

Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts and Science

Autonomous

B.A. Semester End Examination, January/ February 2022

Semester: I

Subject: Philosophy

Title: Moral Philosophy (Core)

Duration: 2 Hours

Max. Marks: 60

Instructions: 1. **Q.1.** is compulsory. From **Q. 2.** to **Q. 7.**, answer **ANY FOUR.**

2. Figures to the right indicate full marks.

Q. 1. How important is Moral Philosophy as a course to your life as a student and as a human being? Do you feel it is a waste of your time since you already practise it in some form or the other? Or, have you learnt more through the different topics discussed during the course? Is it something that has made you question some of your long held beliefs? Use examples to better illustrate your ideas. **(12)**

Q. 2. Share your thoughts on the concept of Dharma. **(12)**

a. How do you look at it and understand it in the context of moral philosophy?

b. Is it merely an Indian concept unique to Indian society or does it have relevance to the rest of the world, and modern day society?

Please use examples to emphasise your points.

P.T.O.

Q. 3. Share your thinking with the help of examples on the following: **(12)**

a. The problem of free will

b. Freedom and determinism

Q. 4. India being the fount of at least four religious faiths has a lot to offer in terms of living life morally. Elaborate on **any two** of the Indian theories used to explain morality or ethics. How do you understand them in the context of living a good life? How do they differ from theories in Western Philosophy? Illustrate all these views with the help of examples. **(12)**

Q. 5. The use of punishment is as ancient as human society. There are different motivations or theories or schools of thought that are used to justify the need for punishment in human society. Share your ideas in detail of **any two** of them. What is the nature and need for these theories? Do they meet the purpose for which punishment is intended, or do they fall short? Is there room for improvement? Give instances to justify your reasoning. **(12)**

Q. 6. How do you understand the relationship between moral or ethical relativism and moral or ethical absolutism? Is it a complementary relationship, or is one better than the other? Which one do you find yourself more inclined to? Evaluate your stance with elaborate examples. **(12)**

Q. 7. Morality in society is as important as the air we breathe. We learn it from society and we also develop it ourselves. In this regard, how would you understand and explain the concepts of customary morality and reflective morality? Are they both important for society to function smoothly, or can we do without one or the other? Justify your thinking with instances. **(12)**
