Journal of Positive School Psychology http://journalppw.com
2022, Vol. 6, No. 6, 9220-9232

ICT Carving A Way Towards Evolution Of Satya-Yuga: A Conceptual And Focus Group Exploration In Societal Perspective

Dr. Mital S. Bhayani[1] , Dr. Vinod R. Malkar[2] , Dr. Ritesh K. Patel[3] , Dr. Shamrao P. Ghodake[4] , Ms. Pooja S. Kawle[5]

[1]Associate Professor, MET Institute of Management, BKC, Nashik, Affiliated with SPPU, Pune, mitalbhayani11@gmail.com
[2]Professor and Head, Department of MBA, Sanjivani College of Engineering, Kopargaon, Affiliated with SPPU, Pune, hodmbacoe@sanjivani.org.in
[3]Associate Professor, Department of MBA, Sanjivani College of Engineering, Kopargaon, Affiliated with SPPU, Pune, patelriteshmba@sanjivani.org.in
[4]Assistant Professor, Department of MBA, Sanjivani College of Engineering, Kopargaon, Affiliated with SPPU, Pune, shamghodakesacs@sanjivani.org.in
[5]Assistant Professor, Department of MBA, Sanjivani College of Engineering, Kopargaon, Affiliated with SPPU, Pune, poojaskawlemba@sanjivani.org.in

Abstract: This paper intends to explore the role of information and communication technology (ICT) in promoting ethical human behavior. Hindu mythological and spiritual literature exhibits that human ethical behavior and value system are observed to be shifting according to the cosmic age of the world. Hindu texts describe the phenomenon of four yugas (eras) which reoccurs in the cycles and observes the shifts in human values and ethical behavior. The yuga (era) in which human actions were highly ethical was Satyayuga (The Era of Truth). The driving force for this value driven behavior, was their inclination towards spiritual and religious practices. It was the inclination towards supreme power in the world, conscience and faith, which guided human actions and behavior. The paper proposes that technological progression tracks the human actions in today's world and subsequently plays a role in driving human behavior towards righteousness and ethical behavior in turn. To be precise the paper focuses on whether technology has a power and capabilities to bring ethical behavior and good governance in society, similar to the way it was widely present during the edges of Stayayuga. The current study used focused group interview technique with different group of experts and common citizens to test the preposition of whether a technology is leading humanity towards Dharma "The righteousness", that was a preponderant trait among humans during the ages of Satya-yuga.

Key Words: Satya-yuga; Technology; Morals; Ethics; Righteous Human Behaviour; ICT.

Introduction

The Vedas are sacred books that explain Hinduism (also known as Sanatan Dharma, which means "Eternal Order" or "Eternal Path"). According to Vedic Literature, a "Yug" is a cosmic age of the world or Vedic system of measuring universal time**.** The four yugas — Satya, Treta, Dvapara, and Kali— comprise one full yuga cycle. Each Yuga exhibits the moral and physical state of humanity. The best yuga of all four according to Vedas is Satya Yuga, which is depicting the highest morality in humans and is known as age of truth and sincerity. It was the era where world was at its utmost peace and harmony, amongst humans and nature. The period was known for goodness with no frauds, betrayals, wars, conflicts and or any adversities

caused by nature. The mythological literature on Hinduism gave evidences that the driving force for purest and ideal humanity then was high moral and values amongst humans. Inclination towards spiritual practices made humans behave the way they did in that era.

Information and communication technology is in process of making the current world more transparent by making information available to everyone, and technology has contributed toward improving authenticity of such information. Be it UID Linked bank accounts, Smart Cards, Face recognition, Location tracking, CCTV cameras, real time data fetching tools, smart phones, GPS, digital payments, social web, social media platforms, Machine learning, artificial intelligence, block chain and many more to name. Each of these technological innovation has lead towards betterment and tracking the behavior of human beings, which forces them to follow the established rules or to be alert while violating the same. The fear of spiritual or religious boundaries is shifted towards fear of being tracked by hidden force of technology.

The current literature and observations in modern world during last two decades is throwing a light on the renaissance of Satya-yuga where humans behavior has started again shifting towards morality and principled life.

