

UNIT 4

Justice

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

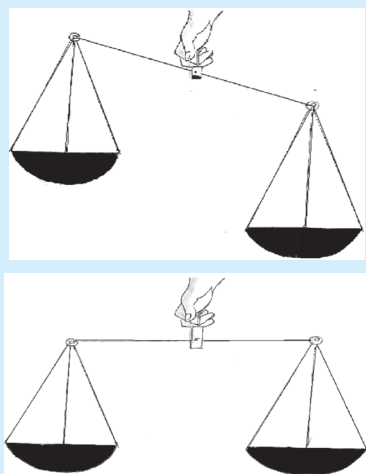
- understand how justice is violated and the meaning of discrimination.
- understand the meaning and necessity of social institutions.
- recognize the importance of justice for promotion of peace.
- understand the meaning of tax.

4.1 Justice

4.1.1 The Meaning of Justice

What does justice mean? Write on your paper and present it to class turn by turn.

Look at the following scale carefully and answer the questions that follow.



Picture 4.1. Two scales — one is unbalanced and the other is balanced

- What does the unbalanced scale indicate?

- What does the balanced scale indicate?
- What do you understand by this picture? Which balance do you like? Why?

Justice is giving proper decision or balanced decision on a case. On the other hand, it is giving judgment based on non-discriminatory and impartial decision or witness. Justice is about working without partiality, being genuine, speaking truth and working on the basis of realities.

Justice is about being 'appropriate, genuine and right.'

Activity 1

1. Identify some of justice practices in your schools.
2. Mention some of justice practices in your family.

4.1.2 The Necessity of Justice

- Mention the necessity of justice.
- Do you think that justice is important for human beings? Why? Explain.

Jego's family

Jego's family is known for and exemplary in their community for their good family administration. One of the reasons is, having justice and fairness in the family. For this factor, the following points can be mentioned as an example. The family uses their income wisely and properly. About the issue of their

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children schooling, they discuss and decide together. They are not making any difference between their children and even a girl of their relatives whom they are taking care of. After school, they are assigned for jobs according to their ability and do have equal time allocated for their job, reading, playing and break time at home. During family discussion on any issue, all the member of the family has the right to discuss and raise questions freely.

The children also study hard and as a result they are outstanding students in the class. If any conflict occurs by accident among their classmates, they settle the problem fairly and genuinely.

Activity 2

1. What are practices which show just administration in Jego's family?
2. What made Jego, his brother and sisters outstanding in their education?
3. What are significances of a family practicing justice? Mention some points.

Lalo's family

Lalo's family is different from Melaku's. Though his family has sufficient source of income, it is controlled only by his father, Ato Sheberu. Any order given by the father must be done without questioning about it. Lalo's mother, brothers and sisters have no right to be listened. Sheberu decide, without consulting his children and their mother. The father also brought a child from his relatives to take care of her and to send her to school. But the father decided to serve at home and refused to send her to school.

Furthermore, Ato Sheberu has no much interest about his daughters; he shows a concern only for his boys. Although he shows more love to his boys, he does not control them and support them properly that his boys became weak academically. Due to the absence of justice in this family way of life, there is no peace, agreement and love among them. The children are known in their community as problem makers. It is a long time since Lalo's mother has abandoned the family and run away from her husband because

of his dictatorship behaviour. Recently, there is a rumor in the community that their house is going to be sold and their property is going to be shared among the family.

Activity 3

Answer the following questions:

1. What are some of the practices which show unjust administration in a family?
2. The administration of Lalo's family is bad. As a result of this, what happened to the behaviours of the children?
3. Who suffers when there is no justice or good administration in a family?
4. From the above two kinds of families, which family do you want to live with? Why?

Justice makes human way of life easy. Justice is important in every walk of life—example in schools, kebeles, in a family, etc. It helps to avoid discrimination and stigma among people. If there are such bad practices, justice is an instrument to solve the problem. Hence, justice has to be started in families where we have brought up and in society where we live. To understand justice properly at a family level, the two neighbouring persons are good examples.

Justice **at friends' level** helps to promote fair and balanced relationship among peoples; it avoids the superiority or inferiority attitude. When you are reading books or playing games with your friends peacefully, you have to understand that you are practicing just relationship with your friends. It promotes equal benefit and respect among friends.

