



Knowledge, if it does not determine action, is dead to us.

In South Africa, Gandhiji was thrown out of 1<sup>st</sup> compartment of train. He was not the only person to face this. Even Nelson Mandela throughout his mid-life faced black racial discrimination. Gandhiji fought for the rights and Nelson Mandela's contribution eradicated apartheid system.

They were not the only persons to face such discrimination. But by the virtue of knowledge of

being aware of their basic human rights determined their action to rose against the discrimination. While those who were also facing the same from so long despite having the rights knowledge, were a part of dead words.

In this essay, we will look after the importance of knowledge. Then we will look how knowledge determines action. Then we will delve into how knowledge without action is dead exercise. Then we will look at the other aspect of knowledge without action and execution of wrong knowledge. Finally we will see how ~~how~~ they are two sides of same coin.



Knowledge is the virtue gained by individual through his or her learning process or experience. It helps in over-all development of man-kind. Important aspect is that, it determines bargaining and influencing power of an individual. Buddha from his very young age had an urge to acquire knowledge. He gave the world - ~~Ashtangik~~ Ashtangik Marga, among them one is "non-violent path".

This knowledge of non-violence was acquired at different historical stages. Ashoka who realised his undoings of Kalinga war, he acquired importance of non-violence. He brought this into action by his 'Dharma Policy' - built

comes for Ajivika sect. Now we know him because of his action he adopted through his virtue of knowledge.

This non-violence path was sought by Gandhiji. Despite the failure of each movement like - Non-cooperation, Civil Disobedience to bring India her independence, Gandhiji was firm on his action of non-violence.

Even in contemporary times too, India is following the path of knowledge laid by Buddha, Ashoka, Gandhiji. This can be witnessed by India's action of Panchasheel agreement, Non-Alignment movement, reflected through India's stand on Russia and Ukraine war.



It can be hence, clearly reflected that knowledge is detrimental for action. Knowledge and action goes hand-in-hand. It is more evident from post-independence crisis of food security India's Government by the knowledge of India's diversity and geographical conditions brought Green Revolution in action. This made India food sufficient country.

On the same line, when due to climate crisis farmer's suicide of increasing more from 2000-2015, data was analysed by the government. Not only the it was analysed but was brought into action by PM-KISAN, which decreased the burden and suicide rates.

Knowledge helps to drive right actions at the right time. Time becomes crucial element if our surroundings are not taken care of. We knew the importance of ozone layer. When it was depleting at high rate, sequential actions - Vienna Convention, Montreal Protocol was brought into action. This led to decreased depletion.

Not only environment depletion, but right actions taken by countries to protect their sovereignty becomes important to do at right time. India gained the knowledge of hostile neighbours after the crucial India-China war, <sup>1962</sup> India tightened its border and even established Rakh.



Untill now from that time, India has not faced failure - 1971 war, 1999 war etc. This was possible because of application of knowledge at the right time.

But merely having knowledge and not bringing it into action becomes a futile exercise. Every religion promotes peace, harmony, brotherhood. But hardly we can see their followers who bring it into action. Exceptions can be seen from - Ekta Yatra of 1992. Where communal violence was evident over the issue of Babri Masjid. Acharya Sharma led peaceful march of Hindus and Muslims.



together from Mumbai to Xyedhya.

Religion also guides to respect women. Every person has taught from childhood to respect women. Despite this knowledge, recent Maripuri violence has shown dark faces. Thus, merely having knowledge and no actions had made the watchers dead wood.

Looking at the other side of coin, sometimes having a good knowledge but not bringing it into actions also embarks the virtue. Chanakya had high knowledge of governance, but never became king to bring it in action. He guided Chandragupta

Maurya, due to which Mauryan Empire flourished with large scope and excellent administration.

Similarly, in contemporary times too we have advisory bodies filled with expertise like - National Commission for Women, National Commission for Backward Class, Law Commission. These bodies do not bring action but supports and guides the government in formulating various policies for welfare of each section.

Absence or incomplete knowledge which drives action can be disastrous. Wrong knowledge becomes a danger for mankind. In Iran, LGBTQs are occasionally executed and systematically



persecuted. This is due to absence of knowledge of equality.