Exploring role of ICT in promoting human ethical behavior

Akcay (2008) explains that between socioeconomic classes, technology acts as reinforcement. Technological advancements have an economic, social, interpersonal, and educational impact on people's daily life. There is significant use of technology in K-12 education system, although the educational system's primary purpose is to foster critical thinking and analysis abilities in students, it also has a primary obligation to instill ethical concepts and defend and enhance human values. (Akcay, 2008). According to Raja & Nagasubramani (2018) technology will continue to be an unavoidable instrument in defining human values and ethics in current and future generations, in addition to its influence on several aspects of human lives and redefined its existence. Technological breakthroughs have changed the face of education making it possible to estimate the necessity of technology in classrooms where students are trained on their cognitive thinking processes (Raja & Nagasubramani, 2018). Kukutschka (2016) emphasized on potential of Information and communication technology to fight against corruption, as it aids in the timely dissemination of information to all stakeholders involved while preserving transparency. ICTs are being used in several nations to fight corruption through crowd-sourced corruption reporting platforms such as I Paid Bribe in India, Romanian Bribe Market, and Combodian Bribespot, though none of these initiatives have proven to be utterly effective against corruption, where in each has some limitations. Technological advancements such as block-chain and A.I. (Artificial Intelligence) have improved the system of information transfer, making technology one of the most important driving forces in the fight against corruption (Wickberg, 2017). Review by Adam and Fazekas (2021) came up with mixed view about use of ICT tools in aiding anti-corruption, they opined that while ICT can help to improve governance by supporting anti-corruption activities such as enabling corruption reporting, encouraging transparency and accountability, promoting citizen participation and government-citizen interactions, it can also serve as a gateway for new corruption opportunities through the dark web, negatives of cryptocurrencies, and the misuse of technologies like centralised databases. Merely using ICTs for combating corruption won't magically lead towards anticorruption outcomes, however its customized application considering local context can lead to improved results (Adam & Fazekas, 2021). Adoption of ICT has a substantial beneficial impact on economic growth accordingly to Mouna et al, (2020), it further explained that there is a progressive use of ICTs in state functions such as monitoring government budgets, spending, projects and official information transmission and dissemination. Overall it showed empirical evidences which supports that E-government and economic growth have a strong beneficial association and their findings imply that nations with a higher level of technological adoption have a strong association on economic growth, indicating that the implementation of ICT in recent years in developing and emerging

countries is appropriate move for restraining corruption and augmenting economic growth simultaneously. Despite the fact that they discovered a substantial link between e-governance growth, ICT development, and institutional quality, they also discovered that ICT development and corruption do not have a direct relationship (Mouna et al., 2020). Crime is a rampant issue in the society, with most of the Nations facing intolerable levels of crime, and technological innovation is the major driving force contributing towards improvements in crime control and further crime preventions. Anderez et al. (2021) analyzed how contemporary hardware and software based technologies such as Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) surveillance, Electronic Monitoring and Global Positioning System-based Technologies, Short-range wireless communication transceivers such as Bluetooth and Wi-Fi, Audio-based Technologies such as wiretapping, affective computing, crime mapping, crime prevention mobile apps, I.O.T., A.I. & M.L., etc., are contributing in crime prevention and overall well-being in society. Even though there is a massive prospects associated with the adoption of these technologies as a tool for crime prevention, not all situations are the same and there will be no "one size fits all" solution(s), it demands the need to explore diverseness in all the individual circumstances, and factors such as privacy, scalability, affordability, miniaturization and personalization are important to be considered when designing technologies for crime prevention (Anderez et al., 2021). Dove (2012) put forth, yet another challenge that technology helps guiding conscience in human actions that is the autonomous decision-making abilities of systems on many facets: self-driving cars, Robo-advisors, Chabot's, weapon systems, etc., mechanism to regulate the behavior and actions of these unsupervised systems when it comes to morality or ethical judgments, especially when unanticipated situations arise are yet to be developed, these loose issues can't be neglected and their impact on righteousness can be adverse. Here social systems can guide when individual conscience governing personal behavior is connected to a collective righteousness that governs group behavior**.** Dove (2012) suggests conscience and righteousness as two necessary elements for well-behaved or socially accepted autonomous system. Because technology is an inextricable and routine part of the human ecosystem, and it provides individuals and groups with the resources to extend their natural abilities to adapt to and exploit that ecosystem, whether for legitimate or criminal purposes, and because of the dual role it plays in creating and solving problems for offenders and crime preventers, technology will continue to play a significant role in both generating and reducing crime for the foreseeable future (Ekblom, 2017). Charoensukmongkol and Moqbel, (2014) revealed that there is a linear link between ICT investment and corruption; it also shows that a country's ICT investment may be utilized to manage corruption in a country, and therefore can play a critical role in regulating human unethical behavior. They also discovered a u-curve link between ICT investment and corruption, indicating that while more ICT investment leads to lesser corruption, overinvestment in ICT may actually lead to more corruption **(**Charoensukmongkol, & Moqbel, 2014). Hence, it must be backed by efficient governance and policy making decisions of the nation. E-governance is considered as a tool to promote transparency and reduce corruption Alhammady (2018) studied e-governance projects and its relation with corruption and found that the usage of ICT in the form of e-governance has been proven to make significant progress in reducing corruption. Furthermore, the findings of this study support the hypothesis that e-governance reduces monopoly power, discretion, and middleman intervention while also increasing transparency (Alhammady, 2018).

