

## Society

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### Abstract

In very simple language, society refers to members of specific groups. But no need to say that modern society is torn with discords and contradictions. We want one thing and do the another. Doubts, discords and difficulties are constantly overcoming us. Are we preparing ourselves for leaving behind a legacy of hatred and destruction for our future generations? Just think minutely what our society need in this crucial moment. The root cause of this problem is the degradation of intrinsic human qualities as a human being. There is no necessity for despair, because the spirit is in us.

We cannot imagine the sustainability of human society without human values as values bind us together and set us apart. We are forgetting the values of extreme importance which we need to focus on. We all are aware that various global and national problems may be solved through the practical application of human values in every society. Without achieving unity among the living and non-living creatures of the world, we will not be able to preserve the historical, ethnic and cultural values as well as the distinctiveness of nation, states and communities. So, we can treat human values as the keys to solving several problems related to mankind.

Now we will think about the real meaning of values. Values are generally regarded as the moral standards of human behaviours in the society. So values can be defined as the principles that guide people's lives and have varying significance. Values can be treated as the essence of our personality which affect us to make decisions, trust people, and arrange our time and energy in our social life.

So as a human being we all should imbibe empathy, mutual respect, love, loyalty, honesty, education, and empowerment of the weak and no discrimination etc. in order to create a social order in which there will be equality of opportunity, increased production, elimination of social and economic advantages, utilization of available resources and elimination of exploitation.

**Keywords:** Society, Human Values, Empathy, Mutual Respect

## Introduction

Goodness without knowledge is weak; knowledge without goodness is dangerous.

We have to build a better man before we can build a better society.

All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good people do nothing.

Our purpose is not to make a living but a life--a worthy, well-rounded, useful life.

Morality is not a subject; it is a life put to the test in dozens of moments.

**-Paul Tillich**

In order to create a healthy and peaceful society, we will have to understand the concept of society first. In reality man is a component of society, which secures the benefits of man. Without thinking about the existence of man, we cannot think about the existence of society. The relation of man and society is just like a relation between sea and water drops. Sea is a combination of water drops but the drops, which fall apart, are dried on land.

Here it is mandatory to understand the relationship between man and society clearly. From the time of our birth, we live in relationships. It is the SELF ('I') that recognizes the relationship. So we can say that relationship exists between the SELF ('I') and the other SELF ('I'). The relationship between man and society are not created, they just are. And we can say in a certain way that the value is the force which keeps these two connected. When we will understand the importance of values in human relationships, we will be in a position to recognize the connectedness with every individual correctly and will try to fulfil it in the best possibility. And such understanding will enable us to participate in the universal human order.

As a human being we all work and behave according to our feelings, which leads to fulfilment of both sides in the relationship. We can give it the name of mutual fulfilment. In this complete process evaluation is natural when we live in relationships. Just see with this example, trust is very much needed in a relationship and if there is a mutual feeling of trust, then it leads to mutual fulfilment and there are no complaints. In case of any doubt on the other, the real happiness is missing. As we all became aware that we do not create any relationship in a family or in a society, they just are. After understanding these concepts, it will be natural to have right feelings (values) in these relationships. So moral values are necessary to create a happy and peaceful society.

## Why We Need Moral Values to Create a Better Society

Here it is necessary to understand that why we have to carefully consider our values. It is necessary for several reasons. First major reason is that it guides us minute by minute towards noble goals, rather than your life being controlled by self-serving motives, customs, accidental occurrences, bad habits, impulses, or emotions. This reason makes us aware that where we are going before we can get there. The second reason is that values and morals not only guide but inspire and motivate us, giving us energy and zest for living and for doing something meaningful. Third one is a sensitivity to a failure to live up to our basic values which lead to unproductive guilt or to constructive self-dissatisfaction which motivate us to improve.

SadayamHridayarnYasyaBhasithamSathyaBhushitham  
KayahParahitheYasyaKalisthasyaKarothishim  
----(Sanskrit verse)

What can the evil effects of Kali age do to a man  
whose heart is filled with compassion, whose  
every utterance is truth, and whose body is dedicated  
for the service of others?

