

## Chapter-II

### PATRIOTISM

#### **Patriotic Values and Ingredients of Nation Building, Concept of Good Citizenship, Emotional Connection with the Country, Duties of Citizens and Qualities of Good Citizens**

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## 2.0. Objectives

Good citizens are the backbone of a nation. Love for the nation is patriotism and patriotic values create a sense of good citizenship. Good citizenship helps in nation building. This lesson is about the idea of patriotism and nation building. After going through this chapter, you should be able to:

- Understand the basics of patriotism
- Comprehend the patriotic values enshrined in Indian culture and ethos
- Grasp the concept and duties of good citizenship and to imbibe those for nation building

## 2.1. Introduction

Humans are profoundly social beings. Cooperation plays an essential role in the evolution of the human species. Human beings evolve and improve themselves by living in groups. This experience of group living serves as the basis for the emergence of patriotism. The words 'patriotism' and 'patriot' are of recent coinage in English literature, and the earliest references to these do not date back to a period earlier than the 17<sup>th</sup> century C.E. Originally, the word 'patriot' referred to a man who loved his motherland and tried to further its interests and well-being in various ways. This well-being of human society is related to nation-building. Nation-building is the process whereby a community of people with diverse backgrounds come together within the boundaries of a sovereign state, with a unified constitutional and legal dispensation and commit themselves to developing the country. The terms patriotism, proud citizen, emotional attachment with the country and nation building are important concepts to be understood by each citizen of the country. This chapter is going to discuss these concepts in brief.

## 2.2. Patriotism

The standard dictionary definition of the term patriotism reads "love of one's country." This captures the core meaning of the term in ordinary use; but it might well be considered too thin and in need of explanation. Patriotism involves special affection for one's own country, a sense of personal identification with one's country, special concern for



the well-being of the country and willingness to sacrifice oneself to promote the country's good. The terms patriotism and patriot are of great importance for all of us.

*A man is a patriot if his heart beats true to his country. -Thomas Jefferson*

### 2.2.1. Origin, meaning and definition

The genesis of patriotism is as old as human civilization and it comprises the following factors at its core:

- A territorial and spatial attraction and identification of the people with their land
- Consciousness of the ownership of the inhabited land and the will to defend it from others
- Sympathy and love for geographical, physical, ethnic, cultural or linguistic peculiarities of the territory and the people inhabiting therein

Along with terrestrial attraction, consciousness of the people of the historical heritage and culture of their homeland is called 'patriotism'. Patriotism is not a permanent sentiment. It is found to have undergone changes in the political boundaries of different countries in human history such as our own homeland India. After 1947, same Indians are now part of three different nations. i.e. India, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Patriotism is an ancient phenomenon in the lives of groups. Nations are relatively modern concepts, and patriotism is not tied to them. It could probably be found in every ethnic group settled in a particular territory. Attachment, in this case, is a binding affection between a person and his/her group and its land. But the roots of patriotism go even deeper than love for and pride in the group. They reach individuals' self-concept and social identity. The group becomes part of the individuals and they experience themselves as part of the group. Their actions on behalf of the group, and even their very devotion to the group can be experienced as having a moral, even quasi-religious basic.

### Meaning

The word patriotism derives from the Greek word *pater* which means "father". It indicates a sentiment based upon loyalty to one's parent. On the basis of the word *pater*,



emerged the Greek word *patriots* which means "a fellow countryman" and the word *patria* which refers to "a fatherland " or "country". Today's definition of patriotism is "The character or passion of a patriot; love of or zealous devotion to one's own country" (*Oxford English Dictionary*, 1933), or "love for or devotion to country; the virtues and actions of a patriot" (*Webster's Third New International Dictionary*, 1967). In spite of this apparent agreement about love and devotion to one's country, the word patriotism has no precise definition, and there are vague and varying ideas as to the psychological foundations, historical origins and characteristic manifestations of the sentiment of patriotism.

