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Test - 932 - Essay-4

POLITICS WITHOUT ETHICS IS A DISASTER

The American senator Ted Kennedy once famously remarked;

"Ethics is the lifeblood of democracy"

His quote aptly notes the utility of ethics in the political system of a country.

Ethics acts as a torch of light and helps to solve political dilemmas. It is a shield that prevents abuse of authority and power. And ethics is the instrument that helps to put the goals of development and social ^{welfare} ~~causes~~ over other less important parameters.

Finally, ethical opposition and ethical civil society maintains

the sanctity of socio-political system of a country.

This centrality of ethics is only testified by our mythology and history.

The fabled "Ram Rajya" was based on an ethical king and ethical kingdom, both of which placed service before self. Later, the Ashokan period is still remembered for its adoption of Dhamma, or the set of ethical conducts, that won the kingdom peace and prosperity. And centuries later, the prosperity of Akbar's rule was pillared on the foundations of Tolerance and Compassion to its people.

And in many ways, our newly found democracy

~~was also~~ after independence also upheld Ethical Principles in Politics. Both the ruling as well as the opposition parties prioritised development goals over self gratification. Responsibility was shared. Elections were held legitimately. And as a result, the ethical political system provided a stable foundation for our country & shielded it from fragmenting, the way our neighbours Pakistan did, where personal rivalries & cultural intolerance sowed the seeds for havoc, and terror cells multiplied.

This snapshot from Pakistan is an indicator of what can happen if politics and Ethics do not go together, and how a disaster can begin.

For instance, without

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ethics, a voti bank politics can multiply, where citizens and parties prioritise solely ~~on~~ their community goals. This can in turn lead to religious riots as we saw in Muzaffargarh recently, where politicians were blamed for inciting a riot. Likewise, we can have more caste-based ~~riots~~ divisions, seen especially seen after the rise of more Mandal politics; language based divisions, as currently being seen in Jharkhand and in rise of regionalism where political parties have been blamed for spreading the tan of toil doctrine. Overall, without the spirit of ^{unity &} harmony, a national disunity can occur & violence may multiply.

This threat is exacerbated in the worst case of Post-Truth stories, where politicians and their followers, have been accused of distorting facts to divide communities.

Likewise, without ethics, incidence of Paid News ~~may~~ would expand. And the role of press as ~~the~~ the 4th pillar of democracy would stand jeopardised. As the law commission ^{on a rise} observed, this trend is already

In a similar manner, a deficit of ethics can lead the rise of Opportunistic Politics, which creates political instability and subverts development goals. Incidence of Horse Trading as ^{arguably} recently ~~seen in~~ observed in states like Gujarat and Arunachal would rise. In the worst case, it can

subvert the Federal spirit
and the positions of state
governments led by the opposition
can be in peril. A manifestation
of this was visible during
the 1970s and 80s when
"Aaya Ram Gaya Ram" politics
was seen and over a hundred
cases of state governments
wrongly dismissed was observed,
by the honourable Supreme
Court in the Bommai case.

~~Another way~~
~~which~~ Additionally, without
ethics, Corruption and Nepotism
could take the center stage in
political systems. When this
happens a Transfer Market/Industry
~~can~~ develops and bureaucrats
hesitate to take independent
decision creating Policy Paralysis.

Similarly, political corruption
erodes the business confidence
and hurts the San of
Doing Business. A vicious
cycle of poverty and unemployment
is set and economy becomes
fragile. It is epitomised in the
way corruption caused economic
stagnation in Brazil and more
recently incited violence and has
caused total disruption of the
economy in Brazil.

At the same time, without
ethics, crony capitalism rises. ~~and~~
As the 2nd ARC observer, it
creates an unholy nexus between
politicians and large businesses.
• This can lead to spurt in
Inequitable growth and can
generate many scams of the
likes of '2G' and 'Colgate', ~~and~~
overall ~~is~~ leading to misuse of

enrichment's money.

Moreover, in the absence of ethics, abuse of independent authorities may proliferate.