Incomplete knowledge about the action taken by government without analysing circumstances leaves economies in vair. This can be best explained by freebies given by Sri Lankan government which left it debt-ridden.

Thus, good knowledge should be the guiding light for driving out action. It should not be seen as short-term outcome but must be applied to drive out long-term benefits in society.

It is the knowledge that makes  
one thoughtful. When you sow a  
thought, you reap an action. You  
sow action, you reap habit. Your  
habits define your character and your  
character will take you to the destiny.  
Hence, it all starts with a thought  
which when rightly brought into action  
takes one to destiny.



It is not the wisdom, but authority that makes law.

Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar by virtue of his wisdom fought for the rights of scheduled caste and against the untouchability. As the era was about the authority of colonial rule, he was not able to bring a strong law.

But when India won her independence, Ambedkar got the authority to draft the constitution. This brought article 17 - removal of untouchability, also depressed class got their rights of equal opportunities.

through reservations. Despite of his wisdom in early stages of his life, he was not able to frame laws. This became only possible when authority was granted in hands.

In this essay, we will first know what wisdom and authority mean. Then we will delve into how ultimately authority frames law with help of wisdom in different diversions. Then we will look out how ~~auth~~ wisdom sometimes make laws or own. Finally we will construct harmonious relation between wisdom and authority.



Wisdom is the experience gained by individual by virtue of knowledge. Where knowledge is the potential power, wisdom is the actual real capacity of individual. Whereas Authority is the chances of one or many to exercise power legitimately.

For instance, Aristotle had wisdom reflected in his saying "It is not important to win a war, it is important to organise peace." But peace making is reflected actually through authority exercised by United Nations Peacekeeping force.

space

in this space

Wisdom can make us to know what laws are, but ultimately it is the authority that designs the law. It can be well understood from ancient Indian content, where Chanakya had wisdom of governance but ultimately authority was with Chandragupta Maurya who implied it by improving administration of his kingdom.

similarly, nawabnas of Akbar possessed wisdom. Todar Mal advised Akbar to replace yearly tax system with Dahsal (10 years tax) system. Ultimately it was Akbar who led to introduction of Dahsal system.



On the similar line, when Sati system was sought by Raja Ram Mohan Roy's wisdom to be incorrect, he didn't banned Sati but put efforts. Ultimately it was William Bentick by his authority of Governor General abolished Sati system.

Wisdom serves as guiding light for authority which makes the law. By virtue of wisdom, Mahatma's Plan sought for improvements in heavy industries. Ultimately, it was Government through Planning Commission who made industrial laws for country.

likewise, the structure and composition of Panchayati Raj institutions was served by wisdom of various committees like - Balwant Rai, Ashok Mehta Committee etc. All these serve as guiding light to Government. Ultimately, it was the Government who led to passage of 73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendments.

On the other side of picture, ~~even~~ if it is authority that makes laws which are unjust, makes wisdom to prevail over the authority. Awakening of masses after gaining wisdom about their human rights led to the French Revolution



against the unjust laws of monarchical rule. This further led to propagation of ideals of liberty, equality and fraternity.

Also, when authority is reluctant to make laws, it is the wisdom that makes laws. This can be justified from Supreme Court's judicial activism in Vishakha Guidelines for sexual harassment of women at work place. It has further reduced harassment cases of women since then.

Moreover, when authority has not brought any serious thing in action,

wisdom of individual guides himself or herself to take authority on his own. It is evident from story of Dushrath Marjhi, who lost his wife due to lack of road connectivity to hospital being ignored by then authority. He carved out the mountain and made road so that same would not happen with anyone else.

Similarly, Harkala Hajabha, a fruit vendor in district of Karnataka, constructed a school in village area from his savings. He didn't relied on authority to do so but applied his wisdom to make education accessible in remote areas.



On the same note, when authority is not so sure about the actions, wisdom serves as guiding light.

When an individual suffers in a state of confusion about his or her life's decision, wisdom helps it out.

It can be compared with Arjuna's self doubt and Krishna who represent his wisdom of human consciousness.

Hence, wisdom and authority should not be viewed different. They are the two sides of the same coin when it comes to framing up of law. Even if the ultimate authority is equipped with law framing, wisdom can supplement it.