

Ideal Human Being

What is a “human being”? The Oxford Dictionary defines a human being as a man or woman distinguished from other animals by superior mental development, coherent speech, and an upright posture. What makes an ideal person in any social setting may be largely determined by the society with which the person identifies. These standards are shaped by social ethics, cultural norms, beliefs, practices, and spirituality. There are various qualities of an ideal human being that almost everyone strives to achieve in order to express the inner good self. These characteristics include equality, nobility, equity, integrity, truthfulness, kindness, honesty, courage, common sense, emotional openness, confidence, generosity, and self-awareness (Danielson, C. 2009).

The personality of every individual with the intent to attain ideals will always seek to acquire, reveal, and actually demonstrate the stated characteristics, both with the self and with others. Equality is one character trait sought by every sane human being who has or seeks to have other good traits, such as equity, kindness, honesty, and fairness. This is a characteristic that determines how humans want to be treated by others, irrespective of social status, skin color, fame, or wealth. Equality highlights the idea that all beings are equal because the natural state of human beings, apart from gender, demonstrates equality (Danielson, C. 2009).

Having a noble character is so desirable that every human being wants to acquire it and be identified as noble. This is one true characteristic that separates human actions during horrific or catastrophic events from the actions of animals or less ideal human beings. This is the characteristic that makes a person see a child walking toward a deadly cliff and rush to save the child from falling, knowing all too well that he could also slip and fall himself. It is the

characteristic that makes a person jump into a burning house seeking to save trapped people, assuming the risk of burning together with those trapped inside (Agar, N. 2005).

This is a characteristic that is intertwined with courage. Courage is one trait that makes some people stand out from others. This characteristic is properly shown by historical events and circumstances where some individuals stand against ideas, people, organizations, or even governments that tend to propagate, advocate, or enforce ideas and practices that go against the concerned people's beliefs and wishes. Such people can be represented by heroic characters such as Martin Luther King Jr., who would rather die speaking out about his feelings and beliefs than live in fear and intimidation (Osborne, D. J. 1993).

A human being cannot be ideal if the characteristic of equity or fairness is not part of them. Nature has put all human beings on basically one common platform for their existence. Nature provides all the necessities of human existence, that is, water, air, earth, fire, and any other principal necessity for human existence, freely and equitably. Any ideal human being will feel that it is possible and necessary to make it possible for other humans to access and utilize these necessities (Osborne, D. J. 1993).

Integrity is another important characteristic of an ideal human being. This illustrates observance of the ethics and morals of the subject's societal beliefs and practices. An ideal human being will not forego this characteristic for things like fortune or fame. This is a very common characteristic that is sacrificed by many people, either to acquire wealth or to become famous. Many people have abandoned their religious beliefs, practices, and good human cultural practices in order to identify with the rich and famous. This is because people fail to understand that integrity is one strong characteristic that can make anyone acquire other things people value, such as wealth and

fame. Most admired famous characters have practiced a relatively noticeable level of integrity in what they do or practice. Such famous people include Mother Teresa and Mahatma Gandhi.

Truthfulness is another characteristic that any human being seeks to have. To be an ideal human being, one must be truthful to themselves and to others. One has to be very sincere and honest as a human being. A human being finds it difficult to reveal truthfulness and honesty because they have some hidden motives that they do not want other people to know, since people do not approve of them in any ideal human being.

Kindness safeguards people from heartaches of any kind. People who demonstrate and practice kindness usually keep other people feeling safe and ensure that their interests are taken into consideration. People who are kind tend to focus more on other people's welfare ahead of their own, making them seem heroic and noble. Kindness is like light; it attracts other people, and the cycle of goodness revolves around all kind people practicing it.

Common sense demonstrates how a person will react and behave when faced with various occurrences. Common sense does not depend on education level, financial capability, social position, physical strength, or similar strengths. This is because common sense goes beyond these individual strengths, making anyone who has common sense seem to possess all these strengths combined. This means that a person who has common sense has the necessary social skills to handle any situation bothering them or others. The value of common sense directs what to do or not to do, and what to say or not say in any circumstance or setting. Common sense makes people of different linguistic backgrounds, or even different social, cultural, or religious backgrounds and beliefs, coexist as if they have no significant differences. If all human beings were ideal and practiced common sense, there would be no inter-religious wars, inter-tribal wars,

interracial wars, or many other misunderstandings that cause common conflicts (Osborne, D. J. 1993).

Emotional openness is also a characteristic of an ideal person and cannot be forgone either. Emotions are an integral part and characteristic of a human being. In plain language, people who do not show any emotions are said to be heartless. A human being cannot live without a heart. This therefore proves that, to be a complete and ideal human being, one must have and be able to show their emotional self. This could be through empathizing or sympathizing with others in times of distress, pain, or difficult feelings. Emotions are also positive in that an ideal human must be able to show happiness and joy and express them to others (Agar, N. 2005).

Confidence is a significant characteristic of an ideal person. A confident person is able to fight off incidents of low self-esteem, which pull one down and disable them from achieving very vital objectives in everyday life. Having self-confidence will make one able to overcome lawlessness and inadequacy. The people who are said to have excelled in life are not those with might and strength to acquire anything they want, but those who have constantly fought their fears and inadequacies to make considerable steps in their endeavors (Agar, N. 2005).

For one to be an ideal human, one has to have and appreciate self-awareness. Pretending to be what one is not, or to be who they are not, is a sign of a lack of self-awareness and acceptance. People who are not aware of themselves suffer greatly in trying to keep up with who they are only pretending to be, yet cannot be. Self-awareness helps people know how to behave, how to act and react, when to do a thing or not do it, how to respond to issues, and when and how to seek help and assistance and from whom in times of need (Agar, N. 2005).

To be an ideal human being cannot be easy, and under normal circumstances, one may not possibly possess all the characteristics that make up an ideal human at all times. However, seeking to acquire and retain most of the characteristics of an ideal human being is what every human needs to do in an effort to become an ideal human being.

References

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