Justice **at a family level** enables to create peaceful relationship among the family; it also helps to produce healthy and better citizens of a nation. You can imagine and evaluate the cases of the two families in the story.

Justice **at country level** helps to avoid unfair procedures and solve contradictions and conflicts arise at community level by peaceful way. It ensures or guarantees citizens not to be looted their property

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by certain bandits or illegal people. Justice is a base to promote the progress and development of a society. It ensures rights of citizens to learn work and live equally and peacefully with others.

It also protects the possible violation of rights of children, females, weak ones, mothers and the like.

Justice is an instrument for promotion of peace, development and progress and the means for enhancement equality and mutual relations.

Activity 4

Do the following questions:

1. Mention the importance of Justice in the following areas
 - (A) In a family way of life
 - (B) Interaction in village level
 - (C) At school level.
2. In the above-mentioned areas, what actions of justice can you do at your level? Discuss in detail.

4.2 The Procedure of Justice Giving and Local Judicial Bodies

4.2.1 Judicial Process in the Community

- If injustice is done to you in a class, to whom are you going to inform? How are you going to prove it?
- In your community, when disagreements occur among individuals, are there persons who settle such problem? And how do they solve the conflict?

Gillo-Wa-Koori 'The Wise Person'

Gillo-Wa-Koori is very much known in the Anyuaa community for his justice. He usually gathers the quarrelled people and he makes agreement among them. He also solves problems that created in the village. He is the best person in his community

in solving problems and making peace among the quarrelled people. Because of all his wise action, his grandfather Cuai, transfer power peacefully for him. Then, Gillo-Wa-Koori became the first king of Anyuaa society.

Gillo-Wa-koori did his justice sometimes alone and other time together with the prominent elders. His success of justice is not because he is an extraordinary person but because he follows the correct and proper way of solving conflicts.

When quarrelled persons come to him, first he listens to the problem very attentively. He listens both quarrelled persons equally. After he understand the root cause of the conflict, he gives justice without partiality.

Activity 5

Do the following questions based on the passage:

1. Why does the community accept the justice giving of Gillo-Wa-Koori? Give three reasons.
2. Mention the procedures he uses in solving conflicts and giving justice. What do you learn from his method?
3. When you are playing a game with your friends, what kind of referee do you usually select to lead the game? Why?

Justice is given at different places, on different occasions and issues. Justice giving is directly related with peoples everyday life. For example, you can realize the decisions given daily in schools, playing places, at home etc. All these decisions show judicial procedures. A judicial procedure is about giving the right solution and decision for problems faced. There are certain acceptable processes for such judicial procedures.

Basic points to be known in every judicial procedures are:

- Gathering information which enable to settle problems peacefully and properly
- Understanding the issue properly
- Giving justice based on reality

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Activity 6

Answer the following questions:

1. What are major points in a judicial process?
2. How do judicial bodies handle conflicts in your communities?

4.2.2 Judicial Bodies

- Mention judicial bodies in your family, school, classes, villages, etc.
- What kind of responsibilities do you have in judicial process in your school, home, class etc.?

Judicial bodies are solution giving bodies for disputes and disagreements in the community. These bodies are classified into two. They are called modern and traditional judicial bodies. These bodies are solving problems among the community and said to be judicial bodies of the community.

A. Traditional judicial bodies



Picture 4.2. Mediation under the tree

- What do you understand from this picture?
- Can you mention some of the traditional judicial bodies in your village?

Since old times, traditional judicial bodies find solutions for disagreements and conflicts happening in the community in traditional ways. These traditional judicial bodies have different names in different area. Shimagles/elderly persons/religious

fathers and respected people are commonly used bodies of traditional justice. Since these bodies are near to the people, they give justice to people on different issues. Gillo-Wa-Koori's practice is one good example of the traditional justice system.

B. Modern justice bodies



Picture 4.3. Modern institutions of justice

After identifying the above pictures, mention the role of each of the above institutions.

The main role of modern judicial institutions is to keep justice. These institutions protect citizens of their rights not to be violated by government authorities or any other body. When citizens face a problem of justice, they can apply to these justice institutions. These institutions find solutions and give decisions based on the rules and regulations of the country.

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The following are some of the main modern institutions of justice.

- **Kebele Social Courts**

They serve the community by giving justice on different issues. They are the nearest modern bodies to the community.

