

Q.3. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow. Use your own language. (20)

The civilization of China - as everyone knows, is based upon the teaching of Confucius who flourished five hundred years before Christ. Like the Greeks and Romans, he did not think of human society as naturally progressive; on the contrary, he believed that in remote antiquity rulers had been wise and the people had been happy to a degree which the degenerate present could admire but hardly achieve. This, of course, was a delusion. But the practical result was the Confucius, like other teachers of antiquity, aimed at creating a stable society, maintaining a certain level of excellence, but not always striving after new successes. In this he was more successful than any other man who ever lived. His personality has been stamped on Chinese Civilization from his day to our own. During his life time, the Chinese occupied only a small part of present day China, and were divided into a number of warring states. During the next three hundred years they established themselves throughout what is now China proper, and founded an empire exceeding in territory and population any other that existed until the last fifty years. In spite of barbarian invasions, and occasional longer or shorter periods of Chaos and Civil War, the Confucian system survived bringing with it art and literature and a civilized way of life. A system which has had this extra ordinary power of survival must have great merits, and certainly deserves our respect and consideration. It is not a religion, as we understand the word, because it is not associated with the super natural or with mystical beliefs. It is purely ethical system, but its ethics, unlike those of Christianity, are not too exalted for ordinary men to practise. In essence what Confucius teaches is something is very like the old-fashioned ideal of a 'gentleman' as it existed in the eighteenth century. One of his sayings will illustrate this: 'The true gentleman is never contentious.....he courteously salutes his opponents before taking up his position,.....so that even when competing he remains a true gentleman'.

- (1) Why do you think the author calls Confucius' belief about the progress of human society as a delusion? (04)
- (2) How did Confucius' thought affect China to develop into a stable and 'Proper' China? (04)
- (3) Why does the author think that Confucian system deserves respect and admiration? (04)
- (4) Why does the author call Confucian system a purely ethical system and not a religion? (04)
- (5) Briefly argue whether you agree or disagree to Confucius' ideal of a gentleman

01). Author calls Confucius belief as delusion; firstly, because the Confucius did not believe in progressive nature of human society. Secondly; for his conviction of modern men inability to achieve satisfaction of heart enjoyed by mankind in antiquity

02). Confucius thoughts helped dismembered China to emerge as today geographical and social characteristics of proper society because it maintain certain level of excellence. The Chinese civilization has followed his personality and focus on continuous and slow progress rather than the quest for new success.

03). According to Author Confucius system deserve respect and admiration because it survive in civil war and period of chaos when barbarians invade. And survive in political and social changes throughout the world

04). Confucius system is purely ethical because it is not associated with any mystical belief. It is only based on common man and gentle practices that make life easy and more polite for all.

05). Yes, I agree with Confucius ideal of gentle men because I also believe that the men with good character is always calm and composed in front of any opponent opposition and anger. Inappropriate temper cause harm to dignity of man. Therefore, gentle men know how to courteously welcome the opinion of others.