Ethics & Morality · GS - IV

“Do not hate anybody, because that hatred that comes out from you must, in the long run, come back to you. If you love, that love will come back to you, completing the circle.” — Swami Vivekananda

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
2023	GS - IV	Ethics & Morality

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

The quotation presents love and hatred as self-reinforcing social forces. Hatred damages both the target and the hater, while compassion, empathy and goodwill create reciprocal trust, reconciliation and social harmony.

Model Answer

Introduction:

Vivekananda's quotation conveys the ethical principle that **our attitudes shape both our inner character and our social environment**. Hatred may begin as hostility towards another but ultimately corrodes the person who carries it.

Contemporary Relevance:

In a polarised society, hatred can produce retaliation, prejudice, communal tensions and cycles of violence. Social media can amplify such hostility through misinformation and echo chambers.

Conversely, empathy and forgiveness can break cycles of conflict. In administration, a civil servant who listens respectfully to protesting citizens can reduce confrontation and build trust. In personal relationships, forgiveness prevents resentment from becoming a continuing source of conflict.

The quotation does not imply passive acceptance of injustice. Ethical love can coexist with **firm opposition to wrongdoing**, while avoiding hatred towards the wrongdoer. Justice should be pursued without vengeance.

Conclusion:

The message is particularly relevant in a divided world: **hatred multiplies conflict, whereas compassion multiplies trust**. Ethical conduct therefore requires resisting hatred while upholding justice and human dignity.

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