

## 1. Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them humanity cannot survive. Elucidate.

### Introduction

“Necessities”, “comforts”, and “luxuries”, are concepts whose meanings are dependent on the manner that human beings define “needs.” Based on the definition of needs, necessities refer to the basic needs human beings require to survive. In this sense, “necessities” are non-negotiable, where its deprivation could lead to detrimental effects on human beings.” Luxuries”, on the other hand, are neither absolute in that its satisfaction or dissatisfaction does not affect man’s immediate survival, nor construed in that it does not make the satisfaction of basic needs easier to attain.

### Body

The key difference between love and compassion is that the love is a deep feeling of affection and attachment towards someone whereas compassion is a sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others.

### Significance of love and compassion

- **Part of daily life:** Compassion relates fundamentally to how we as human beings relate to one another when it comes to questions of happiness and suffering. Example: Helping a person who is deprived of food and clothing
- **Foundation for all human relations:** Can keep yourself, help you protect other people, and boost others and one’s self confidence. Example: Children feel secure and confident with the elements of love and compassion.
- **Increases efficiency:** Professional and personal life will be balanced by the nourishment of love and compassion. Example: Cognitive skills help in work.
- **Non religious:** Whether we are religious or not, as long as we have compassion towards others and conduct ourselves with restraint out of a sense of responsibility, there is no doubt we will be happy. Example: Mother Theresa opened a hospice for leprosy in Calcutta which was opened to all irrespective of religions.
- **Ethical view:** Ethical principles and values, however, can neither be bought through economic means nor legislated and enforced through policy and laws. Example: Compassion on transgender.
- **To avoid extreme decisions:** In the name of love and compassion it avoids hasty decisions and it nudges tolerance for the situation. Example: With love and compassion honour killing can be avoided.
- **For the welfare of all:** Many NGOs are actively working for the elevation of underprivileged people. Example: GOONJ which undertakes disaster relief, humanitarian aid and community development in parts of 23 states across India.

- **For animals:** The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated. Example: Rescuing stray dogs.

#### Examples in civil services

- Krishna Teja the Sub-Collector of Kuttanad in Alappuzha district of Kerala, organized 'operation kuttanad' that saved the lives of nearly 2.5 lakh people (and 12000 cattle) during the catastrophic floods.
- Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation announced the introduction of the 'Feed The Need' (open fridge concept), helps the needy in the city, calling it 'revolutionary' for its community-building messages around sharing good food with the needy.

#### Conclusion

Ultimately it is touching the field of love and compassion from which we were birthed that is the source of happiness. All else is a reflection, an imitation or worse an idol. The true drivers that make us human are not money and acquisition of wealth—they are love and compassion.

**2. When you show deep empathy toward others, their defensive energy goes down, and positive energy replaces it. That's when you can get more creative in solving problems. Illustrate.**

#### Introduction

Empathy is a quality by which we can understand, recognize and respond to the feelings and emotions of others. As Alfred Alder said, "Empathy is seeing with the eyes of another, listening with the ears of another and feeling with the heart of another"

In other words, putting oneself in other's shoe and feeling what the other is feeling.

#### Body

- Walking in their shoes- Doing so will help us see our team and family members, not as complainers, but more accurately for who they really are: struggling individuals that need help.
- This is important because, at one point or another, every one of us goes through our own struggle. When we develop a practice of understanding and helping others, they will often do the same for us.
- **Defensiveness** or Defensive energy of an individual is shown in many forms such as Blaming others, Anger, Fear, Pain, Ego etc.,
- When a person is experiencing problems, their defensive energy kicks in. Here it may be shouting at others or showing anger. At this point, try to stay alongside him/her, to better understand the person's point of view. Just a few minutes of listening can do wonders toward helping you to feel their pain.

- Showing empathy in this way takes time, but you will often motivate the one(s) you are trying to help just by showing that you care enough to take this step. It is then positive energy reinforces in the person and tries to solve his/her problem.
- For example, If a widow comes to a civil servant for help and is full of sorrow (defensive energy). The civil servant must empathise with her situation first, Assure her of helping out. This fills positive energy in her.
- Now the civil servant is in a better position to think clearly and innovatively as he has been in shoes of another person. He/she can help by making a list of government schemes applicable to her and make sure they reach the beneficiary at the earliest.
- Eg. If a teacher empathises with a child's weak performance (Defensive energy of child may be to be scared or low confidence on oneself), then only he/she tries new methods of teaching (a creative solution).