Theoretical Construct

The Vedas, which are thought to be a fantastic interpretation of the Cosmology of the Universe, may be used to learn about human rules of conduct, ethics, and evolution. Vedic literature reflects the modern world's worldview, spiritual preoccupations, and social attitudes. Dharma is a kind of 'Rita' that applies to human thought and behaviour. It denotes how life should be lived, moving from natural to ethical and moral order — a logical evolution from an early 'course of things' to an all-encompassing moral order, a road and method of righteousness that maintains the

universe's equilibrium. An individual's Individual Dharma includes things like adhering to personal, familial, and social obligations, as well as the role performed by the individual in contributing to the cosmos' greater stability, law, order, and basic balance. Dharma (Righteousness) denotes the cosmic laws and forces that keep everything in order.

Throughout millions of years, the universe is thought to arise and disappear continually. The Vedic division of time and lifetime of the cosmos, which nearly fits contemporary calculations, demonstrates that the universe is formed, destroyed, and re-made in an endless cycle. The Vedas' prophecies regarding numerous cosmic occurrences, which were recorded thousands of years ago based on carefully studied and measured divisions of time and space, still remain true. According to Sahoo (2015) The universe and the search for the truth are governed by an order known as Rita. Vedas are a set of ethical guidelines, a way of life that leads to moksha (enlightenment, liberation). The order that governs universe, truth and human moral values occurs in a cyclic manner and has four phases(Eras). The Bull of Dharma Symbolizing Morality stood on its four legs in(Era-1)Satya-Yuga (Age of Truth), followed by (Era-2) Treta Yug, during this time, morality stood on three legs. Third era is Dvaparyuga where it stood on two legs and, in the immoral age of (Era-4) Kaliyuga, it stands on one leg.

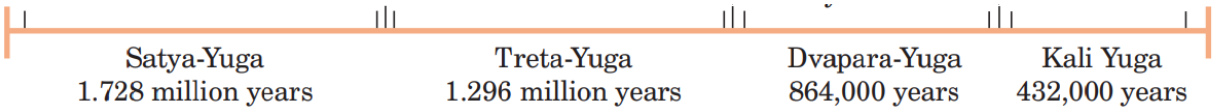

Figure 1 The Yuga based Cyclic Trend

Sahoo, P. (2015).Vedas-Oracles of Cosmology, Human Evolution and Ethics . In Historical Evolution Of India, A synoptic collation of research by SandHI Summer Interns of IIT Kharagkpur (pp. 21-26).

The Yuga based cyclic doctrine revels that we are presently in the Kali Yuga, or Dark Age, when moral virtue and mental capacities are at their lowest point in the cycle. Each yuga is shorter than the one before it, equating to a fall in humanity's moral and physical status.

The Vedic literature indicates reoccurrence of the first Era that is satya-yuga. This research attempts to figure out the role of technology in renaissance of the satya-yuga –The Era, where morality will be at its peak, human behavior would be utmost ethical and universe will be in harmony. Since society today is immersed in the technology, almost every human action is aligned with technology, be it social behavior, business, lively hood, health, education, commerce, or lifestyle, each and every facet of human life is affected and governed by the technology. The advancements in A.I. & M.L. (artificial intelligence and machine learning) has empowered machines to take actions on behalf of humans where the behavior and action are entirely driven by technology. Considering its proliferation, the role that technology plays in human actions and behavior cannot be overlooked. It is of immense importance to understand what role it plays and how it can be used to shape the future society and humanity.

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) facilitates information sharing, transparency in political decision making with respect to wealth distribution and resource mobilization. It promotes democracy and human rights by giving citizens access to information, making information more widely available, and encouraging social mobilization. A better informed citizen can make democracy to function more effectively. ICT plays role in administration at each level and each segment. It has potential to prevent and expose corrupt, illegal or unethical practices. ICT has grown increasingly essential as a result of the "social web" phenomena. Organizations are increasingly attempting to encourage ethical conduct through different online platforms (Asiimwe et al., 2014).

