

QUICK FACTS

VALUES, CONCEPTS *and* INDIAN THINKERS:

MAINS 365

Ethics



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VALUES, CONCEPTS AND INDIAN THINKERS

Table of Contents

1. VALUES	3
1.1. Honesty	3
1.2. Integrity	3
1.3. Probity	3
1.4. Accountability	3
1.5. Empathy	4
1.6. Tolerance	4
1.7. Selflessness	4
1.8. Justice	4
1.9. Objectivity	5
1.10. Leadership	5
1.11. Dedication to Public Service	5
1.12. Impartiality and Non-partisanship	5
2. CONCEPTS	5
2.1. Attitude	5
2.2. Social Influence and Persuasion	6
2.3. Emotional Intelligence (EI)	6
2.4. Social Intelligence (SI)	6
3. INDIAN THINKERS	7

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1. VALUES

1.1. Honesty

- **Meaning:** Speaking and acting truthfully, more than not lying, deceiving, stealing, or cheating. It involves showing respect towards others and having self-awareness.
- **Importance:** Foundation for trust, key in social relationships.

Classical Ethical Frameworks:

- **Aristotelian virtue ethics:** Honesty as a virtue, balancing between too little and too much honesty.
- **Consequentialism:** Honesty depends on situations and outcomes.
- **Deontology:** Immanuel Kant emphasizes honesty as an absolute moral obligation.

Examples:

- **Anil Swarup:** Implemented transparent e-auction system for coal block allocations.
- **Sachin Tendulkar:** Walked off the field voluntarily during the 2011 ICC World Cup, exemplifying sportsmanship.

1.2. Integrity

- **Meaning:** Practice of being honest and adhering to one's values and principles.

- **Traits:**

- Honesty / Truthfulness
- Fairness
- Decency / Respectfulness
- Adherence to moral principles
- Helpful
- Responsibility / Trustworthiness

Examples:

- **Shaheed Hemu Kalani:** Resisted torture by the British, not revealing associates.
- **Mahatma Gandhi:** Withdrew Non-cooperation Movement after Chauri-Chaura incident, adhering to non-violence.

1.3. Probity

- **Meaning:** Quality of having strong moral principles, integrity, honesty, decency.
- **Importance:** Essential for efficient and effective governance and socio-economic development.

Examples:

- **Jacinda Ardern:** Resigned as New Zealand PM, prioritizing the country's needs.
- **Shanmugam Manjunath:** Fought against petrol adulteration, exemplifying courage and probity.

1.4. Accountability

- **Meaning:** Being answerable for a system, its behavior, and impacts.
- **Forms:**
 - **Vertical Accountability:** Principal-agent relationship (e.g., elections).
 - **Horizontal Accountability:** Network of institutions ensuring mutual control.
 - **Social Accountability:** Civil society organizations and media checking public sector officials.

**Examples:**

- **Morarji Desai:** Regular press conferences, promoting transparency.
- **Dr. Vikram Sarabhai:** Took accountability for ISRO's first space flight failure.

1.5. Empathy

- **Meaning:** Ability to sense and imagine others' emotions.
- **Types:**
 - **Affective Empathy:** Sensations and feelings in response to others' emotions.
 - **Cognitive Empathy:** Identifying and understanding others' emotions.

Examples:

- **C F Andrews (Deenbandhu):** Fought British alongside Mahatma Gandhi, showing empathy towards indentured labor.
- **Ayushman Bharat Scheme:** Empathetic policymaking, providing health coverage to over 12 crore families.

1.6. Tolerance

1. **Meaning:** Fair and permissive attitude towards differing opinions, practices, etc.
2. **Importance:** Fosters harmony and social cohesion in a pluralistic society.

Examples:

- **Nelson Mandela:** Leadership characterized by tolerance and reconciliation post-apartheid.
- **Supreme Court of India:** Recognition of 'Third-Gender' and decriminalization of consensual same-sex relationships.

1.7. Selflessness

- **Meaning:** Balanced attitude between self and others' needs.
- **Importance in Governance:** Acting solely in the public interest, placing public needs ahead of personal needs.

