

5 November [Evening Batch]

Ethics

Influence and implication of Kantianism:-

~~Kantian principle of respect leads to the doctrine of Universal Human Rights.~~ Kantian Principle of respect for humanity leads to the doctrine of Universal Human Rights. He held that justice requires us to respect and uphold the human rights of every person simply because of the fact that he is a human being worthy of respect regardless of who he is, where he is from etc. ~~Kantianism~~ This idea that there is humanity in every person irrespective he is male or female, rich or poor, black or white, Indian or Pakistani, whoever that is beyond every facts that defines a person at the root of it is humanity, that is our rationality, our ability to ^{ride} ~~over~~ ~~rule~~ the nature and set our own values. This ability of human to create its own values or ~~create~~ lead his own life. This gives special dignity to human beings, that cannot be found anywhere else not in a physical object not in animals. And it is our duty as a rational person to respect that autonomy rationality of every human being in the world. This principle of respect further leads to what we called today as the doctrine of human rights.

Such ideas like Kantianism does not occur in vacuum. There were strong influence of intellectual background of Europe and America of that time. He was an 18th century philosopher, his first book on 'Ground work on metaphysics of morals' published in

(1782-84). So, that was the age of high intellectual development. Historically Kant ideas became prominent between two of the greatest revolutions

(1) American revolution (around 1776)

(2) French Revolution (1789) → 1st Book

2nd Book The critique of practical ^{reason} reason, where he expands further the ideas of ground work. Kant idea was strongly influenced by these revolutions, Not only that, his ideas were influenced this revolution further. Large number of people talked about these ideas; (Locke, Rousseau, Montesque, Adam Smith, Bentham, David Hume) etc.. Kant ideas were influenced by the intellectuals of that age. But importance of Kant was that he took all of them and presented it in a very concise manner. It became defining feature of the world that came after that. Both of these revolutions make certain declaration that became master piece of ethics in the world everywhere

→ 'American revolution' led to American declaration of Independence. (Thomas Jefferson) → all men are created equal and they are endorsed by their creator (god) certain inalienable rights including the right to life, liberty and pursuit to happiness. We hold that, this as a self evident truth. The right to life, liberty and ^{property} happiness was actually by John Locke and Thomas Jefferson was highly influenced by Locke. American revolution changed into Right to life, liberty and Property of John Locke to right to life, liberty and happiness as property was a political concept and in order to avoid controversies.

① All person are equal → This idea was a revolutionary idea as each person was different and have different rights, obligation and duties. Throughout the history anywhere in the world human being are graded into hierarchy. So, in this case for the first time it was revolutionary statement to declare that all men are equal. Today we take it for granted but that time it was a revolutionary idea.

Further, French revolution also made French declaration of rights of men, and it was delineated what are the rights of human being that are inalienable. The American talked about rights of life, ~~property~~^{liberty} and pursuit for happiness. In French revolution it became more specific that even king cannot take those rights from people. As Thomas Hobbes believed that king has all the capacity to take right from us. King cannot do anything wrong. But in this case it was decided that there are certain rights given to us by nature as state does not give us the right, state or king does not have the right to take away these right from us. So, French declaration of rights of man are declared in French revolution. These are the ideas of revolution. But those people who were talking about the revolutionary ideas don't know the contradiction in their own declaration. Example, those who declared these all were the ~~owners~~^{owners} of the slaves. (George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin).

Kant said that, our sayings should not be contradictory in itself. So an owner of a slave saying all men are equal was itself in contradiction. Similarly when French declaration on rights of man was declared, it was not rights of men, i.e., all human being, but rather only small group of people particularly male only. Kant recognised these ideas only after that

ethical system changed. As the time passed the rights of men include rights of slave as well. Even Kant was strongly opposed to slavery. One human selling another human being is act of contradiction, and violates both categorical imperative of Kant. So Kant, says slavery is an unethical system. It can never be morally right. Then within 100 yrs slavery was abolished.

A French revolutionist, Mary Wollstonecraft, an active person,

When she found the rights of men she wrote about rights of

women, and thus many people got right to women. Before that till recently

100 yrs women rights were not so recognised, but the ideas were so powerful that women were given voting rights. It was assumed that women manages the household task and thus cannot manage the political affairs. It was on this grounds, women were denied voting rights. Kant ideas were

strongly against that. He said that, to say that women cannot make political decision ^{which is disrespect and} is a part of rationality and denying rights to women is a disrespect to humanity.