Proposed Model and Methodology

Based on discussions so far the following conceptual model is proposed for further analysis:

Figure 1. ICT paving its way for Renaissance of Satya-yuga

In line with the conceptual model proposed above the following research propositions (RP) are developed:

RP_01: Is ICT playing the similar role as spiritual / religious practices did of guiding human behavior towards ethics?
RP_02: Is ICT capable of paving its way for Renaissance of Satya-yuga?
RP_03: Is technology tracking human behavior?
RP_04: Is technology forcing people to be in rules and making them more responsible?
RP_05: Is technology making the society more ethical?
RP_06: Whether technological progression leads to any impact on human behavior and their subsequent tendency to be ethical?
RP_07: What factors drives the humans to be ethical?
RP_08: Can technology be used as means to inculcate ethics in society?
RP_09: Will technology be one of the driving factors for renaissance of Satya –yuga?

The above research propositions are posed in this study. The current study examines the research propositions by conducting empirical test to gauge the role of technology in driving the humans towards Satya-yuga.

To gain deeper insights of the research proposition established above an empirical research was carried out. Literature review along with Focused group interview was conducted to dig out the roots of the problem in question. It is being suggested in the literature that conducting focus groups interview and discussions with experts from the respective field (Anderez, et al., 2021) can help gaining insights into the benefits and drawbacks of technology on human behavior. Hence, two groups of experts were invited for their view on the questions arising out of each research propositions. Majority of them were framed through an extensive literature review and suggestions from academic experts in the area of focus group discussions. The members in the first group consisted of ten experts from the field of spirituality, ethics and values and second group included ten experts from the area of ICT. Both groups of experts are practicing the concepts in real life through their respective professions for more than twenty years on average. Moreover, ten individual citizens from the nearby towns of Maharashtra (Nashik, Ahmednagar, Manmad, Yeola, and Shirdi) were also invited to join the discussion and were asked to participate at the end during an open discussion round to learn their opinion about how ICT has played an important role in promoting ethical behavior among common citizens of the nation. Majority of them were in the age group of 25-55 years, coming from different professions (farming, salaried, professionals, and business owners). Two moderators were used to carry out a research propositions backed by guided script to conduct focused group discussions among the participants in order to ensure that discussion is going in the proposed directions. Another expert was also kept to continuously monitor, observer, record, and take on discussion notes during the focused group round. At the end all three experts set together and complied a detailed report after completion of focused-group interview on the basis of discussions and conclusion as they happened during various rounds of focused-group discussion. The discussion took place in the open park during the early morning hours on Sunday in the mid of December 2021. The focused group discussion took more than 90 minutes including a high-tea break for 15 minutes and open house discussion of 15 minutes.

Discussions and Findings

This section conceptualizes the focused group discussion held in a theme based narration beginning from the agreement to the research question to the conclusion.

Beginning with the question will we observe shifts in society and human behavior in the near future? Are we on the verge of entering into satya-yuga (Age of truth)? The answer from all experts from both the groups was in agreement to the aforementioned proposition, all of them believed that this is true and most of the highest spiritual masters are already aware of this. Even though people name it differently, some may call it, 'The New age', some say a '5-dimensional world' is to begin, some call it the 'Golden Age(Satyuga)', finally, in abstract they had common agreement that the time has come and the global shift in consciousness has already begun, which gradually directs the humans towards technology lead ethical behavior in society. Opening up with many spiritual schools, to spread awareness about the upcoming times and also because every soul is in need of some spiritual practice to return to its original state or realize its root nature (which is definitely of highest morals). The urge of human beings in bringing about harmony in nature and attain peace in this modern world, can be seen from the number of NGO's, Charitable trusts, environment protection, animal protection activities, governing efforts from all the policy makers (state level and local level), governing and law enforcement authorities, and public administrative and services units for encouraging ethics based society through various initiatives such as web based ombudsman (an officer who handles with public complaints about the government or organizations like banks and insurance firms)

Factors driving ethical behavior

In line with the previously discussed RP_07, when two groups of experts and common citizens were asked to provide their views on what makes someone ethical? Notably, a long discussion encompassing all the facets of human behavior and inner ethical motives took place in the group, and at the end of discussion following keys factors emerged as the driving force of one's ethical human behavior (see Fig. 2):

