

## ESSAY

Time Allowed: 3 hrs.

Max. Marks: 250

### Instructions to Candidate

- Both sections are compulsory.
- Attempt an essay from each section.
- Each essay carries 125 marks.
- Write each essay in about 1000-1200 words.
- After finishing the first essay, attempt the next on a fresh Page.
- Any page left blank in the answer-book must be crossed out clearly.

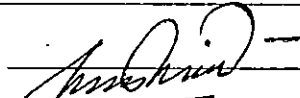
*(Examiner will pay special attention to the candidate's grasp of his/her material, its relevance to the subject chosen, and to his/ her ability to think constructively and to present his/her ideas concisely, logically and effectively).*

### Remarks

Name Harshit Saini

Mobile No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date 15-10-16

Signature 

1. Invigilator Signature \_\_\_\_\_

2. Invigilator Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION - A

- ✓ 1. Health is not valued till sickness comes. ✓
2. Everything is funny, as long as it is happening to somebody else.
3. Where words fail, music speaks.
4. Mistakes are always forgivable, if one has the courage to admit them.

## SECTION - B

1. The question isn't who is going to let me; it's who is going to stop me.
- ✓ 2. Achieving life is not the equivalent of avoiding death.
3. The ladder of success is best climbed by stepping on the rungs of opportunity.
4. Never interrupt your enemy when he is making a mistake.

Remarks

## Section A

1. Health is not valued till sickness comes

"Democracy is the worst form of government except for all the ones that we have tried till now" - Winston Churchill

As Churchill correctly evaluated the importance of democracy during the worldwide crisis of World War II due to threats of Nazism <sup>and</sup> Fascism, in a similar fashion we have been found wanting in the realisation of critical importance of health. Health ~~is the form only~~ when the sickness has arrived, the importance has been reiterated.

Health not only in the <sup>form of</sup> biological well-being of a person but encompassing the health of political system, societal harmony, economic well-being, environmental sustainability and the international order and peace. These <sup>have been</sup> ~~are~~ valued or considered more important when the sickness in the form of state of led emergency, suppression of civil and political rights, widespread economic inequality, societal divides - race, religion and gender, and threats to international peace have come up. It has happened again and again throughout the history of humans.

Remarks

India's political system rests on the strong fundamental principles of democracy. The constitution of India was framed envisioning the needs of the future as well as ensuring the general well-being of the citizens. It guaranteed fundamental rights in the form of right to equality, right to freedom of speech, right against exploitation, religious freedom and minority rights, not realising their actual importance as starchians said that India would not survive as a nation. Despite of the sicknesses whether it was communal violence, caste discrimination, or identity politics, India has survived as a nation. During the 1970s, when the emergency was imposed and subsequent suppression of civil rights, media gagging and suspension of fundamental rights took place, the citizenry was shocked. They started to cherish the rights more. Their ~~health~~ <sup>the</sup> health of democratic principles was restored with constitutional amendments, and ~~up~~ since then, individual rights and freedom have been valued more.

Remarks

The societal harmony with ~~peace~~ has been a remarkable feature of Indian society. Though it <sup>historically</sup>, it has been splintered with the incidents of communal violence and caste-based atrocities, we <sup>have</sup> survived such incidents and ~~so~~ have come out a stronger collectivity. ~~After~~ But the society has not been in the pink of health always. Communal violence of following the declaration of Indian independence, especially Kolkata killings and violence during refugee settlements has been a blot. The importance of societal harmony was realised with respect the inherent divides on the basis of race, religion, caste, sex and the place of birth present in our society. The constitution of India was drafted making sure that these divides are bridged as much as possible. The sickness of riots (Mashimpura violence, Babri Masjid demolition rights, recent cow vigilantism) has happened and made us realise the importance of health of societal peace, harmony and brotherhood. The institutions of judiciary, media and legislative machinery ~~has~~ have taken steps in this regard from time to

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time. These steps include the caste based reservation, imposition of curfew during the 1991 riots, implementation of Shah Commission report and most importantly, Indian state concept of secularism which believes in protection and promotion of all the religious communities.