And incidences like invoking ^{subordinating} Emergency ^{Judiciary}, gagging and arresting

opposition leaders and subverting the in agencies like CBI can

rise, creating help for a

political - social disaster, as the

infamous Emergency shows us.

Finally, ~~and~~ if a political party does not focus on ethics enough, criminalisation of politics and use of Money power to win elections would

take centerstage. Such incidences

sully the Election process

and reduce the sanctity of the state. It also checks

against the Honest from joining

politics, and ultimately as the
2nd ARC observer, it becomes the
root cause of all corruption
in the country.

Moreover, it leads to
prioritisation of winnability ~~rather~~
~~than~~ over other factors. And in
the process, populism is invoked.
However, the downside is that
populism may lead to surge
of financially imprudent decisions,
hurting the health of the state.
In the worst case, populism can
also multiply friction with other
countries, and may lead to even wars.
A case in the point is the rise
of Hitler, who ~~has~~ created an
electoral rhetoric by spreading
rumor against western countries.
This in turn led to a politically
charged environment and World
War 2 was born.

likewise without ethics
in the international political
system today, more incidences

like Doklam ^{viii} can happen, more
despotic North Korea can rise
~~and~~, more Rohingya like
refugee crises can occur, and
more Hiroshimas and Nagasaki
can develop.

All of this highlights that
Ethics in Sino-American Non
Political systems.

Therefore, The ~~best~~ ^{pertinent} question ^{is} that
~~to~~ what should we do in order
to make the Political system
more ethical?

The need is for multidimensional
steps. Firstly, the election commission
needs to be empowered, on the
lines of forwarni committee recommendation.
Secondly, use of technology like
Totaliser machines and VVPATs
~~it~~ should be enhanced to check
against the criminalisation of
politics. Thirdly, ~~set~~ we need to
set Species Electoral Tribunal, as
suggested by Purkhi commission,

to adjudicate cases against Political Representatives faster. Fourthly, new avenues like State Funding of Election and Right to Recall would be experimented with on a Pilot Basis.

However, what is most important is to modify the Political Attitude of Voter. When people vote in large no, when they refuse to accept bribes and when they look beyond their narrow Parochial interests, a new virtuous cycle would be born and election and political system would regenerate itself. Hence, the need for Voter Awareness & Sensitisation is crucial.

We need to recall what Gandhiji said about Politics, that "Politics without Principle" is one of the biggest sins. At the same time, if we can make Politics Ethical it will lay the foundation of subsequent Economic & Social reforms, and will truly make India great, and re-establish the Ram Rajya.

Section - B

Rise of Populism: A Threat to Democracy

Around 8 decades from now, a popular demand had been brewing in Germany. The majority Christian population desired more stringent controls on its Jewish population minority section. The demand was latched upon by Hitler, a young leader of the country. ~~Nuremberg~~ ^{Nuremberg} Laws were legislated to deprive Jewish section of their economic opportunities and a separate Housing settlement was put in place.

The provision had a dichotomous effect. At first, employment rose and productivity increased as the state dictated terms and the majority population

~~Rise of ^{So} Populism : A threat to Democracy ?~~

filled the vacated space. However, sooner than later, this populism led to a wave of resentment against each other and other countries. Holocaust was treatment was inflicted upon the Jews in an unimaginable way. And eventually, the world was ruptured, creating a havoc the world had never seen before.

This is not a standalone incident. The history of mankind is replete with such examples where populism or the state invoking the popular sentiments, had a dual effect, with generally the pains ~~out~~ exceeding the gains. From the earliest Crusader wars to the Colonial rivalries to the more modern

Cultural Revolution in China,
Populism has ^{always} been a crucial
factor behind all of these
events. In a similar way,
in the modern democracies,
where elections are won by
winning popular votes, populism
not only thrives, but ~~at~~ has
arguably even expanded. More
incidences of political parties
promising lucrative gifts to
voters & taking up popular demands
of people have come in the
limelight. This is more so,
when electoral mandates are
fractured and every vote becomes
crucial.

This expansion of populism
has also generated ~~a new~~ the
debate on whether it is beneficial
for a democracy or not.

