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Dharma in the digital Age: Ethical AI Governance with the Ramayana of Valmiki

D Vaidehi[1], Dr. Teena Tiwari[2] and Dr. Shruti Agarwal[3]

1) Research Scholar, Rabindranath Tagore University
2) Associate Professor, Scope Global Skills University
3) Assistant Professor, Barkatullah University.

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Abstract: *The blistering pace of artificial intelligence (AI) adoption into the state apparatus, business, and social life has increased global anxieties about the ethical responsibility, transparency, and fairness of algorithmic decision-making. Current AI governance practices, which are mostly based on the normative traditions of the West, including utilitarianism, deontology and rights-based ethics, are typically not sufficient to resolve the issues of culturally-founded moral reasoning and contextual responsibility in pluralistic societies. This paper suggests the notion of dharma, as it is presented in the Ramayana of Valmiki, as the complementary ethical framework regarding the modern system of AI regulation.*

Based on textual interpretation of the Ramayana and up-to-date research on responsible AI, this paper develops the concept of dharma as a living moral code that involves duty, justice, accountability, compassion, and harmony in the society. Unlike the rule-based or outcome-oriented types of ethical theories, dharma focuses on context-specific dharma (yukta-viveka), proportionate course of action, and moral accountability of authority personnel, which are very pertinent to AI-based systems used in the governance and decision-making processes of the population. The paper projects these ethical aspects onto existing issues in the regulation of AI, such as algorithmic bias, opacity, automated discretion, and delegation of authority to non-human actors.

The paper provides normative lessons to the design of AI systems that are accountable not only technically but also in moral and social situations through comparative analysis of the important episodes and moral dilemmas in the Ramayana, especially the leadership, justice, and power limits dilemmas. The idea of raj dharma (ethical governance) is discussed as a key area in which AI should be used at the state level, where the concept of responsibility to citizens, inclusivity, and long-term social benefits should take precedence over the short-term benefits of efficiency.

The paper is a contribution to the growing body of culturally-based AI ethics literature that puts Indic philosophy as a source of possible and rigorous ethics AI governance. The paper recommends a pluralistic and context sensitive ethical system by incorporating dharma in modern policy discourse that can be able to deal with the intricate moral issues that AI presents in various societies. The aim of this approach is to add value to the discourse on AI governance globally and help to establish ethically robust and socially acceptable AI systems.

Keywords*: Dharma, Digital, Ramayana, Governance*

1. Introduction

The rapid integration of the Artificial Intelligence (AI) in governance, and economic systems, and social decision-making has altered how power is exerted by the institutions and provision of value to the society. AI-based systems are currently used in the context of the delivery of the public services, financial decision-making, predictive policing, recruitment process, healthcare diagnostics, and websites.

It is possible that these technologies can be efficient, scalable and objective simultaneously and cause severe ethical concerns such as unfairness, lack of transparency, accountability, and social legitimacy. The ethical regulation of AI has drawn controversy on a global scale because of the concern regarding the bias in algorithms, the absence of transparency in decision making, and the delegation of authority to non-human systems (Floridi et al., 2018; Jobin et al., 2019). As the application of algorithmic decision systems in governments and other organizations has increased, a great need has arisen to enforce robust ethical frameworks that can guide the creation, application, and regulation of AI.

Current discussions concerning the ethics of AI are largely based on Western philosophical traditions (particularly, on utilitarianism, deontology, and rights) (Mittelstadt et al., 2016).. These frameworks have played a major role in shaping policy efforts on the global scale, including the European Union Ethics Guidelines to Trustworthy AI and the OECD AI Principles. Although these strategies offer valuable normative grounds, they mostly tend to focus on universal guidelines, personal freedom, and quantifiable consequences, neglecting situational moral reasoning and ethical viewpoints that exist within a culture (Jobin et al., 2019).

Complex social responsibilities, relationships, and situational judgments are usually considered in the ethical decision-making in pluralistic societies and cannot be comprehensively addressed in either a rule-based system or a consequence-based system. As a result, researchers have developed more and more arguments to include a variety of philosophical traditions in the discussion of AI ethics in order to make their governance models culturally inclusive and socially legitimate (Ess, 2020).