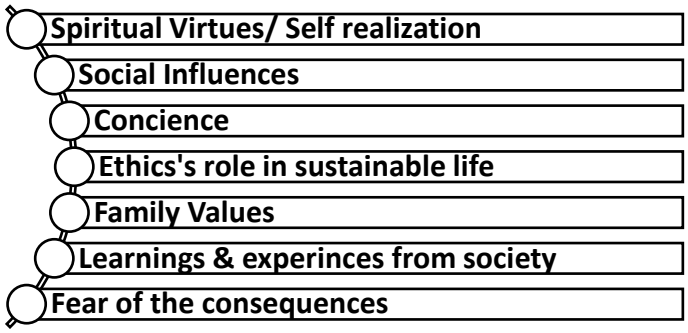

Figure 2: Factors Driving Ethical Behavior (Source: Current Study focused group discussions).

Human Behavior in today's era

The expert's interaction with most of the people explored that, people are distracted, and opined that technology is major cause for this distraction. People have become impatient, short tempered, restless and highly tensed. It's only a few people from all over the world who are holding upon some moral values, there's a downfall of the majority and only few percent are in ascension spiritually and morally. After probing further, it was unleashed that technology is merely a means by which human behavior is spread across society. The competitive spirit and zest for material success contributes to impatient behavior.

Technology Tracking Human behavior

In line with RP_03 the discussion took place on the topic of whether technology backed by ICT is tracking human behavior. Both the group of

experts agreed that undoubtedly technology tracks almost every human action, from the time one wakes up they are under surveillance of cameras tracking them in parking, screened on streets via technology to supervise if they abide traffic rules such as wearing helmet or seat belts, paying toll via fast tag or GPS tracker, checking speed limit, biometrics for timely arrival at work place and their actions online for everything they buy or surf, activities on the social media, their movement and daily engagements everything is being tracked either by their own devices such as smart phones or watches or I.O.T. devices placed in their surroundings. Technology has become inevitable part of everyday life, it has indirect impact on human behavior and human being is driven by these technological differentiations than normal life. Using different sensors human behavior can be monitored as well as tracked. Recommendation systems based on machine learning is also deployed to track human behavior. Sentiment analysis is also used for the same. With modern AI-based solutions and information gathering, it is easier than before to track an individual on several aspects.

Ethical behavior and technology

In line with the requirements of RP_06 when both group of experts asked to opine their views relating to whether ICT progression leads to an impact on human behavior and their tendency to be ethical. When asked about their opinion on whether we see people shifting towards ethical behavior in the light of technology? The group came up with mixed view, after introduction of new technologies people are doing the right thing only out of fear of being caught. So, whenever there are chances of not being caught, they won't feel the need to be righteous. It's a double-edged sword; any advanced technology can be used in or against the interest of individuals. The change in human behavior is not with the virtue of self-awareness but sometimes due to enforcement. Societies like Japan have culturally programmed in a way that any technological advances become complementary and catalysts to already better human behavior. It may not really change the virtue of society to its core. Though human is becoming social through technology, in real life human is getting away from fellow human, actual communication and gathering of people is decreasing. Nowadays people are forced to use social media if they have to be competitive in the world and get hired by the employers. The authenticity and background check of candidates is done via social media (i.e. LinkedIn). Technology may not alone influence or lead to ethical behavior, it has to be complemented by a well-designed education system that inculcates ethical behavior, and effort to drive mass psychology towards ethically inspired society. Technological progressions affect human social behaviors in a huge way. People tend to generate a view point on people, things, society by seeing reactions, posts of other people on social media platforms rather than going into the deep of the details and analyzing things using their own minds. Human has become inefficient physically. Humans are losing the emotions in many things like relations, social and basic humanity. People have started relying on technology for almost all the jobs, it can be seen in banking, where money transactions that leads to security risk in relation to data and fraud cases have become quite prevalent. Youth is being diverted from personal family relations to social media based virtual relations based on technologies such as metaverse, a virtual online, three dimensional universe, that pools varied virtual spaces together. Also technical progression has led to health negligence. As many things in society is technology oriented, and many people also have lost their jobs due to advancements and automations arising out of technology.

