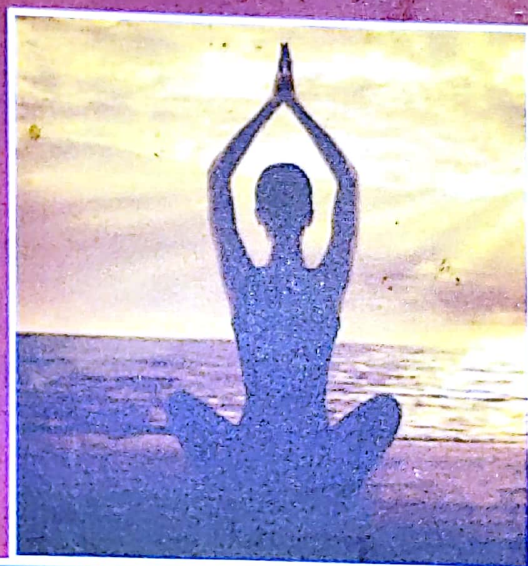
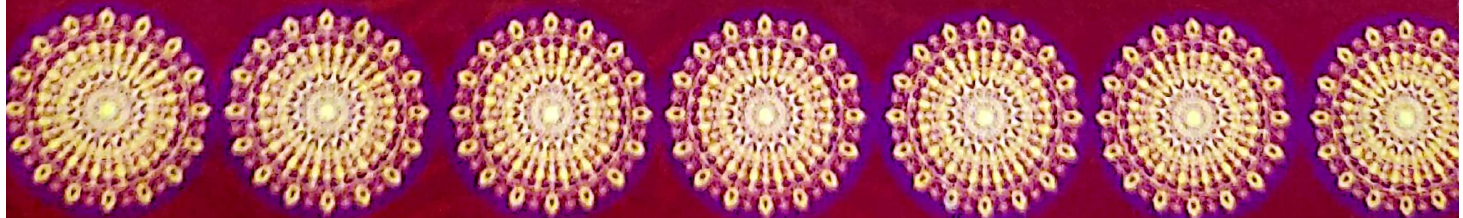


भारतीय संस्कृति  
वैश्विक शांति के लिए  
एक सार्वकालिक प्रासंगिक आधार



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## Values in Indian Culture

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### **Abstract**

Indian culture is considered as the first and supreme culture of the world. India is a famous country all over the world for its culture and tradition. It is the land of various culture and tradition. It is the country of oldest civilizations in the world. The vital components of the Indian culture are good manners, etiquette, civilized communication, rituals, beliefs, values, etc. Even after the life styles of everyone has been modernized, Indian people have not changed their traditions and values. Ahimsa, unity in diversity; yoga, ayurveda and vegetarian diet; vasudaiva kutumbakam, atithi devo bhav, Parliamentary democracy, spiritual path, care for the environment and Jugaad are India's core values that can guide humanity on the path of peace and prosperity in the new millennium. A particular value may be very important to one person, but unimportant to another. The importance of human values is seen right from the childhood of a person. As culture and values vary country to country, a close insight about country-specific culture and core values is almost essential for a smooth sailing in any market. Cultural dimension consists four categories: Languages, Symbols and Signs, Rituals and Customs and Traditions. Values

dimension consists six categories: Individual and Family, Society through Conformity, Success and Growth, Age and Youthfulness, Happiness and Adaptability and Religion and Spirituality. Value system transmits through elder members by word of mouth or by placing them as role models. Strive for individual space is not in top priority. In India, people rely on balance between independent self and interdependent self-concept.

**Keywords:** Tradition, Cultural, Democracy, Manners and Modernized.

### Introduction

The assets of togetherness among the people of various cultures and traditions have made India, a unique country. There is a very general saying about the India that "Unity in Diversity" means India is a diverse country where people of many religions live together with peace and harmony their own different cultures. People of different religions differ in their language, food tradition, traditions, value and rituals, etc however they live with unity. Hindi is the official language of India, In India there are 22 official languages and more than 400 other languages spoken in its various places (states and territories). India is birthplace of Hinduism and Buddhism religions according to the history. A very large population of the India belongs to the Hindu religion. Shaiva, Shakteya, Vaishnava and Smarta are the other variations of Hinduism. People living together with harmony here belong to different religions, traditions. There foods, dress, culture etc are different. People of various cultures and traditions living here with socially interdependent that's why there is an existence of strong bond unity in the diversity of religions. People take birth in different families, castes, sub-castes and religious live peacefully, harmony and conjointly in a group. Social relationships of the people are long lasting. Everyone has good feeling about their social order or hierarchy and honour, respect and rights to each other. People in India are highly devoted and loyal to their culture and know the good manners, etiquettes to maintain the social relationships. People of different religions in India have their own culture values and

tradition. Every religion have own festival and fairs and celebrate according to their own rituals. In our culture is the way we behave to others, how softly we react to things, our understanding towards values, ethics, principles, and beliefs. People of old generations pass their cultures and beliefs to their new generations so; every child here behaves well for others as he/she already learned about culture from parents, grandparents and society. In India culture here in everything like dance, fashion, artistry, music, behavior, social norms, food, architecture, dressing sense, etc. India is a big melting and putridity pot having various beliefs and behaviors which gave birth to different cultures here.

