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CIVIL SERVICES ACHIEVERS' POINT

A ONE STOP SOLUTION FOR UPSC/APSC/SSC & BANKING

SUBJECT- ESSAY

TOPIC- "Happiness is not an ideal of reason, but of imagination."

(WORDS- 1000 TO 1200) MARKS- 125

MODEL ANSWER:

"Happiness is not an ideal of reason, but of imagination."- Immanuel Kant

For many people happiness is the ultimate aim of life. The means of achieving this are different for different people. For some people happiness comes from money, for some, it comes from family, for some, it comes from travelling, and for others, it comes from following a particular religion. , until relatively recently, happiness was accepted as something that comes and goes throughout life, and not as a possible perpetual state under the microscope of academics, scientists and self-help books, and neither as something that can be conjured up with a formula and achieved by design.

But it is always enjoyable to read about happiness, to consider what neuroscience or spiritual leaders, writers or philosophers have to say about it. We need to clear the modern desk however and make space for the old, rediscover those philosophical tracts that have little to do with the average 21st century advice and which have survived, due to their strength, the passage of time.

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The source of happiness for one may not be the source of joy for others. That's where the trouble starts rising to various psychological and moral problems.

When we see someone enjoying and getting happiness from some particular thing, we start to find happiness in those same things but fails to satisfy our inner selves. However, the truth lies in the fact that our source of happiness is there in something else.

For example, if someone is finding peace and happiness in travelling, then it's not necessary that for everyone else also find happiness from the same. Maybe for some people, it comes from relaxing at home, eating a pizza, watching a movie or doing something as simple as staring at stars.

Looking and searching for reasons which keep us happy is not going to help in the long run because these reasons and aspects are variable, which keeps on changing with the change in life.

A child finds happiness in watching cartoons; a teen would attain the same in hanging out with friends. Whereas for an adult it would be from spending quality time with their partners, a person in his 30s or 40s would find it in taking care of their children, and an older adult would find it in chanting and worshipping. So the source of happiness varies.

That's the type of community we live in; our life is influenced by the presence of others in it. With so much influence from different aspects of life and searching for reasons to keep you happy is a way that will last at disappointments because at some point in time, those reasons extinct.

CT

Although in general people desire for a lavish living to be happy, takes judgemental action to satisfy their worldly wants but it is not every time the materialistic pleasures that excite the happiness hormones, many find contentment by performing selfless deeds, offering a helping hand to others in

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need.

Happiness is abundant, waiting for an involuntary moment to unlock it, yet with each person's keys being different. Mother Teresa, the pious human figure she was! discovered her happy hours serving others. Our soldiers, the dedicated men of our nation, enjoy glory at Nation's success. What makes us happy is all a different story from what happiness is meant for another individual. A hermit's bliss is in being all aloof while an ostentatious person's happiness rests in extravagant expenses. The gist is, "this world is a place of happy vibes scattered all around, in the hills, over the rainbow, in exotic locations, relations, refreshments, possessions. So it is like a unique string meant for all, we just need to pluck the right one that resonates with our imagination and it will sing unadulterated Happiness

It's our mind that plays a vital role to drive us on the emotional platform. When it comes to being happy, our mind has a significant role in it to play. Someone has said this aptly that happiness is an attitude of mind, born of the determination to be happy under all outward circumstances.

If we observe we might find that even the poorest of people are happy than a billionaire. That is all depended upon how a person deals with his life and remain positive.

Life is full of ups and downs and being happy is the choice we need to make during those stressful situations of life. Choosing to stay happy during times of difficulties will not decrease the extent of problems but will definitely help to hold the positive vibes within to face those problems with hope and determination.

As finite beings, we cannot know what actions will result in happiness because we do not know the future, because we don't know us in the future. Kant offers some simple examples, such as the case of someone who thinks he will be happy if he is rich, and when he becomes rich he realizes there is anxiety, envy and intrigue in wealth.

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Straight to the point, Kant says: "The problem of determining surely and universally which action would promote the happiness of a rational being is completely insoluble." This is the case because "happiness is not an ideal of reason, but of imagination".

One version of his moral imperative is the formula: "humanity as a means to an end." According to Kant, we should always act in such a way that we can recognize our humanity and that of those around us. If we are merely seeking happiness we will begin to treat others as mere tools for our benefit. Kant writes that the principle of happiness tells virtue "to her face that it is not her beauty but only our advantage that attaches us to her." And that, he thinks, is clearly wrong.

That's why happiness doesn't come from any reason or aspect; it instead comes from the mind itself. In the end, we can say that no one holds happiness, but everyone can catch hold of happiness.



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