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QUESTIONS

Ques. What is the relevance of Kautilya's Arthashastra in the contemporary Indian adm.

Kautilya is traditionally credited as the author of Arthashastra. As the name suggests it is the book related to the economic and military strategy, written in Sanskrit. It is a full packet dealing with the 'good governance' of the country.

The discussion in Arthashastra is relevant today, as it was in Kautilya's time in the following ways -

① Good governance - Kautilya speaks about how economy is organised, ministers are chosen, taxes are collected in a holistic way, which forms the backbone of the economy and Indian adm.

② welfare state - Kautilya had advised welfare in all the spheres. It is through his book that word like 'welfare state' emerged which includes not only human welfare but also animal welfare.

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③ taxation norms - It is through Arthashastra, that it was concluded that heavy taxes should be avoided and lower taxes will lead to more revenue & less tax invasion.

④ Human capital formation - He emphasised on this, because development can't take place without human development.

⑤ Trade - Arthashastra, gave relevant norms relating to contemporary trade i.e. by advocating that it is necessary to remove barriers for extensive trade.

⑥ It is also important because ^{26.5 CM} ~~with~~ Kautilya was well ~~to~~ versed with characteristics of Beurocrats and thus laid down norms/rules to prevent misuse of power.

Hence, Kautilya being one of the most imp economists, had played a major role in formation of the Basis of Indian adm.

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