**Simply put , patriotism is a virtuous feeling of love, pride, and sacrifice for one's nation and its people. A patriot is someone who supports his or her nation and its cause and is willing to protect it against its opponents. Patriotism is supposed to be ingrained in the minds and spirit of the countrymen. A true patriot values the interest of his country more than his self-interest.**

A particular combination of dichotomies shrouds the meaning of patriotism. While on the one hand patriotic deeds have always been highly praised; on the other patriotism has often been seen as the root of all evils. Patriotism has often been seen as a cause of war, conflict and prejudice. It has been viewed critically, especially during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and is still often used interchangeably with chauvinism. The outbreak of World War I, the emergence of Nazism and Fascism and their destructive effect on mankind, demonstrated the possibility of the subversive power of patriotism when it is embedded into political ideology and goals. Thus, we can point out that patriotism is stamped with blood and iron. It is born in rebellion and nourished by war. There is a positive aspect of patriotism as it promotes national growth, inculcates in people a love for their country and foster a spirit of self-sacrifice for the cause of nation building and welfare of fellow countrymen. It also contains a subjective element if your love for your country blinds you to the need for recognizing the patriotism of others, it results in war, acrimony among nations and destroys peace and hampers progress.

### **Definition**

A core definition of patriotism is attachment of group members towards their group and the country in which they reside. Attachment, in this definition, implies a binding



affection between a person and his/her group and the land. Patriotism, thus, can probably be found in every ethnographic group which has an attachment to a certain geographical place. This attachment is associated with emotion and expressed through beliefs connoting contents of love, loyalty, pride or care.

The basic element of patriotism is the desire to belong to a group. Patriots want to be part of their group, define themselves as members of it and feel some kind of "we-ness". Even when, as a result of special circumstances, patriots leave their country, they always wish to return. This desire to belong to the group is of special importance since individuals are born into groups and perceived as their members. However, in spite of their ascribed membership, they may not always wish to be part of the group in the course of their life. Individuals may move to new places and develop patriotic feelings (i.e., attachment) to a new group and country. But, without developing a sense of belonging, individuals cannot experience patriotism.

In the past, groups wandered across continents in search of a place to settle. They conquered countries and took up residence in them. The boundaries of states have changed numerous times in the course of history. In cases where boundaries change and regions pass from one ruler to another, part of a nation may not feel patriotic sentiments towards a certain part of the country. Thus, for example, not all Indians today consider the Sind (Pakistan) or East Bengal (Bangladesh) part of India. Thus, members of a nation may differ with regard to the tradition and the extent of attachment to geographical places.

In the case of feeling patriotism toward the nation, disagreements may concern the composition of the nation. A group of patriots may, for example, hold that certain ethnic, racial, or religious groups do not constitute part of the nation. Disagreement of this type arises in nations or groups which are heterogeneous in their composition. Thus, for example, there have always been Americans who do not view people of Asian or African origin as part of their nation; and many Germans in the 1930s and 1940s excluded Jews from the German nation, although the Jews considered themselves German patriots and Afro-Asian Americans feel patriotic about USA.





A number of concepts such as nationalism and ethnocentrism are sometimes used interchangeably with patriotism. Therefore, while defining patriotism, it is important to establish its uniqueness by differentiating it from other concepts.

One of the concepts often associated with patriotism is nationalism. Nevertheless, there are major differences between the two. While nationalism is a political - sociological term, which refers to self-determination of the group as a nation in a state, patriotism does not necessarily imply nationalism. Nationalism considers a particular political organization as indispensable for the social, cultural and economic functioning of the people. In contrast, patriotism does not dictate the nature of political organization to the group. It is a more general and basic sentiment. Any ethnographic group attached to a geographical place may be patriotic without defining themselves as a nation striving to establish their own state. Therefore, historically, the political claim of nation-state sovereignty is a relatively new one, whereas patriotism consists in an age-old attachment.

