

PRÉCIS

Central Superior Services Examination (CSS) 1992

Passage.

Throughout the ages of human development men have been subject to miseries of two kinds: those imposed by external nature, and, those that human beings misguidedly inflicted upon each other. At first, by far the worst evils were those that were due to the environment. Man was a rare species, whose survival was precarious. Without the agility of the monkey, without any coating of fur, he has difficulty in escaping from wild beasts, and in most parts of the world could not endure the winter's cold. He had only two biological advantages: the upright posture freed his hands, and intelligence enabled him to transmit experience. Gradually these two advantages gave him supremacy. The numbers of the human species increased beyond those of any other large mammals. But nature ^{demanding} could still assert her power by means of flood and famine and pestilence and by exacting from the great majority of mankind incessant toil in the securing of daily bread. In our own day our bondage to external nature is fast diminishing, as a result of the growth of scientific intelligence. Famines and pestilence still occur, but we know-better, year by year, what should be done to prevent them. Hard work is still necessary, but only because we are unwise: given peace and co-operation, we could subsist on a very moderate amount of toil. With existing technique, we can, whenever we choose to exercise wisdom, be free of many ancient-forms -of bondage to external nature. But the evils that men inflict upon each other have not diminished in the same degree. There are still wars, oppressions, and hideous cruelties, and greedy men still snatch wealth from those who are less skillful or less ruthless than themselves. Love of power still leads to vast tyrannies or to mere obstruction when its grosser forms are impossible. And fear-deep -scarcely conscious fear — is still the dominant motive in very many lives.

nourish, flourish

Continuous

hardwork

Final Draft

Greed is a Curse

The biggest problems of the humans \therefore are nature and their own acts. In the past, man ^{was} vulnerable to the natural enemies and ^{his} ^{life} ^{was} uncertain. However, using ^{his} wisdom, he ^{has} developed ^{himself} and ^{is now} less fearful of the environment. Undoubtedly, he is dependent on ^{nature} for making both ends meet, but ^{has} better solutions to deal with calamities. Humans could ^{have} achieved more, had they worked in unity. ^{sadly,} their self-inflicted evils ^{persist} in the form of war, oppression, injustice and exploitation of poor. Hence, making fear a dominant factor in the society.

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