

GS Advanced Program 2023

Generic Booklet

Test Name/Code/No. :694048

Name			
Email ID.			
Roll No.			
Mobile No.		Date	16-Jan 2023

Allotted Time : 60 Minutes

Instructions to Candidates -

- There are 7 Questions in this Question paper.
- All Questions are Compulsory.
- For all updates, please visit the noticeboard -
<https://noticeboard.forumias.com/gsap-2023/>

Important -

- Answers must be attempted in the QCA Booklet only.
- To upload the Answer Copies please visit to "My Course" section on -
<https://academy.forumias.com/>
- Only those copies will be evaluated which will be submitted before the next class.

Q. No.	Grade/Score
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Overall Grade/Score	

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Q.1)

Ethics- significance (10)

Ethics are a set of guidelines or moral principles that are accepted by society as the proper way of behaving in public life.

Thus, ethics provide a framework for public conduct and are, therefore, essential for guiding people holding public positions.

Significance of Ethics

- ① They provide a framework to guide an individuals' public ~~conduct~~ conduct.
- ② By providing a normative framework, ethics :

A) reduce ambiguity and scope for ignorance of what is proper (propriety)

B) reduce conflicts by having ~~the~~ an accepted standard of conduct.

(3) Ethics reduce the inner conflict within an individual by providing a hierarchy of values.

For example, when there is a conflict between right to life, and ~~right to freedom~~ other moral values, the right to life will prevail.

(4) Ethics evolve to make way for modern and scientific morality.

Thus, it can be concluded that ethics govern our day-to-day conduct in public life, unlike the law which comes into the picture only in cases of crime.

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Q.2) Ethics | Morality. Examples (10)

Ethics are a set of accepted norms for conduct in society, public life and public office.

Morality, on the other hand, refers to an individual sense of right and wrong.

For example, ethics hold that a civil servant should lead a simple life. But morality governs intimate choices such as religiosity, level of austerity, etc.

Differences between ethics and morality

- ① While ethics relate to public life, morality relates to private life of an individual.

~~For example, while marriage is governed by morality, ~~ethics~~~~

For example, a civil servant is expected to display a secular ethic in public life, even as she/he may be religious in private life.

- (2) Morality differs from person to person, but ethics are a societal standard.
- (3) Morality is flexible, whereas ethics are less flexible.
- (4) The domains of morality and ethics differ — while ethics governs conduct oriented towards public, morality governs conduct when no one is watching.

When 'morality' becomes accepted by society, it becomes 'ethics'. For example, Gandhian morality still guides public ethic — liquor ban in Gujarat, dry days, etc.

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
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Q.3)

Law - conflict - ethics (10)

Law refers to a publicly known set of normative expectations that have sanction of the state and that are enforced by the state. Violation of Law attracts punishment.

Ethics, on the other hand, ~~have~~^{are} a set of normative expectations that are backed by societal sanction, and whose violations are punished by reprimand and ostracization.

Conflict between law and ethics

- ① A conflict between law and ethics arises when the societal morality differs from the legal prescriptive behavior.

Example: Prohibition of Sati took 12 years of campaigning by Raja Rammohan Roy.

Positive effects of conflict between law and ethics

- A) Law can infuse morality into society, if it is ahead of social morality
eg. Prohibition of Dowry.
- B) Law can settle difficult ethical questions
eg. Euthanasia
- C) Law can lead to social progress by overriding Social morality eg. prohibition of untouchability (Art. 17)

Negative effects of conflict

- A) Social unrest
- B) Conservative backlash
- C) Non-compliance of law
- D) Exploitation of loopholes

Thus, law and ethics must evolve hand-in-hand. While it is sometimes necessary to codify progressive laws, society should be taken on board and educated, so as to achieve compliance and harmony.

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
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Q4) Ethics - business irreconcilable?

How can business be more ethical? (150)

Business, by definition, is a profit-maximisation activity, whereas ethics are a way of keeping individual ambition in check.

Thus, it may seem that business is inherently unethical. However, this is true only in terms of short-term gain.

In the long-term, ethics keep businesses in the following ways:

① People trust ethical businesses

For example, people trust Amul as an ethical brand. They can be sure that it is not polluted. This helps the long-term gains of a brand. In times of uncertainty, people look towards trusted brands.

2) Good corporate governance : Good corporate governance is beneficial in the long run, as it prevents legal escalation of matters

eg. Chanda Kocher, ICICI case.

3) Corporate Social Responsibility : Several studies have established that socially responsible brands have better acceptability

eg. in the US, the trend is changing from BOYCOTT to 'BUYCOTT' - buying from responsible brands.

