



If the only tool you have is a hammer, you tend to see every problem as a nail.

Once the former ambassador of Pakistan to United States was asked about the sole issue between India and Pakistan. He replied that the problem is — patriotism in his country was ten percent love for his country and ninety percent hate for India.

The obsession with India is what hindering their actual growth. 'India' prism is the only dominant factor of their Foreign Policy. Every geo-political problem they face, it tends to end at India.

This approach has been tagged as a case of seeing every problem as a nail mentioned by Sashi Tharoor in the bilateral relations of both countries.

Problems and issues do not alone decide the outcome; it is our approach and way of handling that decides the end result.

To Be Continued  
Starting relevant one  
and point



And our approach cannot be same  
all the time, our views and dimensions

demands variety so that we can handle  
a situation according to the conditions of  
the situation and not through just one  
way or tool.

In this discussion, we will explore  
what it means to have only tool like  
hammer, what are its impact on the situations  
and problems, what could be different  
ways to look at and solve a problem.

Recently, a stare equation on  
Ashtadhyayi's ~~Patanjali's~~ Grammar rules was solved by  
a young student in UK. For more than  
thousand years that equation remained  
unsolved. Many scholars interpreted

A Panini's Ashtadhyayi is the same way  
for many years, favouring them no result.



This boy changed his interpretation to that Sanskrit writing and result is that equation can now be uniformly applied for Sanskrit Grammar. The issue of previous scholars was not in their lack of sincerity but they all looked it through one tool.

Try for simple examples so that the flow doesn't break after a good start.

In order to deal with issues of life around us, it is important to have multiple ways and views to solve it.

Jainism's Anekantvad has emphasised that there cannot be one-way to handle the questions of life.

Once Ramakrishna Paramhans was asked about the faultlines in every religion and on how to overcome those.

He replied that he will only have a 'Hindu' way of seeing so he denied to answer. He then practised different religions like Islam and Christianity and only then

very great But too many like example from religion & etc

He declared that - All paths lead to one.  
 He did not pick to see every other problem in life or society through some lens of his own religion.

It is a famous saying in Hindi proverb - 'Jaha Kaam Aaye Sui, Waha Kya Kaam Talwar' - meaning, where we need needle; there sword will not work. Some issues need to be dealt with nail and some with sword.

similar analogy was made in Mahabharat where Duryodhan had only one plan - To kill pandavs, whereas Lord Krishna guided Arjun to have different tools ready for war - deceive, kill or deviate. The war was victorious for Pandavs for they had opted for different strategies for different situation. They could not have killed Bhism Pitamah - if they declined him, for instance.



Chanakya in his Arthashastra also emphasized on having different tools for a nation like Saam, Daam, Dand, Bhed (Honour, Money, Punishment, Spy) in order to manage the administration.

Every is perfect till this point

### IMPACT OF SEEING EVERY PROBLEM AS

#### NAIL

In the previous discussion we held the importance of having multiple tools and how that was followed by many in different streams.

Now it is about what if we only carry one tool, so what if we see every problem as nail - what could be its impact?

After the death of actor Sushant Singh Rajput, there were chains of shows on News Channels depicting the case as a nexus of drugs and Bollywood.

Hon'ble Supreme Court had categorically warned these news channels to not colour every case as 'Media Trial' and aim for

I  
broken  
about  
to a  
wonder  
example  
not  
effective  
already.  
Maintain  
the  
momentum

TRP (read popularity and views). If the only angle to any case of national importance is seen through aim of 'sensationalization' it can be counter productive. Suicide cases for instance, increased after that case.

Similarly, if social issues like inter-Religion or inter-caste marriage is seen as a problem of different faiths, then things take a wrong turn. Take for instance the Muzzafarpur Riots, which was later found to be incorrectly started as a fight between two religion. It was in fact a feud between two families on marriage. Having only one tool will also lead to wrong assessment of problems. That is wrong diagnosis and wrong treatment.

The answer to India's malnutrition problem could be food filled with nutrients (hammer) and feeding schemes (nail). But many

look  
for better  
example

the  
answer



tribal health experts raised the issue of iron fortification in the diets of tribal areas. They were facing the wrath of sickle cell anemia and therefore, simply feeding them with fortified food is not the solution, as they will deteriorate the health further.

Do not give complex examples

Similar principle applies to our personal life. In his book 'Emotional Intelligence', Daniel Coleman says that man should have

Graham/Green = Head Hormone Malnutrition = Heart

different type of emotions to help him see a problem. Every situation cannot be seen through sympathy or anger alone.

If we remain angry all time, we can miss the positive side of a problem or if we remain positive all the time, we will focus less on our weaknesses and limitations.

Similar conundrum is faced by civil servants. Not all situations are bureaucratic hurdle and can be dealt differently. If the only tool, for instance, an officer has is force

for a Left-wing Affected region, he would almost always opt for cohesion and miss out the power of other equally important tools like persuasion. This was aptly exemplified by Vinit Nandanvar, Administrative officer from Santewana (a LWE affected region) in Chhattisgarh. His project 'Chholo Aasman' for providing education facility for the children is a telling example of how to use different tools — intelligently.

### SOMETIMES THE SOLUTION IS HAVING ONE TOOL ONLY

Sustainable Development Goals starts with its first goal has an aim to 'End Poverty'. This is the first step in achieving the other objectives like Quality Education or Health.

Today, many research papers have shown the issue with Insurgency hit areas or Terrorism has a common link



— and that is poverty, underdevelopment and lack of resources. Here, the priority is to focus on the issue through one tool — hammering poverty.

This is how economic cycle of growth and investment works.