Various religions have their origin almost five thousand years. The Hinduism was originated from Vedas. All the Hindu's holy scriptures have been scripted in the sacred Sanskrit language. It is also believed that Jainism and Buddhism have ancient origins is in India. The Jainism has origin and their existence was in the Indus Valley. The Buddhism was originated in the country after the teachings of Lord Gautama Buddha. The Christianity was brought later by the French and Britishers who ruled here for almost two centuries. In that way various religions were originated and brought to this country by any means. However, People of each and every religion live here with peace and harmony by getting together without affecting their rituals and beliefs. Human beings learn their cultural traditions and values from their parents and society. They acquire or receive the cultural, traditions and values through myths, legends, and fairy tales stories. Its very interesting to know about ones own culture, but people should also attempt to know themselves about other cultures for the sake of knowledge or to better understand each other. India is a very beautiful country that shares various beliefs from other countries, which are makes it unique. It has its own values, traditions, culture and these are evident in the epic poems, fairy tales and famous people. The epic poems contain history and the beliefs that was passed down orally or a written down from generation to generation. The Mahabharata, The Ramayana, and The Gita are one of the most epic poems that embody the essence of the Indian cultural heritage. India is not

just a land; it is the name of people living in that land, its culture, its civilization, its customs, and its invaluable history. Civilization of India's is the one of oldest in the world. Its land has given rise to many civilizations and cultures. India did not nurture a culture, but cultivated many cultures in the shadow of their motherhood, and created great cultures. Our culture is great because of this, India culture is not only ancient but also a long-lived. Our culture nurtures like love, value, brotherhood, good faith, charity. Our rich culture has been racing foreigners since ancient. It is a form of our culture that in India various religions and castes, different languages are also included in the garlands like pearl beads/ rosary. Here are unlimited languages spoken. Hindi is recognized as a state language, so the confluence of Urdu, Persian, English, Sanskrit, Malayalam, Marathi, Punjabi, Bengali, Gujarati, Telugu, Tamil, Kannada etc., too, is also under the one roof of India. This image of unity in diversity is a proud form of our culture. Such culture can not be seen in other place.

The Indian Parliamentary Committee on Value Education, February 1999 identified five core universal values as: (a) Truth (b) Righteous conduct (c) Peace (d) Love and (e) Non-violence. These values are derived from various sources of Indian culture and tradition as you shall discover while studying the unit on values on Indian philosophy. The term value is derived from the Latin 'valere' meaning 'to be strong, to prevail or to be of worth.' Social scientists state that there are different definitions of the word values. Milton Rokeach, Professor of social psychology at Michigan State University, defines value as 'an enduring belief about the way. Things should be done or about the ends we desire.' Therefore a value is something that we believe is long lasting. It influences the way in which we want do things and what we hope to achieve. In General, people are predisposed to adopt the values that they are raised with. People also believe that those values are "right" because they are the values of their particular culture. A value is always important to the people who grab/holds it. It is glamorous, desirable and satisfying. It has the ability to develop in a creative way, and it tends to endure. It is a belief /concept of the desirable

explicit or implicit, which governs a choice of methods, modes or goals of action. The values held by a person may be either relative or absolute in nature. Ethical decision often involves weighing values against each other and choosing which values to elevate. Conflicts can result when people have different moral values, leading to a clash of preferences and priorities. Some values have intrinsic worth, such as love, truth, freedom and faith. Other values, such as ambition, responsibility, courage and describes traits or behaviors that are instrumental as means to an end. Still some moral values, values are considered as sacred and are moral value and values imperatives for those who believe in them. Sacred values and moral value can seldom be conciliate/compromised because they are perceived as duties rather than as factors to be weighed in decision-making. For example, some people have their nation's flag may represent a sacred value. The flag may just be a piece of cloth for some one. Like that Values and moral values are holy or sacred, have intrinsic and natural worth, or are a means to an end. Every people, individuals, society have their own Values and moral among and across cultures in the country. In decision-making values are universally recognized as a driving force in ethical.

### Common Values in Indian Culture

- Tyaga, which is renunciation.
- Dana, which is liberal giving.
- Nishtha, which is dedication.
- Satya, which is truth.
- Ahimsa, which is non-violence.
- Upeksha, which is forbearance.