For any society to progress, economic development with equitable redistribution of gains is a must. With this core principle, we started with state-led model of development with emphasis on public sector growth and the ultimate broke down to the bottom strata. This model failed as it was considered as 'airplane model' of growth by Robert Blauner which due to the widespread inequality not being addressed and poor people became poorer. Thus, the health of economy of economic prosperity with equality as realised in the circumstances

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of 1960s and 1970s which were hit by plagued with agrarian distress, famine, food insecurity, corruption in public sector unit, unemployment and sluggish economy. It was enhanced by general culture of inefficiency. This sickness was rectified by the calls of Jai kisan programme by Lal Bahadur Shastri, Green revolution, opening up of Indian economy and nationalisation of banks. Thereupon, the economic health of the nation was restored after the sickness.

Similarly, the economic gains made during this period were again followed by the mismanagement of the economy, for instance, mis-~~a~~ agriculture, neglect, emphasis on technological revolution without the required infrastructure in place, import of capital goods leading to foreign exchange crisis. This sickness was again cured by the economic reforms of 1991 i.e. liberalisation and privatisation followed by globalisation. As a result, we had a good run in economic growth and we broke the Hindu rate growth rate consistently over two decades. In fact, we ran our economy at more than 6% consistently ~~etc~~ from 1991 to

2008. During this period, we ignored the economic health parameters and this led to widespread economic inequality and peak of unemployment.

Again, agrarian distress was a widespread phenomenon across the whole economy. This sickness was reversed by the steps taken by the government to ensure that human development is not neglected. There was an emphasis on generation of employment by state led investment, such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Programme (MGNREGS).

Health of the mother earth has not been valued till the sickness of climate change due to global warming, extinction of species, loss of genetic pool, pollution, deforestation, degradation of land and frequent & natural disasters causing huge damage to life and property, has plagued us. The earth and containing our environment is in dire need of interventions. Only after such

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events, we have realised the importance of the health of our environment. There has been globally agreed realised need for sustainable development. It was manifested in 1992 world climate conference that took place at Rio de Janeiro. Environment protection protocols such as Montreal protocol, Ramsar convention, Montreal protocol for phasing out of Ozone depleting substances have been signed to restore to health of environment and conserve biodiversity.

The gains made due to this intervention has been neutralised again due to capitalism led industrial growth in developing countries. Again the value of health was forgotten and the mistakes of western developed nations was repeated by the emerging economies of India, China and others. Therefore, in order to cure the sickness of rising global temperatures, air pollution, water degradation, there was a global call to save the environment. These calls came to fruition in the recent Paris climate change deal (2015) in which the world nations have agreed for the cut back in their emissions and renewed

emphasis on green energy sources and alternatives to fossil fuels such as in the form of solar energy etc.

Similarly, the health of economic peace international peace and order has been threatened by the rise of undemocratic authoritarian rulers, terrorism and money laundering. The rise of Nazism in 1930s and following Jewish genocide, terrorist groups of Al-Qaeda in Afghanistan and more recent, ISIS (Islamic state Iraq and Syria) are the cases in point. In fact, ~~the~~ ISIS has been the largest cause committer of largest number of human atrocities, genocide, mass level of migration and subsequent societal divides. This sickness in international peace needs to be curbed with consensus building, selective boycotts and globally agreed plan of action. In this regard, steps of United Nations on peace deal in Syria are commendable. Similarly this, the health of international order is 'trying' to crawl back to normalcy. The need for peace can't be reiterated more.

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On the more positive note, it can be said that the early interventions such as Paris climate deal (2015), reforms in corporate governance, corporate social responsibility have shown signs of wellbeing of economic, social and environmental health much before the sickness was done the damage. In the future, it may not be necessary that the health is not valued till the sickness comes but has been found true till now.

### Section B

Achieving life is not the equivalent of avoiding death

The concept of human development as given by the Amartya Sen and Mahbub Haque ~~in~~ has provided new dimensions to the analysis of <sup>how</sup> well a life is lived. The dimensions includes the economic, social and political well being of ~~the~~ a person. Thus, the concept of life has evolved ~~into~~ achieving the goals set by the person itself which are inline with overall societal improvement. It is not only about avoiding death anymore!