Business can be made more ethical by :

① Clear legislation - which provides:

A) Ease of doing business

B) Certainty (policy certainty)

② Corporate governance reform

Example : Shift from production-sharing model to revenue-sharing model for oil companies.

Q.9

Ethics - Politics (250)

Ethics are a set of moral standards accepted in society. These are socio-cultural norms that are expected to be followed in public life.

Thus, people holding public office are expected to follow ethical norms. For example, society in general disapproves of bribery.

People who are holding public office (such as bureaucrats and politicians) or people aspiring to be part of public life (such as election candidates) are expected to display the following ethics:

ETHICS IN POLITICS
or public life

- ① Austerity: Politicians must be seen as austere and simple. Gandhian

principles of austerity - Khadi kurta, etc. can often be seen on politicians instead of extravagant clothing.

2) Compassion and Accessibility : In a democracy, politicians must be humble and approachable.

3) Honesty and Integrity : People holding or aspiring for public life must be seen as honest and truthful.

Politics as source of ethics

Politics can, at times, infuse ethics into society by being a source of progressive legislation.

~~Thus, it may be concluded that a democracy is the best tool to ensure ethical conduct by politicians.~~

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Conflict between ethics and politics

Politics and ethics can come into conflict at times, due to practices such as:

- A) Bribery and Corruption
- B) Partiality, favoritism and nepotism
- C) Extravagance and black money
- D) Using public office for private gain

Solutions in democracy

In order to keep public officials in check, legislations such as RTI (Right to Information) exist in India.

Canada has a conflict of interest legislation.

Thus, in a democracy, the job of ensuring ethical conduct falls on an informed citizenry.

Overall Grading (✓)

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Q.6) Means - ends - opinion (250)

There are two approaches to decision-making in public life:

A) Means based approach: where the means justify the ends. This corresponds with the duty-based (Deontological) approach given by Immanuel Kant.

B) Ends - based approach: where the ends (goals) justify the means. Also known as Utilitarianism or Consequentialism.

Comparison between means-based and ends-based approaches

Means (Duty Based)	Ends (Consequentialist)
① Intentions are important, even if the outcomes are not optimal. Adherence to prescribed means shows clear intentions	① Intentions are irrelevant, if results are good. Straying from norms can be ill-intentioned,

Means	Ends
② Preferable for civil servants in a rule-based democracy. ③ Leads to predictable behaviour. Even if undesirable consequences arise, there the learning can be used to adapt the means.	② Not preferable for civil servants, as it is difficult to justify deviance from norms. ③ Difficult to predict the outcomes and foresee. Any good effect produced is incidental.

An ends-based approach may not be best-suited for a civil servant, especially if it comes into conflict with procedural norms.

Therefore, it may be more preferable to follow a duty-based approach. Immanuel Kant gave 4

principles for a duty-based approach:

① Behaviour should be universalisable.

Our actions should be such that they can be made into a universal law.

If they cannot be made into a universal law, then they are not duty-based.

The universal law

② ~~They~~ should be equally applicable to all.

③ Humanity First: people as 'ends', not means.

④ Duty principle: Doing something because it is the right thing to do, not for reward or fear.

Thus, in Kant's view, there is no need to look to God or 'consequences' to determine what is right. What is right can be determined through 'reason' and rationality.

Overall Grading (✓)

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Q.7) God based ethics - limitations - creates problems. (20)

God-based ethics refers to an approach where the source of ethics is divine or supernatural, rather than this-worldly ethics, derived from Constitution, law, reason or humanity.

God-based ethics have the following ~~problems~~ limitations:

A) Moral Absolutism: Religious

ethics are immutable and cannot be adapted to modern needs and questions.

B) Problem of intermediary: God-

based ethics cannot be known directly and necessitate a 'clergy, Church, Prophet or messiah'.

C) Universality: In a modern democratic republic, those ethics are needed which are impartial and universal.

Religious diversity is a feature of modern nations and, therefore, God-based ethics creates tensions.

Problems created by God-based ethics

A) Orthodoxy: The death of Savita in Ireland highlighted the orthodoxy of anti-abortionist, absolutist views. Even though her life was in danger, she was subjected to a set of beliefs rooted in orthodoxy. This led to a nation-wide protest in Ireland to change

the rigid anti-abortion laws.

B) ~~Diversity~~ Cultural Conflict : As seen

in Iran - anti-Hijab protests

which ~~do not~~ reflect current cultural or moral standards, while the law is based on God-based ethics.

C) Fundamentalism : can lead to fundamentalist views which can further lead to violent tendencies eg. religious terrorism

Counter view : Having said that, religion can also act as a source of good ethics, such as truthfulness, honesty in private : God is watching. Thus, good aspects from religion should be incorporated.

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
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