Examples:

- **Satyendra Dubey:** Exposed corruption, sacrificing his life.
- **Tukaram Omble:** Showed courage during 26/11 Mumbai attacks, sacrificing his life.

1.8. Justice

- **Meaning:** Fairness or equal treatment.
- **Forms:**
 - **Social Justice:** Equal opportunities irrespective of race, gender, etc.
 - **Distributive Justice:** Equitable allocation of assets.
 - **Retributive Justice:** Punishment of wrongdoers proportionately.

Examples:

- **Sagarmal Gopa:** Stood for justice against Jaisalmer's ruler's atrocities.
- **P Narhari:** Made Gwalior District barrier-free, aiding persons with disabilities.



1.9. Objectivity

- **Meaning:** Acting impartially, fairly, and on merit without bias.
- **Importance in Civil Services:** Upholds rule of law, reason, merit, and accepted standards.

Examples:

- **POSHAN Abhiyan:** Evidence-based decision-making using POSHAN Tracker.
- **Digital portals (PROBITY, SPARROW, SOLVE):** Assessing performance of Central Government officers.

1.10. Leadership

- **Meaning:** Successfully marshaling collaborators to achieve ends, stemming from social influence rather than authority or power.
- **Importance:** Critical for good governance, ensuring participation, transparency, and accountability.

Examples:

- **Dr. Verghese Kurien:** Father of India's White Revolution, established Amul cooperative.
- **E. Sreedharan:** Known as "Metro Man of India," effective project management and engineering leadership.

1.11. Dedication to Public Service

- **Meaning:** Willingness to give time and energy, putting public interests first.
- **Importance:** Requires high spirit of service and sacrifice to fulfill public aspirations.

Examples:

- **Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam:** Contributions to missile and nuclear programmes.
- **Dr. M S Swaminathan:** Green Revolution and National Food Guarantee Act recommendations.

1.12. Impartiality and Non-partisanship

- **Meaning:** Not supporting a group over others, remaining apolitical in civil service.
- **Importance:** Ensures fair service to political executives, maintains public confidence.

Examples:

- **T. N. Seshan:** Reforms as Chief Election Commissioner ensuring non-partisan elections.
- **Nandan Nilekani:** Focused on technological and administrative aspects of Aadhaar, maintaining non-partisanship.

2. CONCEPTS

2.1. Attitude

- **Meaning:** Predisposition to respond positively or negatively towards an idea, object, person, or situation.
- **Factors:**
 - **Classical conditioning:** Learning through repeated pairings.
 - **Instrumental conditioning:** Learning from rewards and punishments.
 - **Cognitive appraisals:** Evaluating information and experiences.

- **Observational learning:** Learning through observing others.
- **Persuasions:** Deliberate attempts to change attitudes.

Functions:

- **Knowledge, Utilitarian, Ego-defense, Value-expression**

2.2. Social Influence and Persuasion

- **Meaning:** Adapting opinions or behaviors through social interactions.
- **Types:** Compliance, Identification, Internalization.
- **Modes of Persuasion:** Source credibility, message content, audience characteristics, reciprocity, social proof, timing, and context.

2.3. Emotional Intelligence (EI)

- **Meaning:** Identifying, comprehending, and managing emotions of self and others.
- **Significance:** Leadership effectiveness, Decision-making, Communication, Conflict resolution, Public engagement

Examples:

- **Jacinda Ardern:** Response to Christchurch mosque shootings.
- **GST implementation:** Balancing emotional and rational aspects.
- **T.N. Seshan:** Improved election integrity.

2.4. Social Intelligence (SI)

- **Meaning:** Understanding and managing interpersonal relationships.
- **Facets:**
 - **Social awareness:** Primal empathy, attunement, empathic accuracy, social cognition.
 - **Social facility:** Synchrony, self-presentation, influence, concern.

