definite conduct.

7. With the clarity of the natural characteristic, how would you interact with units of each of the four orders?

Natural characteristic of a unit refers to its natural participation in the larger order.

The natural characteristic of the physical order is composition-decomposition.

The bio order participates with the bio order in terms of nurturing or worsening the other.

When it comes to the animal order, we have to see the natural characteristic of both, the Body of the animal as well as the Self of the animal.

In the human order, the human being is the co-existence of Self and Body. The Body belongs to the bio order, and hence has the natural characteristic of the bio order.

8. Give some examples of units that only have the activity of recognising and fulfilling. Also give examples of units that have the activity of assuming, recognising and fulfilling. What is the basic difference between these two sets of units?

Idk

9. Describe the abundance in the nature. How is human order dependent on the other three orders?

There is abundance in nature – whatever is required by any order is available in nature. By its very being, nature is organized in such a manner that the quantities of each of these four orders is in a decreasing sequence i.e. Physical order >> Bio order >> Animal order >> Human order. This gives an assurance of the possibility of prosperity for human being.

Chapter 11: Harmony in Existence – Understanding Co-existence

1. Existence is all that exists. What are the two types of realities that exist? Explain how you can distinguish these realities.

Existence is whatever exists.

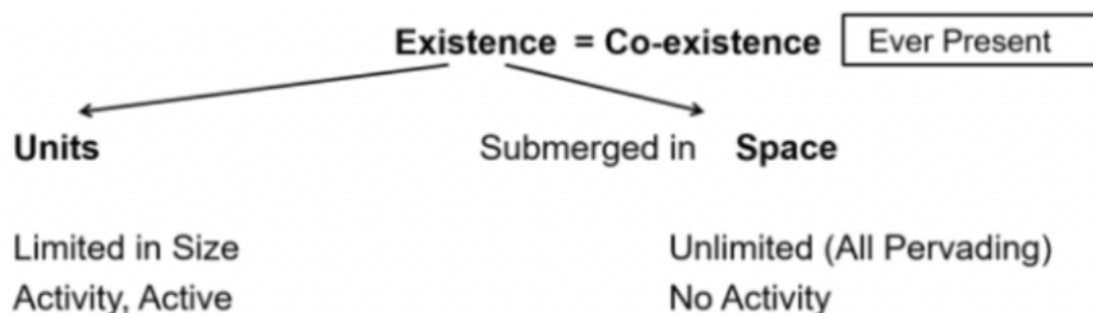
1. Units are Limited in Size; Space is Unlimited

We can observe units all around – they are limited in size. A unit may be small or large, but it is limited in size. For example, a pencil is a unit which is small in size. A human being is also a unit but it is relatively bigger in size.

Now coming to space, it is unlimited. It is spread all around. It is all-pervading. There is no limited size of space. We are not able to see its boundary.

2. Units are Activity, they are Active; Space is “No-Activity”

Every unit is an activity and it is active. In itself, one or the other kind of activity is always taking place in the unit. Further, the unit is interacting with other units, i.e. it is active in relation to other units.



2. Reason out why it is essential to study about space.

Space is unlimited, all-pervading. It is no activity.

At the base is the co-existence. It is unfolding in terms of units submerged in space. Units are limited in size; they are activity and are active. Space is

unlimited, all-pervading and is no activity. By virtue of being submerged in space, units are energised, self-organised and recognise their relationship with every other unit in space and fulfil it.

3. Units are in co-existence in space. Where there is a unit, space is also there. Explain these two statements.

Being in co-existence with space, every unit is energized.