A person starts from the early age of being an infant, going through the biological ~~stage~~ stages of adolescent, adult, married and elderly, finally ending into a ~~state~~ ~~of~~ ~~old~~ ~~age~~. Each stage has its goal and a need for achievement of those goals is what a person strives for. Such a life is called achieving life. This is not possible if there is no equality of opportunity available at each stage. Also, human development occurs in real terms when a person on learning his trade, applies ~~to~~ her

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knowledge to become master and contribute to society in ~~every~~

When a fertilisation of egg embryo takes place, the embryo has certain chances of surviving. Here, avoiding death is a necessity but much more than that, is the conditions required for the growth and development into a healthy foetus are being fulfilled or not. These are ensured by the healthy living of the mother — supply of nutrients, early childhood care and a good environmental surroundings. The foetus is completely dependent on the mother for its biological needs. It is said that there is an impact of social surrounding on the foetus but ~~has~~ still, whatever achievement is made by a person in his life, is largely determined by the early health and social determinants.

~~When~~ <sup>As</sup> a baby is born, she needs early healthcare. Her ~~to~~ social-health well being determines the large part of what she will grow into. The achievements in life at this stage are the early socialisation and observation seen by her. The personality development takes place as the ~~to~~ 'me' part of her personality development. This was called

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The play stage has the famous sociologist George Herbert Mead. During childhood, a child learns to imitate others. He/she cannot do the role play that is cannot put herself in the position of others and treat ~~one~~ herself as an object. As the child grows into teenage, 'me' part of personality is stabilised. This 'me' part is the personality determined by the society and that is how the cultural norms govern the personality development of a person. At this stage, goals are education ~~learning~~ learning and personality development. When ~~one~~ economic responsibilities of earning ~~only~~ ~~spend~~ of the parents are earning and taking care of the child. Else, in the poorer household, the child has to economically support the familial income. Also, in the farmer families, it has been found that the elder sister take care of the 6 younger siblings. Thus, an achievement at this stage can be analysed by the expectations which are set by the person and the society.

The next stage of the person is adolescence. Here, the responsibilities and goals vary from a person society to

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society but in generic terms, educational learning, physical activities by taking part in sports, caring for the peer group, respecting the elders including family and being responsible for the younger siblings are the societal goals. There are majorly no ~~expectations~~ economic expectations during the school life but in case the family is poor, the one has support familial income by engaging in the Apprenticeship programmes or even informal sectors such as construction, restaurants, shops etc. The need for achievement in life is there but is evaluated in terms of goals and expectations. Living a carefree life with happy-go-lucky attitude would have been equivalent of avoiding death as there is need for contribution towards society and

Next comes the adult stage. At this stage, one is expected to be earning member of the family. Socially, one has to be responsible in the way they carry themselves. ~~It is~~ It is one does not have to indulge in bad activities such as alcohol, drugs. ~~of a person act responsibly and is able to perform her duty~~ ~~then the life is considered~~ politically, the countries where the adult suffrage, she is supposed to vote

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and choose the representative after well done research. Exercise of political right is a duty and if not done responsibly then leads to the weakening of the political setup. Socially, she is supposed to develop the feeling of brotherhood, fraternity and as a person should be considerate towards others and should not have prejudices on the basis of race, sex, color and place of birth towards other human beings. There is an added burden of acting responsibly towards environment and build a lifestyle which is sustainable and environmental friendly. If these goals are achieved at this stage then a person has performed their duty towards society.

Excellence in the work life such as invention, building of new theories in mathematics and other sciences, discovering a biological phenomenon and devising ways to solve problems via social innovations are rewarded highly by societies in terms of Nobel Prize, patent grant and other economic rewards. Such excellence is necessary in the overall development of human race.

