

(CSS-2023)

(Translation)

بزرگ نے بتایا کہ منزل

An old man says that there is a ~~forest~~ mountain across the forest, on which that flower glows whose fragrance restores the lost vision. However, the mountain is very high having plenty of rocks, thorny bushes and stones. Consequently, people came and returned hopeless, no-one has reached the flower yet. Perhaps, world is full of difficulties and humans are in search of enlightenment.

(Reading Comprehension)

Q#01 How important is happiness..... ?

Happiness is important for most of the people, but scale to measure it, is different for everyone. Some believes that happiness is all about having material wealth and having more than what they desire. Material wealth doesn't describes happiness, because if it does then Europe and North Americans must be the happiest people on Earth. However, as per Happy planet index - 2012 North Americans & Europeans are not the happiest people on earth, which means that internal satisfaction is more important than material wealth for happiness.

Q#02 How does the author.....?

Concept of 'Voluntary Simplicity' was firstly presented in 1981 by Duan Elgin. He explains the way of life as apparently simple but deeply rich. Lately, this concept became a movement and awareness to people regarding consequence of this concept was started via magazines, websites e.t.c. Author believes that 'Voluntary Simplicity' is a philosophy because it depends upon individual's interpretation. It is philosophical thinking of everyone to differentiate between what is needed and what is not. Author has a strong belief on it. Moreover, he believes it's not a dogma but philosophy.

Q#03 What impact is feared...?

Growing consumerism is threat to society and state. The more you consume the less you have for your future generation, and not only this, it also leads to poverty and environmental issues. Therefore future of resources, prosperity and health issues of upcoming generations are highly dependent upon the way we consume the resources in present time.

Q#04 What influences make.....?

The important thing in voluntary simplicity is to understand the difference between psychological needs and basic needs. So, to overcome the psychological aspect is

the biggest hurdle to adapt this philosophy. Moreover, reduction in consumption and poverty has a very thin boundary wall between them. Societal pressure of being called as poor stops the people to reduce their consumptions.

Q#05 What are the challenges....?

Voluntary simplicity has enormous rewards but to get those rewards, challenges must be accepted. There are many hurdles in the way like changing people mindset regarding consumerism, to overcome the societal pressure and understanding the importance of environment. Reduction in reserves, pollution are some of the most dangerous environmental effects that needs to be addressed. Once, all those challenges are overcome it will lead to rewards like more resources in future, satisfaction, social relations, peaceful environment, adaptable culture, less stress, better health and enjoyable life.