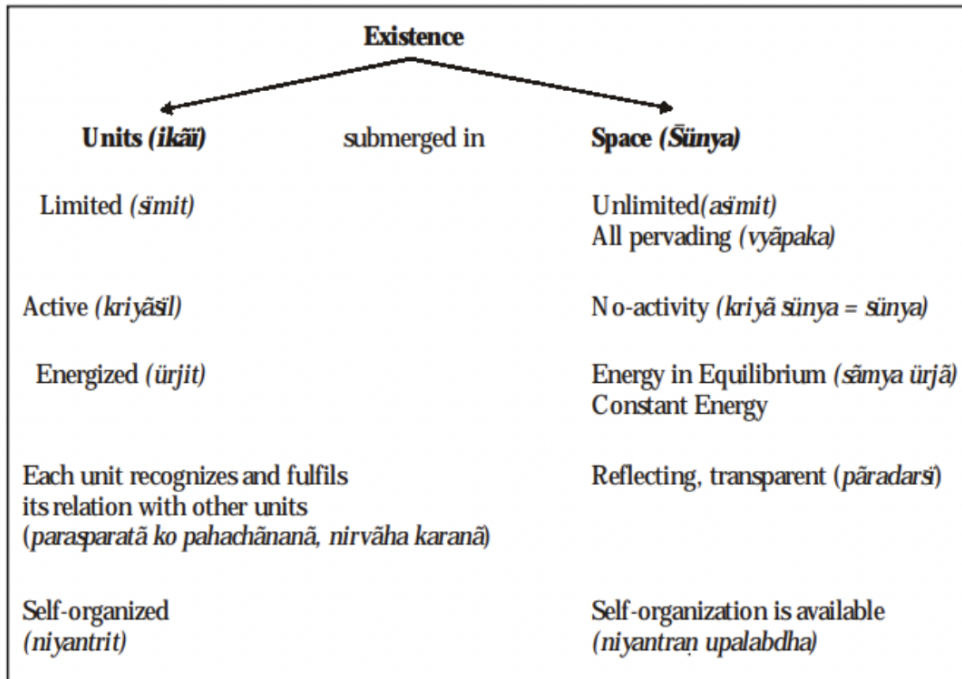
The Earth, for example, is in space. It is submerged in space. The Earth is an activity. It is rotating around its own axis and revolving around the sun. Are we supplying energy to the Earth? Obviously, we human beings are not supplying the energy to Earth. Is the energy coming from the sun or is it happening just by being in co-existence with space? The Earth is energised being in co-existence with space.

Co-existence is ever-present. The four orders of nature are a natural expression or unfolding of co-existence, ultimately resulting in universal order. This universal order is to be completed by human being, through human being.

4. Distinguish between units and space.

Units are of two types – material units and consciousness units. All units are limited in size. They are activity and they are active by way of participating with other units.

Space is unlimited, all-pervading. It is no activity.