The above verse clearly explains the importance of core intrinsic human values in order to create a healthy and peaceful society. If we are not able to fill our own heart with compassion, truth, sacred thoughts, motivating words and good deeds then the domain of creating and serving the society will remain unfulfilled. In case if our heart is polluted by desire and anger, the tongue is tainted by untruth and the body is blemished by the acts of violence, we will certainly not be able to serve the society in a real way. What is the basic difference between these two conditions? We can easily understand the lack of core human values behind the hardships of society facing. Our ancient society has been the treasure house of spirituality, but unfortunately we are lacking in moral and ethical values these days.

### **Spiritual Education for Imbibing Human Values**

Our society is not just a collection of people; it is an assemblage of individuals. For the optimum growth of society, it is mandatory for human beings to cultivate moral, ethical, and spiritual values. Modern education systems are not able to refine the lives of human beings which should be the sole purpose of education system. If we minutely think on the aspect of education, it has two major aspects. One is worldly education and another is spiritual. One hand worldly education imparts the knowledge related to the physical world, another hand spiritual education must be essential because in absence of spiritual education human life has little value.

But unfortunately in modern education system, we are not giving spiritual education much importance. Our education system is solely imparting the education related to physical world. Let us think that can we imagine the flying capacity of a bird high in the sky with only one wing, two wheels are always needed for a cart to move; so also two types of education are needed for human being to attain the goal of life. We should always keep this secret in mind that spiritual education should be for life, whereas worldly education is for living.

We use our present education system as a tool of amassing wealth and becoming great. Parents are teaching their children the lessons of greatness instead of goodness. But goodness is long lasting, whereas greatness is temporary. We can treat goodness as the basis for spiritual life.

In absence of imbibing spiritual education, we will become the computer not the composer in our life. Modern education means going to several foreign countries for material education without realizing the universal fact that the heart, the source of true education is within. If the book of our heart is open then there is no any need to read any book related to the knowledge of physical world. Parents are the first teachers who can teach their children the lessons of moral values. Worldly education is

constantly conferring the teachings of artha(wealth) and swartha(selfishness). As far as my knowledge is concerned, this is the basic reason behind the downfall of core human values in society.

## **Reaping the Seeds of Core Human Values through Spiritual Education**

Most of us will be agree with me that developing a strong, healthy and happy character; to be able to distinguish between "right and wrong", and to cultivate higher values with loving sensitivity and a sense of unity with all beings are the pillars of creating the happy and peaceful society.

If we want peace and happiness in our society, exposing our children to the highest ideals from the earliest years of their lives should be mandatory. Without teaching the lessons of human values through spiritual education, we will not be in a position to stimulate the emergence of the positive qualities, talents and potential of goodness which is dormant in our heart. In order to open the heart of human being, we will have to imbibe the universal virtues of truth, right action, peace, love and non-violence.

In absence of these divine virtues we as a human being are becoming beggar not bigger in our life. After the assemblage of these five virtues, a human being will be able to uplift the level of his life along with uplifting the society as well as country.

If we are not speaking truth, we are losing one of our life principles. Because truth should be the sole virtue of human life. So, we all should uphold the truth till our last breath. And without speaking the truth we will not be able to follow the righteousness.

We can see all around the lack of peace, people all over the world are praying for peace. It is becoming a matter of concern that how we can attain peace. I am sure that without practicing sathya and dharma, we will not be able to attain peace. Today, we are leading a life bereft of sathya and dharma, resulting a lack of peace in our life. It is not only lack of peace in life, it is also responsible for creating absence of prema (love).

We cannot imagine about ahimsa (non-violence) in absence of these four values. We can easily see the rampancy of violence everywhere. In absence of these five core human values, we are living just like a corpse.

Now we will try to understand that how we can imbibe these human values in our character. We will have to think about the process of prospering our education system with these core human values. Because there is no any doubt in it that education is man's most precious wealth. It always confers happiness and fame on man. Education system can be treated as the teacher of teachers.

Our present education system is becoming a great threat to human society day by day. The sacred feelings which should inspire educational establishments have almost disappeared. Money is taking the primary place in education system. Knowledge that should be acquired by the heart is being garnered by money.

