

Our Scientific progress has outrun our spiritual progress, we have guided missiles but unguided men.

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Outline

(1) Introduction

(2) Scientific progress has outrun our spiritual progress in many ways

2.1) We have modernised the health sector by equipping it with scientific technology, but fail to overcome moral issues causing health problems

2.2) The defence system has greatly improved due to scientific innovations, but the goal to use it for noble purposes lacks

2.3) Scientific progress has revolutionized the field of education and research, but basic moral values like humility and compassion are ignored

2.4) Communication has been largely improved by scientific technology, however the risks arising from its unethical uses are often neglected

(3) Historical context: The World Wars are the direct outcomes of scientific progress without ethical control

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(4) Factors creating a gap between the scientific and spiritual progress

4.1) Chasing knowledge and ignoring wisdom

4.2) Lust for power and domination culture

4.3) Education system ignores moral values, and prioritizes material gains

(5) Bridging the gap between scientific advancement and spiritual progress

5.1) Giving equal importance to both scientific knowledge and moral values

5.2) Ensuring ethical control over the power created by science

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5.4) Science and technology must be used for the welfare of mankind not destruction

(6) Conclusion

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Essay

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"Now that we have learned to fly in the air like birds, swim under water like fish, we lack one thing to learn to live on earth like humans."
(George Bernard Shaw)

These lines by George Bernard Shaw highlight the bleak reality of humanity and the low ethical and moral values. Despite making huge progress in the field of science and technology, humans lag behind in adopting the spiritual values like humility, kindness, compassion, and tolerance. That results in a chaotic world where people think too much and feel too little. The scientific progress has significantly improved the health sector by providing life-saving medicines, and modern technology.

Similarly, in the field of education, scientific advancement has made learning more easy and accessible by virtue of internet and artificial intelligence. In defence, modern scientific innovations have strengthened the security of nations through advanced weapons, satellites, drones, and other security technologies. Likewise, The communication sector has also been improved significantly by dint of modern scientific inventions like smart phones and internet. Unfortunately, spiritual and moral backwardness, low ethical values, and lack of wisdom often led to the misuse

of scientific innovations for vested interests, that resulted in destruction, for instance, the World Wars were the outcomes of scientific progress coupled with low spiritual, moral and ethical values. On the other hand, factors like prioritising knowledge over wisdom, lust for power and control, and a flawed education system that ignores spiritual values widen the gap between scientific and spiritual progress. Although, our scientific progress has overtaken our spiritual progress with mind-blowing scientific innovations in every sector of life; however, the gap between scientific progress and spiritual progress can be bridged by balancing science and spirituality, ensuring ethical and moral oversight over scientific power, prioritising wisdom over knowledge, and using scientific progress for the welfare of humanity.

To begin with, we have modernised the health sector by equipping it with scientific technology, but failed to overcome moral issues causing health problems. Scientific progress ~~has~~ has transformed healthcare by providing life-saving medicines, vaccines, and robots for complex operations. As a result, healthcare has significantly improved and continues

to serve human beings by effectively treating and curing various diseases. On the other hand, low spiritual and moral values like drug addiction, smoking, and poor hygiene cause severe health issues. According to reports, 7 million people are estimated to be drug addicts in Pakistan, and this number is increasing rapidly. Despite advancement of scientific technology in the health sector, low moral and social issues continue to cause major health problems.

Similarly, scientific innovations have greatly improved and strengthened the defence sector, but the goal to use it for noble purposes is often missing. By virtue of science and technology, modern weaponry, missile systems, security cameras, and satellites, the defence sector has been extensively consolidated. Unfortunately, the superiority in defence is often misused for domination and influence, rather than peace and stability. For instance, the United States of America is considered as the super power of the world with the most advanced and strong defence capability, has participated in numerous conflicts. All these conflicts, such as those in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Syria have been driven by the goal of domination and control by United States.

Thus, defence of nations has emboldened as a result of scientific progress, but low moral progress often leads to the misuse of defence capabilities for negative purposes, which causes destruction.

Likewise, scientific progress has revolutionised education and research, but the basic moral values like humility and compassion are often ignored. By the introduction of advanced technology, digital learning platforms, smart phones and computers, and various artificial intelligence tools, education and research have been notably transformed. These modern innovations enable easy access to quality materials related to education and research. On the other hand, the actual essence of education like humility, compassion, and tolerance are ignored. As a result, the modern education system, despite improving significantly due to scientific technology, is not able to achieve its true potentials due to spiritual backwardness.

In addition, communication has also been largely been improved due to the advent of scientific technology, however, risks arising from its unethical uses are often disregarded. Scientific advancement in the shape of satellite systems, internet, smart phones, television, and

Other social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and Whatsapp, have reshaped our communication. These extraordinary scientific innovations have altered the face of communication, making it more effective, affordable, and convenient. Although, scientific progress has extensively improved the communication sector, but there are many risks arising from its misuse. For instance, the privacy is sometimes endangered due to cyber attacks. Similarly, these modern communication tools also pave the way for different kinds of criminal activities. The risks arising due to low morality, are overshadowed by the scientific progress in communication sector.

In historical context, the World wars and the inflicted destructions are largely the outcomes of scientific progress without ethical constraints. For instance, during the World War II, United States of America dropped a nuclear bomb "Little Boy" was dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, two major cities of Japan. Hundreds of thousands of people killed as a result of this terrible onslaught. It can be argued that, had there been stronger moral values, such large-scale destruction would not have happened, as seen in the World Wars.

The consequences of scientific progress overtaking the spiritual progress are discussed, the following section will examine the various factors contributing to the divide between them.