The two concepts are described by two different sets of beliefs. While 'patriotism' assesses the degree of love for and pride in one's nation or the degree of attachment to the nation; 'nationalism' reflects a perception of national superiority and an orientation toward national dominance. Between the two world wars (i.e., 1919-1939), these two concepts, patriotism and nationalism, were subjected to a severe test. German Nationalism under Hitler believed that Germans have a right to rule other countries and that they have right to dominate the world as England had done in the past. They were also convinced of their racial superiority and excluded Jews, who live in Germany for thousands of years, from ever sphere of public life. They persecuted various minorities. Italy and Japan shared many ideas and practices of Germans. Their nationalism meant the suffering of other nations notably Poland, China, Korea and many others. In the past, due to imperialism and colonialism, many Countries of Asia, Africa, and Latin America faced severe exploitation under powers like England, France, Spain, Portugal, and even USA. In the colonies of these powers, the colonized engaged in freedom struggles and nationalism dominated. India is a notable example. Our freedom fighters wanted India to be a free nation without infringing the rights of other nations to remain free. They wanted India to take its rightful place in the comity of



nations; they did not advocate any hatred against any other nation and did not want to take no revenge former imperial/ruler countries.

**Patriotism is defined as a strong attachment to one's homeland. This virtue motivates citizens to strive selflessly for their country. In other words, patriotism is placing the country's interests over one's own. It is identified with an altruistic attitude which leads a person to give up his/her own individual interests and looks forward to protecting the interest of his/ her motherland. Patriotism is more visible during times of war, crisis, and when a country's very identity is at stake.**

**A short video with the following URL can be shown in the class to give a backdrop to patriotism.**

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vCNDZDnQgS8>**

**Activity:**

- 1. When was the seed for patriotism sown in India under British Raj?**
- 2. Which incident gave birth to the rise of a new generation of patriots in India?**
- 3. In what way could Chandra Sekhar Azad spread patriotism in India?**
- 4. List the name of five Indian patriots.**
- 5. Identify five personalities from your own state whom you consider as great patriots.**

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bligZZehUQA>**

**Thus, you need to understand:**

- While the terms patriotism and nationalism are used interchangeably, they have different meanings.**
- While two persons affection for their nations, the principles underpinning those feelings are vastly different.**
- Patriotism is founded on the principle that the country upholds values such as freedom, justice, nonviolence, and equality.**
- The patriot believes that their country's government, ideology, and people are essentially good and that they should work together to improve their plight. The country's collective interest matters more than their own individual interests. It is the strong emotive connection with one's nation.**
- Nationalism, on the other hand, stems from the notion that one's own country is superior to all others. It also carries a suspicion of disdain for other countries, leading to the perception that they are competitors.**



### 2.2.2. Types and Nature of Patriotism

On the basis of form and nature, patriotism is of various types. Generally speaking, the nature of patriotism is either positive or negative. The negative type of patriotism includes chauvinism, jingoism, pseudo-patriotism or ethnocentrism and these are reasons for many human evils. On the other hand, patriotism may also be positive or "genuine." The genuine patriot can love his or her own country and still respect the values and ways of other nations. A genuine patriot is free of rigid conformism and out-right rejection. In modern times, blind patriotism (or destructive patriotism) and constructive patriotism (or genuine patriotism) are frequently encounter.

**Blind patriotism** is defined as a relationship with one's country characterized by rigid identification, staunch allegiance and intolerance of criticism. Blind patriotism is unwillingness to criticize and to accept criticism of one's 'own country

**Constructive patriotism** is defined as a relationship with one's country characterized by a more flexible identification, support for constructive criticism and a desire to implement positive change. Constructive patriotism is willingness to criticize and accept critic fore's own country in order to bring about positive changes.

