



UPSC SUPER SIMPLIFIED
www.upscsupersimplified.com

MAINS ANSWER WRITING **APPROACH ANSWERS**

Topic- ETHICS DAY 6



Copyright© by UPSC Super Simplified

All rights are reserved. No part of this document may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without prior permission of UPSC Super Simplified.

The ethical and philosophical arguments for passive euthanasia have been debated for years. Discuss the morality of euthanasia in the context of a terminally ill patient who wishes to end their life. (10 marks) (150 words)

Euthanasia is the purposeful killing of a terminally sick or severely afflicted patient to reduce their misery. The Greek terms "eu" (good) and "thanatos" (death) mean "euthanasia"—allowing the patient to die a "good death" rather than a slow, painful, or undignified death.

Arguments for euthanasia for terminally ill patients who want to die:

- **Autonomy:** Euthanasia advocates believe patients should have the right to stop their suffering if confronted with a terminal illness.
- The Supreme Court of India has declared the **right to die with dignity** a fundamental right under **Article 21** of the Constitution.
- **Quality of life:** Euthanasia is rational when terminally ill patients' quality of life is so low that death is the only alternative.
- The Indian Supreme Court has upheld the freedom of terminally sick individuals to forgo medical treatment that prolongs their agony.

Arguments against the morality of euthanasia in the context of a terminally ill patient who wishes to end their life:

- The Indian Constitution recognizes the **right to life as a fundamental right (Article 21)** and the State's duty to protect life. Legalizing euthanasia may result in the State not investing in health, which is essential for the right to life.
- Medical personnel take the **Hippocratic Oath** to protect life.
- **Abuse risk:** Legalizing euthanasia may lead to abuse, such as coercing patients or using it to minimize costs.

In conclusion, the morality of euthanasia in the context of a terminally ill patient who wishes to end their life is a complex issue with arguments both in favor and against it. While some argue that euthanasia is morally permissible in certain circumstances, others argue that it is never morally justifiable. Ultimately, the decision to allow euthanasia should be made on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the unique circumstances of each patient.

The use of capital punishment has been a contentious issue in India and around the world. Discuss the morality of capital punishment in the context of a criminal justice system. (10 marks) (150 words)

Capital punishment, also known as the death penalty, is a form of criminal punishment that takes the defendant's life as the punishment for the defendant's crime.

Arguments in favor of capital punishment:

- **Deterrence:** Supporters of capital punishment believe that it serves as a deterrent to crime, as the threat of execution may discourage others from committing similar crimes.
- **Retribution:** Capital punishment is seen as a just form of retribution, expressing and reinforcing the moral indignation not only of the victim's relatives but of law-abiding citizens in general. It is believed that those who commit murder, because they have taken the life of another, have forfeited their own right to life.
- **Justice:** Defenders of capital punishment argue that justice demands that those convicted of heinous crimes of murder be sentenced to death. It is unjust when a criminal deliberately and wrongly inflicts greater losses on others than he or she has to bear.

Arguments against capital punishment:

- **Morality:** Opponents of capital punishment argue that the taking of human life is permissible only if it is a necessary condition to achieving the greatest balance of good over evil for everyone involved. By legitimizing the very behavior that the law seeks to repress—killing—capital punishment is counterproductive in the moral message it conveys.
- **Risk of executing the innocent:** In a criminal justice system, some people may be executed for crimes they did not commit. The risk of executing the innocent is a significant argument against capital punishment.
- **Discrimination:** The application of the death penalty in capital murder cases has proved to be discriminatory in its nature. Juries in some states are three times more likely to hand down a death penalty for a black offender than a white offender.

In India, capital punishment is legal but is used sparingly. The morality of capital punishment in the context of a criminal justice system is a complex issue with arguments both in favor and against it. While some argue that capital punishment is morally permissible in certain circumstances, others argue that it is never morally justifiable. Ultimately, the decision to allow capital punishment should be made on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the unique circumstances of each case.

UPSC Super Simplified

UNLIMITED EVALUATION & PERSONAL MENTORSHIP



www.upscsupersimplified.com

Contact - 7827779142

For Free Mains Answer Writing Classes, fill out this form - <https://forms.gle/V3zMYom4oD2zZeot5>

You are working as an executive in a nationalized bank for several years. One of your close coworkers informs you her father has heart problems and needs surgery quickly. She further says she has no insurance and the operation will cost Rs. 10 lakh. Additionally, you are aware of the fact that she comes from a lower middle class household and that her husband has since passed away. You sympathize with her. Besides your sympathy, you cannot fund her.

Dr. Gaurav J. Sontake | Contact- 7827779142 | www.upscsupersimplified.com

Some weeks later, you ask her about her father's health, and she says he had surgery and is healing. She tells you that the bank manager helped release Rs. 10 lakh from a dormant account to pay for the operation on the condition that it be kept confidential and reimbursed quickly. She has begun repaying the loan and will continue until it is fully repaid.

(a) What are the ethical issues involved?

(b) Evaluate the behavior of the bank manager from an ethical point of view.

(c) How would you react to the situation ? Answer in 250 words²⁰

Facts of case

- The case study involves a colleague whose father requires emergent surgery for heart problems, which costs Rs. 10 lakh and is uninsured.
- The bank manager cleared Rs. 10 lakh from a dormant account to pay for the operation, promising to keep it discreet and repay it quickly.
- The colleague is repaying the money and will continue to do so.
- The nationalized bank executive sympathized with the colleague but did not utilize personal influence or resources to release money from a dormant account.

A) The ethical issues involved in this case study are:

- **Confidentiality:** The confidentiality of bank transactions is an ethical issue that should be respected.
- **Fairness:** The colleague received financial assistance from the bank manager, while other customers may not have access to such assistance. This raises questions about fairness and equal treatment of customers.
- **Integrity:** The bank manager may have violated the bank's policies and procedures by facilitating the release of funds from a dormant account. This raises questions about the integrity of the bank manager.

B) Behavior of the bank manager from an ethical point of view

- A bank manager in this case study may have acted **unethically**. The bank manager may have **breached bank policy** by releasing money from a dormant account, which **violates transaction secrecy**. The bank manager's **credibility** is questioned.

-
- Banks and financial institutions need a **code of ethics** to guide their behavior and decisions.
 - **Empathy and compassion** must be balanced with **ethics and procedure**. Banks and financial institutions need clear ethical and regulatory norms.

C) In this circumstance, ethics and bank policies must be followed. Here are some options:

- Show **empathy** for the colleague's plight, but **don't use personal power to release funds** from a dormant account.
- Suggest **philanthropic or non-governmental assistance**.
- Maintain **bank transactions confidentially** and don't discuss the colleague's condition.
- **Report complaints** about the bank manager's behavior to bank authorities.
- Make sure all acts follow the **bank's code of conduct, ethics, and relevant laws and regulations**.

Empathy and compassion must be balanced with ethics and procedure. The bank can aid others while keeping its image.
