

Remarks

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इस भाग में कुछ
न लिखें
(Don't write anything
in this part)

VisionIAS

"A mind all logic is like
a knife all blade, it makes
the hand bleed that uses it"

"It feels as if I have
blood on my hands"

- Robert Oppenheimer
(post nuclear
attack on Hiroshima)

Deadly August 1945. USA dropped
two atom bombs - 'fat man'
and 'little boy' on the
Japanese cities of Hiroshima
and Nagasaki to end
the World War. Killing
thousands, injuring millions.
the atom bombs - ^{an} American
innovation ~~were~~ ^{were} the
brainchild of remarkable
scientist Robert Oppenheimer

Oppenheimer - a prodigy of his times - brilliant scientist, father of atom bombs is but a classic example of unchecked knowledge. Knowledge that has the power to destroy lives, logic so prominent yet destructive - whose repercussions were felt all across the world - with the growing US - USSR rivalry and subsequent arms race.

Human brain: An epitome of creation

The human brain is the most complex part of the human body. As per a study conducted by neurologists at MIT, at present humans use just 2% of the potential capabilities. The brain has

unrealised potential that has to be unveiled by channelizing human energy & innovation.

Indeed, human brain is the most advanced among all the known species. Only humans are known to interact by developing language amongst its species. Further, human logic & psyche has helped build great civilisations like the Harappan and Indus civilisation.

LOGIC : the builder of great things

Logic or generally understood as reason is the capacity to analyse the situation and use it for benefitting the individual & society.

Logic in man helps in learning and developing innovation.

From the start of civilisation man has built upon his logic. The discovery of fire was an accident, yet man's logic allowed him to develop on past and 'cook' food.

Logic gave way to coming up of cities and kingdoms. The holy Roman Empire in Europe is still remembered for its advanced and scientific way of life, based on the logic driven use of economic resources & geography.

Tracing the roots :- Science or Philosophy

Logic in today's world is often seen synonymous with science, innovation, rationality

Developments of spaceX, breakthroughs in technologies like Gene editing, CAR-T cell therapy are seen as the 'hallmark' of a modern man.

However, it is to be noted that 'logic' is not the exclusive domain of science. Religion and philosophy which may be seen at dichotomy with logic, are nothing but an extension of Logic

Aristotle, greatest greek philo-
sopher, opines that reason
is the greatest human
virtue. He proposes 'golden
mean' - avoiding extreme
and taking middle path.

Similarly, Indian philo-
sophers like Buddha -
epitome of reason - the
'enlightened one' has
focussed on 'Madhyamaka
mark' as a way of life.

Later philosophers like
Swami Vivekananda advocated
for purifying religion based
on reason.

Indian religions promote
scientific way of life.

Promoting a lifestyle suited
as per the region, climate
and practices best suited
for the people.

A man of all logic :- Danger to others

Common wisdom asserts that "excess of anything is bad".

Temperance - harmony between the reason, emotions and physical strength of an individual brings moderation.

Moderate values have roots in stability. History is replete with manifestation where ~~there~~ imbalance between them have proven to be counterproductive.

World wars driven by the urge to dominate resulted in widescale death and destruction along Europe (killing over 40 million) marked by the use of dangerous weapons.

Humans are interfering ^{with} ~~use~~ environment than ever before. Rachel Carson in her work 'Short Spring' has highlighted how the unchecked use of pesticides has disturbed the soil topography - paving the way for soil salinity and degradation.

Thus, what began as the 'HYV Revolution' has now seen widespread degradation.

Similarly, unplanned expansion of cities around mountains has resulted in ever increasing chances of landslides.

Recent instances of
landslides in Jashimath,
Shimla are ~~its~~ evidence.

Logic - reason and
knowledge if left unchecked
can open a can of worms
Pakistan, India's neighbour
is increasingly using asym-
metrical warfare against us.
Terrorist use advanced AI,
drone based technology for
cross border attacks.

Thus, this reinforces
the view that logic if
not controlled can cause
damage to the perpetrator.

Pakistan's economy is
doomed. Marred with
political instability it is
finding it difficult to
control the terrorists it once
nursed.

The Oppenheimer dilemma

Coming back to Oppenheimer - the creator of nuclear bombs.

In the interviews that followed the droppings, he found himself in a dilemma.

His logic/power of reason was used by his country, to develop the most dangerous weapons that were used to destroy ~~the~~ millions. ~~opposite~~

Disturbed by his indirect actions, Oppenheimer realised that knowledge needs checks. Logic has to be channelised in the right direction for right reasons.