Blind or destructive patriotism is dangerous. A society has the power to limit the ill effects of blind patriotism. It largely depends on that society's moral and human values. Adherence of a political elite to moral and human values may limit the development and ill-effects of blind patriotism and promote constructive patriotism.

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### **Patriotism Means Different Values to Different People**

- People express their patriotism in different ways. They manifest it through the roles assigned to them. Soldiers, scientists, doctors, politicians, and other citizens, express their patriotism through hard work in their professions.
- Indian soldiers epitomize courage and unflinching devotion to the country. They hardly care for their lives and interests. They are secular, completely apolitical and scrupulous. They need to be honored and become role models for our youth. See the life story of Sandeep Unnikrishnan.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-zislBHIaI>
- Mangalyaan or Mars Orbiter Mission is one of the best examples of scientists' devotion to their country.
- In the pandemic situation, the hardship endured by doctors and nurses, Anganwadi workers, ASHA workers, youths, journalists, civil society workers prove their devotion to their country.
- Mathunny Mathews has set a great example of patriotism. Mathews was an Indian, a resident in Kuwait, and was one of the people credited with the safe airlifting evacuation of about 1, 70,000 Indians from Kuwait during the 1990 invasion of Kuwait.
- Only celebrating the flag hoisting ceremony on 15th August and 26th January, posing for photos bearing the flag, and posting these on social media do not imply that you are a true patriot.
- A real patriot is a person who has a true love for his/her country. He fights against the atrocities upon his countrymen by fellow-country men or outsiders.

We need to understand that rendering good service to the country and its people also constituent's patriotism.

Activity:

Mention some legendary patriotic actions that you have learnt about or read

### **State Directed Patriotism**

Very recently we have all observed the rise of extreme or blind patriotism in Russia. Russia has seen a resurgence of nationalistic mobilization since the early 2000s. This is not accidental; it is the result of a purposeful government effort to instill patriotic ideals, commemorate Russia's military history, and promote Moscow's rebirth as a world power. In its efforts to instill such ideals, the state has enlisted the help of schools, civil society organizations, and the Orthodox Church, among others. To help the state carry forward its initiative to stir national pride, federal finance is available to a variety of organizations, including veterans' organizations. Patriotism tends to reinforce national cohesion, often in the face of a common enemy.



### 2.2.3. Growth of Patriotism in India

A number of schools of thought and most British scholars contend that to patriotism grew in India during British Rule. Their main arguments are as follows:

- India was united for the first time under British rule
- A single administration order was imposed by the British over India and this created a sense of unity
- English evolved as the common language amongst educated Indians and as the administrative language of India
- The spread of modern education, establishment of colleges and universities facilitated the emergence of a new educated middle class, who later led the freedom movement
- India became aware of modern concepts such as democracy, liberty, equality, justice, freedom and dignity due to their exposure to English education
- Growth of modern roadways, railways, post and telegraph promoted mobility and exchange of ideas

A number Indian of scholars and our freedom fighters reject the above arguments:

- India as a country was always a distinct entity with the sea on its three sides and the Himalayas on its north. India is in fact the most well-defined or naturally defined country in the world. This land was called the Jambudwip .
- The Vedic literature described the major rivers and mountains from west to east as utara path and from north to south as dakhina path.
- Beautiful descriptions of India, figure in the Mahabharat (Arjuna travels through India from Delhi to Assam, from Assam to Tamil Nadu, from Kerela to Gujarat and Rajasthan). Kalidas's Meghadutam describes India in terms of the movement of monsoon clouds from Kerela to Kashmir.
- The *Ramayana* describes the North Central -South India in great detail.
- The inscriptions of India from the earliest to the medieval period provide ample proof of the existence of India as a single country.



- History of India bears testimony to a great pan-India empire built by the Mauryas, the Guptas, the Sultanates, Mughals and numerous regional empires.
- Sanskrit and Bhasha literatures are full of expressions like Bharata, Matrubhumi, Bharatvarsha, Janmabhumi, 'Janani Janmabhumi Swargadapi Gariyasi', swadeshi and swaraj etc.
- The concept of democracy was also present in the 'gana rajyas' which were ruled by a group of elders in the place of a king.
- Many freedom fighters traced their struggle for freedom to India's past and not to the English ideas.

