



**NEXT IAS (Head Office)** : 27-B, Pusa Road, Metro Pillar no. 118, Near Karol Bagh Metro, New Delhi-110060

**Bhopal Centre**: Plot No. 46, ZONE-2, M.P. Nagar, Bhopal-462011

**Ph:** 8081300200, 8827664612 | **E-mail:** mts@nextias.com | **Web:** www.nextias.com

# ADVANCED INTEGRATED MENTORSHIP

## ESSAY ASSESSMENT TEST-2

(To be filled by candidate)

**Test Code :** TC351

**Name of Candidate :** ABHISHEK SINGH

**NEXT IAS Roll No. :** AIM24GCL1035 **Date of Examination :** 20-08-2023

**Exam Centre :** Old Rajinder Nagar

Bhopal

Online

### GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

This question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet contains 16 pages. Question Paper in detachable form is available at the end of the QCA Booklet which can be taken away by the candidate after examination.

Two blank pages (Page Nos. 15-16) have been provided for rough work.

On receipt of the Booklet, please check that this QCA Booklet does not have any shortcomings, torn or missing pages, etc. If so, get it replaced with a fresh QCA Booklet.

**SUBJECT/PAPER**

ESSAY

**Invigilator's Sign. :** .....



Kindly do not write anything on this page and also do not soil it.

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Essay Question Number	Total marks

COMMENTS



I know of no better purpose than to perish in attempting the great & the impossible.

Candidates must not write on this margin

'The philosophy of a bomb' - a book written by Bhagwati Vohra gives an account of Bhagat Singh. Bhagat Singh, merely in his twenties was an epitome of heroism. He threw bomb in British central legislative assembly to make the deaf hear. Bhagat Singh tried the impossible task of overthrowing the Britishers through an armed struggle. He knew that he will be caught and may perish in this attempt and still chose this path as he had found his purpose in life. Finally he sacrificed his life for greater cause of the country.

Life of Bhagat Singh shakes us from our comfort zone and makes

us ask deeper questions like what is actually the purpose of life? what are the great and impossible things one should strive for? . Do we have to always perish in attempting great & impossible? And finally what are the qualities one needs to attempt great things in life? Let us explore.

Debatu on purpose of life is as old as human imagination.

According to Lord Buddha the purpose of life is to get rid of human desires. In the present Consumerist world it almost seems impossible.

to. Buddha advises us to fight our internal enemy of greed, Anger, jealousy etc to live a happy & fulfilled life.

Moreover, another Indian philosophical text Bhagavad Gita offers another insight, Lord Krishna says to Arjuna that purpose of life is to fight for your motherland, fight for truth and Dharm and even in this attempt one may perish. But that will be a life worth lived.

Similarly in western tradition many have given different arguments. Socrates, who is known as wisest man ever lived, said that purpose of life is to "know yourself" i.e. know thyself. And one can know themselves & the world by acquiring more knowledge and being rational. Socrates also says

that an unexamined life is not worth living.

Some other existential scholars like Nietzsche and Sartre offer pessimistic view of life. They say that Life has no meaning and no purpose. Nietzsche says that 'God is dead & we have killed God' and humans are free to do whatever they want without any fear.

Although the debate about purpose of life is inconclusive we will go with optimistic notion that life has a purpose and it is shown in the lives of many great people ~~and~~ who tried doing great and impossible.

In the story of Mahabharata, the valour of Abhimanyu is well known. Abhimanyu knew that he does not know completely the strategy to solve puzzle created by evil kauravas. But he still decided to do impossible by fighting with his full potential and sacrificing his life for truth and Dharma.

Similarly, when the Alexander great arrived in India, he faced king porus. All other kings of the region had voluntarily submitted to Alexander except porus. Porus fought so bravely that Alexander was humbled.

and returned the territory of porus even though porus had lost the battle. porus had won the mind of Alexander.

We have example of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, who created Indian National Army to fight britishers and sacrificed his life for great cause of freedom struggle. Later the INA cause invoked widespread protest against britishers in final phase of struggle and gave us independence.

The life of Mahatma Gandhi and his Experiments with truth is a message to world. for Gandhi, the best way

to find yourself is to loose yourself  
in the service of others. He  
struggled for bridging Hindu-muslim  
unity for which he had to pay  
the cost of his life. He gave the  
world the novel method of  
Satyagraha and non violence which  
was an impossible idea during  
the time of war & violence.

In free India also we have  
people who laid their life for  
bigger cause. Satyendra dubey,  
an IES officer posted at  
Koderma Highway division decided  
to fight against corruption. He  
took the risk of exposing very  
big names and fighting against

the System of bureaucracy. In the great task he perished & was shot dead. He inspired large scale reforms in administration & like increased transparency in fund allocation which later helped in fighting corruption.

Above stories invokes us to ask a question. Do we always have to perish while doing great and impossible? The answer is NO.

The example of 'India' is a testimony to this. It was a very courageous step to bring democracy in a newly independent country with

only 12% of literacy rate. People all over the world were sceptical of India's survival and thought that India would perish.

But India contradicted their imagination. Today India is world's largest democracy and recently celebrated its 77<sup>th</sup> independence day. It is leading as a Vishvaagruha in democratic values of inclusiveness and freedom.

Another example is that of Israel which got independence almost at the same time of India. Surrounded by hostile neighbours, desert land and water scarcity. Israel was thought to get perished in few years. But today Israel has

done the impossible. It has used its human resources to fullest potential. It is now a leading defence power, major economy and one of the highest per capita income.

Seeing at above examples one can inquire about what qualities one should possess to fulfil one's life purpose and doing great things in life.

To start with, one needs Courage. Courage is the most important virtue without which one can not follow other values in life. Courage to look into the eyes of the Storm like Bhagat Singh and Bose did.

Another quality is Empathy & Compassion towards others. Mother Teresa and Dalai Lama leads us into this domain. By Being kind & Compassionate we can assess how our actions are affecting others. Plato said, Be kind to everyone for everyone you meet is fighting a harder battle;

Similarly we need right kind of environment as well. Aristotle gives a beautiful example of Seed to demonstrate the role of both Nature & Nurture in cultivating one's personality. A seed no matter how good it is if not given right kind of soil can never reach its full potential. ~~to~~ To do great

and impossible we need both nature & nurture in our lives.

finally we need to go on a Journey of Self discovery. As Protagoras has said "Man is the measure of all things" which implies that each one of us should do trial and error, fail and rise up again.

Great things in life take time. In this process we may live, we may perish, but we will come out better for sure as time's test of coal is diamond. There is no limit to what great and impossible one can do and only limit is the one we place on ourselves.