Over the past few years, the importance of Global South viewpoints in technology ethics has received increased attention especially with the spread of AI systems in societies with diverse cultures (Arora, 2019). Ethical theories solely based upon Western philosophical history can be insufficient at competing with the moral reasoning patterns of non-Western culture, where community welfare, duty, harmony and relational accountability are likely to be heavily influential in ethical analysis.

This drawback underscores the necessity of pluralistic ethical frameworks which brings into play information of diverse philosophical traditions, and as a consequence, AI governance models, which are attentive to social diversity and contextual complexity.

The Indic philosophy presents a very rich and well-developed ethical tradition which highlights the interdependence of duty, justice and social harmony. One of its core ideas, dharma is an

absolute moral code that regulates the behavior of the individuals and institutions based on the principles of responsibility, proportionality, and ethical balance (Bhatta, 2018).

Dharma does not simply exist as a set of rules or regulations, but it is a context-intelligent kind of moral destiny, which takes into account the role, duties and outcome of the actions in the context of a more general social order. Dharma does not rely as heavily on rules as ethical systems based on rules do; dharma recognizes situational judgment (yukta-viveka) and proportionate judgment when moral dilemmas consist of conflicting duties or uncertain results.

Ramayana of Valmiki is one of the most powerful narrative statements of dharmic ethics, a work that involves intricate ethical crises of leadership, justice, power, and responsibility. According to the epic, ethical decision-making is a process, which involves a balance of individual values, societal obligations, and the long-term well-being issues. The Ramayana examines the ethical duties that accompany governance, also known as raj dharma (ethical duty of rulers), through stories about rulers, citizens and institutional authority.

Such ethical perspectives are especially applicable to present-day discussions about AI regulation, where the power to make decisions is becoming more and more decentralized to technological mechanisms that affect the population wellbeing.

Questions like who holds moral responsibility when automated decisions have negative consequences are similar to questions that have been discussed in classical discourse on ethical leadership. What is fairness in socially complex settings? What are the guidelines of decision-making when efficiency is in conflict with equity? In a way in which human and technological agents share authority, how can institutions become accountable? The philosophical frameworks that these questions imply are relevant to the context, including the contextual judgment, ethical responsibility, and the social legitimacy.

This paper has tested the thesis that the dharma conceived in relation to the Ramayana of Valmiki could provide another ethical policy framework to AI governance to address the weakness of mainstream Western solutions. To address the issue of responsible technology governance, Dharmic ethics offers a holistic approach that is a combination of the notion of contextual responsibility, proportional justice and moral accountability. The paper creates a conceptual relationship between dharmic ethical concepts and contemporary AI regulation dilemmas such as biased algorithms, lack of transparency, AI agency, and accountability.

This study aims at deriving the ways of applying dharmic philosophy to work out culturally inclusive AI ethical systems that are responsive to social complexity and institutional responsibility. The article has an interpretative and conceptual point of view in that it integrates textual analysis of Ramayana with modern researchers with an interest in responsible AI. The interdisciplinary approach makes the study build a normative grouping that allows the realization of dharmic ethics in accordance with the new global debates of reliant and socially helpful AI systems.

The article belongs to the new literature that upholds pluralistic thinking in the context of technology ethics because it establishes that philosophical traditions, based on culture, can be used in the modern case of governance. The fact that dharma is placed as an ethical prism that

AI governance should be interpreted through will assist the study to expand the discourse of worldly AI ethics beyond the major paradigms, and encourage the input of various intellectual traditions in the shaping of responsible technological futures.

The rest of the paper has the following structure. The second part evaluates the key ethical challenges in AI regulation as well as the limitations of mainstream normative frameworks. The conceptual discussion on dharma as a moral philosophy and its relevance in ethics of governance is next. The following discussions examine the ethics in Ramayana, and create a comparative model between western ethical aspects of AI and dharmic ethical reasoning. The paper then proposes a Dharmic AI Governance Framework and gives its policy implication to the contemporary digital governance systems.

