

## MORALS

Morals are the welfare principles enunciated by the wise people, based on their experience and wisdom. They were edited, changed or modified or evolved to suit the geography of the region, rulers (dynasty), and in accordance with development of knowledge in science and technology and with time.

Morality is concerned with principles and practices of morals such as:  
 (a) What ought or ought not to be done in a given situation? (b) What is right or wrong about the handling of a situation? and  
 (c) What is good or bad about the people, policies, and ideals involved? Morality is different from Ethics in the following ways:

<i>Morality</i>	<i>Ethics</i>
1. More general and prescriptive based on customs and traditions.	1. Specific and descriptive. It is a critical reflection on morals.
2. More concerned with the results of wrong action, when done.	2. More concerned with the results of a right action, when not done.
3. Thrust is on judgment and punishment, in the name of God or by laws.	3. Thrust is on influence, education, training through codes, guidelines, and correction.
4. In case of conflict between the two, morality is given top priority, because the damage is more. It is more common and basic.	4. Less serious, hence second priority only. Less common. But relevant today, because of complex interactions in the modern society.
5. Example: Character flaw, corruption, extortion, and crime.	5. Example: Notions or beliefs about manners, tastes, customs, and towards laws.

As against morals and ethics, laws are norms, formally approved by state, power or national or international political bodies. Breaking the norms is called *crime*, and invite specific punishment.

## VALUES

Humans have the unique ability to define their identity, choose their values and establish their beliefs. All three of these directly influence a person's behavior. People have gone to great lengths to demonstrate the validity of their beliefs, including war and sacrificing their own life! Conversely, people are not motivated to support or validate the beliefs of another, when those beliefs are contrary to their own.

People will act congruent with their personal values or what they deem to be important.

*A value is defined as a principle that promotes well-being or prevents harm.* Another definition is: *Values are our guidelines for our success—our paradigm about what is acceptable.* Personal values are defined as: *“Emotional beliefs in principles regarded as particularly favorable or important for the individual.”* Our values associate emotions to our experiences and guide our choices, decisions and actions.

A person's observations on its environment are filtered through his values to determine whether or not he should expend energy to do something about his experiences. A person who values gold and sees a large bag of gold (a positive value) in his path as he walks, will be motivated to reach down and pick it up. A person who values his life and knows about venomous snakes will retreat from the sound of a rattlesnake (a negative value) from nearby, when he is walking in the desert. Said in another way, *“Values are the scales we use to weigh our choices for our actions, whether to move towards or away from something.”*

## Types of Values

The five core human values are: (1) Right conduct, (2) Peace, (3) Truth, (4) Love, and (5) Non-violence.

1. Values related to RIGHT CONDUCT are:

- (a) SELF-HELP SKILLS: Care of possessions, diet, hygiene, modesty, posture, selfreliance, and tidy appearance
- (b) SOCIAL SKILLS: Good behavior, good manners, good relationships, helpfulness, Nowastage, and good environment, and
- ©ETHICAL SKILLS: Code of conduct, courage, dependability,

duty, efficiency

1.ingenuity, initiative, perseverance, punctuality, resourcefulness, respect for all, and responsibility

2. Values related to PEACE are: Attention, calmness, concentration, contentment, dignity, discipline, equality, equanimity, faithfulness, focus, gratitude, happiness, harmony, humility, inner silence, optimism, patience, reflection, satisfaction, self-acceptance, self-confidence, self-control, self-discipline, self-esteem, self-respect, sense control, tolerance, and understanding

3. Values related to TRUTH are: Accuracy, curiosity, discernment, fairness, fearlessness, honesty, integrity (unity of thought, word, and deed), intuition, justice, optimism, purity, quest for knowledge, reason, self-analysis, sincerity, sprit of enquiry, synthesis, trust, truthfulness, and determination.

4. Values related to LOVE are: Acceptance, affection, care, compassion, consideration, dedication, devotion, empathy, forbearance, forgiveness, friendship, generosity, gentleness, humanness, interdependence, kindness, patience, patriotism, reverence, sacrifice, selflessness, service, sharing, sympathy, thoughtfulness, tolerance and trust

Values related to NON-VIOLENC

## Evolution of Human Values

The human values evolve because of the following factors:

1. The impact of norms of the society on the fulfillment of the individual's needs or desires.
2. Developed or modified by one's own awareness, choice, and judgment in fulfilling the needs.
3. By the teachings and practice of Preceptors (Gurus) or Saviors or religious leaders.
4. Fostered or modified by social leaders, rulers of kingdom, and by law (government).

## ETHICS

Ethics is the word that refers to morals, values, and beliefs of the individuals, family or the society. The word has several meanings. Basically it is an activity and process of inquiry. Secondly, it is different from non-moral problems, when dealing with issues and controversies. Thirdly, ethics refers to a particular set of beliefs, attitudes, and habits of individuals or family or groups concerned with morals. Fourth, it is used to mean 'morally correct'.

The study on ethics helps to know the people's beliefs, values, and morals, learn the good and bad of them, and practice them to maximize their well-being and happiness. It involves the inquiry on the existing situations, form judgments and resolve the issues. In addition, ethics tells us how to live, to respond to issues, through the duties, rights, responsibilities, and obligations. In religion, similar principles are included, but the reasoning on procedures is limited. The principles and practices of religions have varied from time to time (history), region (geography, climatic conditions), religion, society, language, caste and creed. But ethics has grown to a large extent beyond the barriers listed above. In ethics, the focus is to study and apply the principles and practices, universally.

## INTEGRITY

Integrity is defined as the unity of thought, word and deed (honesty) and open mindedness. It includes the capacity to communicate the factual information so that others can make well-informed decisions. It yields the person's 'peace of mind', and hence adds strength and consistency in character, decisions, and actions. This paves way to one's success. It is one of the self-direction virtues. It enthuse people not only to execute a job well but to achieve excellence in performance. It helps them to own the responsibility and earn self-respect and recognition by doing the job.

Moral integrity is defined as a virtue, which reflects a consistency of one's attitudes, emotions, and conduct in relation to justified moral values. Further discussion on this is available in Chapter 2.

## WORK ETHICS

Industry and Society are the two systems which interact with each other and are interdependent. Society requires industry/business system which provides manufacturing, distribution and consumption activities. It needs investment (capital input), labor (input), supply (raw materials), production (industries, business organizations), marketing and distribution (transport), and consumption (public, customer). A lot of transactions (and interactions) between these sub-systems involving people are needed for the welfare of the society. It is here, the work ethics plays an essential role.

Work ethics is defined as *a set of attitudes concerned with the value of work, which forms the motivational orientation*. The 'work ethics' is aimed at ensuring the economy (get job, create wealth, earn salary), productivity (wealth, profit), safety (in workplace), health and hygiene (working conditions), privacy (raise family), security (permanence against contractual, pension, and retirement benefits), cultural and social development (leisure, hobby, and happiness), welfare (social work), environment (anti-pollution activities), and offer opportunities for all, according to their abilities, but without discrimination.

