

Q What is meant by 'Constitutional morality'?

How does one uphold Constitutional morality?

Ans In the recent Sabrimata Judgement, Supreme Court held that Constitutional morality should be and not customary morality should be guide to modern life and allowed women entry.

Constitutional morality refers to ideals and ethical principles enshrined in various provisions and philosophy of Constitution like Justice, equality, human dignity, liberty and fraternity. We can see glimpse of these principles in PREAMBLE of Indian Constitution.

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## Benefit of upholding Constitutional Morality

- Inclusive growth and Sustainable development in Society
- Peace, harmony and Stability
- Address issues of discrimination & uphold Social Justice

## WAY TO UPHOLD CONSTITUTIONAL MORALITY

- ① Follow noble ideas and principles of Constitution in daily life. at individual level.  
Ex. Fulfill fundamental duty like respect of women's dignity, fraternity
- ② Framing of laws and judgement by Legislature & <sup>judiciary</sup> Executive respectively in light of vision and philosophy of Constitution.  
Ex. Right to privacy → Puttaswamy judgement as FR
- ③ Addressing issue of Corruption and other social evils with Systemic reforms

Constitutional morality can act as an guiding light to establish ideal Society and nation by adherence to it.

What is meant by 'Crisis of Conscience'?  
How does it manifest itself in the public domain?

Conscience refers to inner voice that helps us distinguish between right and wrong morally.

Crisis of Conscience is a situation when one is unable to decide action due to conflict between inner voice and duty or responsibility one is supposed to perform. It is generally due to multiple values that are in conflict with each other.

For example, a civil servant is supposed to uphold Rule of Law and demolish illegal encroachment on public land. However, if it involves families of poor people having children

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and no means of alternative residence. Thus it may create crisis internally due to conflict between legal duty and compassion for the family.

In the life of civil servant, such cases of crisis of conscience can manifest in public domain in many ways

- ① The issue of whistleblowing is a situation where a person is in dilemma to listen to inner voice or remain silent for organisational hierarchy in case of irregularity or corruption.
- ② Enforcement of law that may be unethical or not as per moral beliefs of persons. Ex. Slavery Act in USA for a person who believe in freedom for all.

In the situation of crisis of conscience, it is courage of conviction with reason and logic that aids to take a ethical and moral path and decision.