

SUBJECT NAME: Ethics and Culture in India

SUBJECT CODE: 18BH15A

PRESENTED BY: K.ELIZABETH LAVANYA PAPPY

Ph.No: 9894875117

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

GOVERNMENT ARTS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CBE-18.

UNIT-I

Importance of Ancient Indian Values:

The Vedic civilization is the earliest civilization in the history of **ancient India**. It is named after the Vedas, the early literature of the Hindu people. The Vedic Civilization flourished along the river Saraswati, in a region that now consists of the modern **Indian** states of Haryana and Punjab.

Beliefs of Ancient Indian:

India is home to the world's oldest religions, Hinduism and Buddhism, as well as **Jainism**. All three evolved from shared beliefs and traditions, such as **reincarnation**, karma, and liberation and achieving nirvana.

Unique about Indian culture:

India is a land of 'unity in diversity', and our dances are no different. Different forms of dance(classified as folk or classical) find origin from different parts of the country, and they are a way of representation of the particular **culture** from which they originate.

Value of Indian Family:

One of the longest surviving institutions of India, 'Indian Family' represents the three pillars of **Loyalty, Integrity** and Unity. The first lessons of **collectivism** and sacrificing individualism are learned from the family. Extended family and kinship are the major aspects of the Indian family system.

values and beliefs of Indian:

Ahimsa, unity in diversity; yoga, ayurveda and vegetarian diet; vasudaiva kutumbakam, atithi devo bhav, Parliamentary democracy, spiritual path, care for the environment and Jugaad are **India's** core **values** that can guide humanity on the path of peace and prosperity in the new millennium.

Type of culture in India:

India is one of the most religiously and ethnically diverse nations in the world, with some of the most deeply religious societies and cultures. **Religion** plays a central and definitive role in the life of many of its people. Although India is a secular Hindu-majority country, it has a large Muslim **population**

Values of Indian culture:

Diversity.

Pride.

Innovativeness.

Adaptability.

Harmony.

Modesty.

ii) Need and development of Ethics:

Development ethics is a field of enquiry that reflects on both the ends and the means of economic **development**. ... Its aim is to ensure that "value issues" are an important part of the discourse of **development**.

Ethical development:

Development ethics are defined as how human rights, basic needs and social justice are met with the process and final outcome of a **development**. An example of **development ethics** is how society's needs will be met in a new building project.

Sources of development ethics:

It has several sources: criticism of colonialism and post-Second World War development strategies; Denis Goulet's writings; Anglo-American philosophical debates about the ethics of famine relief; and Paul Streeten's and Amartya Sen's approaches to development.

Importance of studying ethics:

The study of ethics helps a person to look at his own life critically and to evaluate his actions/choices/decisions. It assists a person in knowing what he/she really is and what is best for him/her and what he/she has to do in order to attain it. Study of moral philosophy can help us to think better about morality.

Relationship between ethics and society:

Through the interaction with human, ethics can help to people to build **trust** and intimate relationship in society (Girard, 1998). Hence, individuals in the society will expect others to behave ethically and do not hurt others for personal benefit.

IV) Ethical culture:

Ethical culture can be defined as a set of experiences, assumptions, and expectations of managers and employees about how the organization prevents them from behaving unethically and encourages them to behave ethically, according to Muel Kaptein, a professor of business **ethics** and integrity management at Rotterdam .

Culture influence ethics:

Culture reflects the moral and ethical beliefs and standards that speak to how people should behave and interact with others. ... These normative beliefs, together with related **cultural** values and rituals, impose a sense of order and control on aspects of life that might otherwise appear chaotic or unpredictable.

Ethics mean in literature:

Ethics seeks to resolve questions of human morality by defining concepts such as good and evil, right and wrong, virtue and vice, justice and crime. ... Normative ethics, concerning the practical means of determining a moral course of action.

7 principles of ethics:

- Non-maleficence. ...
- Beneficence. ...
- Health maximisation. ...
- Efficiency. ...
- Respect for autonomy. ...
- Justice. ...
- Proportionality.

IV) Professional ethics :

There are ethics that refer to the moral rules and regulations governing the professional world. In other words, they are the moral values that guide the way corporations or other business makes decisions.

Professional ethics are standards or codes of conduct set by people in a specific profession.