'Education' can be also considered one of the powerful tool which alone can handle many problems.

#### POWER OF ONE TOOL : THAT BECOMES MANY

It might happen that one who has a hammer will see a problem as nail, and the one who has a scissor will see that as cuttings, or one who has a pen will see issue as a blank page and so on.

If we cannot have all the tools, we can at least accept other's tools and

their views. In the Marvel Movies, the theme of unity is presented as every hero

Not great

Do not try to write everything

brings solutions to the problem through their sole talent. So the combined capacities of say, Iron Man, Hulk or Spider Man. are amplified.

In one of popular patriotic song —

Mile Sur Mera Tumhara, Toh Sur Bane Hamara, similar idea is presented.

In today's time views are becoming polarised and biased, thanks to social media, so viewing only other issue, or rumours through our own single minded bias can be fatal.

In this time it is imperative to have multiple ways and tools to handle our current issues like terrorism, bilateral relations of countries, wars etc.

Every is  
with your  
sharing  
all into  
knowledge  
you have

Do not play  
overplay  
your  
strength.



It is not about having one tool  
as hammer for all issues but about }  
having multiple tools for all issues.  
for the answer lies in diversity

'Vinidhta Mein Uttaar Hai'

→ good

Hot  
good



There is no path to happiness. Happiness is the path.

'The search for human happiness is a long journey, which ends only with his death.'

Once Lord Buddha was asked how to end suffering, to which he replied - by ending desires. He was asked again - how to end desires. He replied - by following the Ashtang Marg (Eight Fold Path). A disciple now curious about Moksh asked, will Eight Fold Path lead to Moksh (salvation).

Buddha replied - Moksh is the Marg i.e. the path itself is salvation.

The above example can be applied to the understanding of happiness. One who is in search of happiness, will keep on searching and walking the path to desire the final destination of happiness, only to

know in the end that happiness was in fact in the path.

In this essay, we will explore the meaning of happiness, on how to find happiness, importance of the journey in finding happiness and which path one should take.

Once Khalil Gibran wrote that ~~to~~ see one's having a satisfaction of a well lived life is to live twice. Life is in search of happiness as also mentioned in American constitution — Pursuit of Happiness, but often we get confused that one day, we will reach our destination, ~~back~~. It is like we are on a train journey, and the end station is Happiness.

Happiness on the other hand is in the process, the path, the work that we do.



Gandhiji once wrote - Give Happiness is full devotion to your work.

This was also exemplified in his case. He was ironically going through a difficult and different path, that did not look joyful but he enjoyed his work so much so that he fully devoted his life energy in the path of finding happiness for his country.

Happiness is also expressed in purpose. One of the few brave men of time of India's Independence Struggle were neither afraid of death nor the mighty British. Why? They had a purpose - to serve for the cause of India's Independence.

Hence, we come across stories that Bhagat Singh and, Rajguru and other comrades happily sang - 'Mere Rang De Basanti Chola' while in jail waiting for the death.



Destination vs. Journey : for Happiness

If Happiness is in the path, then  
the thinkers from Utilitarianism like

Jeremy Bentham or Charavali Siddhant

from Indian philosophy will emphasise on  
Bring life (the path) to its fullest without  
thinking of any end destination.

This in present time has also  
raised the issue of mindless consumerism

in form of fast fashion or quick shorts  
living life as if there is no tomorrow,  
that there is no desire for an end,  
all that is remains is the path.

Isn't it this has pushed many to  
see happiness through material lens.

Happiness as a destination where  
a path leads to happiness? can evoke  
responsible actions from many. For instance,



the farmers get happiness by following the path of seasons and putting all his efforts and sweat to aim a good harvest.

A 'Good-Harvest' is the happiness of the farmers. Many festivals in India from Bihu to Makar Sankranti to Lohri are based on the end result of their hardwork. The ~~be~~ festivals thus show signs of merry and joy - happy songs and happy faces.

In the field of Education, however the path itself should be the source of happiness. If one gets even a full hundred through note learning, he cannot compare the joy one gets on understanding a concept and applying that in life.

Happiness in Education is the series of 'Eureka' moments that cannot be

linked to one particular <sup>end</sup> station, but the very journey itself.

In time when mental health issues are arising up, and countries such as Japan had to experience more death due to mental health crisis instead of COVID-19, one can ask - what led to one of advanced countries to face this.

(The problem is the pursuit of lifestyle in gap of happiness.) This has led to a society which is over-worked and tiring.

Today, our understanding of happiness is also dicey. If having a smart phone or a branded car is happiness then surely one's view will be on the end, whereas if meaning of happiness is equated with building meaningful relations, good health and a

Good  
F

life long learning, then the path itself can become the source of happiness.

### Happiness of this Time

When asked about the pursuit of happiness, ChatGPT, the generative AI chatbox replied that it does not possess the human capability to feel that.

Humans as a community is run by pleasure and pain. Happiness is our emotion that we all crave.

It is true, that some source of happiness is indeed found in the end while others can be delighted during the journey itself.

The finetuning of this age is to know where should our pursuit of happiness end and what kind of happiness

A good topic  
should be explored further

are we seeking.

in doing social service for instance, one can check if it follows the idea that Gandhiji gave - New Talisman. That if own action is helping the down trodden. This becomes the yardstick of happiness, and one can then remain content in the very action itself.

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To conclude, Happiness is both the path and the end and our source of happiness can also be drawn from inside both at the end and during the path - given the purity of our means.

As said by Robert Frost,

'I've taken the road less travelled by and that has made all the difference'



✓ It is up to us to choose the path and  
destination wisely in our pursuit for  
happiness.