Kant and Mill are considered to be the father of modernity. People like Kant and Mill were in great support of women being given political right.

In around 1900, only one country, New Zealand, became 1st country in the world that gave voting right to women, 1920 America gave, and so on like this all other particularly democratic country women got voting right. By 1960s ^{and onwards} only one country where men have voting rights

Rights of men

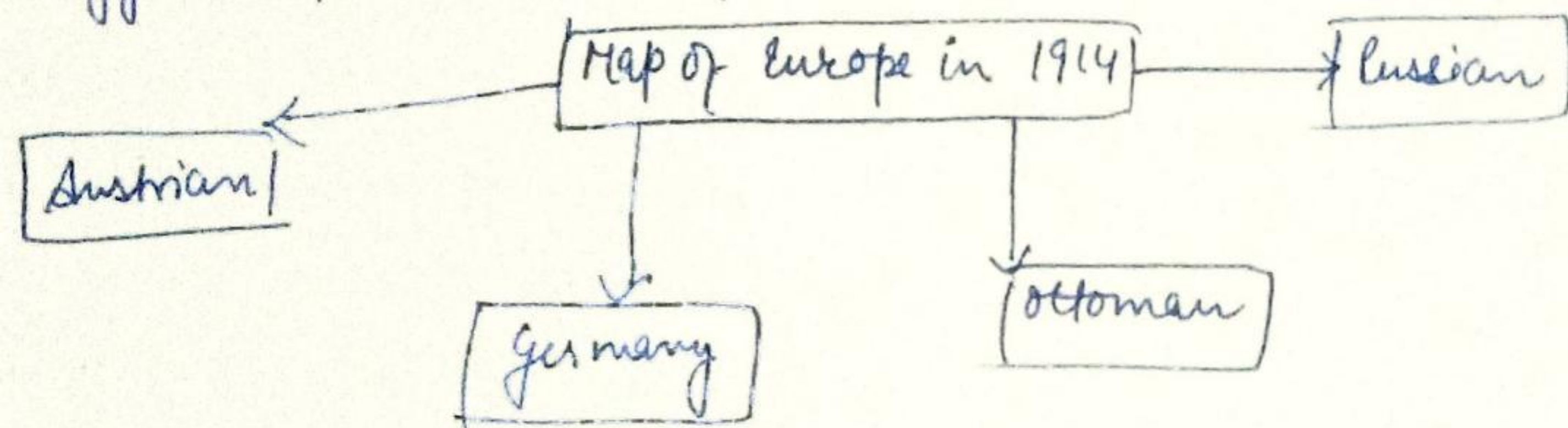
- slave
- women
- self determinism.
- Refugees
- Immigrants
- Wounded people

- Prisoners
- Prisoners of war
- Children
- LGBT

and women cannot in Vatican city?

(3)

Then, by the beginning of 20th century, after the ideas of Kant were published, the right to self-determinism was proclaimed. The idea of individual autonomy was extended to political domain. Ethics required that I can make my own decision about the life I want unless and until I am not using other person as a means to achieve my end. Similarly, every person is having the right to decide what kind of person he is ready to be ruled by. This right became very powerful after the first world war, and its biggest impact was seen post WWI.



After the end of WWI, at least 14 new nations emerged, under the right of self-determinism. [Finland, Norway, Latvia, Hungary etc...]. This gave strong morale uplift to the Indian freedom movement also. After the new nation emerged, problem of refugee also emerged, many refugees were denied rights and then it was recognised that, they are also human beings with same rights. It is the duty of the state to protect the rights of ~~refugees~~ ^{refugees}. And thus rights to refugees were also included in the rights of man. Similarly 100 yrs and so, these rights were enlarged further such as rights to immigrants and then wounded people. In Europe perennial wars would take place and many soldiers would die, whose were the people who get wounded in the battle field. A person

visited the similar kind of battlefield and he was so much moved by it that he started his own society called International Red Cross Society and gave petition to all other nations of Europe that when war happens, they would take care of the wounded people irrespective of without biasedness. Women played a important role in this mission as nurse. It was recognised as human rights and later on it became medical right.

