



An Institute for Civil Services

IAS TOPPER'S

TEST COPY

JAYANT NAHATA

RANK - 56

ESSAY - 2



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Roll No. _____

ESSAY

Time Allowed: 3 hrs.

Max. Marks: 250

Instructions to Candidate

- Both sections are compulsory.
- Attempt one essay from each section.
- Each essay carries 125 marks.
- Write each essay in about 1000-1200 words.
- After finishing the first essay, attempt the next on a fresh Page.
- Any page left blank in the answer-book must be crossed out clearly.

(Examiner will pay special attention to the candidate's grasp of his/her material, its relevance to the subject chosen, and to his/her ability to think constructively and to present his/her ideas concisely, logically and effectively).

RemarksName Jayant Nkhata

Mobile No. _____

Date _____

Signature *Jayant Nkhata*

1. Invigilator Signature _____

2. Invigilator Signature _____



SECTION - A

1. A free woman is one, who does not live in the shadow of others' judgment, but one who makes her own choices based on her own wisdom.
2. Expect the best. Prepare for the worst. Capitalize on what comes.
3. ✓ We are good architects of future, if our coming generations are not victim.
4. The more you sweat in peace, the less you bleed in war.

SECTION - B

1. Patriotism is to support your country, not your government.
2. ✓ In a healthy politics, the leaders do not serve any ideology or political party, but people.
3. ✓ The difference between insanity and genius is success.
4. ✓ Intelligence is not IQ, but capacity of imagination.

Section A

We are good architects of future, if our coming generations are not victim.

"We need to understand that the Earth is not inherited from our ancestors, but is on loan from our future generations"

— Mahatma Gandhi

Way back in the early decades of 20th century, looking around a world filled with greed, self-interest, violence and oppression, Gandhiji held up the 'mirror of truth'

good way of starting; at it.

to the leaders of the day & remarked
"that this world is not inherited -- but on
loan from the future generation"
Hence, we are duty bound to create a
brighter future for them..

Architect of future, thus in essence, is being
concerned about the well-being of the future
generation. Then having a broad overarching
vision of the future & finally an executable
plan. } good

But wait! Why do we need to be architects
of future? Why to be concerned at all?

Let's analyze why we need to be concerned,
& whether we need to be concerned.

After that we see how can we be good
architects & save the future generation from
being a victim. The future that awaits us
will be looked upon too & finally we will
conclude.

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in this part)

Before that, let's see that what being a victim can imply.

Our future generation can be a victim in the sense, they can face harsher living conditions. A world that grants little freedom of thought, expression, belief, faith. A society that suppresses innovation & a polity that cannot uphold the rule of law.

A victimized individual finds himself at a loss of opportunities that he should/may deserve.

Our future generation can be looked upon as in terms of our family or society/nation or in terms of humanity.

A Historical Perspective

To know why we need to care for the future, let's see how it has paid dividends in the past of such a strategy & how it has backfired in its absence.

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Right from ancient India, the values of 'Vasudev Kutumbhakam' i.e. the world is a family, which called for cooperation & tolerance were expounded. India's ethos, derived from the philosophers & sages of past, propounded equality & democracy. The system of sabhas & sanitis during early vedic period & equal participation of women ensured that India is regarded today as the 'cradle of civilization' (Mark Twain).

If the likes of ~~Rasavarma~~ Buddha & Mahavira hadn't envisioned a peaceful world, & not advocated non-violence, then India of today, wouldn't be as tolerant & peaceful.

However, it is also true that there exists schools of thought like Charvaka philosophy, which says that humans should 'live in the moment'. There's no ^{after} life. ~~after~~

But, we know little of any civilization that has survived following such ideas to this date.

Good way of internal referencing!

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Through the freedom struggle, the Moderates led by Dadabhai Naoroji exploded the myth of 'benevolence' of the British. They argued that Britishers were not constructing railways for India's benefits, but for expropriating the wealth / natural resources of India. Thus, only Indians could be architects of future India. Not paying heed to the future led to devastation of India in terms of poverty, destruction of handicrafts industry, loss of tribal way of life etc. Thus Indians were 'victims' of British short-sightedness & selfishness.