Technology as a tool for Driving Ethical Behaviour

Considering the requirements of RP_08 a discussion took place to inquire about how ICT can inculcate ethics in society. In response both group of specialists agreed that technology can be used as a tool for fabricating ethics into society: Technology will become an enabler for changing humans to be more ethical, even if that is against their wish. Block-Chain, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, and Internet of Things (IoT) seems to make things more transparent and due to its increasing and widespread use, ethical behavior is encouraged (due to many reasons like transparent and instant data), autonomous decision-making abilities of systems, Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) surveillance,

Electronic Monitoring and GPS-based Technologies , RFID, Short-range wireless communication transceivers such as Bluetooth and Wi-Fi, Audio-based Technologies such as wiretapping, Affective Computing, Crime mapping, Crime prevention mobile apps possess a remarkable potential in guiding human actions to be more ethical. Extent to which technological progression has captured everyday life can be used as a catalyst along with all the other efforts to make ethics fabricated in society at its core. Technology can help people be aware about the dos and don'ts and help them track their actions towards unethical behavior. The factors driving ethical behavior such as social influences, awareness about role of ethic in sustainable life, learnings & experiences from society, fear from the consequences of being unethical can all be triggered to work for building ethically rich society with help of technology if it is used correctly.

Descriptive Statistics on research propositions

At the final closure of discussion, the researcher posed the questions in research propositions asking both group of experts and individual citizens to give responses in: Yes/no/Cannot say format. More than two third of the respondents were in clear agreement to the phenomena that directly or indirectly ICT is playing the similar role that religious/spiritual beliefs use to play towards guiding human behaviour leading to ethical practices (RP_01). Whereas, in line with the discussion on whether ICT is capable of paving its way towards renaissance of satya-yuga (RP_02): revealed that 65 per cent of responders were agree, 22 per cent of respondents were not agree to it, and the remaining 13 per cent were neutral about their opinion. Moving further in the discussion during focused group interviews to know their opinion whether technology is tracking human behviour in their daily lives (RP_03) 92 per cent of respondents were clearly in agreement to this research phenomenon. Furthermore, when asked about their opinion on whether technology is forcing people to obey rules and in turn making them more responsible in society (RP_04) brought mixed opinion as they think that in Indian society technology related governance systems are still not as robust and binding to citizens as they are in context of developed nations. So, all in all there were equal percentage of experts who agree and who disagree to the said phenomenon. Moving next, while learning their opinion towards how technology is making society more ethical as a whole (RP_05), it revealed that more than three fifth (62%) of the experts opined that it certainly does and the remaining experts opined that it does to certain extent but still more robust e-governance systems must be in place to fully operationalize this concept. They also clearly augmented that the technology and governance should be neatly fabricated in order to see the effects of technology on making society more ethical. The intentions of the government and regulators for use of technology must be studied, to understand whether technology is simply used as a tool of revenue generation for government or making law and regulation abided by the individuals in society. Moreover, in line with a direct question relating with whether technological progression leads to any impact on human behavior and their tendency to be ethical (RP_06), a majority, more than half (67 per cent) of the respondents, opined that it certainly does, followed by 20 per cent of the respondents who were not agree with it, whereas the remaining 13 per cent were unsure about the answer and said it may or may not be so. In line with a discussion relating with Can technology be used as means to inculcate ethics in society (RP_08) a heavy majority that includes more than two third (84%) of experts agreed that ICT can certainly inculcate ethical behavior among citizens, however, the remaining (16%) said that a framework for the same must be in place for making it work. Finally, in line with the concluding question, whether technology be one of the driving factors for renaissance of Satya –yuga (RP_09) to which majority of experts (87%) agreed unanimously, and opined that a proper government and social supported e-Governance mechanism is perquisite to bring Satya-yuga in society.

Implications and Conclusions

This paper sparks a new area of research on integration of ICT and ethical human behavior paving its way to Satya-yuga by developing and presenting a model of how augmented adoption of ICT renaissances the path to Satya-yuga in

society in coming years. By examining these basic phenomena of Satya-yuga through ICT in the context of our model, we hope to stimulate more research in the broad area of ICT backed ethical human behavior in society, work place, governments, and other related works specifically addressing the definitional challenges of what constitutes a Satya-yuga and how it could be achieved through ethical human behavior backed by ICT driven monitoring technologies in society. The qualitative research engaged through focused group brought some interesting findings which made current study pose the statement that technology is leading humanity towards Dharma "The righteousness", which was preponderantly dominant during Satya-yuga. The current research however does not take into account much religious inclination of people but rather focuses on ethical behviour backed by ICT monitoring leading to a good governance in the society. The current piece of research makes us appreciate the use of technology towards building socially responsible and ethics oriented society. The arguments presented in the current research have ice breaking implications for both researchers and policy makers in the field of e-governance, good governance, ethical behavior, social ethics, and ICT alike. Technology is widely accepted and known for saving time, energy, cost and conserving environment. Additionally, it is also known for playing its role in character building of humans. Various factors driving human behavior were discussed during focused group interviews with experts and technology was found to encompass all of them. Recognition, evaluation, verification, and validation of social behavior within technology for an operational lifecycle must be in place.