Prisoners were often considered as bad people but it was recognised that they were also humans and they do have some rights and being human it is our duty to recognise those rights.

Prisoners of war ^(POW) were soldiers of enemy nation, and whenever they were captured they were treated in an extreme torture. It was recognised that POW also have dignity and we shall respect their dignity as well. Then rights of POW were also recognised as in Vienna Conventions.

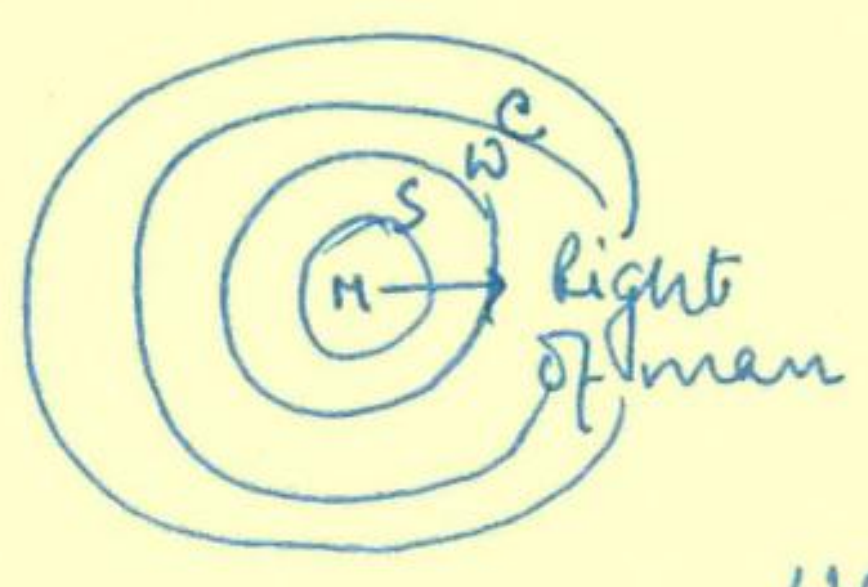
Children are the most vulnerable people because they don't know about their rights being violated. Children all over the world are treated badly irrespective of class. It was recognised in 1989, International Convention on rights of children were recognised and every country of the world continuously adopted that convention. In India also, awareness is increasing.

Workers condition were also in extreme inhuman condition, even after abolition of slavery. The theory of communist thinkers like Karl Marx, Gramsci emerged from here only. Later on the rights of workers were recognised and they were given certain basic rights.

→ LGBT community or Homosexual were criminals and homosexuality was a crime, later on their rights being human were also recognised.

→ old people were also in the same way given rights.

→ slowly, with time, rights of various section of people were recognised and more and more people were included and rights of men was expanded.



For the first time, what should be called as rights were to be declared as human rights, and

was talked by American President Woodrow Wilson ^{after WWI} and these rights were one of the foundational principle of League of Nation. and then there was a problem with the human rights idea and National sovereignty. It became highly controversial issue. In Hitler regime, a Jew professor in university of Germany was fired from his job with the reason being Jews. He went to League of Nation and League of Nation took up the case being it violation of human rights. and as a reaction to that WWII took place.

Today, in the name of human rights, these conflict still emerged as in case of Rwanda, Syria.

In 1945, post WWII, 'The Commission on Human Rights' a commission of 15 member under Eleanor Roosevelt, to identify the rights which should be human rights and one person Hansa Ketha from India as well. She became member of constituent assembly. 3 years of intense deliberation took place and the result was UDHR, Universal Declaration of Human Rights was accepted by UNO, consist of 30 fundamental