Thus, the Indians united under the leadership of Gandhi to take back our country. On the culmination this movement, we had to be 'architects' again.

The Constitution was the product of the vision of our forefathers. It was meant to ensure a bright future & prevent the future generation of Indians from any form of suppression.

Key ideas around
which you
want to build
essay, could
have been
visualised in
a better way.

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Today, we are reaping the benefits in terms of a democratic culture, strong institutions like Supreme Court, rule of law, concern for environment & international peace as guaranteed in Fundamental Rights & DPSP (Part III & IV)

Looking outside India, we see how a poorly drafted 'Treaty of Versailles' by architects → US, Britain & France led to the victimisation of Europeans ~~also~~ in the form of World War 2. Cities were ravaged, 6 million + died, effects of nuclear explosion on Hiroshima & Nagasaki are still suffered by Japanese population.

Beyond History--

Caring for the future is also pertinent because humans are not the only species. The other 'Earthlings' are equal to us & deserve an equal stake in its Earth's future.

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Humans are here just evolved in the last 1 minute of the Earth's 24 hour history. Thus, logically, we don't deserve to harm Earth or leave it worse off than we found it.

Even if we look at it another way, individuals don't live beyond a few decades, it is an institution, a structure that survives beyond individual life. Thus, caring only about ourselves is being short-sighted.

Now let's move on to see how can ~~be~~ we design a better future.

Designing a better future

The most challenging task at our hand is to combat the effects of human induced climate change. Preserving the Environment only can ensure that our children live in a world that affords them a clean air, drinking water & food to thrive.

In this context, the Brontdon Commissions

style of engaging
with the issue
of sustainability is
really appreciable.

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Tactical details
are appreciable
Have a
critical analysis
about
Sustainable
&
Economic
Development
Parade
Can both
go together
Yes
1.

report "Our Common Future" (1983) argued for Sustainable development. (1992) Through the Rio Summit, the world agreed to save the future for generation from the catastrophic consequences of a 2°C rise in temperature. Paris agreement, off late has brought the world together to contain, ~~per~~ pollution levels. However to truly prevent our future generations we need to take bold binding commitments with strict enforcement along with transparency.

In this respect, our economic structure needs to be crafted away from neo-liberal policies that values profits over human quality of life. It has to internalize externalities. Incorporating measures like carbon tax, polluter pays principle are right approach.

Our future generation should have opportunities to find meaningful livelihood. Thus, the powered automation Industry 4.0 fused with AI or automation should be regulated properly.

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The nations should invest in their human capital → to skill, educate & empower young generations.

Schemes like Skill India, Ayushman Arogya for health are steps in right direction.

But along with economics, the society needs to be democratic & tolerant.

The freedom of thought & expression should be granted to all. Only then the leaders of today can ensure a bright future.

To complement this vision of society, our polity should be such that it ensures the Rule of Law. We have seen how the America of 1800's was torn apart by civil war & the consequences they had to face.

"Justice is the 1st virtue of any social system" Rails had remarked. To ensure justice, we need to strengthen the judiciary's pillar while at the same time ensure separation of power.

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& aim aspect an

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A future cannot be designed by 20 people sitting in Delhi, London or Shanghai. It has to be a common decentralized approach.

Thus, the Governance structure needs to be such that power shifts to the grassroots.

Gandhiji ~~remarked that~~ he wished that power flows in the 7 lakh villages of India.

There's a need to address the democratic deficit in institutions of global governance like IMF, WB & UN.

India, China and other third world countries deserve to have right of say in global decision making.

Speaking of international stage & economy, the development & cooperation should be based on transparent procedures & equal respect. The Belt & Road Initiative though ambitious has potential to put the generations of Sri Lankans, Maldivians & Malaysians into debt trap.

The ~~to~~ Asia-Africa growth corridors shows us the right path to development

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putting humans at the centre.

Human security rather than national security should form the basis of policy making at international level.

The United Nations charter 'aims to prevent the future generations from the scourge of war'. This can only happen, if humans & not ~~nations~~ nations are prioritised.

