Ethics & Morality · GS - IV

“Anger and intolerance are the enemies of correct understanding. “ _ Mahatma Gandhi

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
2018	GS - IV	Ethics & Morality

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Emotional self-regulation; empathy; tolerance; open-mindedness; rational judgement; non-violence; conflict resolution; civil service impartiality

Model Answer

Introduction

Mahatma Gandhi's quotation emphasises that anger and intolerance distort judgement, weaken empathy, and prevent individuals from understanding different perspectives. Calmness and tolerance are essential for ethical conduct and peaceful coexistence.

Meaning in the Present Context

1. Distortion of Reason: Anger encourages impulsive reactions and prejudiced conclusions, whereas calm reflection supports rational decisions.

2. Respect for Diversity: In a diverse society, tolerance enables dialogue among people with different religions, cultures, ideologies, and social backgrounds.

3. Ethical Administration: Civil servants must treat citizens impartially, including those who criticise government decisions. Anger or personal prejudice should not influence official conduct.

4. Conflict Resolution: Listening patiently and understanding opposing viewpoints help resolve disputes through negotiation rather than hostility.

5. Social Harmony: Intolerance can promote discrimination, communal tensions, and polarisation. Empathy and mutual respect strengthen social cohesion.

6. Personal Development: Emotional intelligence enables individuals to manage frustration, respond thoughtfully, and accept constructive criticism.

7. Democratic Values: Healthy democracies require respectful disagreement, reasoned debate, and acceptance of diverse opinions within constitutional limits.

Conclusion

Gandhi's message remains relevant in personal relationships, public administration, and democratic life. By controlling anger and practising tolerance, individuals can make fairer decisions and build a more peaceful and inclusive society.

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