

Q. 2 Make a précis of the following passage and suggest a suitable title.

(15+5=20)

In an interview with Sheikh Rashid, the visionary founder of modern Dubai, he shared a profound reflection on the cyclical nature of societal development and the future of his country. His words, steeped in wisdom and foresight, offered a striking metaphor for the trajectory of civilizations: "My grandfather rode a camel, my father rode a camel. I drive a Mercedes, my son drives a Land Rover, and my grandson will drive a Land Rover, but my great-grandson will have to ride a camel again...Hard times create strong men, strong men create easy times. Easy times create weak men, weak men create hard times. Many won't understand, but we need to raise warriors, not parasites." This seemingly simple statement encapsulates a deep and complex understanding of historical and generational dynamics.

The transition from camels to luxury vehicles symbolizes the rapid development and modernization that Dubai has experienced under his leadership. Yet, the predicted return to camels for his great-grandson starkly warns of a potential regression. This cyclical pattern underscores the interplay between adversity and prosperity. In difficult times, individuals are compelled to develop resilience, resourcefulness, and strength—qualities that are essential for survival and progress. These "strong men," having overcome hardship, lay the groundwork for a period of ease and prosperity. However, as society becomes more comfortable and affluent, the urgency to cultivate these qualities diminishes. This comfort can lead to complacency, and over time, the attributes that once propelled society forward begin to wane. The "weak men" who emerge from these easy times are ill-equipped to handle adversity, thus setting the stage for the return of hard times.

His call to "raise warriors, not parasites" is a metaphorical appeal to cultivate resilience, strength, and a sense of responsibility in future generations. In this context, "warriors" are not merely those who are physically strong or combative, but individuals who possess the fortitude, ingenuity, and perseverance necessary to navigate and overcome challenges. Conversely, "parasites" symbolize those who rely on the efforts and achievements of others without contributing meaningfully themselves. Sheikh Rashid's vision emphasizes the importance of education and upbringing in shaping the future. By instilling values of hard work, perseverance, and self-reliance, societies can equip their members with the tools needed to sustain and build upon existing achievements. This proactive approach can help mitigate the risk of societal decline and ensure that periods of prosperity are not fleeting but sustained.

As Dubai continues to grow and evolve, it must balance its pursuit of innovation and luxury with a commitment to fostering resilience and adaptability among its people. This involves not only investing in infrastructure and technology but also in the human capital that will ultimately determine the city's long-term success. Sheikh Rashid's wisdom serves as a reminder that prosperity is not a guaranteed state, but one that requires constant effort, vigilance, and the nurturing of strong, capable individuals. By understanding and embracing this cyclical nature of history, societies can better prepare for the future, ensuring that the hard times that may come are met with strength and resilience, rather than weakness and decline.

SUSTAINING THE GROWTH TRAJECTORY

During an interview, Sheikh Rashid discussed the cyclic behaviour of societal development and the future of UAE. He highlighted the changing lifestyle from his grandfather to his great-grandson. Mentioning the changing circumstances, he highlighted the need for warriors, not parasites. The drastic change in his lifestyle mentions the smooth development of Dubai under his supervision. However, he predicted the decline in growth during his great-grandson's period. His statement highlighted the individual's self-urge to progress during tough times. In good times, the developed comfort zone in society leads to the decline of progressive struggle. His definition of a warrior is the intellectual strengths that help an individual sail through hardships. The word parasite mentions weak individuals in intellect. He also stresses the need for education, educating about the hardships and their solutions, for youth which can reinforce the growth trajectory. Sheikh Rashid's vision encompasses the cyclical behaviour of society and possible efforts to sustain the development. For sustaining growth, Dubai should equally divide its attention to life-style and societal development for sustainable growth.

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