The purists argue that

populism is a tool to augment democracy, and numerous reasons are given for the same.

Firstly, populism upholds democratic ethos of the country. The people become the real sovereign. They become politically empowered, and yield a central control over authority, and that truly creates a government of the people, by the people and for the people.

Secondly, populism allows the people to rein in on unempathic bureaucracy. This in turn, acts as a preventive check against corruption. It also transforms government offices that are led by file-culture to one that is citizen centric.

Thirdly, populism by political parties in their distribution of creative gifts,

acts as a tool to provide benefits to ~~the~~ ~~the~~ ~~p~~ most people, most importantly the economically poor, who would be otherwise not capable enough to procure ^{these} goods. In this for instance, reports from Tamil Nadu show that distribution of TV sets by political parties to woo voters, has made the presence of TV almost universal in the state. In this respect, populism helps in Inclusive Development of a Democracy

Finally, populism ~~isn't~~ sets up a competition between Political Parties. In this process, parties are forced to present the most suitable ~~cand~~ rather than winnable candidates. They are also forced to maintain clean figures and unblemished records, and in this way the spirit of democracy is upheld.

Hence, we see that populism has its own merits. At the same time, it raises a pertinent question ^{as to} what extent do we need to ~~tolerate~~ populism? Because, a counter example show, excessive populism can be counterproductive & antithetical to democracy. And this can happen in a no. of ways.

Firstly, populism usually morphs into Majoritarianism, especially in a First Past the Post Democratic setup, where it is enough to win the largest number of votes, rather than majority of votes. Such a case leads to Minority rights being unprized upon. This happened in Pakistan where Bengali minorities were discriminated upon. Similarly, in Sri Lanka, Tamil became discriminated. Likewise,

कुर्द in Turkey, Rohingyas
in Myanmar, blacks in America
have had to suffer a
similar fate and in this
system becomes violative of
the spirit of a democracy.

In an associated way,
populism ~~go~~ and excessive
empowerment gives a perception
of impunity to the people. And
such a case becomes a recipe
for law and order violation &
~~other~~ incidents like Mob Lynching as
seen in Unnao or Dadri recently
multiply.

In an extreme situation,
populism leads to internal
chaos and external violence.
Such internal chaises led by
populist uproar have in the
past caused disintegration of
states like Yugoslavia. They
have bred the religious

Fundamentalism and terrorism
as seen in Pakistan, where state has
~~contract~~ failed to take decisive
actions against terrorists like
Hafeez Sayeed, in order to preserve
its voter share.

In the internal sphere,
Populism leads to aggrandising
rationalism and war are borne.
We saw this in the world wars
and to some extent even in
the recent Border Frings on
India - Pakistan border. As such
chaos occurs & ~~and~~ military
~~takeover~~ dominance usually follows
that can subvert democratic
setup. Such a case was seen
in 1910s in Japan.

Another concern with
Populism is that it leads to
building up of Unreasonable
Expectations. And when the state
fails to fulfill these, the
sanctity of government reduces
and a Citizen - state divide

grows. People exit from the government regulated institutions like public schools or hospitals & avoid paying taxes and democracy may suffer. In extreme cases, it may even cause ~~thats~~^{uprise} as seen recently in Venezuela.

The economic demerit of Populism is that it ~~has~~ increases the fragility of the economic health of the state. For instance, before 2009 Lok Sabha election, the government of the day announced a 60 thousand crore loan waiver. However, this catapulted the country into a severe fiscal deficit that still continues to plague us.

Moreover, populist driven expenditure diverts resources from equally important but less politically sensitive issues like Education.

reform, Health reforms and
infrastructure creation.

~~Finally, populism~~
Thus, we see that
excessive populism can be
counterproductive. Our honourable
Supreme Court has also
noted this fact and has
attempted to dilute its tendency.
That is why the Doctrine of
Basic Structure of Constitution
was developed in the Kesavananda
Bhaskari case so that the
spirit of our nation is not
dissolved by populism & majoritarianism.

