

ESSAY TEST 2

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INDEX TABLE			COMMENTS OF EVALUATORS	
Q.No	Max.Marks	Marks Obtained		
1	125	<del>59</del> 59		
2	125	57		
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9			Any specific message from Educrat IAS Mentors/Evaluators with respect to your copy? Mentor's Remarks: ..... ..... ..... ..... ..... ..... ..... ..... ..... .....	
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19			Start Time:	End Time:
20			Mode of Examination:	Online <input type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>
Total Marks		116	TEST CODE:	Medium of Examination:

# Too Much Democracy is Detrimental to Development

Demo - cracy. Rule by the Demo.

Plato - worst form of government.

In ancient Athens. rule of people.

represent from different classes and together  
right -

→ Socrates - ~~was~~ punishment of poison decided by  
so called will.

→ Topic Explain.

→ Abstract.

Start the Body.

India vs China - debate. Principles of Democracy

Participation, Participation, Equal Value to each Voter

when applied too much.

recipe.

## Too much Democracy is detrimental to Development.

Plato, the father of political philosophy, once remarked -

'Even at its best, democracy is the worst form of government'

This comment came in the backdrop of the situations in the ancient city state of Greece, Athens. The rule of the government was based on the principles of democracy, where representations <sup>was made</sup> from the different classes and professions.

It was this collective body which would decide laws and customs. One such decision was once made on the execution of the wisest man of Athens, Socrates.

He was charged of instigating the youth against government, but he was in fact trying to change the education level.

This episode showed the weakness of a democratic set up, and from here, began ~~there~~ was a general decline in the state

Good  
Hitting the topic very first time!

Good example

leading to the maxim that too much  
emphasis on democracy can be detrimental  
to the development.

'Democracy' is coming from a latin  
word meaning 'rule of the people (demos)'

It is coming from the idea of equal  
participation of people in the decision  
making that has a collective impact on the  
whole. It ensures to address <sup>the</sup> voice and  
concern of many. This indeed looks a  
noble idea, but when applied too much  
it can be counter productive. 'Democracy'  
itself becomes a roadblock in path of  
growth.

In this discussion, we will explore  
on why too much of democracy is harming  
development, what happens when there is  
too less of it also, is there any solution  
and how to make best use of democracy

through examples and arguments from different arena.

MEANING OF TOO MUCH DEMOCRACY

It is said that the result of an action depends much on the wisdom of the doers. In democracy, there are many minds, opinions and views leading to 'kichdi' of wisdom. This leads to either inaction or delay in action or, at worst, wrong action. *could use or further terms*

The masses generally see problems from myopic angle and try to put their individual interests first. This all makes 'firm and quick decision' making tough.

When too much emphasis is put on catering to every voice in democracy, it becomes overripe. Take for instance, the

coalition era of Indian Politics from 1960. *not 1960s. 1976-1979*  
It was during this time, maximum number *from 1990s.*

of debates held and minimum bills passed on development projects. Reason? Indian Parliament was represented by several ideologies and political parties together making the Government.

### Development Without Democracy

When India and China became independent in 1940s, one opted for a democratic route and the other went for an authoritarian regime. Today, the size of Chinese economy is five times of Indian economy, with glaring records on developmental aspects.

On the other hand, when two Korean countries set their trajectory after the division of 36th parallel <sup>in 1950s</sup>, South Korea went for democracy and the northern part chose a tough and hard monarchical regime. Result? One of it is a shining

beacon of advancements in HDI and science and the North Korea is has in fact reversed the growth.

The above situations led us to think if democracy at all needed for development, if we say, remove democracy will that pave path for development?

To <sup>the</sup> above query Amartya Sen, the renowned social thinker and economist said -

"Democracy is very much needed for the growth, the Chinese model that you see is nothing but a farce, like a bird in golden cage with no rights and freedom to fly."

The question however is 'how much is needed'

### RECIPE OF GOOD DEMOCRACY

A good dish is generally prepared with a correct balance of all ingredients. And a model of development also needs right amount and pinch of democracy.

