

# Ethics of Work – How to be a good Citizen



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# Introduction

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- ❑ You are taught subjects. Pass exams right from childhood.
- ❑ But never taught about ethical behavior, truthfulness and how to become a good citizen.
- ❑ To my mind these are the most important quality in any human being.
- ❑ Ethics of work means doing work honestly, diligently and without cutting corners.
- ❑ Mistakes will happen but with honesty and good intentions they can be rectified. All organizations are looking for honest and diligent workers.
- ❑ Unethical behavior creates problems for both self, organization or system.
- ❑ You become a better person by working ethically. It gives joy and satisfaction.

# Intro..... (contd.)

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- Unethical behavior starts when we tell lies
  - Starts from childhood. Fear makes children lie. Beaten up in schools, homes, etc.
  - Frustration of parents taken out on children
  - Insecurity – to impress others, peers and friends
  - Lying not checked early becomes habitual.
- Greed fuels unethical behavior. Fame, power, money all produce greed. It is an outcome of insecurity.
- Greed can be reduced by practicing spirituality.
- Spirituality is looking deeper inside. It is not a religion.
- Spirituality gives us wisdom and helps us differentiate between important and not so important things.
- Sustained spirituality gives us happiness.

# Intro.....(contd)

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- Unfortunately, large-scale greed influenced by US since the focus is bottom line!
  - Effected financial markets. Rich have become richer, and poor have become poorer. True all over the world.
  - Have led to unsustainable lifestyle and environmental degradation.
- Examples
  - India
    - Nirav Modi; Mallaya; ICICI Bank Kochar; politicians
  - USA/other countries
    - Bank of America; \$150 million fine; Enron
    - Opioid epidemic in US. All pharma cos involved
    - Putin and other dictators
- Greed can be tempered by inculcating Junoon or passion.

# Greed reduction

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- ❑ Inculcate junoon in whatever you do. It is like yoga. The pinpricks go away since the laser like focus is on work in hand. Gives peace and happiness.
- ❑ Reduce social media activity and chatting! We have become like animals. We only react!
- ❑ Reduction in greed leads to less psychological knots; better sleep; simplifying life and overall happiness.
- ❑ Insecurity and greed leads to number games. Who has bigger jets, more turnover, bigger houses, etc. No human empathy. Example of Carter, Begin and Sadat.
- ❑ Greed sometimes unleashes forces over which we have no control. Hitler and modern demagogues.
- ❑ Panchatantra tale of how frogs in a well befriended a cobra who took care of all of them.

# Examples of ethical work

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- My own examples
  - Finding my replacement in UF.
  - Giving away Lucknow flat in 2006 (50 lakhs value) to owners without asking a single penny.
  - Giving personal land in lieu of Institute land
- Japanese workers' example.
- In India, it is sometimes difficult to live ethically. Laws are fine. Their implementation is faulty. Greed makes us find loopholes in the system.
- Work ethically and diligently and new paths will become visible. It will also reduce complaints.
- Take pride in your work. It will give you a purpose in life and lead to ethical behavior.
- The parameter for decision; follow your passion and be guided by the idea that the outcome should be for greater good.

# What can all of us do?

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- ❑ Ethics should be a part of every discourse and discussions.
- ❑ Examples of ethical behavior should be stressed continuously.
- ❑ Gandhi ji said that change should start from us.
- ❑ Each one of us should do our job ethically. Doing it will also show how to do it efficiently. By doing our jobs properly and ethically the country will progress and become great.
- ❑ Very honestly evaluate what you want in life. Don't follow what others are doing.
- ❑ It should be based on emotional satisfaction and happiness. It will help reduce greed and insecurity.
- ❑ Paradigm of development. Spirituality+Technology =Happiness.
- ❑ It will help you become an ethical human being.

# Thank you

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## □ Useful sites:

- <https://nariphaltan.org> (NARI website)
- <https://nariphaltan.org/writings.htm> (AKR books, writings, videos and podcasts)

## □ Email:

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