

**IMPORTANCE OF VALUES AND MANNERISM THROUGH
J. C. HILL'S 'GOOD MANNERS'**

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Abstract

J.C. Hill's essay 'Good Manners' is written in simple language. It is taken from the book 'An Introduction to Citizenship'. Hill says that values and good manners are the link between need and action and form the basis of our feelings and behaviour. He lays emphasis on the right conduct of a responsible citizen and the need for good manners, service and consideration for others. In this essay, he has focused on the several aspects such as humility in behaviour, clarity of thought and its expression in speech, making allowances for the weak.

The objective of this paper is to highlight the need and significance of good manners in society and human life. Basically good manners are supportive in running our communal existence effortlessly. We should know our limitations and need to nurture the mind-set of consideration and understanding for others. A person with good manners exhibits reverence towards approach and emotions of others living in the environment. Such person by no means discriminate people and displays identical observation to every person. Reticence, meekness, sympathy, and consideration are the indispensable qualities of a well-mannered person.

Keywords:

Good manners, value, truth, significance, socialism, people, human life

Introduction:

Before going to deal with the values and manners, let us have a focus on the term 'values' and 'manners',

*'Values are individual and basic viewpoints that stimulate populace to take action one way or another. They serve as a channel for human conduct. Usually, citizens are inclined to implement the ethics that they are elevated with. Community can be inclined to consider that those values are correct because they are the values of their fastidious civilization.'*¹

Values help us to resolve what is significant to us. They portray the individual traits we choose to exemplify and direct our actions, the kind of personality we want to be; the approach in which we extravagance ourselves and others, and our dealings with the universe around us. They offer the universal strategy for behavior.

Let us study the definition of manners,

*'Manners are the traits and well-built signals which demonstrate thankfulness, admiration, benevolence and trustworthy behaviour.'*²

They also communicate us how to behave in future. They designate whether you are dependable, consistent and self-sacrificing. The human beings need to cultivate good manners. These good manners help them to develop civilized attributes. For example, they should learn to give genuine compliments to those who have done something extra-ordinary, respect other's privacy, respect their elders, help others, smile and have a good outlook, make diminutive talk, ask

inquiry of others, speak with compassion, ask for permission and also learn to say the words such as please, thank you, sorry etc.

*'Good Manners are the outer embellishment of man and they stand for superior qualities which ingratiate us to others. Without etiquettes, existence becomes uninteresting.'*³

Good manners are the prudent expressions that we possibly keep in mind being educated as children, and those who are now parents perhaps reiterate to their own kids. They can facilitates us materialize more convinced, maintaining individual associations, prospering at workplace and normally take pleasure in more contented and better lives.

Significance of Good Manners:

It is the universal fact that the existence of human beings is temporary. Human beings have given a short span to live on this planet. Within this short span, we have to make the most of and endeavor to maintain balance with others; perhaps we will never see the same persons after our death. However this is the last chance to visualize and to deal with the human beings. Author says,

*'We need to behave politely and assist others as much as we can. We should try to please others through our deeds.'*⁴

Considering the fact, we should be very cautious and humble in this treacherous world. For example, a little kid would not be acquainted with the misery of their parents, because parents would not reveal these sufferings to their children. They expect that their children should free from such agonies. They wish their kid's life should be easy. Your parents have already tolerated severe blows. For your health and strength, they have spent their everything. Even though they are tired but never exhibit their tiredness and never complain that they are exhausted. They hide the truth and demonstrate that everything is alright. This is the real sacrifice that your parents do in order to make their children comfortable. Good manners are obliging in running our communal life efficiently. We should nurture feelings of consideration for others and know our boundaries as human

beings. We should be attentive of the need of others. If we are well-mannered, we are appreciated. If not, we are detested by everybody.

