Geography · GS - IV

What is meant by the term ‘constitutional morality’?

How does one uphold constitutional morality?

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
2019	GS - IV	Geography

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Constitutional values; rule of law; justice; liberty; equality; fraternity; institutional integrity; respect for dissent; constitutional methods

Model Answer

Introduction

Constitutional morality means commitment to the values, principles and spirit of the Constitution, beyond mere formal compliance with its provisions. It requires public authorities and citizens to respect constitutional limitations and democratic ideals.

Meaning and Importance

Constitutional morality involves respect for liberty, equality, justice, fraternity, secularism and the rule of law. It prevents arbitrary exercise of power and protects individuals and minorities from majoritarian excesses.

Ways to Uphold Constitutional Morality

1. Respect for Constitutional Institutions

Legislatures, executives and judiciaries must function within their respective constitutional jurisdictions.

2. Protection of Fundamental Rights

Public authorities must safeguard equality, freedom of expression, dignity and other fundamental rights.

3. Ethical Exercise of Power

Officials should act impartially, avoid misuse of authority and place constitutional obligations above personal or political interests.

4. Respect for Dissent

Democratic disagreement must be treated as legitimate, provided it remains within constitutional limits.

5. Constitutional Conduct in Public Life

Elected representatives and citizens should reject discrimination, communal hatred and arbitrary practices.

6. Constitutional Education

Civic awareness and institutional accountability help embed constitutional values in everyday life.

Conclusion

Constitutional morality makes the Constitution a living instrument of democratic governance. It is upheld when public power respects individual dignity, institutional boundaries and the principles of justice and equality.

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