Take for instance, India and Israel the two towers of democracy standing from mediterranean coast to Indian Ocean.

They maintained the balance of growth and democratic rights right from 1950s till today without any fail.

Many political pundits believed that 'Indian Democracy was bound to fail'

They asked → how could you believe the judgement or a suggestion of a common man who was unaware of what development is. Winston Churchill, for example, mocked Indian illiteracy and questioned how the incapable masses of India <sup>could</sup> pick up their leaders. He felt even 'voting with adult suffrage' was too much democracy for India and she is bound to suffer and compromise with her development.



But Indian Democracy showed that there are many facets to development. It is not just economic strength but <sup>also</sup> ensuring rights and empowerment to the marginalised.

This is exemplified by Pramila Bisoi, the 74 year old Lok Sabha member from the Chakamania village of Ganjam district, Odisha. She is representing <sup>the</sup> voice of many women and poor families and in fact, contributing in the development process.

But things take wrong turn when democracy becomes mobocracy and a mob mentality wishing to overpower the minority with the 'majority rule'. (when the principle of 'One Man One Vote' turns into 'One caste One Vote', where leader is not a 'people's true choice' but a 'Baahubali' trying to win the seat by appeasement of voters, muscle and

Good

money.

Democracy then is for name sake, and the final result is the selection of unworthy candidates, who in the name of representation of the people is forwarding his own interest.

This type of form, is indeed, detrimental for the long-term progress.

### TOO LITTLE DEMOCRACY

Taking our discussion forward, we can glare at the global exemplars and institutions. United Nations Security Council for instance, is run mainly by the P5 nations since five decades. In these years much water has passed under the bridge and in the geoeconomics of this time, it an underrepresentation of the world in high table. This has caused unequal

development and neglect of the concerns  
of the developing and emerging nations.

'Reform UNSC' and 'make it more  
democratic' is the new mantra for  
ensuring global development.

#### MOVING AHEAD

Aristotle, the disciple of Plato, once  
compared 54 constitutions of different city  
states and said - 'Democracy is the second  
best option for government'. Similarly,  
when Pt. Nehru was asked about what  
should be the path for India, he said -

'I choose Democracy, because it is worse,  
and other options are worst.'

✓ From the above discussion, it is  
coming out that yet yes, democracy  
is indeed needed for right kind of

wholesome development, but too much of it and deviation from its actual principle makes it a roadblock itself.

The idea is, in order to, channelize the power of 'Prajatantra', invest in the people so that they can rightly pick their leaders, who in return can explain the development choices to people.

The progress does not come from 'Jan-Atishayokti' (Too Much of it) but from 'Jan-Bhagidaari' (People's Participation).

We need Sabka Prayon to ensure the democracy is rightly applied to get Sabka Vikas (Development of all).



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The poet's permanent dimension  
of human  
consciousness and values.

- James Prineas (20 year old) → Khalil Gibran.

- Kalinga War. →

- Firoz Shah Tughlay.

Sarvo Dham Sambhav. <sup>baffled.</sup>

'The past' is a permanent dimension of human consciousness and values.

"Yesterday is Today's Memory  
and Tomorrow is Today's Dream"  
- Khalil Gibran

When the British came to India to colonize it, one thing kept them baffled. How can a country with so much of diversity could possibly unite on anything! which consciousness and values are driving the unity. What is the source of this unique outlook, was thought upon by them.

Then the process of excavation and digging of 'the past' began. One of the findings helped create a link with the history. It was the work of a 20 year old man, James Princep who deciphered the Brahmi script leading to the source of Ashoka's Inscriptions.

Through these historical inscriptions it was revealed that the value of 'Unity in Diversity' of the contemporary India was coming from the consciousness of Ashokan's 'Dhamma Nitiz' that reflected ideas of diversity and tolerance.