Many scholars argued that even the modern concept of patriotism did not develop entirely in the United Kingdom. They argued that the USA (American War of Independence 1776) France (Revolutions of 1789, 1830 and 1848), Japan (Meiji Restoration 1870s), China (Abolition of monarchy 1910), besides Glorious Revolution of 1688 in Great Britain contributed immensely to the growth of modern patriotism. India in fact, India's Independence in 1947 was a great source of inspiration for freedom struggle waged in many Asian and African country.

The deification of the motherland and attribution to her of a divine character, is as characteristic of Indic tradition as it is alien to the spirit of the cultures of other countries. We may finally recall in this connection the great utterance *JANANI JANMABHUMISCHA SWARGADAPI GARIYASI*. (The Mother and Motherland are higher than heaven itself)

English colonial rule acted as a catalyst for uniting the people of India and growth of patriotism. The colonial exploitation further united the Indians and instilled in them a special form of patriotism. From the middle of 19<sup>th</sup> century, beginning with the great revolt of 1857 to the attainment independence in 1947, our ancestors burning with the sense of patriotism fought the colonial rulers. Many of the freedom fighters sacrificed their lives to secure the freedom of their motherland. In the late nineteenth century, the key word *swadeshi* emerged. The words *swarajya* and *watan /wataniyat* were also used as words for 'independence' and 'patriotism' in the nationalist lexicon. The song *Bandemataram* was extremely popular. Their selfless struggle finally led to the freedom of India. Independent India drafted its

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constitution and in the fundamental duties section it asked the citizen to inculcate good citizenship and contribute to the nation-building process.

### **2.3. Patriotic Values and the Ingredients of Nation-Building**

Nations stay together when citizens share values and preferences and can communicate with each other constructively. Patriotic values are essential for nation-building. In a country like ours, which is rich in diversity, patriotic values should be inculcated in every citizen, which, in turn, will contribute to nation-building.

#### **2.3.1. Nation Building- Concept and Prerequisites**

Nation-building means the process of constructing or structuring a national identity. The term nation-building could be regarded as employing the resources of the state in working tirelessly towards building a strong nation. In other words, the aim of nation building is the unification of the people within the state so that it remains politically stable and viable in the long run. Nation-building is a process that involves everyone in a given society.

This phenomenon necessitates the component elements of the nation, coming to identify themselves with the symbols and institutions of the state. Identification with the symbols and institutions of the state enables the composing elements to share a common sense of belonging. It is this common sense of belonging that propels members of a country to act in the best interests of their political system. Nation-building entails all efforts directed at keeping a nation's entity indivisible while patriotism hinges on individuals placing the interests of the nation above their personal, group and regional interests.

#### **2.3.2. Role of Patriotism in Nation-Building**

Patriotism as discussed above stands for love for one's motherland/fatherland. A patriot is someone who respects a nation's symbols, traditions and heritage, respects the sentiments of fellow-countrymen and contributes constructively to the growth and wellbeing of the nation. Education provides a platform for the fulfilment of important tasks like character-building, value education, citizenship training, patriotism and so on. These tasks



help the state to perpetuate an equity-based social order through the ideology of nation-building.

As discussed above, the various features of constructive patriotism form the backbone of a robust nation-state. Respecting group sentiments, observing the constitutional value and performing the duties of a good citizen are the prerequisites of a patriot. Blind patriotism is hazardous for nation-building. Blind patriotism and its associates such as chauvinism, regionalism, narrow mindedness, sectarianism, racial superiority impede the development of a nation. Genuine patriotism is required for the growth of a nation. Genuine patriotism is flexible; it respects the heritage and tradition as well the sentiment of other fellow-citizens. It never hides itself under majoritarianism; rather it walks with all. A genuine patriot-citizen contributes to the shaping of a country's policies. Thus, a genuine patriot is a good citizen and a good citizenship is required for nation building.