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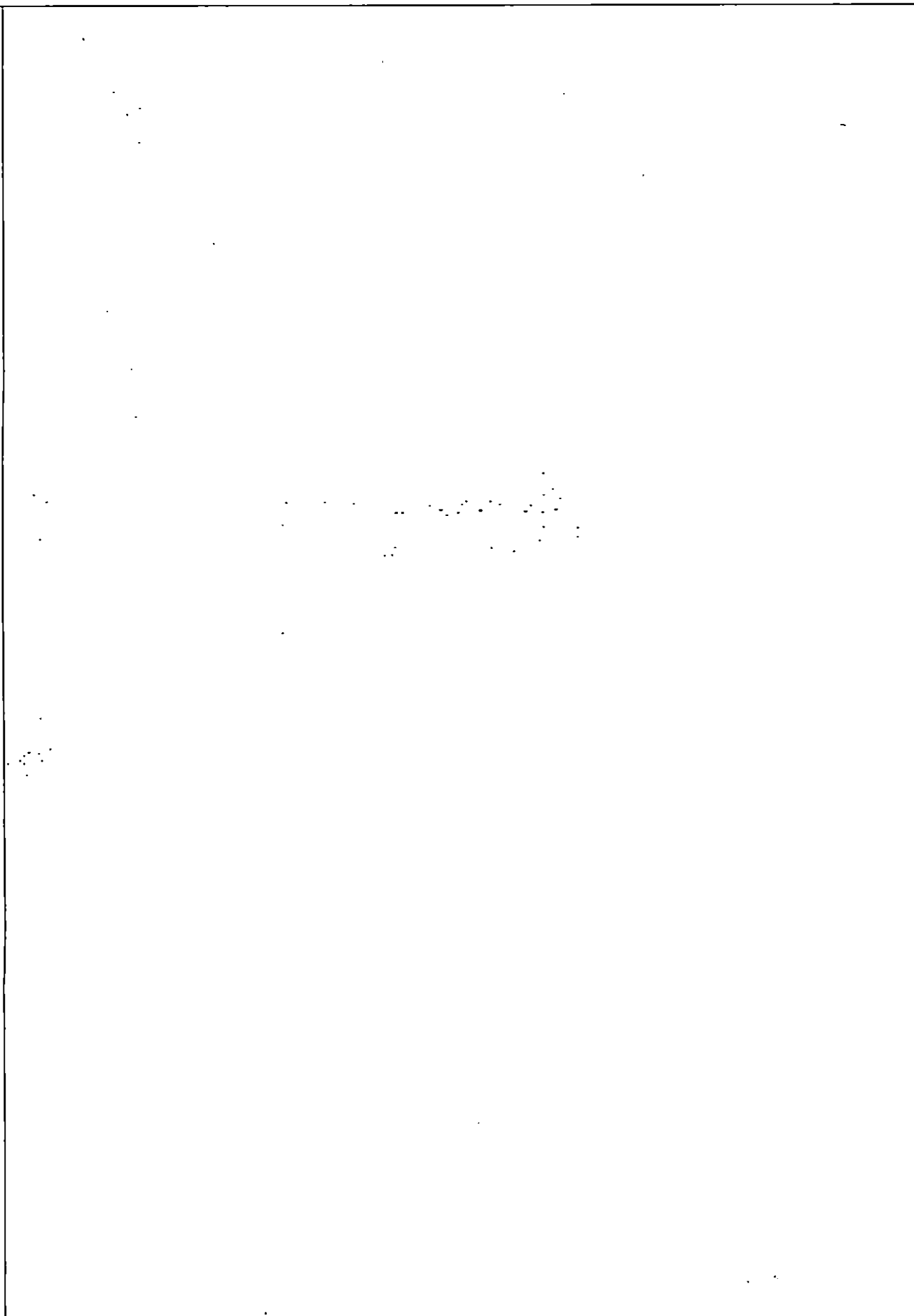
~~From adult to elderly,~~

From being adult to coming to elderly stage, a person gains lot of experience in life. These experience may be positive or negative. But, there is a learning from the such experiences and this is transferred from generation to generation. Thus, elderly, own has responsibility of knowledge transfer to the younger counterparts. Socially, older citizens also have role in child rearing especially in societies such as India, Latin America where extended kinship ties are maintained.