Ethics related to a professional e.g., a manager of a factory are known as professional ethics. Ethics may be internal or external. As regards internal ethics, a manager must be honest with oneself, since one's greatest asset is one's character. And one should be honest and straightforward with others also, treating them in the same manner in which one wishes to be treated (external ethics).

Fairness in dealings with colleagues and subordinates is mandatory; one should never discriminate by dispensing special favours or privileges, whether for remuneration or not. Information coming to a professional confidentially should neither be revealed nor used to the disadvantage of any subordinate or worker. One should ensure one's employment right to privacy. With reference to external ethics, the same suggestions as stated above can be followed.

A code of ethics is a part of the expectations of those involved in many different types of professions. People in a profession don't want to condone bad, dishonest or irresponsible behaviour if it does occur by someone in their field. By setting out expected behaviours in the form of professional ethics, professionals work together to try to uphold a good reputation. Professional ethics are commonly known as ethical business practices.

Respect and honesty are the two main Components of professional ethics. All employees are expected to represent a business ethically as they are a part of it. This is why business people traditionally speak of 'we' or 'us' rather than the more personal 'I' for the most part.

For instance, if an employee must mention company policy to a customer, he or she may say **"I'm sorry, but this is our company policy in these situations."** Policies are another type of preferred standards in how business is done, and everyone in a company is expected to represent them.

Professional ethics training is often included in career education programs. For instance, medical assistants are trained on the many ethics issues regarding patient confidentiality. It is both unethical and unlawful to discuss a patient's health records with others who are not involved in the medical care of the individual.

Engineering, journalism, religious organizations and many other professions have professional ethics. These ethical codes or rules must never go against laws, but rather often coordinate with them as in the case of medical record confidentiality. In general, professional ethics always include upholding honesty and respect in the profession over personal needs, conflicts or biases. A bias is a personal belief such as prejudice towards a certain group of people

Need of Professional Ethics:

Every company or business needs their own set of ethics and standards for several reasons.

Some of the important reasons are:

1. Success. 2. Checking Tool . 3. Integrity. 4. Mutual Respect.

1. Success:

Success is the most important reason for need of professional ethics. A company should give their employees in writing the list of moral and ethics codes that they have to follow. In the world, every single person's individual set of morals and ethics differ.

In the workplace, all these individuals come together and work under the same roof. If one person's ethics is totally against another person's set of ethics, then this will lead to confusion and politics. No professional organization can afford to have warring factions within their office if they have to conduct business successfully.

2. Checking Tool:

Work place ethics act as a moral police and check the employees when they are wrong. An employee, who knows what the work ethics are, will not go wrong and live up to the business standards. This is the biggest advantage that an organization gets by defining a set code of ethics.

3. Integrity:

Integrity is one thing that every business should have. When employees follow work ethics, they show integrity to the outside world. Customers believe in the company and also business prospects increase. Every industry has its own ethical guidelines, and a business should make sure that they follow these standards.

4. Mutual Respect:

Mutual respect also should be one of the strongest ethical points for a company. When employees respect each other, then everyone else, including the customers, respect the business.

Professional ethics are important for several reasons as explained below:

(a) Ethics corresponds to basic human needs:

It is a human trait that the man desires to be ethical, not only in his private life but also in his profession/business affairs where, being a manager, he knows his decisions will affect the lives of thousands of employees. Also, most people want to be a part of an organisation which they can respect and be publically proud of, because they perceive its purpose and activities to be honest and beneficial to society.

These basic ethical needs compel the organisations/business enterprises to be ethically oriented.

(b) Ethics create credibility with the public:

A company ethically and socially responsive is honoured in the society, people favour its products and its public issues attract an immediate response.

(c) Ethics give management credibility with employees:

The management automatically gets credibility with its employees when it has credit with the public.
The leadership and the people (employees) come and work together.

(d) Ethics help better decision making:

An ethical attitude of management helps making decisions in the interest of public, their employees and the company.

(e) Ethics and profit:

Ethics and profit go together. Value driven companies are always successful in the long run.

(f) Ethics can protect society:

What ethics can do, probably government, and law cannot, to protect society. For example, an ethical oriented management can prevent pollution and protect the health of their workers, and people in general, much before being mandated by law.

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