



☞ Dear students: - Copy the note and do the given homework on your exercise book!

Subject: Civics

Grade & section: 11(A – E)

Unit: 12

Main Topic: MORAL EDUCATION

Sub topic/s: ISSUES OF DEVELOPMENT

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MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2020

Issues on Development

- ❖ There are various factors which undermining development efforts of many states. These factors/issues are considered as topical issues of Civics and Ethics due to the fact that it undermines socio-economic development of a given state.
- ❖ These include poverty/inequality, hunger, work habit/ethics, begging, gender and affirmative action, climate change, global warming, and sustainable development.

1. Begging and Poverty:

- ❖ **Begging** is generally viewed as an activity emanated from poverty and destitution. It is practiced to obtain from others what one is unable to get by oneself. It is a request directed to the rest of the society to bring oneself out of misery and poverty. It also conceptualized as a method of earning one's living from the income obtained from other sectors of society using age, health and economic conditions as a means of gaining sympathy.
- ❖ The socio-economic conditions of developing countries are characterized by low incomes, high unemployment rates, fast rising cost of living, high rates of population growth and continued rural-urban migration.
- ❖ Conflict, famine and displacement are additional features notably in Africa. These socio-economic pressures in turn resulted in the collapse of traditional social structures and joint families.
- ❖ **Poverty** has many facets: lack of material necessities and comforts, the multi-problems of the family and individual, dysfunctional behavior.

2. Migration:

- ❖ Flows from Sub-Saharan Africa are thus occurring within a context of extreme poverty, conflict, and the HIV/AIDs pandemic, all of which impact migration dynamics. Exploring the causes of the migration patterns in the Horn of Africa is complex due to the fact that there are so many agents present at the same time.
- ❖ The causes of refugee formations in the Horn of Africa including ethnic and religious conflicts, irredentist and separatist-inspired violence, international war between countries in the region, and intervention in domestic conflicts by external powers.
- ❖ Apart from war and political issues, ecological factors are also seen as drivers of population movements in the Horn of Africa. The effects of conflict and poverty issues on migration patterns are considerable. The conflicts severely damaged agricultural capital, thereby hindering agricultural practices. This, in turn, led to poverty, which caused large migration movements of people seeking better living conditions elsewhere.

3. Gender and Affirmative Action:

- ❖ There are peoples who traditionally patriarchal and are based on gendered role division. In rural areas, women traditionally have the role in the household economy of engaging in agricultural, trade and domestic services.
- ❖ In the division of labor in tasks such as cloth making, it is evident that women are allocated simple and repetitive tasks such as spinning while the men do skilled tasks such as the weaving. Marriages are traditionally arranged to create further community ties and to increase or maintain the family's social status.
- ❖ Affirmative action remedies past discrimination, fights present-day discrimination, and promotes diversity in our society. Affirmative action is intended to remedy the effects of discrimination against women and minorities in the labor market. Affirmative action is one of the most effective tools for redressing the injustices caused by historic discrimination against women and minorities.

4. Global Warming and Climate Change:

- ❖ Climate change poses numerous and harsh challenges for sustainable development and its effects will be felt in all regions of the globe, although the intensity of exposure will vary.
- ❖ Degree of vulnerability will vary even more, with developing countries and the poor, which have contributed the least to global warming, likely to suffer the most. The eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework

Convention on Climate Change held in Doha in November and December 2012 again illustrated that climate change mitigation efforts are insufficient. In Doha, countries agreed and launched the second commitment period for the Kyoto Protocol that was commenced from 1 January 2013 and will end on 31 December 2020.

- ❖ However, several countries that had ratified the Kyoto Protocol for its first commitment period withdrew from it and decided not to join the second commitment period. The remaining states parties to the protocol with obligations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2020

Issues on Democracy and Governance

- ❖ Democracy/ governance issues are also other topical issues of Civics and Ethics. These include corruption and rent seeking, globalization, cultural imperialism, loan conditionality and state sovereignty.