#### **2.4. Concept of good Citizenship**

Good citizenship involves multiple components, including values, norms, ethical ideals, behaviors, and expectations of participation. The idea of good citizenship is related to diverse contemporary issues such as patterns of political participation, the meaning of democracy and human rights, the notion of civic culture, equal rights, and the role of technology in the digital era.

Some of the attributes of good citizenship include voting in every election; learning about the country's history; showing respect for government institutions; engaging in constrictive political discussions; participating in peaceful protests against laws believed to be unjust; taking part in activities to benefit people in the local community; engaging in activities promoting human rights; involving oneself in activities to protect the environment obeying the laws of the land; being morally , not evading responsible payment of taxes; showing solidarity with others .





**What does citizenship mean?**

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XCVjQMMV0Q>**

**Who is a citizen? –**

**“Legally, a recognized subject or a national of a state is called a citizen”.**

**Further, a citizen is one who has the power / authority to seek any office and to vote any election.**

**An inhabitant of a particular town or city or a country is a citizen.**


**A citizen is a participatory member of a political community. Citizenship is gained by meeting the legal requirements of a national, state or local government. A nation grants certain rights and privileges to its citizens. In return, citizens are expected to obey their country's law and defend it against its enemies.**

**Activities:**

- **Identify the common social characteristics shared by the citizens of a nation?**
- **What does citizenship guarantee you?**
- **What common things do Indian citizens share?**

## **2.5. Emotional Connection with one's Country**

Patriotism or national pride is the feeling of love, devotion, and sense of attachment to a homeland or a country and alliance with other citizens who share the same sentiments to create a feeling of oneness among people. As discussed above, a primary attribute of patriotism is emotional attachment to one's homeland. Since the beginning, humans are emotionally attached to their homeland, which came to be called motherland or fatherland later. This emotion of deep attachment with motherland was present in the ancient Greco-Roman world as well as other civilizations and continues to exist in modern human societies. Even though we are now living in a globalized world, the affection for and emotional attachment to our homeland is still a basic human instinct.





## **2.6. Duties of Citizens and Qualities of Good Citizens**

Citizens are part and parcel of a country. A nation is a whole and citizens are part of it. The nation through its constitution (in modern times) grants many rights to its citizens and in lieu of that also demands many duties from the latter. It is the duty and obligation of the citizens to obey the law of the land and display the qualities of good citizenship. A citizen is a participatory member of a political community. Citizenship is gained by meeting the legal requirements of a national, state or local government.

### **2.6.1. Patriotism and the Indian Constitution**

The Constitution is a living document and a guide in matter relating to laws and rights. This body of fundamental principles established by our ancestors demands some form of patriotism from the citizens, which we call constitutional patriotism. Constitutional patriotism means having feelings of devotion for the Constitution of one's country rather than any particular society or nation. Constitutional patriotism consisting in love for one's country and belief in its doing.

India has already witnessed a partition in 1947 on religious grounds, and to avoid any such terrible incident in the future, our heterogeneous country needs to be strongly united. To present this from happiness, constitutional patriotism is the best solution as the constitution treats everyone equally and prohibits discrimination. Therefore, if one regards the constitution as the head and not the government, then he/she will work accordingly. Some directives of constitutional patriotism which all of us need to obey include respecting the national anthem, the national flag, national symbols, national cultural heritage, participating in national elections, protecting national property and above all respecting and obeying constitutional values of the nation.





