



## HUMAN VALUES IN THE SOCIETY

T.SAMBASIVARAO

Lecturer, Department of Zoology, KBN College, Vijayawada

## ABSTRACT

Human society may not significantly sustain without human values. Hence, it is necessary to talk on the subject and bring about awareness of human values into the modern society. There is no denying the fact that the present global society is facing a lot of crises. Human value crisis is a known fact of the modern society. Indeed, humans are aware of the global and national problems which they are currently facing. The impact of human activities on the earth in various ways is placing a significant amount of stress. For instance, the climate change due to global warming. There seems to be a significant link between the remedial measures and various solutions to climate change and the practice of human values. It is believed that at the end of the day, it is the human values which will save the mankind.

## KEYWORDS :

## INTRODUCTION:

If any ethics are primarily to help a person to live a just and righteous life with him/her and in relation to others, ethics too is similarly oriented towards a righteous life. The personal and social life of every individual is permeated by a great sense of righteousness. Without this possibility of constituting the world-view of the community and the possibility of the individuals striving to achieve it, a value system can only be either an item in the "thought-museum" of cultural artifacts or a fantasy. It is perpetual preparedness to make cultural changes with a view to obtaining this balance.

It is believed that various global and national problems may be solved through the practical application of human values in every society. In order to fulfil this, goal humanity is to be considered as the highest value in the global human society. For, the test for humanity is to achieve unity among the living and non-living creatures of the world with the preservation of historical, ethnic and cultural differences as well as the distinctiveness of nation states and communities. Such human unity can be driven home only by recognizing human values such as truth, kindness, benevolence, peace, love, dignity, respect, forgiveness, etc. Of course, these values must be strictly determined and must not be treated as mere obligations. Hence, the most important task for philosophy students is to develop foundations and principles of a global human society and to formulate a global consciousness and a humanistic worldview that adequately reflects the realities of our epoch. Our action must increasingly be based on an acknowledgment of global and universally accepted values. Because, it is the human values which are to be treated as the keys to solving the global problems.

## MEANING:

Values are generally regarded as the moral standards of human behaviors in the society. It is a kind of quality of humans, which is applied to human activities. It is transmitted to a circumstantial factor which depends upon the judgment of the fact. Value is a mixture of three concepts such as Idea, Quality and Super-vention. Values can be defined as the principles that guide people's lives, and have varying significance. Values are the essence of our personality, and affect us to make decisions, trust people, and arrange our time and energy in our social life. Values may be treated as keys to solving many world problems.

It is to be pointed out that value is the worth of something. It is the importance or usefulness of something, a standard of behaviour and it is considered to be important or beneficial in human life. Conventionally speaking, the term 'value', itself came to ethics by way of economics. In economics it is used for (i) Value in use that is the capacity of an object to satisfy a human need or desire, and (ii) Value in exchange or the amount of one commodity that came to be obtained in exchange for another. Besides, values may be broadly categorized into two – (i) Intrinsic value and (ii) Extrinsic

value. Intrinsic values are those values which are associated with certain objects appearing to have such value that they would retain it even if they were to exist completely alone, whereas extrinsic values are those values where certain objects have value as parts of other objects of value, or as means to ends of value. Values may be regarded as positive and negative. Anything that has positive value is considered to be good, whereas anything that has negative value is said to be evil.

## SIGNIFICANCE:

Human values have been a central concept in the social sciences since their inception. Human values play a vital role in the society, for they are said to be the basis of human beings for leading a better life. It is believed that all holy books of all religions contain the values of good life. The importance of values is frequently cited in relation to the global and national problems, whether it be in debates in international assemblies, in studies criticizing "value-free" approaches to research, or in discussion of quality of life and individual fulfilment. Thus, values are deemed especially important in questions of cultural development and are central to concern for the preservation of cultural heritage.

It is to be mentioned that importance of human values is seen right from the childhood of a person. Preschool is the first stage or period that lays the foundation of information on human values. Because information about the values of life is a continuous process found in the society. However, the first information not only gains in earlier periods that begin and end in the period to adolescence but also continues personality. From now on, there can be changes on these values, but basic values have been developed. Changing child's wrong behaviour is more difficult than trying to develop a new behaviour. It is critical to develop the child's personality in a planned and systematic process in order to prevent the wrong development of values education.

There are different factors which affect human values in the life of an individual and the society. Value education starts from families and it is continuous at schools with the help of educators. Because of this, families, teachers and educational programs are crucial to values education. Families are the first source of information so they should be careful about their behaviours and attitudes as children see them as a model. Cooperation within families and teachers is very important for the thing that affects the children most is what the teacher does in the classroom. Besides this, education programs must be reorganized according to this cooperation. Also in this period by the help of educational activities like seminars, conferences; families can take an active part in organizing these programs. So that, there can be an effective harmony among families, educators and educational programs.

Human beings receive information through our five senses, and it is the human values that help us to discriminate from right and wrong,

good and bad. We have access to information readily however, transformation is slow without practice of human values, and this is where the importance of human values plays a significant role in bringing solutions to the global problems such as ecological problems, moral problems, global warming, etc.