### Conclusion

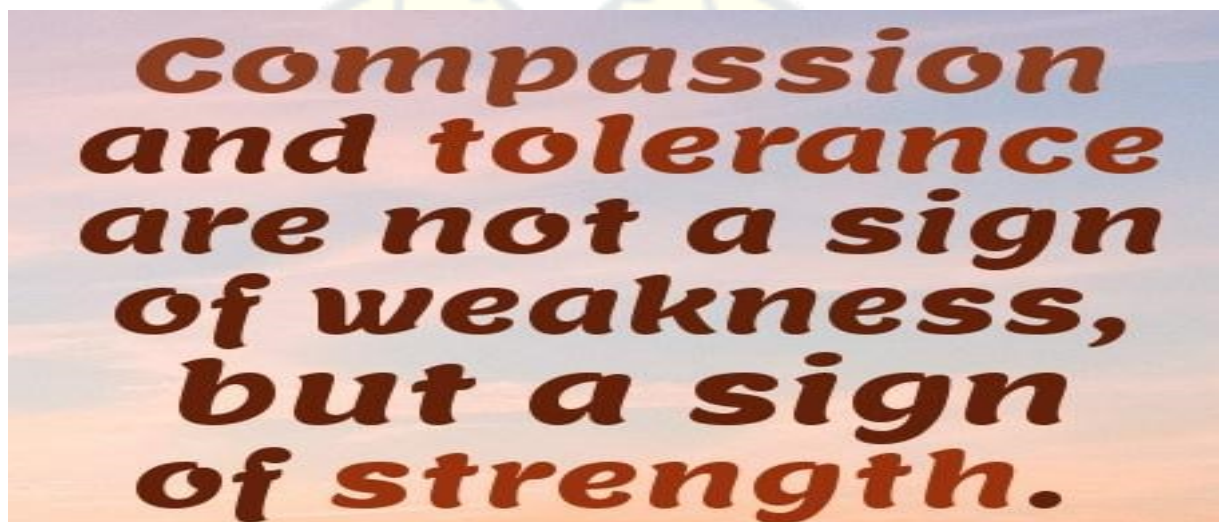
Empathy is an important trait because, When you work hard to walk in another person's shoes, they'll be moved to do the same for you. And that makes the world a better place to live.

### 3. The highest result of education is tolerance. Do you agree? Substantiate

#### Introduction

The above mentioned quote is given by author-cum-activist **Helen Keller**. Tolerance refers to respect for others opinions, practices, views, race, religion etc. It is **harmony in difference**. According to **golden mean principle** of **Aristotle**, Tolerance would be the middle point of spectrum ranging from prohibition and acceptance.

Prohibition-----Tolerance-----Acceptance



#### Body

Education here doesn't simply imply receiving a degree certificate, but enhancing our knowledge, accepting arrogance, developing wisdom and virtues. This will help one realize the reality of the world and accept the diversity of thoughts and beliefs that exist in the world. This will in turn promote tolerance levels. Put in other words, Tolerance is giving to every other human being every right that you claim for yourself.

The more education we receive the more we realise how much we do not know. This then becomes quite humbling. Uneducated are generally intolerant of others because they live "self-centered" lives. They simply do not possess to give them perspective of the actual facts. This can be seen in recent cases of mob lynching, honour killing etc.

The education that a person receives in his lifetime is not just from school, but also from his family, friends, society etc. The one who really takes pages of his experience and learning will develop knowledge. We learn to respect elders, opposite gender from our parents, our friends teach us how trust is build, and our society teaches us how to stay in harmony among diversity. Someone, who really takes all his learning seriously, would be called an educated mind. As A.P.J Abdul Kalam said "Learning gives you creativity, creativity leads to thinking, thinking provides knowledge and Knowledge makes you great".

An educated mind always accepts diversity prevalent and entertains the thought/view of others with/without accepting it. Tolerance is not built within a day, but is gradual of all the learning and education that we receive. Individuals make up the society and tolerant individuals make up tolerant societies. Tolerant societies make conditions where individuals coexist peacefully and they exchange their ideas for their betterment.

India is the best example for tolerance, we have been following the principles of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (the world is one family). The diversity in language, culture, religion, race etc is not hindrance for growth of the country.

**Conclusion:**

As Arthur C Clarke said "Civilization will reach maturity only when it learns to value diversity of character and idea". We must always be ready to learn and respect the diversity and educate ourselves. The peaceful coexistence and mutual trust would promote humanity and development of nation.

**4. Tolerance implies no lack of commitment to one's own beliefs. Rather it condemns the oppression or persecution of others. Discuss.**

**Introduction:**

*"I do not agree with what you have to say, but I'll defend to the death your right to say it."-Voltaire*

Tolerance is respect, acceptance and appreciation for those whose opinions, practices, race religion, nationality etc. are different from one's own.