### 2.6.2. The Fundamental Rights and Duties and Citizen

Citizens are dominant pillars of the country. They are entitled to enjoy all the legal rights and privileges granted by a state to its citizens. On the other hand, the citizens are obligated to obey its laws and to attend duties as called upon. India is a democratic country where its citizens live freely and celebrate their rights. Constitution has bestowed six fundamental rights on the Indian citizens. The rights are not violable in common circumstances; but they are not absolute either and are subject to reasonable restrictions as necessary for the protection of public interest. Indian Constitution provides six fundamental rights to the citizens, which are:

- Right to Equality (Article 14- Article 18)
- Right to Religion (Articles 25-Article 28)
- Right against Exploitation (Articles 23-Article 24)
- Right to Culture and Education (Articles 29- Article 30)
- Right to Freedom (Articles 19- Article 22)
- Right to Constitutional Remedies (Article 32)

Democracy in the country can function only when its citizens have both rights and responsibilities. Rights and responsibilities are two sides of a coin that goes hand in hand with us, in home, society, state, or country, we live in. To completely enjoy the rights, citizens must perform their responsibilities towards the country in a decent manner because the rights and responsibilities of an individual are inter-related to each other. If we have rights, we must have their corresponding responsibilities too. Rights and duties of each citizen preserved in the Indian Constitution are very valuable and inter-related considering the prosperity of the country.

**Watch the video**

**[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=amI08\\_zPEmY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=amI08_zPEmY)**

Thus, Constitution of India, under Article 51A, has prescribed that it shall be the duty of every citizen of India –



- To abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem
- To cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom
- To uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity, and integrity of India
- To defend the country and render national service when called upon to do so
- To promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India transcending religious, linguistic and regional or sectional diversities; to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women
- To value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture
- To protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers, wildlife and to have compassion for living creatures
- To develop a scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform
- To safeguard public property and to abjure violence
- To strive for excellence in all spheres of individual and collective activity, so that the nation constantly rises to higher levels of endeavour and achievement
- A citizen as a parent or guardian, should provide opportunities for education to his child, or as the case may be, his ward between the age of six to fourteen years

### **2.6.3. Qualities of Good Citizens and Progress of the Nation**

We as citizens, are all accountable for the good or bad condition of our nation. We need act in order to ensure a positive impact on our community and country. An individual action performed by a person can change a life, but collaborative actions have a positive impact on the nation as a whole. Therefore, the duties of citizens count as a contribution to a flourishing society and the nation as a whole.

A good citizen has responsibilities and commitments to ensure that the country develops and achieve peace and prosperity. A country can flourish when its citizens are responsible enough to build a strong and powerful nation. We are all responsible for the protection and development of our country.





The prime duty of a citizen is to become a good, conscious, dutiful and responsible citizen. A person must have certain qualities in order to be a good citizen. Only good citizens can ensure a bright future for their country. A good citizen is honest in word and deed. He is always truthful and hence never avoids paying taxes. He is selfless and does not live for himself or his family but also for others. He seeks his good in the good of all, helps those who need help, encourages those who need encouragement and protects those who need protection. A good citizen is never fanatic and narrow-minded. He or she never allows himself or herself to be swayed by emotion and petty considerations. Religious tolerance and communal harmony are the articles of faith of a good citizen. Such a person never loses temper whatever may be the provocation. A good citizen always understands and uses the language of reason and follows the dictates of conscience. A good citizen is every inch a patriot; being loyal to his/her country, and always prepared to sacrifice anything and everything for the motherland. Being broad-minded, such a citizen loves not only his/her own country but also other countries.

A good citizen is law-abiding and obeys the laws of the country sincerely. He or she never violates any law. Rather, he/she extends his/her full co-operation to the government in maintaining law and order in the country. He is ever ready to put down crime and help the police in arresting criminals.

Above all, a good citizen has the welfare of his country and his fellow citizens at heart. Such people render voluntary service to the city or their country in various capacities. It is, therefore, our duty as good citizens to build a healthy, prosperous, cultured and civilized nation, self-reliant, poverty - free, hunger- free and corruption - free nation.

