

UNIVERSAL HUMAN VALUE

Assignment no:2

Aim:

To understand prosperity vs accumulation by discussion on –
“What is meant by prosperity?. How can it be ascertained?
Does accumulation ensure prosperity?”

Ans:

Prosperity is defined as the state of success, wealth and good fortune. When someone possesses more than required number of physical facilities, they may feel prosperous. Wealth, on the other hand, is a materialistic concept and solely related to physical facilities. Prosperity is a feeling that also includes Wealth.

The feeling of having or making available more than required physical facilities is prosperity. Almost all of us feel that wealth alone means prosperity and try to explain this phenomenon on this non existent or half fact. We are trying to achieve happiness and prosperity by maximizing accumulation and consumption of physical facilities. It is becoming anti-ecological and anti-people, and threatening the human survival itself.

For prosperity, two things are required-

- Identification of the required quantity of physical facilities, and
- Ensuring availability / production of more than required physical facilities.

The condition of being successful or thriving
especially : economic well-being

Prosperity is a feeling of having more than required physical facilities, it is not just physical facilities. To have a

feeling of having enough. Prosperity is more acceptable to us because wealth is just a part of prosperity.

Today we are generally trying to achieve happiness and prosperity by maximizing **accumulation** and consumption of physical facilities. This effort is giving rise to many problems manifest today at the level of individual, family, society and the nature. These problems are: At the level of individual– Rising problems of depression, anxiety, suicides, stress, insecurity, increasing health problems, lack of confidence

- At the level of family– Breaking up of joint families, mistrust and disharmony in relationships, divorce, generation gap, dowry deaths, neglect of older people etc.
- At the level of society– Growing incidences of terrorism, violence, communalism, racial and ethnic struggle, corruption, adulteration, wars between nations, proliferation of lethal weapons etc.
- At the level of nature– Global warming, weather imbalances, depletion of mineral and energy resources, deforestation, soil degradation etc.

Prosperity vs Accumulation

there is confusion between accumulation of physical facility and the feeling of prosperity.

It is generally assumed that the richer you are, the more prosperous you are, i.e. the more you have accumulated, the more prosperous you are. With this sort of assumption, we pursue prosperity with an obsession for profit, for accumulation. That is happening all around. The major focus in the society today is on accumulation of physical facility. In particular, there is a major focus on accumulating money.

Today, most of the wealth (money) in the world is owned by a very tiny percentage of people. Many

such people are seen exploiting others, and exploiting the Earth, in an effort to accumulate even more. Without clarity about how much is required, the effort is for an unlimited quantity of physical facility, and by almost any means. First the efforts may be by legal means, and then slip to even illegal means. This is all because the quantity required is undefined and there is a feeling of deprivation!

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