Ethics & Morality · GS - IV

It is believed that adherence to ethics in human actions would ensure in smooth functioning of an organization/system. If so, what does ethics seek to promote in human life? How do ethical values assist in the resolution of conflicts faced by him in his day-to-day functioning?

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
2022	GS - IV	Ethics & Morality

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Ethics promotes integrity, justice, honesty, responsibility, respect and concern for others. Ethical values provide standards for distinguishing right from wrong and resolving conflicts among personal interests, professional duties and public welfare. They strengthen trust, cooperation and institutional legitimacy.

Model Answer

Introduction

Ethics refers to principles that guide human conduct towards what is right, fair and responsible. It seeks to promote individual character and collective well-being.

What Ethics Promotes

Ethics encourages honesty, compassion, justice, respect for human dignity, accountability and self-restraint. It balances individual freedom with duties towards society and discourages exploitation, discrimination and abuse of power.

Role in Resolving Conflicts

Individuals frequently face conflicts between personal gain and professional duty, loyalty and impartiality, or efficiency and fairness. Ethical values provide a framework for evaluating alternatives according to legality, consequences, justice and the rights of affected people.

For instance, a public official offered a bribe faces a conflict between personal benefit and public duty. Integrity and impartiality guide the official to reject the offer and report the misconduct. Similarly, transparency and fairness help managers resolve workplace disagreements without discrimination.

Conclusion

Ethics cannot eliminate every disagreement, but it provides a principled basis for resolving conflicts. Ethical conduct promotes trust, cooperation and accountable institutions, thereby supporting the smooth functioning of society and administration.

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