Later in his life, he emerged as a vocal advocate for 'de-nuclearisation'

Reason forms the most distinctive feature of humans. It distinguishes man from millions of species. A symbol of growth and driver for innovation. Yet, logic alone is dangerous - its like a free hanging sword that can drop at any point.

Logic if accompanied by right virtues of love, peace and prosperity can help achieve great wonders. Human conscience and reason provides direction to future growth. As it is rightly said,

"Don't just do a thing,
do it for right reason,
and in right way."

Logic has to be checked to prevent unnecessary collateral.

Oppenheimer ✓ Rough

logic - driving
engine -

Human brain ✓

Innovation

Generative
AI

Temperance
mellow down.

Buddha
madhyam marg

-ve

- World
war

- COVID.

- env

- pol.

- social

- health.

- terrorism
Pakistan

THE WISE MAN DOES AT
ONCE WHAT THE FOOL
DOES FINALLY.

All of us have heard the famous - "Ant and Grasshopper tale" - the laborious ants work throughout the summer to store food for winter, while the grasshopper dances out his way only to suffer in the harsh winter.

The story is recounted at several occasions but today we remember it for yet another reason - the need for proper planning, correct and timely action.

'Time' - the greatest variable and is constantly on the move.

Being the eternal companion and ultimate judge - it rewards those who cherish its value, orient their actions as per the demand of the situation.

At the same time it severely punishes those who sit over the situation, are lazy and procrastinate. Unaware of their surroundings they often find time at their opposite sides, which reduces their chances of victory.

WISDOM : the mark of learned man

Chandragupta Maurya was keen on establishing his empire. However, he had trouble in chalking out a plan of action.

Kantaliya, his mentor then guided him that to capture a large kingdom, one should start by capturing the borders.

Thus, began the Mauryan expedition.

War, diplomacy, public policy depend on the wisdom of those at

the helm of power. wisdom of a ruler is synonymous with victory.

chinese strategist Tsun Zu has highlighted that 'statecraft' involves actions both diplomatic & strategic for right time.

The contrast can be understood by the case of two Mughal rulers - Akbar and Aurangzeb.

Akbar's expansion involved war, diplomacy, accomodation and a marked spell of acceptance - of cultural diversity of the land.

Aurangzeb, on the other hand, was just driven by the desire to expand without consolidation.

History proved Akbar being a wise ruler and reduced Aurangzeb to a fool whose actions ultimately led to the downfall of Mughal empire.

POLICY IN TODAY'S WORLD

The COVID 19 presented once in a century crisis in front of the world. During this time, countries actions and

inactions had severe repercussions for its population

Sri Lanka, a blooming economy went down into shatters during the pandemic with tourism sector taking a backseat, its foreign exchange depleted rapidly.

Series of inactions proved counter productive for the economy.

It was only at the last, that Sri Lanka is undertaking reforms prescribed by the IMF.

Any human activity has to be carried out systematically - in a planned manner

Administrative theory has developed several models of 'planning' - involving several steps including Assessment, management and delivery

These theories have been developed to help policy makers sail through difficult phases and take correct actions.

Differentiating the Wise & Fool

Socrates asserts that the "wisest is the one who says he knows nothing"

Thus, the first thing

that a wise man does is
to recognise his limitations.

This empowers him
to learn and accept
challenge.

The fool, on the other
hand, is egoistic and
believes in him being
"all-powerful". This clouds
his reason and blurs his
vision.

Remarkable Indian spokesperson
like MS Dhoni, Sania Mirza,
Vishwanath Anand have
confided with the above
view. They are always
eager to learn, to accept
their limitations and grow.

In recent years, we have seen the growing tide of environmental movements. Proplanet people approach, the lifestyle for environment approach (LIFE). These reflect the growing wisdom of the interdependence of man with nature. A step in the right direction to preserve the future.

Actions - choice - consequences

Human choice results in decisions which have a bearing on the larger mankind. Prioritising actions as per the demand of

the situation are the
cornerstone of the wisdom of
a man.

Fools often ponder upon
the situation, procrastinate
and delay decision making.

This causes damage to
not only him/her but also
the people around him/her.

Thus, it is imperative to
cultivate wisdom for
responsible and efficient
decision making.

wise man
does at
once

fool
does
finally

Planning
procastinate

Gorbachev. Russia

Ad. Theory

Ant & grasshopper
flooding - desilting
procastinate

sports
edu
envn
pol
intl
economic

actions - choices - consequences.

Kootniti - Kautaliya