Declaration

30 fundamental

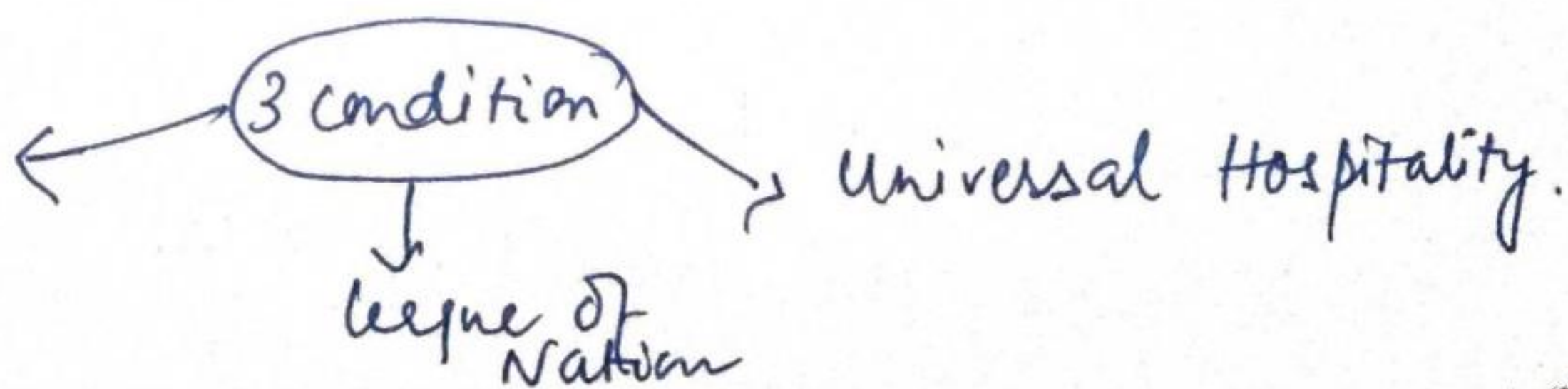
rights, which should be available to every human being. This was a very powerful document and was strongly opposed by various ~~first~~ ^{first} world ~~countries~~ countries to convert or translate ~~it~~ into vernacular language by colonial countries. Now these rights has the ~~in~~ world record of being written in large no. of languages. within 10 to 15 yrs of UDHR the whole world was decolonised.

Thus, ethics cannot be talked without Kantianism. Even in India our constitution was written in accordance with UDHR. There are certain rights in our constitution which are granted to any person irrespective of citizen and it is the duty of the state to protect his rights. India is not an ideal state, but upto a great extent it has recognised large number of rights. ex:- Ajmal Qasab as a terrorist was also given right to be heard, and was given legal support by the state at the cost of the state's till his last ^{breath} ~~breath~~ his rights as a prisoner were also recognised.

Ishrat Jahan case, she was encountered was criticised as being human, her rights were not recognised.

Kant in 1794, in his book 'Perpetual Peace', how to find peace in the world. He wonders why we cannot get perpetual peace in this living world. This book was a result of this thought. He said in order to maintain perpetual peace in the world we need 5 principles and we should try to find out 3 conditions, which would be ^{essential} in establishing Perpetual Peace.

Kant did not use term Democracy
instead used Republican (Republican)