People should be doing the right thing out of realization and not out of force or fear. It should be a natural thing to be ethical as it's an innate nature of all souls. Ethical behavior cannot be kept at the discretion of technologically driven society, although technology can be used as bridge for instilling self-realization and conscience among society, making them naturally inclined towards ethics and morality, which are inevitable for sustainable mankind and natural ecology of mother earth. It could be concluded that technology will contribute to renaissance of Satya-yuga if rightly implemented by governments and administrative authorizes in society.

Technology can be used as a promising move to alter mass psychology and views of people, the success of which can be seen from results of political election exit-poll campaigns in many countries. Technology is like a third eye, if used ethically, it is versatile and quite capable to deter even the most dreaded. However, technology can't groom an individual's ethics alone. Technology that is carefully designed and backed by incessant monitoring from policy makers, individuals, governments, organizations, and society may all benefit from technology that is controllable, updateable, and updated on a frequent basis, and that is appropriately questioned and well-integrated with the human aspects of a security system that leads to ethical societies in coming years.

From a practical standpoint, the ideas contained herein may help to facilitate ICT driven safety standards and promote ethical behaviour amongst common citizens in the society. Additionally, it is to be noted that Governments, ICT experts and local authorities may take a number of actions arising out of a big question of current time that is how ICT can influence behaviour of high morals in society. Perhaps, the most important suggestion is the need to encourage people's participation in technology driven policies and systems. Say for example transferring subsidies directly into beneficiaries' bank accounts could easily curb the corruption and could remove the intermediary from the channel. Moreover, an ICT backed automated personal income tax filing systems may promote ethical behaviour towards declaring and paying appropriate taxes on individual income. Moreover, a digital currency which could be easily tracked for its rightful use can cut down on corruption and finances could be under continuous scanner of government and policy makers which could pave its way to bring Satya-yuga in society. However, ICT driven safety technologies is not a magic pill to bring Satya-yuga, it is a moral responsibility of common citizens, governments, and policy makers to maintain the holistic environment that encourages open and righteous behaviour in

society, and continuously monitor and curb any perils associated with such advanced technologies, for the benefit of mankind in general.

Limitations and Future Scope

The above proposed and empirically tested model of 'ICT paving its way for Renaissance of Satya-yuga' offers many avenues for future research on ICT and Ethical Behaviour in Society as a pathway towards Satya-yuga. For starters, those interested in role of ICT in bringing ethics in society consider including a descriptive study on how ICT has changed workplace and safety of individual homes. How ICT is capable of making people behave ethically at work place or in public places. The outcomes of the current study could be validated further by subsequent survey based descriptive and causal studies on ICT and ethical human behaviour. They might consider the extent to which ICT mediates relationships between ethical human behaviour and renaissance of Satya yoga.The paper has conceptualized the opinion of ICT experts, spiritual gurus and common citizens from western part of India, and all the conclusions were based on this study, however, in future further empirical tests needs to be performed to validate the model of 'ICT paving its way for Renaissance of Satya-yuga' in different settings of nations, religions, cultures, and society.

References

1. Adam, I., & Fazekas, M. (2021). Are emerging technologies helping win the fight against corruption? A review of the state of evidence. Information Economics and Policy, 57, 100950.

2. Akcay, B. (2008). The relationship between technology and ethics: From society to schools. Turkish Online Journal of Distance Education, 9(4), 120-127.

3. Alhammady, I. S. (2018). The Role of Egovernment in Combating corruption in the Public Sector in Yemen. Saba Journal Of information Technology And Networking (SJITN)-ISSN: 2312-4989, 6(1).

4. Anderez, D. O., Kanjo, E., Amnwar, A., Johnson, S., & Lucy, D. (2021). The Rise of Technology in Crime Prevention: Opportunities, Challenges and Practitioners Perspectives. arXiv preprint arXiv:2102.04204.

5. Asiimwe, E. N., Wakabi, W., & Grönlund, Å. (2013). Using technology for enhancing transparency and accountability in low resource communities: experiences from Uganda. ICT for Anti-Corruption, Democracy and Education in East Africa, 37, 37-51.

6. Charoensukmongkol, P., & Moqbel, M. (2014). Does investment in ICT curb or create more corruption? A cross-country analysis. Public Organization Review, 14(1), 51-63.