Respect is significant and an extremely valued component of the everyday life of people in India. From a very young age In our country children are taught always respect to their elders. Even as adults, the elderly are still at the top of the totem pole. Children take care of their parents when they become adults, and their parents will live with them until their lives. Family plays an extremely important role in Indian culture. Families are significant highly and

are a part of an individual's life till death. People get married; they take their elder relatives and other relatives and provide support of them. Indians seek peace and harmony throughout life. They are concerned with "cosmic and mundane energy." They try their best into the values of Indians is their religious beliefs. The most prominent and distinguished religion in India is Hindu. Most of the values mentioned and described derive from the specific beliefs of Hindus. Hindus value and moral values are their gods and worship a variety of gods and goddesses. The Hindu believes in reincarnation, with good karma, are reborn into a higher caste or even as a God. Bad work/Karma can result in being reborn into a lower caste or even as an animal. The goal of a Hindu religious people is to reach "nirvana". What is "nirvana" Nirvana is the releasing of the soul from a cycle of reincarnations or rebirths.

### **Why Values are Important?**

Our values intimate our thoughts, words and actions. Our values are vital and important because they help us to grow, evolve and develop. They help us to create the beautiful future which we want to experience. Every individual, every organisation every and society is involved in making thousand of decisions every day. The decisions we make are the reflection/image of our values and beliefs, and they are always directed towards a specific reason or purpose. The purpose is the satisfaction and enjoyment of our individual or collective (organisational) needs. When we use our values to make some good decisions, we make a deliberate and willfully choice to focus on what is important to us. When values are shared, they build internal solidarity and cohesion in a group.

### **Changes in Indian Culture that are Positive for Indian Society**

A few Centuries ago "Sati pratha" was abolished and "widow remarriage" was approved. These transformation, changes were the major accomplishment and achievements of Indian society. These transformations, changes have removed the traditions and methodologies and method of working which was a curse to all the women and humanity. These changes were the major putsch/

revolution in the Indian society. From that time, changes have influenced/impact a lot to the Indian Society. Now a day, there are many visible changes in our society.

- With technology becoming fast and easily portable people of different parts of the world are interacting together. Today we can easily know each other's culture and tradition. Technology has made the world a smaller and miniature place and that makes the peoples come closer to know each other's lifestyle, culture, food, dance and different habits. Now a day's people of a country are well known about their culture, values and tradition of other countries and so their knowledge has broadened. Peoples are becoming more fearless and independent. They are no more restricted in their own logic and methodologies. New thinking is evolving between people, societies and countries.
- Today peoples of different country are moving to different parts of the world for higher education, employment and learning better technology. Now a days girl of our country is no more restricted to home, and a woman to a housewife. Things are changing quickly. Now a day, girls are also getting opportunities for their better education and lifestyle, same as the boys. Old traditions, values and wooden customs are changing. These transformation and changes are the seeds for the superior and better society where girls and women have the same right as the boys and men have. These changes are empowering our girls and women.
- In case of marriage the changes are visible. Now a day's maximum number of younger generation chooses their life partner themselves. Traditionally or earlier their parents used to find a marriage partner for them. In today scenario if their parents choose a life partner for them then they allow their young ones to spend time with their life partner to understand each other and then perform the marriage ceremony. By doing this they try to gave their children a better chance to have a better future. So now a day's young generation has given free-



dom of choice in contrast with the old culture of Indian society where parents were solely responsible for choosing life partner for their children.

- A major change that we can be sensed in Indian Culture is the change in Indian Cinema. We are all known that cinema is the mirror of our society. It clearly reflects the value, culture and methodologies of our society. Few decades ago Indian cinema was known only for entertainment. Earlier times films were of conservative type. But today film makers are moving to the different social issues and giving the Indian cinema a touch of perfection and completeness. Now Films are showing the critical, delicate and important issues like terrorism and bogus CBI have already produced. These films teach a lesson to society/community regarding these issues and its consequences. Also the films promoting and encourage acting, art, dance and music have produced over few years. Such types of films encourage new talents and provide new opportunities to the new actors.

### **Negative Aspects of Changes in Indian Culture**

There is a proverb, that every coin has two faces. So there are always some positives, negatives lies within. The changes in Indian Culture are also giving some positive and negative consequences. With growing technology cut-throat competition is increasing in the market. People are spending more time in office or at the workplace. Specially they have not much time to spend with their family, children and parents. So now at present days they have a less time to care for their children, family and parents in this contrast with the old age, where an immense care was given to a child by his family members. So the present generations of children are very much unaware of our Indian culture, value and moral value. So it is very unfortunate that no one is there to make them understand about this. At present this is not a serious issue but in future it will be of great concern. No one of us will ever want that our ne generation will remain unaware from our Indian Culture.

**Conclusion**

Our Indian culture has changed a lot in past 10-15 years. These changes were very much necessary and essential for the development of the society. But still we need some more changes. A custom, and culture tradition that does not change over time becomes poison for the society. Indian Culture has an immense and gigantic power to incorporate changes remaining its other values intact. We should include and incorporate them in our culture too, but in a civilized way so that we can also preserve and intercede our own culture. There are some negative and unassertive aspects of change in our Indian culture but they can be solved very easily if we can take them in account seriously. For any society, culture and community to be strong and society to be developed the children and the new and young generation should be strong with wealth, mentally, socially, tradition, physically, technically and culturally and if our culture and tradition would strong and society would be developed then, automatically our beloved country will be in the list of developed countries.

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