

In of illiteracy,  
ignorance and  
superstitions.  
ignorance



**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

In a way, however, we are happier than our forefather. Our forefather were the victims of illiteracy, ignorance and superstitions. Ignorance might mean bliss, but this the bliss of intellectual non-existence or mental blankness.

We today are literate and educated. We now know many secrets of nature which were unknown to our forefather. We experience an intellectual thrill when we acquire more and more knowledge. We have more or less got rid of superstitions and imaginary fears, nor are we any more victims of a sense of fatalism. Our forefather used to attribute everything to the will of fate. But we now feel that our fate is in our own hands.

We experience a sort of liberation from the restrictive influence of fate. If we talk of wealth, it is today more equitably distributed than before. Socialistic trends all over the world have narrowed the gap between the rich and the poor. In the days of our forefather, poverty was regarded as part of the divine scheme of things and was passively accepted by the people.

Now the attitude towards poverty has greatly changed. Poverty is now looked upon as an evil which can be and must be, removed. The rich classes do not now have that sense of complacency and they do not now take their wealth for granted. We are also happier in the sense that we enjoy better health than our forefather. Various discoveries and inventions by science have made it possible to prevent disease, to eliminate or cure them. We live cleaner lives, in accordance with the rules of sanitation than our forefather could ever do. On good health depends much of the happiness of mankind and the health of mankind today is better than ever before. Physical fitness

keeps us happy and enables us to derive genuine pleasure from eating, drinking, sports and games and all sorts of recreational activities.

Today we have greater freedom than our forefather had. Freedom too is an essential condition of happiness. We no longer feel wretched because of any rigid restraints.

Woman is today emancipated. The youngs are no longer in the tight grip of their elders but enjoy a measure of independence unknown before. The joint family system in our country has crumbled, thus diminishing greatly the wretchedness and misery of those who were its victims. There is greater freedom to love and here too, parental control over boys and girls has been considerably relaxed. Physical comforts have gone up. Scientific inventions of our times have made life easier by greatly diminishing the need for manual labour or physical exertion.

We have more leisure and along with leisure many more sources of pleasure. Physical comfort, leisure and pleasure have surely increased and augmented human happiness.