Not only this, a more deeper knowledge of the past showed similar values coming from Rig Veda as -  
'Sarva Dham Sambhav'

The above example encapsulates the essence of the fact that 'the past' is a permanent dimension<sup>2</sup> of human consciousness and values - whatever we hold as a 'value' and 'culture' is coming from our memory of the past which in present form guides



our consciousness.

In this essay, we will discuss how 'past' is a dimension of human values and is it always a permanent feature, what is the impact of time and can the 'past' dimension be evaded for shaping our values.

'THE PAST' DECIDES 'THE PRESENT'

It is said that Laws are mix of values and consciousness. The logic of today's Laws and justice system is not merely a product of minds of our current generation. It is also not a matter of many deads. In fact, it is the gift of the past work of our ancestors that guide us to this date.

Take for instance, the idea that one who causes loss should also be ready

for compensation. This is how we decide the quantum of finer in punishment.

It was, to a pleasant surprise, is known to human civilisation for long. Take for consideration, Hammurabi Inscription<sup>was</sup> written with codified Laws in 1700 BC in Babylonian history, way before than Greece could explain justice. This pillar shaped inscription is considered a precious gift from ancient history and shows how it links & with our current values and consciences.

Sometimes the past need not go in ancient time, even the recent past is a source of the values and developed conscience. The Apartheid struggle in Africa led by Nelson

Good  
Conscience

Mandela was enough to create a strong supples of Anti-Racism movements that can be seen in

✓ as recent as the protest of #Black Lives Matter following the death of George Floyd.

Even Indian National Struggle also became a dimension of values like democracy, dignity and equality that ✓ has ingrained in our today's psyche.

THE PAST : AS SOURCE OF HOPE?

Many a times, while dealing with the current moral crisis, people tend to ✓ seek answers from the scriptures and lessons of the past. For example, the ✓ LGBTQ community often quote the values

of respect from all to all from  
Ramayan which mentions about Grandhanv  
and Kinnar or Shikhandi from Mahabharat  
who defeated Bhism Pitamah, representing  
a trans-gender identity.

Even the values of 'Joint Family'  
and 'Respect for Elders' is  
result of the historical parson of these  
ethical concepts from the past till present

But this has also negatively impacted  
our world views of this time. The idea  
of 'untouchability', 'Purity of  
Men by Birth', 'Women as the subordinate  
of Husband' etc are also baggage of  
past and need correction in this time.

'The Past' - is not always permanent.

As rightly put by the poet Harivansh Rai Bachchan - जो गी वीत गई, सो  
जात गई (what has gone, has gone)

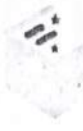
Meaning, something that has already happened and gone in the pages of history cannot be a permanent some of our current values or consciousness.

The idea of temple entry for all, or recent Supreme Court's judgement on allowing anyone from any caste to become priest of a temple is a telling example of the dimension of the present time on our decisions.

we have to also see that past  
in itself cannot be a default dimension  
to mould our present. That is why,  
there's need of effort to revive the  
history. Idea of cultural revivalism  
moots from this.

As we see the reflection of  
mythological stories on the New Parliament  
Building trying to bridge the 'Future'  
come of actions through the lessons  
of the 'Past' in our 'Present'

Similar idea can be applied  
in the field of Environment and  
save the mother Earth by say  
going #OldSchool that is cycling



in place of private car, Khadi  
in place of Fast Fashion.

As we move ahead, we also need  
to think and add 'future dimension'  
to our value system. For example,  
the menace of A.I enabled inequality  
and the limits of A.I projects like  
ChatGPT can be stopped.

Thus we also need to find the  
source of values from the  
present source of time as well.

It is said, Mistory is Mystery,  
but this mystery can be beneficial  
if we apply the value judgement  
based on today's time.

"The Past is not buried  
in the layers of Earth  
waiting to be excavated  
It is with us, in our values  
and consciousness, taking  
us to the future"

*Good* / It gives a dimension to our thought,  
logic to our actions and lessons for  
our future





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