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Q1

Truth knows no color.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2025 · Essay · 125 marks · Philosophical and ethical quotes

Philosophical and ethical quotes

Core demand of the question

- Unpack "colour" as caste, race, party flag and bias - not only skin
- **One stand:** a fact does not change with the tribe; who gets heard still does
- Move through self, society, state, world. Keep one honest counter
- Close on constitutional morality, not a slogan

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with a dyed fact. Stand:** truth has no tribe; hearing still does.
- **Headings:** self, society, state, world, then one counter.

Earn **Gandhi** and **Ambedkar** once each. Peg **NFHS-5** or RTI, not a data dump.

Close on constitutional morality.

Note

This is a map, not the full 1,000-1,200 word essay.

Anecdote

A child is told to colour a map. She paints the river blue because the book said so. The river outside her window is silt-brown. The book was not lying about water. It was lying about the world as lived. "Truth knows no colour" asks the same of us: do not dye a fact to match a side.

One stand

Truth does not wear a caste, a party colour, or a skin tone. Prejudice still decides who is allowed to speak it. Write to separate the fact from the dye.

Heading map**What the line is asking**

- **Truth:** what survives a check - evidence, a witness, a file that can be opened again.
- **Colour:** the dye we add - caste, race, language, party, "our people".
- A fact does not become false because it is inconvenient. The fight is over who may say it.

Self

- We keep the news that flatters us. That is colour in the mind.
- Colourism in jobs and marriage markets is a daily Indian test of the line.

- A Dalit woman's testimony is not "bias". It is data the room often refuses. Truth has no colour; access to truth still has a postcode.

Society

- After a riot, rumour dyes the count. Prefer the slower official number to the faster WhatsApp number.
- Speed on a phone is also a colour.

State

- **FIR, RTI, census, CAG, the Election Commission:** boring offices that stop colour becoming "official truth".
- Courts exist to bleach a file that a government has dyed.

World

- Climate numbers do not care for national colour. War communiques do. Name the difference.

The counter

If truth knows no colour, why listen to the margin? Because the margin often holds the fact the centre dyed. The line forbids prejudice. It does not forbid looking closely.

Last paragraph

- **End on a habit, not a slogan:** slow the eye, name the dye, keep the fact. **Articles 14 and 19** are that habit in law. In the hall, grow each heading above into a full paragraph with one Indian case - this page is only the map.

Facts & figures

Gandhi

"**Truth is God**" - not "my party is God". Use it when a fact is dyed for a side.

Ambedkar

Constitutional morality: a daily discipline against the colour of birth and the mob.

National Family Health Survey-5 (NFHS-5)

Sex ratio at birth is still skewed in several states - a preference wearing the mask of nature.

RTI 2005

The file must face the citizen, not only the colour of office.

Arts. 14 and 19

Equality before law and free speech - the legal bleach for dyed truth.