

## Essay

Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of a value

### Outline

#### 1. Introduction

#### 2. Success; what it entails ?

a. Success entails individual gratification as a price of individual efforts.

b. It brings arrogance and shrewdness  
Case Study; Rise of Fascism; a result of efforts of two magicians

c. Success does not guarantee social recognition

d. With success treachery and gullibility follows

#### 3. Value; what it promises ?

a. Individual efforts, but for a better cause and greater satisfaction.

Case Study; The value of the father of the nation; The Quaid-e-Azam

b. To be of a value, is to be successful.

c. Value is preferred over success, for the former brings humbleness and determination to strive for more noble causes.

4. Can both be reconciled; A successful man with recognized value. What should be then an ultimate aim

a. Success and value can both be reconciled, if value becomes an ultimate aim.

b. Admiration over jealousy of other achievements.

c. Avoidance of treacherous and glib people's company.

d. Strive for greater gratification; the satisfaction of soul than satisfying desires.

5. conclusion

Human nature has unique qualities and characteristics of desires limited to one's own self and the struggle to bring happiness to greater numbers.

A matrix of unparalleled desires and the means to achieve them. The gratification can be achieved in one way or another, but as the great Greek philosopher, Aristotle says "The aim of human actions should be eudomonia" i.e. happiness of a greater number. Eudomonia cannot be brought with success but rather with value. Those who strive for greater happiness value other people's desires and themselves get gratified. Success may brought self-gratification, but human desires are endless, and such endless desires cannot be satisfied with success. Thus bring the honors of over-ambition, the desire to subjugate other and to accumulate everything, what is there. Success and value may not be co-existent, as both are not natural rather can be acquired. Both can be acquired, but such acquisition would require reconciliation, in order to get a successful individual with valued achievements. Such reconciliation would

require the efforts determination, admiration and the continuous struggle for achieving a noble goal.

In the same vein, success can bring gratification, but such gratifications are the outcomes of individual efforts. Individual efforts are not the actual tests of person nobility, dedicativeness, and overall hardships that they may face, but rather success is to be tested on the standards of nobility and piety. Only success cannot give you any social recognition if it is not be used to satisfy other people's needs. But to the horror surprising, success entails such characteristics of self-gratification, as people starts devoting success to the efforts that they had put in achieving any particular goal that constitutes self-gratification and the element of self-appraisal.

To dig deep, the concept of success, it is certained to find the elements of arrogance, shrewdness and ignorance. even exploring further, the achievements and efforts that some great peoples put eloborate the stance more clearly. The Rise of Fascism in Europe in 19<sup>th</sup> century

was basically the ambitions and efforts of individuals that rose to power and were regarded successful at that time, but today's manifestations of those achievements and efforts tells another story. A story of utter destruction and the over-ambitious desires of two megalomaniacs - i.e. Mussolini and Hitler. They both were though successful, but were arrogant to their deepest roots. Both seek power, success without valuing other efforts, in fact loathed other peoples success. The result was in the form of great war, that gained them nothing but lost everything. A mere success is not a tool of satisfaction until not reconciled with values.

Furthermore, success is not a guarantee of any social recognition rather is an element of self-decay. Because success bring treacherous and gullible persons in your company. Individuals tends to sing the song of his/her own achievements and thinks that such state of gratification exists and exists forever. Ibn-e-Khuldoon in his 'Tahafutul-Falsafa' had stated one such reason, that bring destruction of nations when the rulers did not reconcile

success with value. Their success have brought flatters that praises their rulers for their success, make the rulers gullible and he starts avoiding values.

If success is not desired, rather not preferable to achieve, then what should one pursue? The answer is that, the ultimate thing to desire; if not strictly materialistic is value. Fredrich Nitschze in 'evil and good' argue that, the desiring thing one should pursue, should be something that has the most lasting effect. Every desiring thing has a limit and a way to achieve it, but the real essence of such objects and achievements is its recognition and durability. If it doesnot bring the hope and prosperity to a larger community, it is not achieved at all, for the true value of human character is the element of value itself. Nothing subsedes its and in reality everything corresponds to it. The worldly good and the gratification can only be brought about by valuing others and be of value.