The first factor, which contributes to the divide and creates a gap between scientific progress and spiritual development is, the pursuit of knowledge over wisdom. In modern days of science and technology, knowledge holds a pivotal position. Science has enabled humans to bring miraculous revolutions in the fields of education, health, defence, and communication. But at the same time, the wisdom to use the knowledge for the welfare of humanity is missing. Consequently, knowledge is mostly used to gain power and dominate those who do not have power, as Joseph Conrad in his book "Heart of Darkness" argues that, power is an accident which arises from the weaknesses of others. In the same way, the countries with advanced technology like United States, Israel, and Russia, exploit the weaker countries to secure their control and dominance. Thus the lack of wisdom in using the power and pursuing knowledge for dominance creates a gap between scientific

and spiritual progress.

Secondly, the culture of lust for power and domination is another major factor, which causes imbalance between the scientific and spiritual progress. Unfortunately, in the modern era of scientific advancement, culture of domination, and chasing power is rapidly increasing. Countries strive to gain advanced weaponry, missile systems, and airplanes to consolidate their defence system. For this purpose, huge amount of investments are made. The culture of consolidating the defence sector has become a compulsion in the present geopolitical arena. Because, in order to survive, a country must be really powerful to defend itself. Having said that, the lust for control and domination is also a modern trend followed by many countries including United States, and Israel. This culture undermines the moral and spiritual values, and reinforces many threats like nuclear proliferation as seen in the Cold-war era. Thus, it can be argued that, lust for power is a dangerous trend, which creates a gap between scientific and spiritual progress.

Thirdly, our education system ignores spiritual and moral values by prioritizing material benefits. Modern education and research deal with utilitarian topics, and those related to science. Moreover, education system and research directly contribute to the scientific advancement in health sector, defence, disaster management and communication. Unfortunately, moral values and spirituality often take the back seats in present education scenario. Spirituality is considered something useless and often connected to religious terms. Thus the modern system of education gives importance to practical knowledge and gains, and neglect the spiritual values, that leads to creation of a gap between scientific and spiritual progress.

In the previous discussion, various factors have been discussed, that lead to create a gap between scientific and spiritual progress. In order to bridge this gap, various solutions are mentioned.

The first step to bridge the gap between scientific progress and spiritual progress is, giving equal importance to scientific and spiritual education. In order to achieve this target, scientific knowledge and spiritual values must

be integrated from the earlier age of education. Children must be taught the moral values along with science and technology. Similarly, the struggle to balance scientific progress and spiritual progress must not only be limited to early education system, but it should continue beyond that, such as in adult education, professional life, and community involvement. The scientists should be aware about the importance of spiritual oversight over the scientific inventions. They must try to ensure that their knowledge is used for the benefit of humanity not to harm it. Furthermore, there should be public seminars highlighting the spiritual and moral values and their importance in human lives. It must be inculcated into the minds of people that, mere scientific knowledge without any moral values may enrich the mind but impoverish the soul. Therefore, it is essential to give equal values to both scientific and spiritual progress.

Also, by ensuring moral and ethical control over the power created by science, the gap between scientific and spiritual progress can be bridged. When the ethical and moral values guide the scientific inventions, it leads to the welfare of humanity, because, the whole research and advancement in science is

used for providing ease and comfort for humans. On the other hand, scientific innovations without spiritual and moral values often lead to chaos and emptiness. For instance, during the Cold War, both U.S. and Soviet Union used scientific progress, especially in nuclear technology and space exploration, without ethical restraints; these scientific discoveries led to an arms race and constant fear of nuclear war. Therefore, it is essential to ensure moral constraints over scientific progress, so that a bridge can be created between scientific and spiritual progress, and the threats arising from the potential misuse of science can be averted.

Additionally, we should make the aim of our lives not just the acquisition of knowledge, but the pursuit of wisdom. Wisdom is the ability to use knowledge for right things; it guides us to use the knowledge we learn for meaningful and ethical purposes. In the field of science, wisdom guides us to avoid ^{using} scientific progress for negative purposes like domination, wars, and destruction. Instead, it encourages us to use scientific advancements for the wellbeing of humanity, in terms of better healthcare, education, improved environmental sustainability, social welfare, and enhanced technological innovations.

Lastly, science and technology must be used for the welfare of mankind, not destruction. By doing that, the spiritual values are achieved along with scientific progress. The advancement of science and technology has been a double-edged sword, having great benefits as well as multiple threats.

On the positive note, science has greatly benefited various sectors of life, such as health, education, economy and environment, by modernising methods and improving efficiency. However, the deadliest weapons, nuclear and hydrogen bombs, and missile system are also the products of science and technology, which pose a major threat to humanity.

Therefore, ethical guidelines should be followed strictly by all countries of the world, because, these guidelines promote human values, and will never allow scientific technology to be used for the purpose of destruction. It will always prioritise the welfare of humanity and promote peace and stability in the world.

In conclusion, the rapid advancement in the field of science and technology has totally outpaced the spiritual and moral values in modern times. People have become overly concerned about scientific knowledge and innovations, often neglecting the importance of ethical

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and moral values. It creates a turbulent mechanised world, where human values and ethical principles are sidelined, leading to anarchic world engulfed in wars and violence. On the other hand, the chaotic situation arising from the gap between science and spirituality can be addressed by integrating ethical principles, and prioritizing human values. A balancing approach is the ultimate solution, because science gives us power and spirituality provides wisdom to use that power. As Yuval Noah Harari aptly states, "Science gave us power, but it did not provide meaning." Hence, true progress is achieved by integrating scientific advancement with moral and spiritual wisdom. Because science without humanity is of little value, and without conscience, it can lead to disastrous outcomes. Therefore, a balanced approach that combines technological advancements with ethical and spiritual values is essential for sustainable progress.