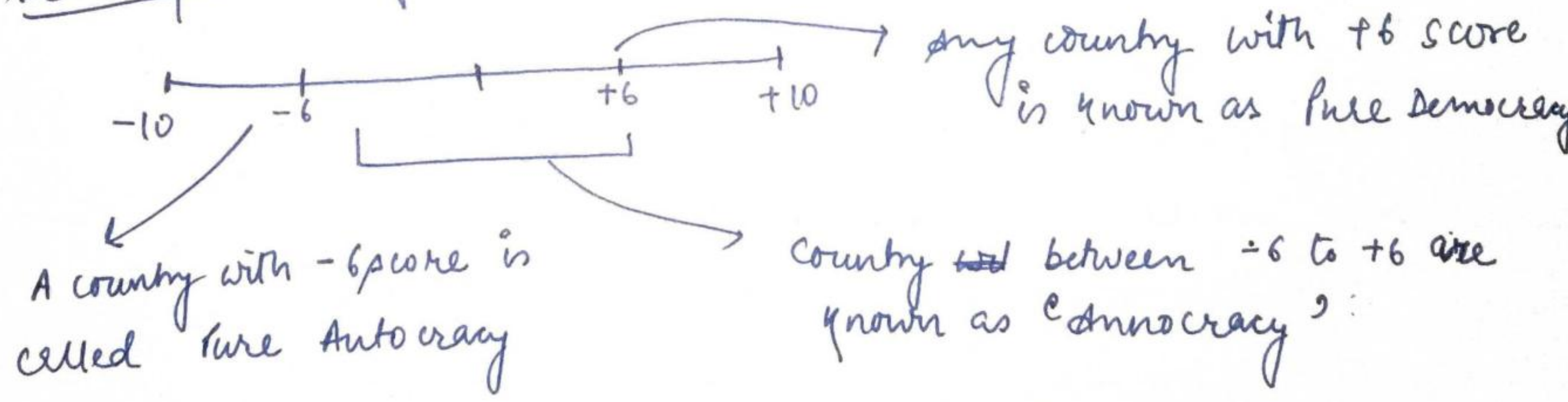


Ashoka

king keep war as a policy. The cost of the war is payed by the people. Except Ashoka, no other king gave away war as a policy. Democracy is less likely to involve in war. Tony Blair said 2 democracies have never fought a war ie, when ever war take place one party need to be non-democratic. There is a polity project which keeps track on democracies and define democracies in 3 respect :-

- I Express political preferences (Election)
- II checks and balances or constraints on Ex. Power.
(In India, we have rule of law) - ①
- III separation of power. [American revolution was successful but french revolution was not because there was no separation of power].
- IV Judicial review
- V Existence of Independent - Institutions
- VI Guarantee to civil liberties
 - Association
 - Expression
 - Conscience (Religion).

Scale of democracy :-



In (2015)

103	countries	were	Pure Democracies	with population	(56%)
17	"	"	Part	"	(11%)
40	"	"	Part autocracy	"	(6%)
20	"	"	Pure	"	(23%)

80% of this is china

If we except China, we can see that, we are becoming more and more democratic. Democracy in any part of the world leads to less violence and results in the resolution of conflicts through peaceful means.

Democracy \propto $\frac{1}{\text{Conflict}}$

and = 'League of nation', as per Kant should have 2 functions.

- ① Guarantee of Human Rights
- ② Mechanism of conflict resolution.

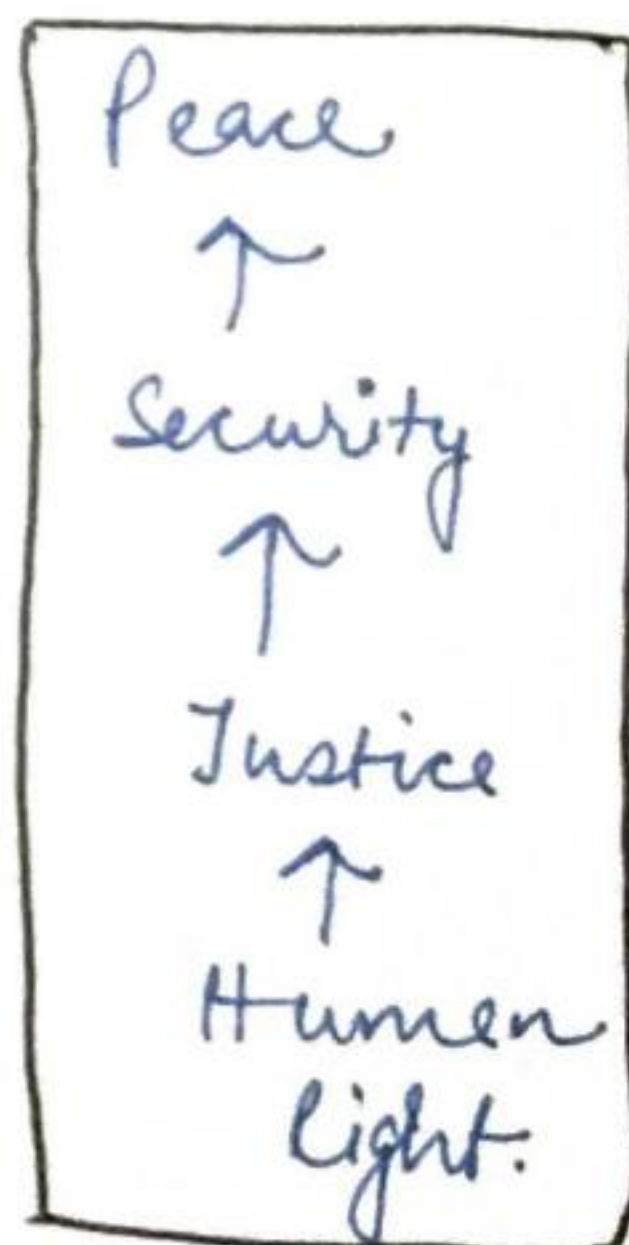
Before that, in Europe various wars used to take place. Kant said violence is the failure of human being being rational. Even Gandhi opined that in order to solve the issue, we just need a table for discussion.