7. Dove, R. (2012). Righteousness and Conscience as a Path to Socially Acceptable Autonomous Behavior. Insight, 12(2), 14-17.

8. Ekblom, P. (2017). Technology, opportunity, crime and crime prevention: current and evolutionary perspectives. In Crime prevention in the 21st century (pp. 319-343). Springer, Cham.

9. Kukutschka, R. (2016). Technology against corruption: the potential of online corruption-reporting apps and other platforms. Bergen: U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Centre, Chr. Michelsen Institute (U4 Helpdesk Answer 2016:20) https://www.u4.no/publications/technology-against-corruption-the-potential-of-online-corruption-reporting-apps-and-other-platforms

10. Mouna, A., Nedra, B., & Khaireddine, M. (2020). International comparative evidence of e-government success and economic growth: technology adoption as an anti-corruption tool. Transforming Government: people, process and policy.

11. Raja, R., & Nagasubramani, P. C. (2018). Impact of modern technology in

education. Journal of Applied and Advanced Research, 3(1), 33-35.

12. Sahoo, P. (2015).Vedas-Oracles of Cosmology, Human Evolution and Ethics . In Historical Evolution Of India, A synoptic collation of research by SandHI Summer Interns of IIT Kharagkpur (pp. 21-26). https://www.academia.edu/29554365/Historical_Evolution_Of_India_An_Assessment_of_Ideals_Of_Aryan_Civilization_SandHI_The_Science_and_Heritage_Initiative_by_Indian_Institute_of_Technology_Kharagpur_India
13. Wickberg, S., 2017. Technology against corruption: the potential of online corruption-reporting apps and other platforms Query, U4: U4 Anti-corruption Resources Centre. Retrieved from https://policycommons.net/artifacts/2106355/technology-against-corruption/2861653/ on 27 May 2022. CID: 20.500.12592/4c07st.

Wikipedia the free encyclopaedia- Satyayuga [Online] Available from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Satya_Yuga

Word History Encyclopedia: https://www.worldhistory.org/The_Vedas/

Annexure A: Script for focused group discussions

Script for focused group interview:

"Information and communication technology paving its way for Renaissance of Satya-yuga." According to Hinduism, a "yug" is a cosmic age of the world. Each Yuga exhibits the moral and physical state of humanity. The best yuga of all four according to Hinduism is Satya Yuga, which is depicting the highest morality in humans and is known as age of truth and sincerity. The mythological literature on Hinduism gave evidence that the driving force for purest and ideal humanity then was high morals and values amongst humans. Inclination towards spiritual practices made humans behave the way they did in that era. Information and communication technology making the world more transparent by making information available to everyone and technology has contributed toward improving the authenticity of the information. Each of these technological innovations has led towards betterment and tracking the behavior of human actions forcing them to be in rules or be alert while violating the same.

The fear of spiritual or religious boundaries is somewhere shifted towards fear of being tracked by technology. For example, the CCTV, google tracking, chip-based vehicle number plate, breaking of road signal fine, detection of fraudulent financial transaction, star rating and reviews, Defamation on social media, detection of fake certificate etc. forcing people to behave in ethical ways. The blockchain, artificial Intelligence, UID linking, BI tools, Business analytics may be the indicators of moving towards Satyayuga.

The literature and observations in the modern world is embarking on the renaissance of Satya-yuga, where human behavior shifts towards righteousness. "Is technology playing a role in these shifts?"

Annexure B: Questions for focused group discussions

Spiritual Gurus:	**ICT Experts:**
Q.1 What is your observation regarding human behavior in today's era?	Q.1 Do you think technology is tracking human behavior? If yes how?
Q.2. Have you noticed any change in human actions towards ethical behavior after the introduction of technology?	Q.2. How these technological progressions in information and communication alter the social behavior of humans?

Q.3 Do we observe humans shifting towards more ethical behavior?	Q.3. Which technological advancements according to you are driving humans to be more ethical?
Q.4. According to spiritual literature it is claimed that human lives will enter in Satay Yuga (The age of Truth and Harmony) after the current cosmic age Kaliyuga (Driven by Selfdesires) ends? What is your opinion on the same?	Q.4. What disadvantages we can see of technological progression?
Q.5. What factors according to you drives human beings towards ethical actions?	Q.5. Is technology-forcing people to be in rules?
Q.6. Do you think technological progression that we are observing in society has impact of human behavior and their tendency to be ethical?	Q.6. As an expert in this field, what do you think technology can contribute to making human behavior more ethical?