*'Good manners are pertinent to both man and humanity. For improvement and opulence, collective peace and agreement, communal support and fellow sensation, and law and order are essential.'*⁵

Transformation of Young Man's Mind-Set:

In the opening scene of the essay, J. C. Hill depicts a story of a young man who was muscular and vigorous and enjoyed his employment. In every way, he considers himself as a superior and always prefers to keep himself on topmost position. He had no compassion for others. He never thinks for others. One day he got attack of influenza. Earlier he had had the attack of the same but he couldn't pay proper attention to it. But now he has been suffered from pneumonia and was hazardously sick. He remained weak for few days even after his recovery from sickness. Even he could not saunter properly. He was effortlessly exhausted and life became complicated for him. After his recovery, he went to work but he found his journey tiresome. He looked at the strong men sitting comfortably in the train or bus. Then he felt tired himself. He observed that older people are also tired who were nearby him. Gradually he got strong again. From that day, he punctually offered the seats for the pathetic and elderly persons in transport buses. He said himself,

*'I have got my strength back now but these older people will never have their strength again.'*⁶ (Good Manners: 26)

We can extend our service for humanity by all means. For instance, when you are cycling and see an old man hesitating on a crossing, don't call him an old fool. Perhaps he might have lost his hearing capacity or visual ability or non-capability to walk. You just have the spirit of empathy and put yourself into others shoes. Try to understand others pain so that no one can mock at you.

Secret of Good Manners:

Hill asks us to be cautious while speaking with others. Some people are enchanted to heed their own voice resonated from everywhere and some young men and young women converse away their lives, thinking the company is thrilled to take notice of them, but everyone there would be fatigued and irritated at their coarse and bad-mannered behavior. Good manners are vital especially when you are accompanied by your friends. Hill asserts,

*'Good manners lie in taking care of people who are around us. We should not giggle at the geriatric who find it strenuous to cross the road. In reality, our chuckling will return to us soon, as it takes place with the young fellow.'*⁷

When we verbalize to anyone, we have to converse loudly, so that the person may hear clearly. During conversation, if the speaker asks the attention of the audience, it indicates that he or she is not paying proper attention to the speaker. In this situation, the person from the audience cannot comprehend the things uttered by the speaker. Thus it results into the insult of the speaker. It is the perceptible reality that your accountability makes yourself to appreciate. Hill says that,

*'It is your conscientiousness to make yourself implicit.'*⁸

Hill claims the traits of good mannered person. A person with gratifying etiquette respects the feelings of the around him. He displays appropriate admiration to his elders, adores his colleagues and is considerate to those who are youthful than him. Humility and courteousness are essential qualities of his individuality. Good manners are essential for accomplishment in existence. Nobody likes a discourteous human being, but good manners coax a man to other.

Socialism and Mannerism:

A well known American philosopher Thoreau shares his experience of socialism and mannerism,

*'It takes two to articulate the genuineness- one to verbalize and another to perceive sound.'*⁹ (Good Manners: p.26)

This saying would certainly save lot of disagreement and aggravation in life if people paid concentration to it. Generally what we articulate will not be the genuineness. We should not believe that whatever I speak is the definitive exactness. Reality differs from person to person. You cannot converse the legitimacy by saying what you reflect is the reality. You have to put across it another way for diverse populace. To some community, 'socialism' means taking wealth from those who have currency and giving it to those who have nothing. To another people, 'socialism' means state control of industry and commerce, but it is robbing the riches of others. For others, we cannot enlighten a man the exactness about collectivism until you know what he recognizes by the term. If you say, *'I believe in socialism'* and he comprehends that you mean you trust in theft, you must not be astonished if he despises you; and if that is not what you mean, you did not talk the certainty. If man says to a friend, *'Good morning, Mr. 'A'* and the friend replies,

*'it's not a good morning at all', is that the truth, even if the morning is horrific?'*¹⁰ (Good Manners: p.27)

Encounter Between A Boy Scout and A lady:

Hill says that sometimes people inquire very annoying questions and we like to formulate a comic story about it. Once an old lady observes a dress (shorts, jersey with badges, a Scout's hat and Scout pole) of a little boy and asks him whether he is a Scout boy. The little boy was aggravated and impolitely told that he was 'two eggs on toast'. The woman only meant,