Kant was the intellectual idea^a behind United Nation. Kant says ultimate aim is to establish peace. Martin Luther King Jr. said

Injustice anywhere is injustice everywhere. Unless we protect Human Rights there won't be no justice and if there is no justice there is no security and without security peace cannot be established.

UN has played a very imp~~portant~~ role in establishing peace in the world. Europe & particularly western Europe is the most peaceful nation of the world just because of democracy and UN. Even International organisations have helped a lot in ^{reducing} the war conflicts (NATO, ASEAN, QUAD, SAFTA)

More org^{anisations} leads to more countries in part of organisation and more of such organisation leads to less conflict.



Kant said, every human being has the right to settle in any part of ^⑥ the world. In India we have 'vasudev kutumbakam'. People move from one part of the world to other for trade particularly. Kant also supported international trade in order to establish peaceful world. Kant said, Trade is always a better way to protect ourselves from war. Trade is always a positive sum payoff, unlike war which is a negative payoff. Traders know the language of peace.

Today we can see that, International Trade is one of the fundamental principle for International relation. Global village as a concept is also a step in this regard.

$$\text{Trade} \propto \frac{1}{\text{conflict}}$$

Out of the 5 principles in the Kant's Perpetual Peace, respect to international border was very imp. Kant said one should respect international border irrespective of war. During last 30 yrs, only one country Kuwait was tried to be captured by Saddam Hussain, that too was not successful. Africa is one of the most appropriate example. Even after the end of colonialism map of Africa has not much changed.

World order today, has ^{been} shaped from 3 competing order :-

These 2 ideologies



1. Liberal-Democratic (the centre idea is individual)

2. Communism (morality must always be decided w.r.to. class interest)

3. Fascism (what should be the criteria to decide the

right thing is Nation; anything in the int of ~~gov~~ nation is good and against the nation is bad).

This ideology was defeated

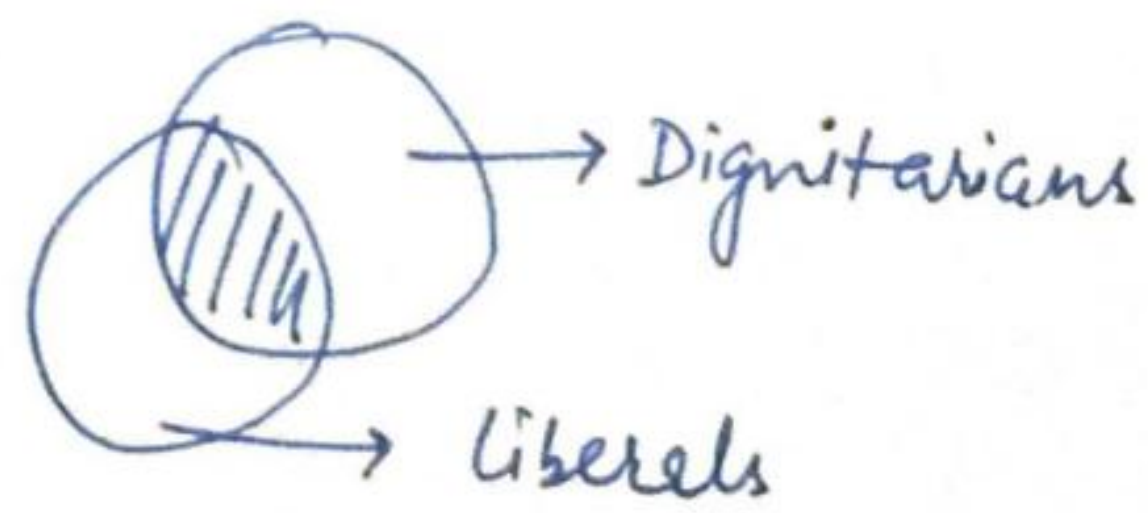
after WW-II.