***Food For thought: Don't ask what the country has done for you, ask what you have done for the country.***

## **2.7. Let us sum up**

Nation-building is a difficult task. Good citizens are the backbone of a nation and pillars of nation-building. They are genuine patriots. Patriotism, though defined as one's love for one's motherland/fatherland, has various shades of training and can be shrouded in ambiguity. There are blind or destructive patriotism and genuine or constructive patriotism.



Blind patriotism obstructs in nation-building whereas constructive patriotism is the backbone of nation-building. Patriotism differs significantly from nationalism. While, patriotism means love and pride for one's nation or attachment to one's nation, nationalism means a preoccupation with national superiority and an orientation toward national dominance. Patriotism is also a constitutional concept. The state demands some duties from its citizens. In the Indian context, the fundamental duties enshrined in our Constitution constitute constitutional patriotism.

## 2.8. Key Words

<b>Patriotism-</b>	Love for or devotion to one's country
<b>Nationalism-</b>	An ideology that emphasizes loyalty, devotion, or allegiance to a nation or nation-state and holds that such obligations outweigh other individual or group interests
<b>Constitution-</b>	A constitution is an aggregate of fundamental principles or established precedents that constitute the legal basis of a polity, organization or other types of entity and commonly determine how that entity is to be governed
<b>Nation-</b>	A nation is a community of people formed on the basis of a common language, territory, ethnicity etc. A country may be an independent sovereign state or part of a larger state, a physical territory with a government, or a geographic region associated with sets of previously independent or differently associated people
<b>Citizen-</b>	A citizen is a participatory member of a political community. Citizenship is gained by meeting the legal requirements of a national, state or local government. A nation grants certain rights and privileges to its citizens. In return, citizens are expected to obey their country's laws and defend it against its enemies.

**Fundamental Rights-** Fundamental rights are the basic human rights enshrined in the Constitution of India, which are guaranteed to all citizens.

**Fundamental Duties-** Fundamental duties basically imply the moral obligations of all citizens of a country and today, there are 11 fundamental duties



in India, which are included in Part IV-A of the Constitution, to promote patriotism and strengthen the unity of India

**Fatherland-** The native land or country of one's father or ancestors

**Motherland-** The motherland is the country in which you or your ancestors were born and to which you still feel emotionally linked, even if you live somewhere else

## 2.9. Check Your Learning

### Q.1. Definitional Type

- Patriotism
- Nationalism
- Motherland
- Fatherland
- Patria*
- Fundamental rights
- Good citizen
- Matrubhumi

### Q.2. Analytical Type

- Differentiate patriotism from nationalism.
- How did the term patriotism evolve from *patria*?
- Conceptualize good citizenship.
- Discuss constitutional patriotism.
- Distinguish destructive and constructive patriotisms.

### Q.3. Essay type

- Sketch a brief note on the origin and meaning of patriotism.
- How did ancient Indians conceive of patriotism?
- What do you mean by emotional attachment to motherland? How does it help nation-building?
- Note down the attributes of a good citizen. Examine how good citizen helps in Nation building.
- Discuss constitutional patriotism in India in the light of fundamental duties.

## 2.9. Suggested Readings

- Canovan, M., *Nationhood and Political Theory*, Edward Elgar, Cheltenham, UK, 1996.



- Mookerji, R., *Nationalism in Hindu Culture*, Theosophical Publishing House, London, 1921.
- Nussbaum, M, & J. Cohen., (Eds) *For Love of Country? Debating the Limits of Patriotism*, Beacon, Boston, 2002.
- Primoratz, I, and A. Pavkovic., *Patriotism: Philosophical and Political Perspectives*, Routledge, London and New York, 2016.
- Sardoc, M., ed. *Handbook of Patriotism*, Springer International, Cham, Switzerland, 2020.
- Viroli, M., *For Love of Country: An Essay on Patriotism and Nationalism*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1995.

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