- **Police Station**

Police men keep peace and security of yours and the community. They are, one of the modern judicial organs.

- **Courts**

They are among the major judicial organs. When problems occur, people apply to courts in request of justice.

seriously respecting the rules and laws of the community. Furthermore, the judicial process was free of discriminations. Conflicts were commonly solved through fair judicial process on time. Because of this quality, the Chaner village was known as the *“Village and a country of justice”*. However, since recent times, things in Chaner village were changed. Members of the community started not to respect their constitution of justice. Everyone was acting out of law. Administrators of the community started giving decision out of legal procedure. Services from government institutions were given based on bribe, blood relationships, or by means of force etc. Stealing properties and beating people became common crimes. Police men could not catch criminals easily. If those criminals were caught by chance, they were released immediately. There was no strong person who can give justice to the community. Individuals started taking by force common properties of the community such as places of house building, irrigation, forest areas etc. The people of the village very much worried. They started saying, ‘what will happen to the end of our popular village of love.’

Activity 7

Answer the following questions:

1. What is the role of the following institutions in judicial process?
(A) Your kebele; (B) Courts; (C) Police stations.
2. Mention injustices that may happen if there are no police forces.

4.3 Possible Ways of Violation of Justice

4.3.1 Non-observance of Rule of Law

- Who should respect law in your school?
- What will happen, if there are people who do not respect law? What kind of measure has to be taken?
- What kinds of laws are needed to be respected at your age level?

“The Chaner Villages” (Part one)

For a long time, the Chaner village has been an exemplary village of peace and love for even neighbouring peoples. The main reason for their popularity was that everyone in the village was

Activity 8

Answer the following questions based on the passage above:

1. What are the reasons for the happening of problems in “Chaner village”? Mention.
2. Can you identify some of the specific actions for the violation of justice?

One of the reasons for the violation of justice is lack of respect to the rule of law. To respect law is a matter of discipline. A law at any place has to be respected by its citizens. Law is found in every way of people’s life. There is law in the family level, at schools, in the classes, at playing places, etc. If school rules are not well respected, teaching-learning process cannot be effective. This in turn may affect the students’ future life. Every playing game has its own law. This law has to be respected by all players equally. If rules are not respected properly, the game can be interrupted. Not only this but also the

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interruption may have bad effects. At family level even, when there is no good family administration rule, the family can fall into problem. "The Chaner village" is a good example for this.

Law formulated at country level has to be implemented effectively by its citizens. If not, there is no fair judicial process. Non-observance of law at individual, society and country level leads to critical problem. People have to respect a law for sake of their own peace and development. Injustices in different situations are the result of non-observance of rules and regulations.

Activity 9

Answer the following questions:

1. Mention three reasons for the followings for the possible violation of justice
(A) In family; (B) In schools; (C) In class.
2. What are effects of non-observance of laws in schools and in Kebele?

4.3.2 Action of Partiality or Favouritism

- Mention partiality or favouritism in the following areas
(A) In family (B) In schools
(C) In class.
- Why do people favour or do partiality? Mention reasons for it.

The second form of violating justice is by doing partiality or favouritism.

Favouritism or partiality is the opposite of justice. When favouritism or partiality expands, justices on the other hand will be affected badly. Favouritism or partiality is working against rules and regulations. It may be also defined as making advantage to somebody or to oneself on the expenses of others. Some people do favouritism or partiality based on blood relationship, language, race, religion, closeness or affiliation, bribing money etc. Favouritism or partiality can be practiced in schools, kebeles, judicial institutions etc.

They hinder justice by violating judicial procedures. In any way, favouritism or partiality is not encouraged at any cost.

Activity 10

Discuss on the following questions:

1. What is expected from you to avoid favouritism or partiality?
2. What has to be done to avoid favouritism or partiality in schools?

"Chaner Village" (Part two)

Conditions at the Chaner village were getting worse due to a number of uncontrollable problems. As a result of this, life was under great threat in 'Chaner village'. There was no the former military strength and popular unity. As a result, the village was facing frequent invasion from neighbouring countries. Children were no more seen in their playgrounds; Cattle were not seen in their grazing fields. Girls have stopped to go to schools due to frequent abductions. Mothers were very much terrified when they go for marketing. There is killing of one another. Hence, people started evacuating or leaving their village. Eventually, the village became deserted or abandoned and no body was living there. Finally those villagers disintegrated and the village was destroyed easily. When other people pass by the demolished village, they joke at it saying, "Oh Chaner, the village and country of love!!"