In this present global human society we almost see only the demoralizing values. What the genuine cause of the degradation of these values could be is an important question to be asked. According to philology, the word ethics are derived from the Latin 'Ethos', which means character. It is a question of moral value. In this way, ethics is the science of character, habits of activity or behaviour of human beings.

The word 'moral' is a derivative for the Latin word 'mores' meaning conventions or practice. In this way ethics literally mean the science of convention or practice. Ethics is the science of human conduct. Habits and behaviour are related to the permanent peculiarities of human character. Conduct is the mirror of the character. Thus, ethics is the science of character or habit. It evaluates human habits, character and voluntary determinations and discusses their propriety or otherwise.

It is to be mentioned here that social and moral values are essential elements of the collective lives of any community. Moral values are one basis on which we make decisions—right or wrong and good or evil. Every community develops and possesses some social and moral values of its own. There cannot be any value or standard of a community without a social and cultural group. A social group is a collection of people who share a common identity and regularly interact with one another on the basis of some shared expectations concerning behaviour. People who belong to the same social and cultural group identify with each other, expect each other to conform to certain ways of thinking and acting and recognize the ethnic, cultural, social and moral boundaries that separate them from other groups of people. "In our need to congregate and belong, we have created a rich and varied group life that gives us our norms, practices, and values – our whole way of life." Thus, society may be regarded as the Basis of the social and moral life of a human group.

Moreover, social values are certain qualities and beliefs that are shared within a specific culture or group of people. These traits can be religious, economic, political, educational, historical etc. Indeed, social and moral values are essential elements of the collective life of any community. Social values are that which an individual considers to be of value in their social existence. These are the standards by which one operates or is understood as an everyday function.

Values influence most, if not all motivated behavior. The value theory provides a framework for relating the system of ten values to behavior that enriches analysis, prediction, and explanation of value-behavior relations. It makes clear that behavior entails a trade-off between competing values. Almost any behavior has positive implications for expressing, withholding, or attaining some values, but negative implications for the values across the structural circle in opposing positions. People tend to behave in ways that balance their opposing values. They choose alternatives that promote higher as against lower priority values. As a result, the order of positive and negative associations between any specific behavior and the ten values tends to follow the order of the value circle. The value of a particular object depends on the necessity of it at a particular time and situation. Thus, the value of the particular object depends on the quality to satisfy the needs of the particular person.

#### CRISIS OF HUMAN VALUES:

A crisis is any event that is expected to lead to, an unstable and dangerous situation affecting an individual, group, community, or whole society. Crises are deemed to be negative changes in the security, economic, political, social, or environmental

affairs, especially when they occur abruptly, with little or no warning. More loosely, it is a term meaning 'a testing time' or an 'emergency event'.

Therefore, every person should be aware of removing the social problems which are deep-rooted in the human society. The values like truthfulness, kindness, honesty, law, justice, patriotism, humanism, etc. are to be preserved in society in order to regulate human life in a well-ordered manner. Value-crisis has emerged due to not understanding its proper role in our human society. To some thinkers, epistemological crisis and identity crisis are the two main crises of value which create the major problems like suicide, murder, robbery, extortion, rape, insurgency, or extremist problem and caste and class conflict, etc. The problem of value deterioration in our society can be stored out, if we are socially conscious about the deep-rooted values in our society. This awareness is possible only when we will flourish our philosophizing or spiritualizing force to assess the value in our life.

A natural disaster is the consequence of a natural hazard (e.g. volcanic eruption, earthquake, landslide) which moves from potential into an active phase, and as a result affects human activities. Human vulnerability, exacerbated by the lack of planning or lack of appropriate emergency management, leads to financial, structural, and human losses.

Modern human society seems to be valued on the basis of material thing and its position. For instance, these days, a person who possesses wealth is respected and revered whereas a person without money is not honoured by anybody. The poor people, whoever they may be, have to woo the rich people just for the sake of earning their livelihood. Hence, human values have become neglected and meaningless, for human beings have become the means for the rich to earn money. People are so busy with earning material things that they have no time and no desire to think about the plight of humanity. For the self-centred there is no place for feelings of mercy, sympathy or kindness, etc. Nowadays, those who occupy high posts are respected. Thus, dignity seemed to be attached to a post or rank.

Today, educated people are so proud of their degrees that some of them detest illiterate people and avoid the company of commoners. Thus, they shun village life and live in towns or cities. Village people are deprived of all life's amenities. They are the candlestick of civilization: they stand erect with the candle resting on their head. Everyone gets light from it, while they suffer the discomfort of the wax trickling down their sides. In this way, the dishonest of humanity or the neglect of human values has become a social malady in the present era.

#### CONCLUSION:

Human value is a theory about "what things in the world are good, desirable, and important." Modern society has been undergoing significant crises for last few decades. Indeed, human values are now withering very fast for which we humans are most responsible. The age-old simplicity and close ties between family and clan and village co-operation are withering fast. The growth of different modern political parties among the people and the total involvement of the masses in party politics is a contributory factor to such development.

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