*'How pleasant you appear in your uniform; that is the Scout identity, isn't it?'*¹¹ (Good Manners: p.27)

There was actually nothing impractical in her comment. J. C. Mill comments,

'Only unintelligent citizens take explanations factually. They do not come across for the genuine

connotation in the proclamations made by the populace.¹² (GM: 27)

This is considered inappropriate conduct towards older people. Through this story, the author wishes to highlight the example of good manners by saying that we should take care for the people around us. He solicits us not to chuckle at the aged persons who find it rigid to cross the street. He asserts that our amusement will return to us quickly, as it occur with the juvenile. For instance, when a companion says,

'You will not be going long-ago the post office, will you?'¹³ (GM: 27)

He may mean,

'I should be obliged if you would post a letter for me if it is not too much nuisance.'¹⁴ (GM: 27)

If you say, 'No' to the inquiry because you are not going past the post office, it means to your acquaintance that you are not willing to go out of your way even a little to necessitate him.

Sociable Articulation:

It is very difficult in company to verbalize sociable and if you don't want to be considered a dreadful mannered individual, you have to observe frequently for ciphers. It is complicated to pay attention for long to any one person. Endeavor in company to take only a fair share of the discussion. When you have said a little, calm down and give your friend an opportunity to articulate something. If he does not speak, he possibly does not want you to gossip either. Many a young man or woman talks away, believing the company is enchanted to heed him or her and everybody is really worn out and annoyed.

Observation of Experienced Person regarding Mannerism:

It is the manner that we should not utter any disagreeable things or any remarks about someone behind his back. It is astounding how the comments usually discover their way to the human being with your name attached, so to converse. Whatever you declare, all the time presuppose that the person may listen in and fiddle with your observations consequently. The truth is that all the experienced person act in this way.

J. C. Mill reiterates,

*'The most amazing thing in life is that no man in actuality recognizes himself.'*¹⁵ (GM: 27)

If a man really understands him, he can stay away from the vices such as arguments and irritation. Experiments are occasionally made by connoisseurs to find out how many mistakes people do create in their statements. It is found that usually ten percent populace makes blunders in the declaration about a particular incidence they witnessed. Whenever you disagree with someone about a point, keep in mind that there is moderately a good possibility that you are mistaken, however convinced you think about it. J. C. Mill says,

*'Good manners come from having kindness with others and from understanding our own boundaries.'*¹⁶ (GM: 28)

Man is Powerless to appreciate Himself:

The author J. C. Hill advocates that we need to understand ourselves before mocking or talking dreadful about others. For example, he gives an example of the experimentation which is carried out in a college in which the undergraduates were shown a picture of a bull and were asked to reveal their opinions about the picture. Some students believed that the bull's tongue was out of its oral cavity, but it was not so. The author declares that every one of us is not aware of ourselves and we should take care of

what we dispute and verbalize. So whenever we quarrel with someone about an issue, believe that all the time there is a possibility of us going erroneous.

Truth is related to Good Manners:

J.C. Hill says that legitimacy should be shared with others. It should remain one man's reality. If we converse and no one pays attention to our speaking is pointless. The certainty is too large for any of us to comprehend. Truth is never one-sided. It is our duty to be kind and considerate to our fellow beings as we come to the world once. In reality, the truth is related to good manners. The exactness as we visualize is only our truth. We should always appreciate that we are self-effacing, insignificant little people on this ground and endeavor to assist the globe as much as we should be able to in our diminutive moments. In this regard, J. C. Mill asserts,

*'I expect to pass through this world but once. Any good work that I can accomplish,.....let me carry out it now.'*¹⁶ (GM: 28)

Conclusion:

J. C. Hill concludes the essay with the statement that there is no particular genuineness in the universe. The fact is that the truth which we consider authentic may be phony for others. The best solution on this issue is to cultivate good manners, be considerate and to understand the people around you. In our life, values and manners play a crucial role. The values help us to resolve what is significant to us and good manners derive from both sympathy and empathy. We should understand our own boundaries and train ourselves to remain peaceful before exasperating questions.

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