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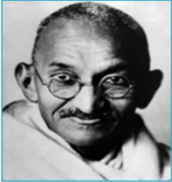
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3. INDIAN THINKERS

Personality	Ethical Ideas/Vision/Values	Quotes
 <p>Kautilya (Chanakya)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Duty and Righteousness: A leader should show self-control by abandoning kama (lust), krodha (anger), lobha (greed), mana (vanity), mada (haughtiness), and harsha (overjoy). ▶ Happiness: Leader's happiness lies in the welfare of his/her subjects. ▶ Individual Excellence: A man is great by deeds, not by birth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ There is no enemy like infatuation and fire like wrath. ▶ There is no austerity equal to a balanced mind, and there is no happiness equal to contentment; there is no disease like covetousness, and no virtue like mercy.
 <p>Thiruvalluvar</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Conduct: Propriety of conduct is the seed of virtue; impropriety will ever cause sorrow. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ That conduct is virtue which is free from these four things: malice, desire, anger and bitter speech. ▶ Pure Soul: Purity of the external body is caused by water and inner purity is caused by veracity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ To reprove a harm-doer, put him to shame by doing a good deed in return. ▶ It is compassion, the most gracious of virtues, which moves the world.
 <p>Guru Nanak</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Vaand Chhako: Sharing whatever God has given you with others and helping those who are in need. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ He encouraged followers to donate at least one-tenth of their earnings for the welfare of other. ▶ Speak the truth without any fear: Getting victory by suppressing falsehood is temporary and standing firmly by truth is permanent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The greatest comforts and lasting peace are obtained when one eradicates selfishness from within. ▶ If the people use the wealth bestowed on them by God for themselves alone or for treasuring it, it is like a corpse. But if they decide to share it with others, it becomes sacred food.
 <p>Swami Vivekananda</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Humanism: The masses should be our Gods. Service to man is service to God. ▶ Selflessness: He propagated that selfish is immoral, and that which is unselfish is moral. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Whatever you think that you will be. If you think yourself weak, weak you will be; if you think yourself strong, you will be.

► **Oeness:** Implies that you are a part of me, and I of you; the recognition, that in hurting you I hurt myself, and in helping you, I help myself.

► In a day when you don't come across any problems, you can be sure that you are travelling in a wrong path.



Mahatma Gandhi

► **Means and End:** He explicitly rejected the **doctrine that the end justifies the means**, and asserted that a **moral means** is almost an **end** in itself because virtue is its own reward.

► **Sarvodaya:** It stands for the **progress of the all**.

- All individual should do individual labour and follow the ideal of non-possession.

► A man is but a product of his thoughts. What he thinks he becomes.

► The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong.

► The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.



Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru

► **Welfare State:** A welfare state ideally provides basic economic security for its citizens by **protecting them from market** risks associated, with unemployment, etc.

► **Administration:** Administration should be that it should be **oriented to people**, should show courtesy to the common man, should give people a sense of participation and should inspire the co-operation in the people.

► Loyal and efficient work in a great cause, even though it may not be immediately recognised, ultimately bears fruit.

► Evil unchecked grows, evil tolerated poisons the whole system.



Dr. B. R. Ambedkar

► **Liberty:** He believed that **liberty and equality had a place but he added** that unlimited **liberty destroyed equality**, and absolute equality leaves no room for liberty.

► **Actions:** Harmonious actions can be expressed in different ways, but they must always be imbued with **goodwill**, a desire for **others' benefit**

► I measure the progress of a community by the degree of progress which women have achieved.

► A great man is different from an eminent one in that he is ready to be the servant of the society.

► Men are mortal. So are ideas. An idea needs propagation as much as a plant needs watering. Otherwise, both will wither and die.



Dr. APJ Abul
Kalam

- ▶ **Societal Grid:** Comprises of a Knowledge Grid, Health Grid and E-governance grid that feed into the Provision of Urban Amenities to Rural Areas (PURA) Grid.
- ▶ **Be Humble:** Modesty has, and will remain, a powerful trait because where **egoism fails, humbleness conquers.**

- ▶ Wisdom is a weapon to ward off destruction; It is an inner fortress which enemies cannot destroy.
- ▶ Determination is the power that sees us through all our frustrations and obstacles. It helps us in building our willpower which is the very basis of success.

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