If we all really want to get rid of this cut-throat problems of our society and want to uplift the level of society. Then understanding the art of imbibing these five values are mandatory. For imbibing these values, we will have to practice these values in our life. All that man experiences is the result of his actions. It will be very helpful if we know about these five principles and put them into practice in our daily life. Reading or writing will not help but only practicing these five principles will teach us the lessons of human values.

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It is a well known fact that any knowledge that is not put into practice is no knowledge at all. Let us see this in detail. Our human body is composed of the five elements, five sheaths, and five vital airs (panchabhootas, panchakoshas, and panchapranas). Man has also got five faculties: sathya (truth), dharma (righteousness), santhi (peace), prema (love), and ahimsa (nonviolence), which we give the name of five values. It is a matter of pity that as a human being we do not understand the optimum importance of these values in our lives. Anger, hatred, and lust are not human values at all. These are animal qualities which are dominating the human beings. With the abundance of truthful thoughts one can become a good person. So we all should focus on our thought pattern seriously.

Let us first think about sathya or truth as a basic human value. Sathya, the first value, is like the head and who does not follow the truth will be just like a headless torso. We can give Dharma the name of shoulder and in absence of shoulder we will not be able to do anything. A man without santhi is just like a man without stomach. As stomach is needed to provide energy to whole body likewise Santhi is also needed for giving our life right direction. In absence of all these three human life is without love and becomes valueless. Love is essential for life. When love is lost everything is lost in life.

Love in speech is Sathya.

Love in action is Dharma.

Love in thought is Santhi.

Love helps in the consummation  
of these three values.

Instead of acquiring these divine human values, people are struggling only to acquire temporary worldly attainments such as wealth, fame, status, and position. In order to foster core human values, we will have to first control our senses. We consider our body everything and do not hesitate to spend our entire life in the pursuit of bodily comforts and conveniences keeping aside the fact that human body is perishable.

In order to purify the senses, we should make use of the senses in a sacred way. We can give purity of the senses as the name purity of the mind. The mind is the master of the senses. If the mind is to be pure, the senses have also to be pure.

Controlling the senses is not so easy as it sounds. It is very difficult task. Due to the effect of modern education and high intelligence, we have become a slave of our senses. We do not bother to think that why the body is gifted. It is not just gifted for sensual pleasures. Partaking sacred food, undertake sacred actions, joining good company and rendering services to the society in the best possibility should our life goal in order to create a better world.

There will be no use of being born as a human being if we do not foster the above five human values. In the present world, human beings are human in form but not human in practice. Most of us always try to exhibit human values outwardly without practicing them whole-heartedly. Human values are not meant for exhibition but are meant for example. The essence of human values should be reflected in our thoughts, words, and deeds. But unfortunately there is only selfishness and self-interest in whatever we think, speak and do.

If we really want to serve the society then we will have to dispel inner darkness as ignorance is the cause of birth and death. This God gifted human life should be one of character, good actions, and good qualities. Our whole life should be a dedication to the service of society, not only for amassing

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wealth. Moral values should be the underlying current in each and every action. We are wasting our life with narrow-minded feelings. We only think about ourselves and our family. This is not a healthy thinking at all. We will have to think the whole world as one family which can be termed as the true expansion of love.

We can treat different countries as different rooms in the mansion of the world. We will have to think the relationship as our brothers and sisters. When we will be able to understand such type of relationship, we will not keep a sense of hatred with anyone obviously.

So the best way to love GOD is to love and serve all. But unfortunately we did not understand the principle of love. There is nothing greater than love in this world to create a happy and peaceful society.

## Conclusion

It is a universal fact that the society is a collection of human beings. If we really want to create a happy and peaceful society then we will have to empower our fellow beings with moral values since the early age of life. Fostering the core human from childhood, education can be used as a tool. These days we are not thinking about the true meaning of education. True education means trying to manifest the inner divinity in man. But unfortunately we are not making serious efforts in this regard. Modern education system is making no any effort in this regard. Real education is that which illumines the physical, the mental and the social environment of human.

Lack of human values in education system can be treated as the sole reason of mess in world. Our present education should be equipped with core human values like truth, righteousness, love and peace. We should treat education as a necessary ingredient for life. Life is for man. Man is a basic unit of society. And without creating a happy and peaceful society, we cannot even imagine about a peaceful world. So in a nutshell, bereft of human values, mankind can never be in peace.

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