



Research Paper

Science Progress and Decline of Human Values

Anita Pandey

Government High School, Police Line Shahdol, Madhya Pradesh, India

Received: 23/02/2026

Revised: 28/02/2026

Accepted: 08/03/2026

Abstract: Science has played a major role in the progress of human civilization and has made human life easier and more comfortable. However, the misuse of science has led to the decline of human values such as compassion, cooperation, and respect. Materialism, environmental problems, and mental stress are also increasing in modern society. Therefore, it is important to use (1) scientific progress in a responsible way with moral and human values. Only a balance between science and human values can ensure the welfare of humanity. (2)

Keywords: Human value, Civilization, Artificial Intelligence (3)

Introduction:

Today, “science is undoubtedly the foundation stone of the progress of human civilization.” From ancient times to the (4) modern era, science has transformed every aspect of human life. It has made our lives simpler and more comfortable and has also increased our knowledge. What was once never possible has been made possible largely due to science. From needles to AI (Artificial Intelligence), science has shown human civilization such possibilities and introduced it to experiences that were earlier

unimaginable. However, along with this progress, an important question stands before us today.

Progress of Science: A Review -

The history of the progress of science is the history of human curiosity and human research. The two are not different.

In ancient times, subjects such as astronomy, metallurgy, Ayurveda, and mathematics laid the foundation of humanity, each of which has its own importance.

In industrial advancement, science has given humanity new dimensions through countless machines and technologies.

The achievements of the 20th century—such as electricity, medical facilities, transportation systems, and means of communication—are all invaluable contributions of science.

In the 21st century, technologies like AI (Artificial Intelligence), IoT, biotechnology, and robotics have globalized our world. Undoubtedly, this progress has been useful to our lives in every way. However, when science is misused instead of being used properly, it becomes a cause of downfall, and along with it, a decline in human values begins. Science has provided innumerable material comforts and facilities, but its blind

use has led to a decline in human sensitivity, spirituality, and social qualities. Today, as the level of comfort continues to rise, the levels of stress, dissatisfaction, and loneliness are also increasing rapidly.

Decline of Human Values: An Analysis -

Our human and social values—such as non-violence, cooperation, compassion, respect, truth, environmental protection, and social progress—Moral values are those that form the foundation of every society. In earlier times, qualities such as compassion, faith, and empathy were considered extremely important in society, but today their condition appears to be very weak. The development of modern thinking is increasing very rapidly, as a result of which greed, selfishness, and ego have spread. Social mutuality has also come under crisis. This is a situation of decline in our values, which is a matter of concern.

Materialistic and Consumerist Thinking – Science has given a new direction to material development and the dimensions of consumption. Chasing modernity and material comforts has become common. There has been a decline in our relationships, intimacy, and sensitivities. Nowadays, people are increasingly confusing wealth with human relationships.

Environmental Crisis –

Industrialization and technological development have disturbed the balance of nature. All kinds of pollution, climate change, excessive exploitation of resources, and loss of biodiversity are all the results of human selfishness and our insensitivity. Our relationship with the environment has been deeply affected. The importance of harmony has remained limited only to papers and books.

Disintegration of Society –

In today's digital age, we are all digitally connected to the whole world, but emotionally we are becoming distant.

Family and social closeness, empathy, and dialogue are gradually declining.

Decline of Moral Values and Responsibility –

The misuse of scientific technologies and inventions poses a serious threat to humanity. When scientific progress moves ahead without moral values and social responsibility, it becomes a cause of moral and social downfall.

Mental Health and Stress –

Today is an age of competition, and scientific technologies have intensified this atmosphere. Everywhere, in every field, the race to move ahead—better education and lifestyle driven by competition—has increased stress and anxiety. This has also increased depression. Mental peace and a balanced lifestyle have been left far behind.

Scientific Progress and the Effort to Balance Human Values –

It is completely incorrect to say that science alone is the sole cause of the decline of our values. The problem lies not in science itself, but in its improper use. If scientific achievements are used properly for human welfare, social harmony, and in accordance with moral values, then there can be no greater boon than science. However, when scientific achievements are used only for selfishness, violence, and greed, they destroy our human values.

