

### Regulars

4 To Our Readers

7 Editorial

### News and Events

8 Nation this Month

17 World this Month

26 Nobel Prizes, 2020

28 Regional News

29 National and International Updates



### Career News

39 Employment and Career News

39 Forthcoming Competitive Examinations

### Current Affairs

40 Sports World

43 Chennai Super Kings Emerges Champion of Indian Premier League Title 2021



44 Memorable Points

46 Economic Scenario

56 Environment, Ecology, Biodiversity and Climate Change Round-up

### INSPIRING YOUTH : INTERVIEWS

58 **Prakhar Kumar Singh**  
Topper—Civil Services  
Exam., 2020  
(29th Rank)



60 **Abhinav Parashar**  
Topper—65th Bihar Civil Services  
Exam.,  
(17th Rank)

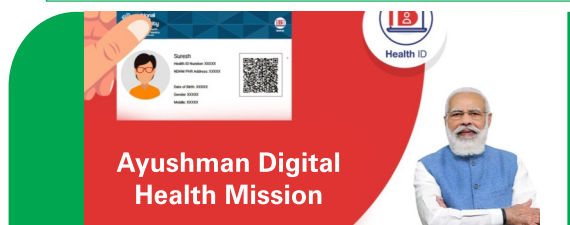


### Career Article

62 Civil Services Examination : Time to Engage in Meaningful Activities

### FOCUS

65 (1) Ayushman Digital Health Mission



67 (2) Farmers' Producer Organisation : An Effective Ecosystem to Boost Farmers' Income

70 (3) National Scheme for PM POSHAN (Poshan Shakti Nirman)

### World Panorama

72 (i) Indo-Vietnam Relations : Strategic Overtones

74 (ii) QUAD Summit and China



### PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT

77 Bask in Emotional Sunshine

## ARTICLES

### International Relations Article

- 78 India's Role in Afghan-Taliban Peace Talks

### International Politics Article

- 80 India, Taiwan and China

### Constitutional Article

- 82 Judicial Independence and the Future of Indian Democracy

### Sociological Article

- 85 Problem of Child Labour in India : Nature, Magnitude and Policy



### Artificial Intelligence Article

- 88 Children in the Age of Artificial Intelligence and Virtual Reality

### Environmental Article

- 89 What Happens With Namami Ganga Project
- 92 Forest Conservation Act : Proposed Amendments and its Impact on National Security and Border Infrastructure

### Agriculture Article

- 94 Making Cropping Pattern Sustainable in North-West Region of India



## PUBLIC WELFARE ARTICLE

- 97 Govt. Schemes/Plans/Projects/Mission : Current Updates
- 99 Compendium
- 102 Important Concepts in News

## YEAR END REVIEW 2020

- 106 Ministry of New and Renewable Energy



- 109 Prominent Historical Personalities of India
- 111 Current Questionnaire
- 116 Trade and Industry

## QUESTION PAPERS

### Optional Paper

- 139 UGC-NET/JRF Exam., 2020  
History

### Other Papers

- 151 Uttar Pradesh Post Graduate Teacher Exam., 2021  
Sociology
- 159 Civil Services (Pre.) Exam., 2021  
General Studies-I
- 173 Uttar Pradesh PCS/RFO (Pre.) Exam., 2021  
General Studies-II
- 181 RAS/RTS (Pre.) Exam., 2021  
General Awareness

## SOLVED MODEL PAPERS

- 120 Forthcoming Civil Services (Mains) Exam., 2021  
General Studies-I
- 129 Forthcoming Civil Services (Mains) Exam., 2021  
General Studies-II
- 194 Forthcoming B.P.S.C. (Pre.) Exam., 2021  
General Studies

## YOUR PAGES

- 201 Essay Contest
- 202 Debate Contest
- 204 Concentric Quiz
- 207 Results
- 208 Test Your Knowledge



The views and opinions expressed in Pratiyogita Darpan are those of the authors & contributors and don't necessarily reflect those of the publisher or the editor.



# The Pen is Mightier than the Sword

For a layman only something that is concrete has value and significance. That which cannot be seen or that which has only symbolical significance has no value for him. Erroneous view is, therefore, held by some people that the sword is mightier than the pen. They actually do not understand the meaning of pen. Understood literally pen has no power when compared with the striking power of the sword. But here we have to use the word 'pen' in a symbolical way. Pen stands for expression, for literature, for what comes out of a writer's pen. And it is true that literature or writing wields far more power than the arms can ever wield. Battles are fought over a certain period of time and within a particular area. They certainly affect and influence events but in a limited way. On the other hand, the effect of pen or literature is wide; sometimes it is universal.

The messages of Buddha, Christ, Confucius, Gandhi and Marx are universal in their appeal. There is a galaxy of writers, poets, philosophers and spiritual men and women whose messages are valid for all times and for all climes. The sword has a physical effect, it hardly affects the mind and the spirit, while the pen affects the mind, the intellect and the spirit. The latter can shape the minds, hearts and the spirit of people in a desired way if only the wielder has the mastery of its use in the required measure. Arms represent violence and they have in most cases a destructive effect. The pen or literature must exercise a positive effect. The sword cuts, the pen may also cut by the use of irony and satire, but while the sword lacks the restorative effect, the pen may exercise a healing power also. The superiority of the pen also lies in the fact that even where the sword is used and success is attained, the use of pen is necessary to consolidate that success.

The fact of superiority of the pen over the sword should not lead us to believe that the sword has no value. Arms also have changed history. When everything fails, when persuasion, negotiations etc. fail, the use of arms is left the only

alternative. Rama had ultimately to use force to teach Ravan a lesson. Arms were used to ensure the victory of the good over the forces of evil. If the great war of Mahabharat had not been fought, the forces of evil which the Kauravas represented would have continued to plague the kingdom and the rule of justice and righteousness could never have been established. Lord Krishna, therefore, induced Arjun to fight a violent war to destroy the forces of evil and rehabilitate the rule of the right. In Indian mythology, there are numerous references to violence committed with a view to safeguarding good and justice and honour by killing the demons and Rakshasas. Many subject people resorted to arms to regain their freedom from the colonial masters. The use of the sword proves effective in controlling rebellious and recalcitrant sections of people upon whom all persuasion has fallen flat. The strength of a country is measured by the strength of its army and its arsenal. The super powers are feared and respected because they possess the power of the sword in a greater measure than any other country of the world. India cannot have its voice heard in the comity of nations until it commands viable military power. Its voice can be heard only when it is delivered from a position of strength. China has succeeded in earning respect and attention of such a mighty country as the United States of America because it has been able to develop its military potential in a fair measure.