Activity 11

Based on the above passage, answer the following questions:

1. Explain in detail the damages of not keeping the rule of law or practicing partiality/favoritism. You can use the Chaner village as an example.
2. What should the Chaner villagers have done to prevent their problem? Mention at least two possibilities.

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Favouritism or partiality can cause the following problems:

- It deprives citizens of their rights and advantages. For example, if favouritism or partiality is expanded in a school, children may not get the right to education equally. This is true of health centers too. If favouritism is expanded in a family, it distorts family life.
- In addition to these, favouritism or partiality practices hinder the observance of the rule of law in a nation and as a result people may lose confidence in their government. It can be the cause for disturbance and violence. As a result, there may not be peace and security in the nation. It can also be the cause for looting and plundering of peoples' property. Even sometimes this situation may damage people's lives.

Activity 12

Discuss on the following questions:

1. What is the damage of favouritism or partiality on the life of the citizens of a nation?
2. What is expected from each citizen to avoid favouritism or partiality?

4.4 Social Institutions

4.4.1 The Meaning of Social Institutions



Picture 4.4. Social Institutions

- On basis of the above institutions
 - (A) Define their meaning
 - (B) Mention their services.
- Copy the table below on your exercise book and check whether these institutions are present in your area or not.

	Name of institutions	Yes	No	Number	Workers in the institution
1.	School				
2.	Health posts				
3.	Kebele office				

The social institutions are established to give certain services in a community. Institutions in the above table are examples of social institutions. These institutions give different significant and necessary services for people. For example, the school you are learning in is constructed to give such education services in your community. Health centres are also established to give health services for the public.

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Activity 13

1. Mention the meaning of social service.
2. What are functions of social services?

4.4.2 Fair Services of Social Institutions

- What do fair services of social institutions mean?

How can fair services of social institutions be checked whether they are really fair? Social institutions are established with the objective to give fair service for the whole community without partiality. For this purpose, institutions have to follow, fair and equal service giving system. Furthermore, fair service implies that providing equal service to all citizens without regarding the economic status or level, political power, blood relation etc. of the persons.

Activity 14

Answer the following questions:

1. Mention the possible obstacles of social institutions to give fair services to a society.
2. Mention the possible causes or consequences of the absence of fair services.

4.5 The Meaning of Tax



Picture 4.5. Paying tax

- According to the above picture, what do you think that those peoples are doing?

- Have you ever heard the term tax? Explain your opinion.

Kedija's interviews

After learning about social institutions in the class, Kedija become interested to know who has constructed these institutions. For this reason, she interviewed and made a discussion with her father, Ato Ali. In the discussion, she also happened to know about tax too. This interview has two parts.

Kedija's interview (Part one)

Kedija - Daddy, who has constructed those schools, health centre, agricultural centres, roads and etc. in our community?

Ato Ali - Majority of them are constructed by government. Government is the representative body of the people. The government keeps peace and security, and promotes developments in the society.

Kedija - Daddy, what is the source of money for government to do such works?

Ato Ali - Government is doing such works on basis of money collected from people through taxes.

Kedija - Daddy, what is tax?

Ato Ali - It is some amount of money that citizens are paying from their income. Money collected from tax is important to construct social institutions. Furthermore, it helps to develop infrastructures such as roads, water, electricity, telephone, etc. and also government safeguards national peace and security.

Kedija - Daddy, do all people pay tax to government?

Ato Ali - Yes, merchants, peasants, government workers, industry workers, labourers, militaries and the like should pay taxes.

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Activity 15

Based on the previous passage, answer the following questions:

1. What do you understand by collection of tax?
2. On what places does government use money that has collected through tax?
3. What kinds of problems would occur, if tax is not properly collected?

Kedija's interview (Part two)

Kedija - Daddy, do all peoples pay tax equally?

Ato Ali - No, the amount of tax payment is different. The amount of the payment is based on their income. Therefore, the one with high income pays larger while the one with low income pays less amount of tax.

Kedija - Daddy, how about you, have you paid what you have to pay?

Ato Ali - Indeed, my daughter, I usually pay early. I have to fulfill my citizenship responsibility. And then he showed her the recent tax receipt.

