

U P S C

Q. Bring out Gandhiji's philosophy of means and Ends. (10M)

Ans:-

Mahatma Gandhi's ethical framework of means vs end is deeply rooted in moral absolutism.

In the Gandhiji's idea of means and ends, he emphasizes that the means are of utmost importance to achieve the end goals.

okay

→ This approach is called Deontological approach ~~as proper~~ which was firstly given by Emmanuel Kant.

Avoid Scrubblings

→ how? → need to explain

→ same as duty + means are utmost importance a/c to gandhiji

→ Gandhiji throughout his life believed in this ideal starting from his work in Africa till his last breath after the completion of India's independence.

So? very vague statement not in line with demand so avoid this para

Gandhiji's ideas of truth and non-violence implicates his means-ends philosophy, where the end goal of truth (ENDS) is achieved by non-violence (MEANS) methods.

Moral Integrity of Action:

"The means may be likened to a seed, and the end to a tree." - Gandhi
Gandhi argued that only morally sound means can lead to ethically justified ends.

Ends achieved through violence, deceit, or coercion destroy the moral value of the outcome.

Truth (Satya) and Transparency

For Gandhi, truth was God. All means must be truthful-free from manipulation or lies.

Eg: His open letters to the British and rejection of secrecy in political negotiations.

give a proper heading

Philosophy Behind means used

- ① Moral Integrity of Action
- ② Truth
- ③ Non-violence

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Relevance to Civil Services:

1. Means in Governance:

- A civil servant must uphold constitutional morality, not just deliver results.
- Eg: Curbing corruption is not just about punishing people but building ethical systems.

2. Decision-Making:

- Choosing the right path even when shortcuts are tempting.
- Eg: Following due process in emergencies (e.g., COVID resource allocation).

- His idea of satyagraha also focuses on means rather than ends.

Ex. In the Incident of Ahmedabad in 1918, Gandhiji preferred to go for hunger strikes (MEANS) than using any other violent way to achieve the end results.

- Thus, he believed that means matters, if means are right, ends will be right.

His philosophy finds the place in the very constitution of India.

- The nature of basic structure of constitution is absolutist.

establish means are important

→ Constitution & amendment must respect fundamental rights

Thus, his philosophy doesn't appreciate

immediate, it rather looks for long

term. His ~~one~~ "You cannot expect

by growing a babool tree" - this

philosophy brilliantly acknowledges the

philosophy of means and ends.

Can add counter arguments also

Gandhi's philosophy may slow down reform where urgent action is needed.

How need to explain that

examples must be complete

2.5/10 ⇒ need to put forward more arguments to show Gandhiji philosophy behind (means vs ends) (ie reasons)

- ② Add recent examples
- ③ Add importance for civil servants
- ④ Add counter point
- ⑤ Need to explain article completely

good conclusion

Evaluation Parameters

1. Conceptual Clarity: Accurate definitions, depth, correct attribution to thinkers

Poor [] Average ☒ Good [] Excellent []

2. Context Understanding: Interprets question correctly, relevance, UPSC alignment

Poor [] Average ☒ Good [] Excellent []

3. Structure: Clear intro-body-conclusion, logical flow

Poor [] Average ☒ Good [] Excellent []

4. Presentation: Underlined key terms, flowcharts, margins used

Poor [] Average ☒ Good [] Excellent []

5. Language & Flow: Academic tone, grammar, transitions

Poor [] Average ☒ Good [] Excellent []

6. Objectivity: Balanced arguments, evidence-based analysis

Poor ☒ Average [] Good [] Excellent []

7. Interdisciplinary Links: Integration of GS, current affairs, related domains

Poor ☒ Average [] Good [] Excellent []

8. Word Limit Compliance: Within $\pm 10\%$ of prescribed limit

Poor [] Average [] Good ☒ Excellent []

9. Evaluator's Impression: Insightful, original, exam-ready

Poor [] Average ☒ Good [] Excellent []

Evaluator Remarks:

① Need to work on structuring of the answer

② Write recent examples

③ Keep a view on entire of para you are writing

Keep writing