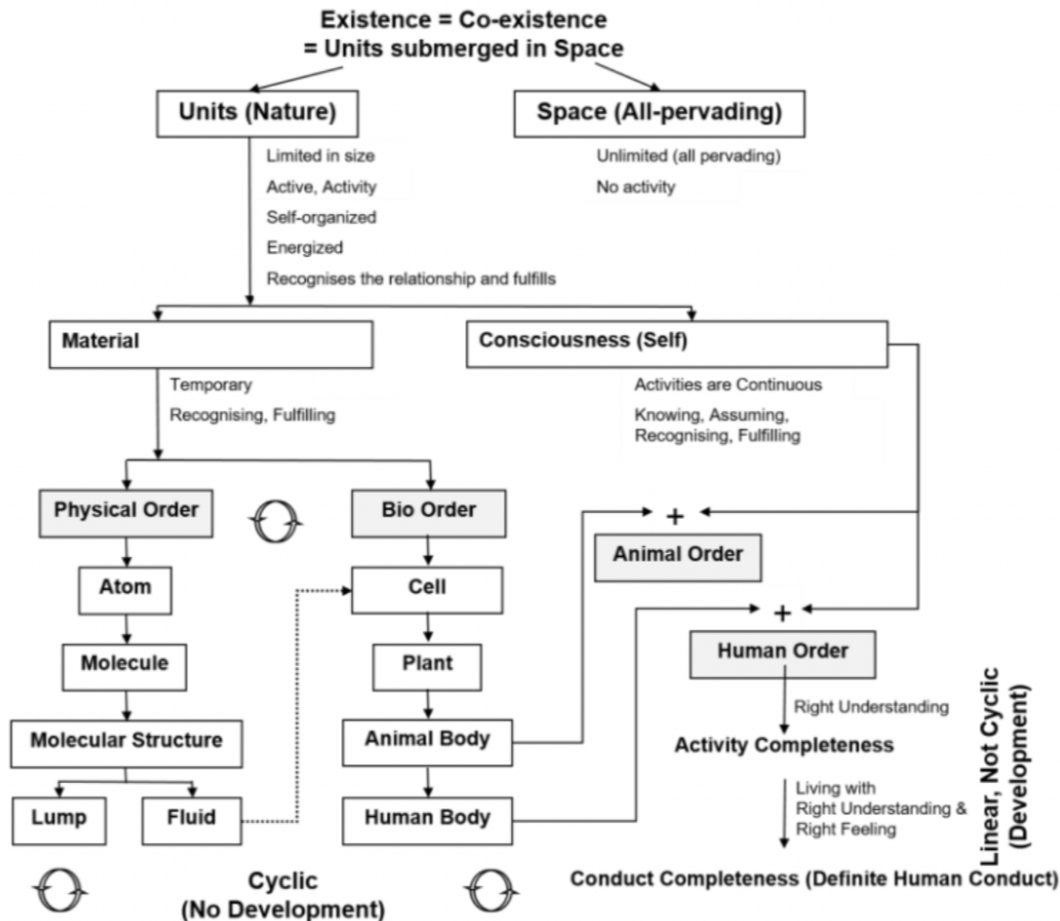


5. What is meant by Submergence of units in space? What are the three defining aspects?

Units are submerged in space. This Submergence implies three things:

1. Units are energized in space.
2. Units are self-organized in space – Units maintain their self-organisation (innateness).
3. Units recognize their relationship and fulfil it with every other unit in space – Units interact with other units in accordance with their definite natural characteristic, so they are able to participate in the larger order, and in the entire order, in a mutually fulfilling manner.

6. Draw a chart showing all the different categories of units of nature in space.



7. In what types of units – material or consciousness, is there scope for development? Are we presently focusing on development in these types of units? Please elaborate.

We want to interact with the material order with a view to make things that remain as constructed, like our houses, implements. We want to use them for composition. We want to use plant order where growth is required. And for ourselves, we want to develop as responsible human beings.

We are trying to grow in the left side (material order) and somehow trying to stop growth on the right side (plant order) –which does not. We can understand the basic nature of all units. We can understand the natural characteristic of an order, and then know what to do with it.

Accumulation in the material order cannot be a substitute for the needs of knowledge/understanding and relationship in 'I'. Work on the material order needs to be done in the light of understanding in 'I' and the needs of 'I'.

8. What is the role of material order and bio-order in the fulfilment of human needs? How does understanding of existence help in right identification of the above?

Material Order – is characterized by composition-decomposition. This is its natural characteristic, its participation. It does not 'grow'. i.e. stones do not 'grow', gold does not 'grow', money; the paper it is printed on does not 'grow'.

Plant/*Pranic* Order - is characterized by growth and maintaining the form of growth. Ex: a plant grows, a shrub grows.

Now, if you want 'growth', would you focus on material order, or on the plant order? The answer seems obvious: if we wanted growth, we would look towards the order that has growth as its 'natural characteristic' and work on it. We find that this is in the plant order as in existence, naturally, without us having to do anything about it, plants or the plant order anyway grows.

Now, if you look at the diagram we have above, you will find that today we are putting all efforts into the material order. All the 'growth' we talk of is here: by making more cars, eating more chocolate, building more roads, making bigger buildings and robots, we think we are 'growing'. *But this is not possible, since by its natural characteristic itself, the material order does not grow!* Howsoever, we try for growth here, we *cannot* be satisfied, because at the end of the day, it is only **accumulation**. *Hence, we can accumulate money, but we cannot grow money!* On the other hand, that which naturally grows i.e. plants, we are trying to stop! We seem to be trying very hard to stop the growth in plants today!

9. How does co-existence in existence express itself at different levels of living of human being? Explain.

This co-existence expresses itself at different levels as follows:

- Mutual fulfilment among all units is basically an expression of co-existence. At the level of nature, this co-existence is expressed in the form of mutual fulfilment.

- At the level of society, the four human goals (happiness, prosperity, fearlessness and co-existence) are an expression of co-existence at various levels.
- At the level of family, relationship is basically the expression of co-existence of one human being with another human being. the nine feelings (trust, respect... love) are an expression of understanding co-existence and acceptance of co-existence in human-human relationship.
- At the level of human being, it expresses itself in the form of co-existence between the Self and the Body. Acceptance of co-existence in the Self for the Body is the feeling of self-regulation. At the level of Self, our basic desire for continuity of happiness is ensured by realisation of co-existence, understanding of harmony in the nature, contemplation of participation in the larger order leading to the feeling of co-existence (love) and thought of co-existence (compassion).

10. Describe the role of human being in this existence. What would be the natural outcome of fulfilling this role?

The role of human being in existence is:

1. To understand co-existence
2. To live in co-existence

In this way, the universal order can be completed.

Chapter 12: The Basis for Universal Human Values and Ethical Human Conduct

1. Explain how right understanding forms the basis of assimilating universal human values in a natural way.

The universal human values are manifestations of the truth of existence, i.e. co-existence, in various dimensions of human participation in the existential order. These values are naturally acceptable to all human beings and conducive to human happiness.