1. Corruption and Rent Seeking:

- ❖ **Rent seeking** is the attempt to gain access to or control over advantages for receiving rents. In economics, rent-seeking is an attempt to obtain economic rent by manipulating the social or political environment in which economic activities occur. Rent seeking destructiveness stemming from the fact that it diverges and wastes the necessary resources which otherwise could be used to fuel the economy.
- ❖ The two most important rent seeking behaviors in the developing countries are bureaucratic corruption and political violence.
- ❖ **Bureaucratic corruption** involves several kinds of activities. In addition to accepting bribes from individuals and groups, seeking government favors, bureaucratic corruption also includes theft or the illegal appropriation of public resources by the civil servant, nepotism, illegal taxation by the bureaucrat, and other types of activity that illegally increase the bureaucrat's compensation package.
- ❖ Rent seeking poses threat credibility of government itself and can decays government structures and capacity. It is a threat to the legitimacy of government itself and has unmitigated negative effect on the hard work of any nation to achieve political and economic development. It repulses investment and discourages foreign aid.
- ❖ Fighting rent seeking is a two way road which requires both the government leadership and the public active participation.

- ❖ **Corruption** can have negatively impact on the quality of goods and services produced in a given economy. Some multinationals bribe government officials to win contracts and other patronage; some conspire with government officials to overcharge governments for the supply of goods and services; still others induce government officials with money to give them undue favorable operating conditions over competition such as in the interpretation of tax laws, licenses and fees.
- ❖ According to the Federal Ethics & Anti-Corruption Commission Corruption Prevention & Research Department of Ethiopia poor governance, lack of accountability and transparency, low level of democratic culture and tradition, lack of citizen participation, low level of institutional control and harmful cultural practices are the major causes of corruption in Ethiopia. .
- ❖ **Globalization and Cultural Imperialism:** Globalization is the emergence of a complex web of interconnectedness that means our lives are increasingly shaped by events that occur, and decisions that are made, at a great distance from us. The central feature of globalization is therefore, geographical distance of declining relevance, and territorial boundaries, such as those between nation-states, are becoming less significant. Distinct forms of economic, cultural and political globalization can also be identified.
- ❖ **Economic globalization** is reflected in the idea that no national economy is now an island: all economies have, to a greater or lesser extent, been absorbed into an interlocking global economy. Economic definitions of globalization denote an expansion of the scale of economic activity beyond the nation-state, manifested in the expansion of market relations.
- ❖ Economic globalization constitutes integration of national economies into the international economy through trade, direct foreign investment; short-term capital flows, international flows of workers and humanity in general, and flows of technology. As a result, in a globalized world, economic management, decision making, production, distribution, and marketing are organized on a global scale, which limits the nation-state's ability to regulate its own economic interests, and makes national welfare heavily dependent on the international market.
- ❖ **Cultural globalization** is the process whereby information, commodities and images that have been produced in one part of the world enter into a global flow that tends to 'flatten out' cultural differences between nations, regions and individuals. Cultural globalization is fuelled by the so-called information revolution, the spread of satellite

communication, telecommunications networks, information technology and internet and global media corporations.

- ❖ The popular image of globalization is that it is a top- down process, the establishment of a single global system that imprints itself on all parts of the world. In this view, globalization is linked to homogenization as cultural, social, economic political diversity are destroyed in a world in which we all watch the same television, buy the same commodities, eat the same food, support the same sports stars and etc. In developing states western consumer goods and images have been absorbed into more traditional cultural practices through a process of indigenization. Indigenization is the process through which alien goods and practices are absorbed by being adapted to local needs and circumstances.
- ❖ Cultural definitions of globalization focus on the degree to which cultural identities increase in scale, as people shift their allegiance from national or sub-national units to supranational ones. As social relations between peoples are increase worldwide, with events happening at different locations around the globe affecting all the world's peoples and shaping their identities.
- ❖ Thus, as the power gradually shifts in varying proportions above and below the territorial state," cultural identities will follow suit. Globalization implies cultural convergence, which "involves the movement of national populations away from diverse indigenous cultural patterns towards the adoption of attitudes, values and modes of daily behavior that constitute the elements of a more or less common world culture.
- ❖ **Cultural anxiety and turmoil** are a consequence of two related but distinct phenomena. First, there are the material and economic effects of globalization and modernity. Among these are urbanization, the appearance of modern consumer goods, and the impact of the mass media, including satellite television, movie cassettes and the internet. These provide a window to and sometimes distorted impressions of the outside world. A second element, western values, is more intangible but often more profound in its impact. These values include, among others, scientific reasoning, secularism, individualism, freedom of expression, political pluralism, the rule of law, equal rights for women and minorities, and openness to change.
- ❖ **Loan Conditionality and State Sovereignty and Brain drain:** The 1970s and 1980s saw many African countries fall into economic recession, and an increasing role in