The role of women in this aspect needs to be emphasized. Decision making has to involve women equally as because as Nirupama Rao argues that they will 'veto wars and not peacekeeping'. ~~Women's~~

Women's role even in society's future well-being is crucial. They are better, sensitive, future oriented & care for community over self.

India's 33% reservation in Panchayati Raj institutions to women is paying dividends to us.

For a better future, our culture has to remain intact too. ~~Ancient~~ heritage is to be cherished & passed on.

you are
trying to
write too many
things.

Futurization of
ideas could
have been
better.

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Conclusion → "A bright road ahead"

If the current leadership whether be it in a family, a nation or world government succeeds, the future looks promising.

Not only can we prevent future generations from being a victim, we can put them in a world that is devoid of war. A world which has no boundaries & is truly a global village. A society with men & women standing shoulder to shoulder & a youth ready to clutch opportunities that lay ahead. The Earth will be clean & running on renewables.

So, let's ~~don~~ make efforts for such a future. Let the coming generation remember us not as self-interested beings but rather as visionaries whose legacy they are proud of!

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Essay is overall good - what is good is
your span of issues covered - flow
of arguments and shift from one
aspect to another is smooth - language
is mature - presentation can be improved
as suggested -
keep up the good work -

60
125

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Section B

"Patriotism is to support your country, not your government"

"Bhakti in religion is the path to salvation of soul, BUT Bhakti in politics is the surest way to degradation & dictatorship"

— Ambedkar

Patriotism is the love for one's country. People often confuse it with nationalism & start to preach support for one party or government. Ambedkar during the Constituent assembly debates had warned the future generation of Indians to not conflate their patriotism into 'Bhakti' for one leader or government.

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Patriotism vs Nationalism

Patriotism implies a sense of belonging & care for the land that one belongs to. This feeling of belonging can be due to birth place or a religious/spiritual connect or other factors.

Thus patriotism has no connection with a particular government, leader or party. People can be patriotic even without standing up for the national anthem. They can express love for the country by not spitting on the road, picking up a piece of trash & throwing in dustbin. Patriotic individuals can be found educating young children in government schools of tribal areas or can be researching in universities hoping to benefit patients.

On the ~~to~~ other hand, nationalism embodies a sense of 'us' versus 'them'. It is

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aggressive in its nature & exclusionary. → good
Nationalism often gets misused by governments
like those of Hitler & Mussolini to sway
the population into a particular ideology &
against a group of people/nations.

Having established the meaning of patriotism &
distinguishing it from nationalism, we will now
analyze the various dimensions of a patriotic
attitude. We will see how it can reap
dividends to our society while also
analyzing the consequences otherwise.
Finally, we will sum up with an outlook for
the future!

The facets of patriotism

On a societal level, being patriotic
an individual has a tolerant attitude.
He respects the diverging beliefs of the
other. Voltaire said →

"I may detest what you say, but
will defend till death your right to say"

Nice way to put
things into perspective

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It is this spirit of accommodation that a patriotic individual would embody. This is what our culture is all about in India right from the times of Buddha & Mahaveer in 600 ~~century~~ B.C.

Patriotism may take the shape of a citizen helping another cope with adversities. For eg. During a ^{flood} disaster in Uttarakhand, in 2013, many villagers stuck out & risked their lives to rescue fellow villagers as well as tourists.

The government of the day can promote harmony or can be communal; but if the citizen is patriotic he would follow a set of values which are consistent with secularism, brotherhood (fraternity) & equal respect for all.

Swaranji Vivekananda has said "The future of India is in a Vedantic mind in an Islamic body".

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Ecological priorities of a government may not be high. A government may be colluded with businessmen & actively work to clear up forests & establish industries.

for eg. During the colonial times, King Leopold had established rule in Congo, Africa. He ran Congo like his private estate & exploited its resources unhindered. Supporting such a government is far from being patriotic.

The tribals living in forests & protecting it are in a way patriotic to this country. They are helping to build a better future!

During the British Government rule in India, the landlords i.e. Zamindars favouring the British policies was anti-patriotic. It was guided by self-interests to retain their landholdings & the revenue streams. Being with the British, they exploited the peasant class into abject poverty. It was the peasant who tilled the land with his sweat, who was patriotic rather than those on the side with British.

well explained
the meaning of
being patriotic.