Therefore, in the whole journey of a human being from a foetus to senior citizen, at every stage, there are certain responsibilities and goals expectable whose expectations are set by the person and the society. If a person fulfills that then life is termed as 'achieving life', not merely avoiding death.

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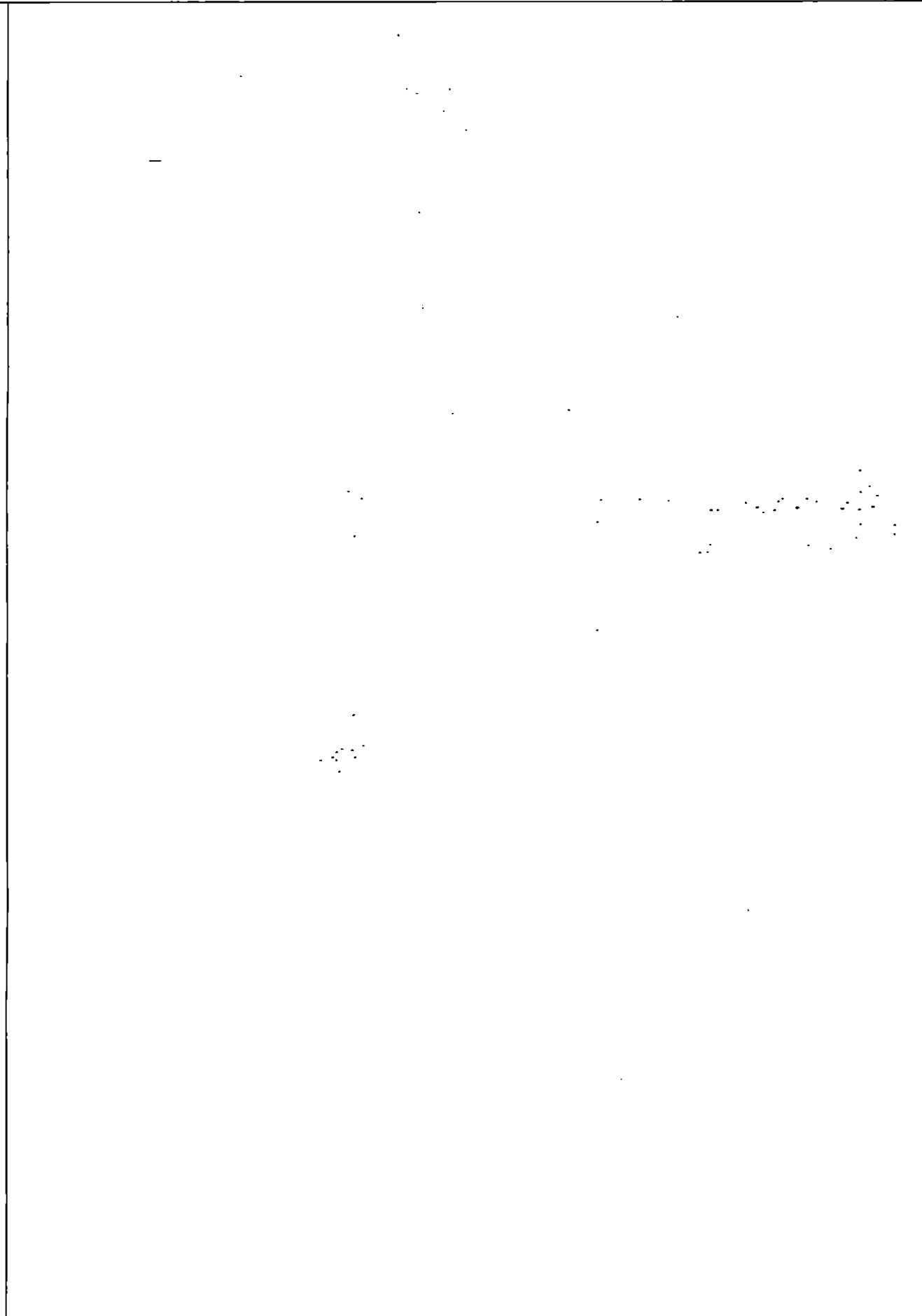
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