sub-Saharan Africa for donor agencies attached to European governments (such as the UK's Department for International Development (DFID) and Germany's German Technical Cooperation (GTZ), as well as international institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) (known collectively as the Britton Woods Institutions).

- ❖ In a context which saw the fall of the Soviet Union and the demise of socialist systems of governance, adjustment lending, debt scheduling and debt forgiveness were attached to neoliberal economic reforms, privatization of state-owned companies and trade liberalization, otherwise known as structural adjustment programs (SAPs). With SAPs deemed a failure in the early 1990s, donor policy demands now focused on political reforms, including the establishment of democratic institutions and improving 'efficiency', transparency and accountability of bureaucracies. The donor-dependent nature of the economy provides the country's so-called development partners with significant policy leverage, and raises questions as to the extent to which any state can claim 'ownership' over its economic policy choices.
- ❖ Liberalization of economies in sub-Saharan Africa and their subsequent integration at regional and global levels saw more power transferred away from central governments to international institutions, regional bodies and local decentralized authorities. For example, poverty reduction strategy, initially seen as a requirement in receiving debt relief through the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative from the IMF and World Bank came to dominate African economic and social policies in the 1990s, while the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) became a key framework through which donor aid was disbursed and linked to the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).
- ❖ In 1997, the Fund adopted governance guidelines indicating that its conditionality's would cover issues of fiscal and public sector reforms, legal and judicial reforms, accountability in public management, banking and financial sector reforms. The policy space of developing countries was constricted as IMF increased its policy, economic and governance conditionality's. The IMF pervaded all the sectors of the country and the policy spaces were constricted to levels where the national sovereignty was in question.
- ❖ The SAPs Conditionality's in developing countries include:
 - low one-digit inflation rates,
 - High IMF-determined currency reserve levels,

- Decreased public expenditure by the Government,
 - Reduced Government budget deficits,
 - Privatization of state owned corporations,
 - Trade liberalization, Labor market reforms, foreign investment deregulation, and
 - Focus on production of goods for export rather than domestic production.
- ❖ During the Cold War years good governance and democracy were not foremost among the concerns of Western aid givers. Good governance conditionality's were not placed on aid money, nor was aid focused on democratization efforts. This statement warrants one big qualification.
 - ❖ During the Cold War period there was of course one big conditionality that decided whether a developing country would be the beneficiary of the aid and cooperation of the Western world. This conditionality was anti-communism. To put it crudely, the world was divided into communist and anti-communist blocs (rather than communist and democratic), and this geo-political division – rather than any internal characteristic, such as democracy, human rights, corruption, nepotism, or political repression – would determine aid levels.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 2020

Issues on Peace and Stability:

Terrorism and piracy are also belongs to topical issues of ***Civics and Ethics***.

- ❖ **Terrorism:** The word “terrorism” was first popularized during the French Revolution. In contrast to its contemporary usage, at that time terrorism had a positive connotation. The régime was adopted as a means to establish order during the transient anarchical period of turmoil and upheaval that followed the uprisings of 1789, and indeed many other revolutions. In the modern age, terrorism often takes the form of assassinations, bombings, kidnappings, hostage situations, hijackings, and armed assaults. Though many of today's terrorist groups use the same time-tested tactics, they increasingly operate in new and unconventional ways.
- ❖ Terrorists typically do not control territory, wear uniforms, carry their weapons openly, or maintain permanent bases.
- ❖ Terrorism is a political strategy whereby groups or individuals use violence against civilian or symbolic targets to persuade a government to change a specific policy. It is

not an ideology, a political party, or a goal, but a method of achieving a particular goal. Terrorists seek to disrupt daily life to effect change. Terrorist and terrorism are negative words applied to people who commit a crime.