Feelings and Their Remedies –

Human values should be incorporated into the education system. Today's education system should not be limited only to developing competitive skills; it should also include values such as compassion, kindness, truth, non-violence, environmental protection, and moral, social, and family responsibility.

Scientific Research and Ethical Responsibility –

Along with every kind of scientific and technological invention, ethical responsibility must be an essential part. Scientists themselves should also be aware

of their moral responsibility toward society, nature, and their own conscience.

Awareness at the Level of Policy and Rules –

Our administration and society must understand that progress through science is possible only when it ensures the welfare of the entire human race. Therefore, emphasis must be placed on framing such policies that provide equal benefits to all sections of society.

Contribution of Science to Environmental Balance –

Science and scientific technologies should move forward in balance with the environment so that the equilibrium of nature is maintained. Measures such as solar energy, green energy, and wind energy should be given priority. Science should also be used responsibly to spread environmental awareness in society.

Spirituality and Science –

Since ancient times, Indian tradition has upheld the concept of balance between science and spirituality. If, along with scientific achievements, we also carry forward our moral values and the message of Indian spirituality, the erosion of human values can be prevented. Through mutual coordination between spirituality and science, balance can be established at every level.

Conclusion:

The progress of science has introduced us to many achievements in our lives that were beyond our imagination. It has made extremely significant contributions in every sphere of life, which is why we are all familiar with material prosperity. Science has played a very important role in increasing average income, improving lifestyles, and providing countless conveniences.

However, it is also true that in this era of progress, human values are declining. Today's challenge is how to create harmony

between these two. We must ensure the proper use of scientific achievements and maintain balance between social, moral, and human values. This balance should be upheld through the education system, policies, our awareness, and at the individual level.

Human values must once again be given their rightful place. Only then can the progress of science ensure the welfare of the entire human race. Through harmony between scientific progress and our human values, stability and prosperity can be achieved.

References:

- Russell, B. (1952) *The Impact of Science on Society*. London: Routledge.
- Mumford, L. (1934) *Technics and Civilization*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Kranzberg, M., and Pursell, C. W. (1967) *Technology in Western Civilization*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Postman, N. (1992) *Technopoly: The Surrender of Culture to Technology*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf.
- Sen, A. (1999) *Development as Freedom*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Daly, H. E. (1996) *Beyond Growth: The Economics of Sustainable Development*. Boston: Beacon Press.
- Carson, R. (1962) *Silent Spring*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.
- Rockström, J., et al. (2009) "A Safe Operating Space for Humanity." *Nature*, 461(7263), 472–475.
- Steffen, W., et al. (2015) "Planetary Boundaries: Guiding Human Development on a Changing Planet." *Science*, 347(6223).
- Bauman, Z. (2007) *Consuming Life*. Cambridge: Polity Press.
- Putnam, R. D. (2000) *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community*. New York: Simon & Schuster.

Turkle, S. (2011) *Alone Together: Why We Expect More from Technology and Less from Each Other*. New York: Basic Books.

Goleman, D. (2006) *Social Intelligence: The New Science of Human Relationships*. New York: Bantam Books.

Jonas, H. (1984) *The Imperative of Responsibility: In Search of an Ethics for the Technological Age*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Jasanoff, S. (2016) *The Ethics of Invention: Technology and the Human Future*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company.

Nussbaum, M. C. (2010) *Not for Profit: Why Democracy Needs the Humanities*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Sachs, J. D. (2015) *The Age of Sustainable Development*. New York: Columbia University Press.

Kahneman, D., Diener, E., and Schwarz, N. (1999) *Well-Being: The Foundations of Hedonic Psychology*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

Hawking, S. (1918) *Brief Answers to the Big Questions*. New York: Bantam Books, 2018.

Ellul, J. (1964) *The Technological Society*. New York: Vintage Books.