Similarly, recently, the
Election Commission introduced
section 58 in Model Code of
Conduct to ensure that election
manifestos are reasonable &
not used as a tool to deceive
people to garner popular votes.

These are welcome tools
but we need many more
steps like Empowering our

institution like Election Commission,
providing a voice to the minority
section and ~~to~~ empowering these
communities to bring justice.

At the same time, we also
need to work upon remotising
the people & increasing their
literacy to ensure that their
demands are just.

We must remember that
dd saying, 'Ali tarwatra
Nayrajat?' or enens if
anything is bad. The same
holds true for ~~Dem~~ Populism.
The need is to strike the
right balance. If we
would do so, ~~we~~ would
the Democracy would truly
prevail & benefit all &
the 'We the people' would
become the true masters
while ^{upholding} ~~maintaining~~ a delicate
balance, ~~on~~ rights of others.

1) Politics without Ethics is a Disaster

1a) Money power. → House min out

1b) Commercialisation →

1c) Ruling Party abuse. → Advertisements

2a) Corruption → Business Capitalism } Poverty, huge.
→ Brazil, Thailand
→ Transfer Market

2b) Nepotism → Business staying away → family rule
→ Dominance & abuse

→ Vote Bank → People Polarisation → See 123

→ Populism & Majoritarianism.
→ Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Jordan

→ Hindutva → Abuse Hindus
President Bump

→ Role of opposition parties

→ Collusive → Self aggrandizement → RTI
→ Too much opposition → Unreal bills
→ Under of opponents → GST
→ Kerala, Tripura,
West Bengal

→ Paid News

→ Post-Truth

49 Abuse of authority $\rightarrow$ CBI $\rightarrow$ CID
Obstruction

4th May subverts Judiciary, legislature &
undermines constitution--
 $\rightarrow$ Emergency
 $\rightarrow$ Chaos & violence.

Delegate the development pol.

26 Crony Capitalism $\rightarrow$ Inequality.

30 Aaya Raan Gaye Ram & Oppportunistic
Instability

1 Politics with ethics

- $\rightarrow$ lokpal
- $\rightarrow$ founding father.
- $\rightarrow$ Scandinavian countries
- $\rightarrow$ Constructive Opposition

Politics without ethics is a threat.
Who $\rightarrow$

without ethics
with ethics.

What to do.
Continue.

$\rightarrow$ other

Cricket

States

water
TL

Ted Kennedy
Gandhi

, we the people.
 $\rightarrow$ Ethics is the lifeblood
of democracy.

rise of Populism : A threat to democracy!

Inter
Defin
↓
Issue for political side
↓
from other → media

Example

- Democratic ethos
→ what they want
- way to distribute benefits to people.
→ y. TV, system in the university
- Populism an incentive for accountability.
Citizen - State divide reduced
→ file culture to their demands.

Intentional level

↓
UNO

→ Regionalism

- Empowers People.
- First past the post
- Incentive for innovation & competition

Loss

- Supreme Court
- Constitution

→ ① Majoritarianism

→ Hindutva

→ Fiscal health

→ ② loan waivers
→ brook election

→ Populism → Social

→ ③ riots

→ Lynching

→ Psychologist → Empowerment

→ fooled Individual

→ Unreasonable lynch.

② corruption

→ foolish

→ Sanctity

4 Emt

④

→ Populism & Disincentive
→ Yugoslavia

→ Not easy
to bof

Inter Nat (5)
→ Punjab, Marwar
→ Satly
→ Cawery mine

→ Kuberch (6) of democracy
→ Nagaland
→ waya Noh

→ Legal → Constitution
→ Basic Structure

→ Wars → Aggrandising
nationalism
→ was

World wars & to
com extent were
Indie - China Noble

Balau

→ Dhi Sarvabh
Vajrayeta

→ What to do

→ Education

→ Check or manage
→ Subin SP
of RPA

→ Independent
authorities

→

Not other set

→ Media → 4th pillar

→ Distorted

→ Judiciary & Populism

Bureaucracy

→ Bias & favor
→ Neutrality

Particular & Universal