Looking in the pages of history, the ultimate thing that has been recognized and praised by others is the efforts put together

in achieving goals that are considered as 'eudomonia as Aristotle puts it'. Quaid-e-Azam is one such example of many, that has been valued, an epitome of standard valued traits. Quaid-e-Azam did not strive for his inner gratification but rather struggled for the happiness and future of every other people that desired to obtain an independent state. Ayesha Jalal in her book 'Jinnah's Pakistan' had asserted that 'had Jinnah not been unselfish, Pakistan would not have carved on the world's map'. It is not intended here that what Jinnah did for Pakistan to achieve this goal, but rather, valuing such efforts that made Jinnah a valued person, a person on everyone would wish to imitate. The reason behind such recognition is the element of value that Jinnah regarded for everyone.

In addition to making value as the standard of human efforts and the basic goal of life, it should be regarded as a believed fact that 'success follows value'. As 'Joaquin Phoenix; Oscar Award winner' said in his speech in '2019 Oscar Awards', that what makes him so humble is that 'I have

"started valuing people, It made me a man of a value. I was rude, selfish", now what I aspire is to work with each other - starts valuing each other - so that you can be valued."

Joaquin Phoenix: Oscar Award Speech  
2019

The apparent manifestation of success is not to achieve success for the sake of self-fulfilment but rather to achieve what other people value - that will bring a perpetual success - in the form of value.

The debate over being successful and being valued can rage over as one wishes, but can both the characteristics of human nature can be reconciled if both are not co-existent. What should be the mechanics of such achievements of perpetual recognition and the element of gratification of soul. The plausible answer has been affirmed by the 16<sup>th</sup> century philosopher "John Stuart Mill", who says in his book 'Utilitarianism' has stated that the ultimate aim of individuals actions and the greater powers of state should strive for



"Greater happiness for greater peoples"

Greater happiness for greater can only be achieved if one strives for achieving such goals that serves the interest of many rather than interested in ~~the~~ satisfaction of his inner ego. Therefore, success and value can be reconciled if men desire and struggle for other peoples, values other people and themselves get valued.

Moreover, the two can be reconciled and man can be distinguished as a valued man if, he combines the characteristics of admiration and self-dedication over jealousy and crookedness. The ultimate aim should be to achieve value than mere success. Success can only be achieved and enjoyed if it is intended for the betterment of people that are weak, vulnerable and deprived.

John Keats in his poem 'A thing of beauty' has narrated that "A thing of beauty is a joy forever." The same can be mimicked here, as 'a thing of value is a joy forever'. Value induces humbleness and a sense of caring and compassion for others. Your efforts can become a thing of joy forever for other the 'efforts of

Qwaid-e-Azam are now a perpetual causes of our happiness

Gullibility and treachery can erode nations so it can erode individual efforts done in the name of noble cause. Therefore value can be achieved if one combines the humble qualities of a successful person and avoids the company of those who are only flatters and who strive to achieve any temporary justification by singing the false songs of one's achievements. Christopher Marlowe in his Drama 'Dr. Faustus' regarded gullibility and Treachery as two Cardinal sins, that make individual over-ambitious, selfish and a creature of vicious desires. Value is therefore should be the ultimate aim of any individual, distinguished from gullible efforts that erodes his noble causes.

Human beings, therefore are required to be of values, rather than mere tools of success. Success can be achieved with individual efforts aimed at satisfying one's own soul. But value is the desired aim of one's effort if success is shadowed by the desire of value. Human efforts must aim at achieving higher goals; goals that are of benefits of greater people. Value brings eudomonia, so it also

bring success. A true valued individual  
thus is required to combine the traits of  
admiration, tenderness and humbleness as  
it wants to achieve a state of perpetu-  
al recognition.

