

KINZA BATCH-60

PRECIS PRACTICE - 1992

1. Write a precis of the passage and suggest a suitable title.

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 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.

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Segmentation:

1. Two kinds of human miseries

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.

2. Environmental effects On Mankind

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.

3. Biological advantages to man

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.

4. Disasters and ways to tackle

The numbers of the human species increased beyond those of any other large mammals. But nature 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

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to exercise wisdom, be free of many ancient forms of bondage to external nature.

5. Man-made evils

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 ot mere obstruction when its grosser forms are impossible. And fear deep scarcely conscious fear -- is still the dominant motive in very many lives.

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TITLE:- Man's Self Inflicted Miseries

The miseries that human development has been suffering are of two types. The first misery, which has comparatively less threat to mankind than the second, is external nature. Man was in danger but the advantage of up-right posture and wisdom gave him primacy. Man can tackle the hardships of nature with the help of scientific advancement. On the other hand, the second misery, which is the greatest threat to mankind, can not be tackled the same way i.e man's self imposed miseries. Powerful people exert force on passives to maintain their status. These heinous crimes resulted in fear that has long-lasting affects.

Original:- 321

PRECIS:- 104

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The best aid to give is intellectual aid, a gift of useful knowledge. A gift of knowledge is infinitely preferable to a gift of material things. There are many reasons for this. Nothing becomes truly one's own on the basis of some genuine effort or sacrifice. A gift of material goods can be appropriated by the recipient without effort or sacrifice; it therefore rarely becomes his own and is all too frequently and easily treated as a mere windfall. A gift of intellectual goods, a gift of knowledge, is a very different matter. Without a genuine effort of appropriation on the part of the recipient there is no gift. To appropriate the gift and to make it one's own is the same thing, and 'neither moth nor rust doth corrupt'. The gift of material goods makes people dependent, but the gift of knowledge makes them free. The gift of knowledge also has far more lasting effects and is far more closely relevant to the concept of 'development'. Give a man a fish, as the saying goes, and you are helping him a little bit for a very short time, teach him the act of fishing, and he can help himself all his life. Further, if you teach him to make his own fishing net, you have helped him to become not only self-supporting, but also self-reliant and independent man and businessman.

This, then should become the ever-increasing preoccupation of aid-programmes to make men self-reliant and independent by the generous supply of the appropriate intellectual gifts, gifts of relevant knowledge on the methods of self-help. This approach, incidentally, has also the advantage of being relatively cheap, of making money go a long way. For POUNDS 100/- you may be able to equip one man with certain means of production, but for the same money you may well be able to teach a hundred men to equip themselves. Perhaps a little 'pump-priming' by way of material goods will in some cases be helpful to speed the process of development. (E.F. Schumacher)

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PRECIS-1993

Title:- Importance of Skill development

The gift of knowledge is no doubt better than the gift of material things because of many reasons. Firstly, Unlike the gift of knowledge, the gift of material things does not require any kind of effort or sacrifice. Secondly, the knowledge has a long-lasting effect of an individual and helps in development of society. Learning a skill may takes some time but this can make a person independent for his whole life. This process of skill development is cost-effective too as a small investment can produce many skilled people. Nonetheless, some time material goods are also required to enhance this development mechanism.

Original = 321

Precis = 102