Kedija - Daddy, what will happen if tax is not properly paid?

Ato Ali - If citizens are not fulfilling the responsibility of tax paying, children like you cannot get education properly. Furthermore, health centres cannot be constructed and as a result of this communities may be attacked by disease easily. Roads, water wells, electricity and other services cannot be expanded. This is not good for the development of our nation because it is impossible for us to

avoid our poverty unless the citizens pay their tax.

Kedija - Daddy, are well-developed countries growth is because their citizens are paying taxes properly to their government?

Ato Ali - Yes, my daughter, the reason for their development is their peoples' hardworking and proper paying of tax. Government is like a family leader. The family leader is supposed to provide with the necessary material to the member of the family. In the same manner, the government has to provide with the necessary material to its citizens. And this is possible by collecting taxes.

Kedija - Daddy, now I have understood about social institutions and about tax too. Furthermore, I will share the information with my friends. And as citizen's responsibility, I will pay tax in the future when I have my own income.

Ato Ali - Yes, my daughter! I believe that you will fulfill your responsibility.

Activity 16

Answer the following questions based on the above passage:

1. Mention the importance of the collection of tax for a country.
2. On what base or ground do citizens pay the amount of tax?
3. What kind of problems can happen to children like you, if tax is not properly collected?

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Summary

Justice about fairness; giving genuine decision and working for truth. Justice is important in every society's life. Family is the base for society. Therefore, justice makes family administration healthy and as result there will be a stable society. It avoids favouritism or partiality and promotes a system of equality among the people. It is an instrument to create developed and peaceful country. For this purpose, people have to respect law at all levels. As a citizen, they should not

practice injustice actions. Objecting and fighting against favouritism or partiality is one of the basic characters of good and responsible citizen. Justice can promote quality services in different social institutions. To strengthen social institutions, people have to pay tax for their country on the basis of their income. In general, in order to promote justice, judicial process has to be practiced in family, schools, living places, work places etc.

Key Words

Justice:	An action practiced free of favouritism or partiality
Dispute:	Short-term disagreement
Favouritism:	Partiality; unfair decision that hurts others
Victim:	An act of damage or attack happened to somebody
Institution:	An organization authorized to do something
Judicial process:	Giving decision on different issues
Scale:	An instrument or symbol of equality, justice and fairness not to victimize others
Character:	Behaviour
Professionals:	A qualified person with good knowledge, skill and ability

Unit Review Exercises

Do these review exercises in your exercise book.

I. Write "True" if the statement is correct and write "False" if the statement is incorrect

1. Justice is about working without partiality being genuine, speaking truth and working on the basis of realities.
2. Traditional judicial institutions are important to promote justice in a society.
3. Police forces are not part of modern judicial organs.
4. Tax is the major source of money to promote social institutions.
5. Law formulated at country level has to be implemented effectively by its citizens.

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II. Match words or phrases under column 'A' with correct items of column 'B'

- | A | B |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Violating law | (A) Traditional judicial institution |
| 2. Justice | (B) Fair decision |
| 3. 'Shimeglina' (mediating by elderly people) | (C) Modern judicial institution |
| 4. Social institutions | (D) Late coming to school |
| 5. Courts | (E) Health posts |
| | (F) Disagreement |

III. Copy the following questions on your exercise book and fill the correct answer on the space provided

1. Three main judicial institutions are: _____, _____ and _____.
2. _____ is an institution which promotes knowledge of citizens.
3. The amount of money people pay on the basis of their income is said to be _____.

IV. Choose the correct answer for the following questions

1. In which of the areas is judicial process is important?
(a) At family (b) At school (c) At kebele (d) All of the above.
2. Which one of the following is an obstacle to judicial process?
(a) Telling a lie (b) Genuinely (c) Truthness (d) Fair decision.
3. Who should pay tax?
(a) Merchant (b) Government worker (c) Farmer (d) All.
4. Which one of the following is act as social institution?
(a) Health centre (b) Police station (c) School (d) (a) and (c).
5. Which one of the following is not the result of judicial process?
(a) Disintegrated family (b) Peace and progress
(c) Equality (d) Mutual understanding.

V. Give short answers for the following questions

1. What kind of behaviour should you practice in schools to promote judicial process?
2. What kind of problems can happen if tax is not properly paid? Mention in detail.