

Gift of Knowledge vs gift of material goods

Précis 30: CSS 1993

Q: Write a précis of the following passage and suggest a suitable title: (20)

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 except on the basis of some genuine effort or sacrifice. A gift of material goods can be appropriated by 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 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 little bit for a very short time, teach him the art 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 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 to a long way. For 100/- you may 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).

Ans:

In Schumacher's opinion, intellectual aid is far more valuable than the material gifts

Precis : 1993

Title : Importance of Imparting Intellectual Knowledge

Imparting knowledge in an individual is preferable more beneficial than providing him material goods. Because, for making things one's own, sacrifice is crucial. If a person is gifted, he not only devalues it, but also makes him dependent on others. Contrastingly, if a person through hardwork and sacrifice achieve things, he become self-reliant and independent. That is why it is said that teach a man how to fish rather providing him a fish. Thus, a generous behavior is when one help each other by imparting valuable knowledge. As Per. Schumaner, this process is cheaper, with a very little amount, many individuals can be helped, and making their way toward self-development.

Attempted = 98

Total = 311