**Body:**

**Tolerance implies no lack of commitment to one's own beliefs.**

- Tolerance doesn't mean submission but to put your viewpoint and opinion in a respectful manner. Ex. As Gandhi Ji did in freedom struggle to fight injustice.
- Tolerance is harmony in difference. Tolerance advocates for peaceful co-existence of diversity.
- It helps in developing qualities like respect towards faith and belief of different sections and communities without compromising your own beliefs.
- Tolerance allows individuality and diversity. It is more about mutual respect and the common good, and not about who is right and who is wrong.
- It recognizes the fundamental rights of others and Universal Human rights
- Tolerance creates a society in which people can feel valued and respected, and in which there is room for every person, each with their own ideas, thoughts and dreams.
- Historically tolerance has been the central virtue of some of the greatest empires. Be it Asoka's Dhamma or Akbar's Sul-i-kul, tolerance was a key principle.

**Tolerance condemns the oppression or persecution of others belief:**

- Tolerance prevent the tendency of intimidation, coercion, oppression etc
- It gives freedom from Bigotry, Phobias like Xenophobia, Homophobia and Theo-phobia etc.
- Tolerance is embracing migrants due to civil war or globalization and it will condemn racism and Xenophobia. Ex. Rohingyas in India, Syrians in Europe, Mexicans in the US.
- Tolerance will be accommodative of people in society irrespective of their sexual orientation. Ex. Acceptance of LGBTQ in society.
- Tolerance gives respect for others and hence gives the courage to fight for other rights like the fight against racial discrimination, LGBT community, minority etc.
- Tolerance rejects absolutism and rigidity. For instance, recent Lynching activities in the country show the absolutism by dominants.

- Tolerance will condemn unacceptable practices like child marriage, female infanticide and issues like Triple Talaq which breaches women rights.

**Conclusion:**

Being tolerant of each other and caring for each other is what makes us human. This is why we have believed tolerance is important and an essential aspect of a healthy, livable society. In fact, it is the only way in which a country as diverse as India (Politically, religiously, economically) can function and use each and every difference to make its people thrive rather than suffer.

**5. Countries that intervene militarily rarely do so out of pure altruism. Comment.****Introduction:**

Altruism or selflessness is the principle or practice of concern for the welfare of others. It is when we act to promote someone else's welfare, even at a risk or cost to ourselves. Altruistic military interventions in the modern era are questionable due to the increasingly underlying geopolitical and strategic aims associated.

**Body:****Characteristics of Altruism:**

- Altruism must entail action. Good intentions or well-meaning thoughts do not constitute altruism.
- The goal must be to further the welfare of another. If another's welfare is merely an unintended or secondary consequence of behaviour designed primarily to further the one's own welfare, the act is not altruistic.
- Intentions count more than consequences. Motivation and intent are critical, even though motives and intent are difficult to establish, observe, and measure objectively.
- Altruism carries some possibility of diminution in one's own welfare. An act that improves both the altruist's own welfare and that of others would be considered collective welfare, not altruism.
- Altruism sets no conditions; its purpose is to further the welfare of another person or group, without anticipation of reward.

**Absence of altruism:**

- It has been observed in historic times that military interventions were rarely altruistic. For example: The French deployed forces to Syria partly because of disgust over the massacres of Maronites, but also because doing so might

solidify Napoleon III's influence in the region and win over Catholic voters at home.

- States that intervene militarily to stop massacres almost always do so in response to popular outrage. Governments are guided primarily by national security and economic concerns and take up the intervention after political pressure. For ex: In the case of the former Yugoslavia, humanitarian action was brought about by embarrassment rather than genuine concern and by the will not to get involved rather than by the wish to help.
- Many countries intervene in the pursuit of commercial or strategic interests in the region, justifying it on concern for the ongoing chaos. Example: Various members of the US and UK administrations have provided evidence that Iraq's rich oil reserves were a major Anglo-American military interest in the Middle East, and control of Iraq's reserves was always going to be a huge gain for US and British oil corporations.

**However, there have been instances where altruism has played a major role:**

- When UN moves military troops to other nations for philanthropic purposes like stop oppression of a defenceless group, humanitarian relief efforts, help refugees escape from or return to their motherland, or support a fledgling democratic government.
- Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the African Union, the United Nations, the Troika (Norway, the United Kingdom and the United States) and the international community at large, are assisting South Sudan to end the conflict, genocide and ethnic cleansing and protect its citizens.
- The British campaign in Sierra Leone between 2000 and 2002 ensured peace was held for well over a decade and seen the passage of political power through fair elections. The British troops who stopped the country's dreadful civil war also showed that altruistic military interventions can sometimes work.

**Conclusion:**

When states intervene militarily, they often justify their actions on humanitarian principles and purposes. Ethics of humanitarian intervention cannot be readily subsumed by the ethics of just war without due attention to matters of political and moral motivation.