

# Morality is for those who can afford it

In the relentless pursuit of power, money and acceptance, men's moral values are often challenged. Power and acceptance in unethical society often comes at the cost of moral values. So, only those who can bear the burden of society, selflessness and poor life comes out to be moral.

As the curtain rises on the grand stage of life, each of us emerges as a character in our own play. In this theatrical journey, fraught with twists and turns, we encounter moments when our faith is often challenged to fulfill the demands of director. So, in the script of our lives men's moral values dances through the complexities of the world. The end comprises beauty for those who bear the most throughout their lives.

2. In man's challenging life, morality is hard to maintain



### 3. To Conform to Society brassness, men Compromise morality.

(a) To become rich, powerful, men often lose moral values

(Machiavelli's "The Prince")

delve into pragmatic use of power at the cost of ethical considerations)

(b) Wearing mask of conformity to fulfill society norms consume moral values

In the field

Behaving as the wind behaves

No nearer ~

("The Hollow Men" T.S. Eliot)

(c) Believing in religious doctrines without questioning their validity doubt moral ethics.

Lion's madness has departed: in

The Muslim's veins the blood runs thin

Ranks broken, hearts perplexed, prayers cold,

No feeling deeper than the skin,

(~ Rubaiyat, Allama Iqbal)

(d) To get fame, men's art depicts only surface beauty disregarding its deeper



moral values.

"True popularity comes from acts of kindness rather than the acts of stupidity"

~ Bo Bennett

d) Social media perpetuates life that demands the murder of moral values

Yuval Noah Harari argues that social media platforms often encourages us to present an idealized version of themselves emphasizing happiness, success and perfection. This posts hardly represent challenges man faces to keep himself powerful.

e) Cultural labels stick men to wall of tradition neglecting moral character.

Shape without form, shade without colour,  
paralysed forces, gesture without motion

"The Hollow Men" - T.S Elliot

f) Man's inner beauty of moral character dies in succumbence to the obsession with external appearance.

According to Kant, human beings possess intrinsic worth or dignity by virtue of their

Why morality is hard to maintain  
as it increases the value of its cost.



sational nature, which sets them apart from other objects in the world.

#### 4. Why morality is hard to afford?

a) Power possessed at the cost of moral values is symbol of exceptionalism

⇒ I'm the master of my fate,  
I'm the Captain of my soul

b) Satisfy selfish deeds satisfy heroic needs

O brave new world, that has  
Such people in it

William Shakespeare, *The Tempest*

c) In a race to appear better, moral values are compromised

A mind once stretched by a  
new idea, never returns to its  
original dimension

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

(d) Society has often valued power and dominance viewing them as indicators of strength and superiority.



Institutional settings like politics business put systemic pressure that reward power seeking behaviour overlook moral integrity.

Two roads diverged in wood, and I  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.

~ The Road Not Taken ~ Robert Frost

5. What increases the value of morality  
overshadow its cost

- a) Act of gratitude satisfy man's needs
- b) Religious beliefs conform man to serve humanity.

Faith in like Abraham at the stake to be  
Self honouring and God-drunk is faith. Hence  
You whom this age's way so captive?  
To have no faith is worse than Salvage.

- c) Thinking of long term benefits enhances the value of morality.
- d) Moral being is a friend of God changes the perceptiveness of society
- e) Teaching ethical codes of life at education level.

man's challenging life, morality



## b- Conclusion:

Moral character building demands too much from man. But by considering human value at top, he can achieve well in this and afterwards. Only one who bears the burden of life, learns who to walk in this world with graceful walk.

Watching her cross erect  
Stones, garbage, excrement and crumbs  
of glass in Karachi slums.

I, with my stoop, reflect

They stand most straight

Who learn to walk beneath a weight

—Sindhi Women—J-Stallworthy