

Law and Punishment (Danda)

- Manu emphasizes Danda - punishment - as an essential tool of governance.
- Without Danda, he says, society would collapse into chaos.
- But Danda must be just - neither too harsh nor too lenient (liberal)
- Manu describes the king as the upholder of

law - he enforces Dharma Danda. In this sense, Manu's theory resembles the idea of a moral monarchy - where force is guided by ethics

06

TUESDAY

JANUARY '26

2nd Week - 006-359

JANUARY

WK	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
01							
02	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
03	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
04	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
05	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Social Order & Varna System

→ Manu divided society into four varnas - Brahmins, Kshatriyas, Vaishyas and Shudras - each with specific duties.

→ According to him, this division was based on functions and moral responsibilities, not necessarily on birth, though later interpretations became rigid.

→ For Manu social order (Varna Dharma) was essential to maintain harmony and balance in the state.

Importance & Criticism

→ Manu's political thought has had a lasting impact on Indian philosophy and law. His emphasis on Dharma, moral duty and family responsibility inspired later thinkers like Kautilya and others.

→ However modern scholars criticize Manu for rigid social hierarchy and gender inequality found in some of his prescriptions.

NOTES:

APPOINTMENTS:

PHONE/E-MAIL:

→ Finally, Dharma at the foundation of governance.