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The World War II, presents a picture of what havoc can it entail if entire populations are charged up with nationalistic fervor.

Swayed by the 'Aryan race' ideology, the German officials & public participated in the gasification & killing of millions of jews which is now remembered as holocaust !

This happens, as pointed out in Milgram's experiment, because the people shed their responsibilities & transfer it to the government. Thus, they believe that they have a duty to follow 'orders' & so they have no fault.

Hannah Arendt in the trial of 'Eichmann of Jerusalem' witnessed this phenomena & brought out in front of the world.

Thus, blinded nationalism can prove a disaster !

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In the present time we see Donald Trump following a nationalist agenda of 'America first'. However, his policy is criticized for harming the country via deglobalization, backing away from Paris Climate Deal that could have presented even business opportunities for American ~~business~~ companies, harmed the country. Now, those who in the name of 'patriotism' back Trump's policy are not patriotic in the real sense of the term because ~~that~~ those very policies are resulting into the decline of US power across the world.

This can however be contested -

For that matter, going against the government can be termed as being patriotic. Bankim Chandra in 'Anand Math' had popularised the concept of 'Bharat Mata'. He argued how the 'mother' was bound in chains by the Government. ~~And~~ Using this, Arundhati Ghosh had asked extolled Indians to overthrow the Britishers.

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A social movement led by Gandhi fought against the oppressors. He remarked that 'staying silent against wrongs is equally wrong'.

Thus, the Non-cooperation movement & the Civil Disobedience movement were highly patriotic but anti-Government.

Even in the Constituent Assembly, Ambedkar warned the citizens to not engage in 'idolizing' a government or a leader. That would be sure short way to dictatorship.

In fellow 3rd World countries who attained freedom at the same time, most of them turned into dictatorship ~~so~~ because of this tendency to be 'patriotic towards a leader'.

We see that in Pakistan, our neighbour & the two divergent trajectories our nations took since 1947.

Our Constitution's Article 32 gives protection against infringement of individual rights. Thus, it can be said that the forefathers,

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prioritised country over a government.
The fundamental rights & the directive principles
along with various safeguards to minority
communities bears a testimony to this vision.

Philosophers like John Locke in his book
'The Two Treatises on Government' had argued
that the Government is just a trust, people
are the trustees. The government has no
real/original powers rather only delegated
powers. Thus, the citizens have right to oppose
the faulty policies of the government.

Rousseau also argued that the government
should run based on the 'General Will' of
the people.

Post-Independence India also saw the imposition
of Emergency by Indira Gandhi in 1975.
This is still regarded as the darkest chapter
of Indian democracy. Opposing the government
that is tyrant was people's way of expressing
their patriotism. J. P. movement swept over the
country & lakhs of students, professionals,
rural ~~people~~ India all participated.

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Finally, the 1977 election saw the defeat of one of the most popular leaders of that time.

Civil Society movements like that of Right to Information demand & anti-corruption movements of 2011, were as much patriotic. This is because by encouraging transparency & accountability, only the country will benefit.

The RTI helped expose the scams like Coalgate, Telecom (2G) Scam etc. This brought down the government of the day too!

Outlook for a brighter future

The generation of today thus should be imbued with the real values ~~em~~ embodying patriotism. This includes striving for excellence, promoting tolerance, peaceful society and brotherhood.

The Media has a role to play too. They should stop inflicting news that promotes communal hatred or any form of

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diverseness.

The political system needs to be democratised
via internal party elections & transparency in
funding.

India of today also needs leaders like
Gandhi, Ambedkar, Nehru, Jayaprakash Narayan
and others who think of the larger interests
of country rather than narrow interests of
class & caste.

Only when we all are patriotic to this
land, can India emerge as a global power
& secure its rightful place in the order
of nations!

~~56~~
125

56
125

Review:

you have very clearly articulated how
being nationalist/patriotic is different
from blind support to government.

But your essay has one big lacuna.
you know that since 2014, there has
been this anti-national debate going on -
must include this in your essay -
otherwise language, structure/presentation
etc - all up to the mark -

Remarks