Each individual is the creator of his own values. Every idea is born keeping in centre the individual. Today we are living in the liberal Democratic world order. Kant emphasised on freedom of thought and Mill emphasised on freedom of expression.

Political aspect of Kant Theory:-

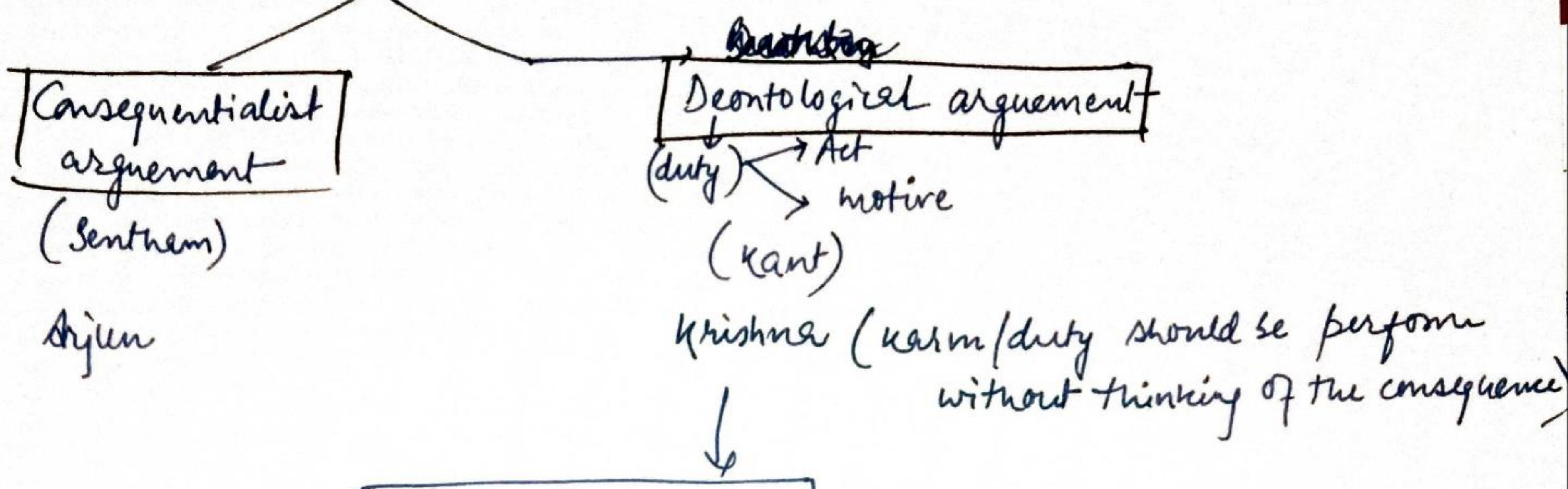
(State), Kant idea have extended to the state as well. He says the most imp function of the state is to protect and guarantee human dignity (Human Right). A libertarian state would protect only liberty. A man named Dana Majhi from Odisha was denied Ambulance on economic grounds to take his wife's dead body from hospital. Later on, he carried the body allway home on his shoulder, the video later on became viral. Kant says that, duty ~~to~~ of the ~~prof~~ state to protect the human dignity in the form of education, food, health etc.. as life not simply means living a life it means living the life with dignity. Liberals on the other hand, says unless there is no violence everything is justified. The difference between extreme poor and extreme rich is justified. Kant says these type of inequality is not justified. Basic rights to individual is the duty of the state and only after when the individual is given certain social security he should be given free choice. On this ground, social security in America was brought about in 1930s. In India, also, debate on Universal Basic Income is debated around.

Some difference between liberals & Dignitarians is that, liberals talk about suicide is right whereas dignitarians considered it wrong.



Dignitarians considered subsidies, UBI as right whereas liberals not. It is said that, Indian Constitution is based on Dignitarian grounds.

Moral arguments :-



Non-inclined action
• A E OMH OMH

→ (values) some values as per deontological are very important,
→ Duty to respect (money spend on Ajmer kesab was money spend on value system).

Ethics (main question on Environmental ethics) :-

Define :- Environmental ethics is defined as Ethics which tries to identify human obligation towards the environment.

- Arguments : ① Deontological argument (values :- Duty to respect)
② Consequentialist " (Benefits)