2 AI Ethics challenges

The increased application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the context of the public administration, corporate decision-making, and digital platforms has brought to the table complicated ethical issues that go beyond technical performance. Artificial intelligence systems are making more decisions impacting employment, credit solvency, health diagnosis, policing policy, welfare distribution, and policy implementation. Although these technologies are efficiency promoting and predictive, they also transform the nature of the practice of authority in the society.

The ethical issues become especially problematic when algorithmic decision-making becomes relevant to human lives, and it lacks transparency, fairness, or accountability (Floridi et al., 2018). Since AI systems are both scalable and frequently autonomous, their governance systems need to reflect upon the ethical consequences of the moral decision-making of machines being delegated.

Algorithms bias is one of the most popular issues of AI regulation. AI systems use patterns of data in the past to make predictions or decisions. Nevertheless, past statistics tends to represent prevailing social disparities and institutional discrimination. When biased data are inputted into the training of AI models, the decision it makes can replicate or magnify discriminatory results based on gender, caste, ethnicity, or social economy status (Barocas et al., 2019). It has been demonstrated that the AI systems employed in the hiring process, face recognition, and credit score could lead to biased results unless they are thoroughly developed and controlled (O'Neil, 2016)

. The prejudice of AI systems criticizes the notion that technology is inherently neutral and it shows that algorithmic decisions are manipulated by human decisions reflected in which data is selected, the design of the model, and the performance optimization criteria.

The other important issue is associated with the obscurity of algorithmic systems, which is also known as the black box problem. The AI models, especially model based on machine learning and deep learning methods, work by using complicated mathematical frameworks that are not easily interpreted even by developers. This absence of transparency creates a challenge in letting the stakeholders comprehend the process of decision-making, which can evoke the issue of explainability and trust (Burrell, 2016).

As long as people cannot comprehend or challenge decisions impacting them, the problem of ethical conduct referring to procedural fairness and due process arises. The issue is especially acute in the situation of governance when the governmental institutions should explain their decision by the principles of democratic responsibility.

Another fundamental problem of AI governance is the accountability gap. The traditional governance systems presuppose that the decisions are made by the human actors and thus can be punished based on what results they have. This is however not the case when tasks involving any form of automation are fully or partly automated; the responsibility becomes scattered across developers, organizations, data providers, and regulatory organizations (Mittelstadt et al., 2016).

This spread of accountability makes it difficult to attribute a liability in the event that AI systems generate unintended or negative effects. To illustrate, when an AI-based healthcare system makes a false diagnosis, or when an AI-based predictive policing systems result into discrimination-based surveillance practices, it becomes legally and ethically complicated to identify who is to be responsible. The absence of definite accountability measures destabilize the confidence of people in the AI-based governance systems.

AI governance also brings up issues of delegation of power to non-human actors. There is a growing number of automated decision-making processes, which were traditionally done by human specialists, such as the evaluation of risks, the generation of recommendations, and the allocation of resources. Although automation has the potential of enhancing efficiency, the overdependence on AI systems can lead to less human-worker supervision and moral consideration (Coeckelbergh, 2020).

Seduction of authority to AI systems brings normative issues with the right level of human judgment and technological freedom. Ethical systems of governance should hence consider the degree to which the decision making power should not be in the human hands especially in situations that involve social welfare and human rights.

There is further complexity in the notion of fairness in AI decision-making. In computational terms, fairness is often defined using statistical parity or equal predictive accuracy across demographic groups. Nevertheless, social fairness is a wider concept that encompasses the historical underprivilege, and contextual inequalities, and distributive justice (Friedler et al., 2021).

Mathematically pure conceptions of the fair can be insensitive to structural social differences that demand a contextual consideration. As a result, AI governance needs ethical systems that can incorporate both technical indicators of fairness and normative justice.

International organizations and policy institutions in response have come up with principles of responsible AI governance. Transparency, accountability, and human-centered values are the key principles of AI design and deployment in the OECD AI Principles (OECD, 2019).

On the same note, the Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence by UNESCO emphasizes the relevance of human rights, social inclusion, and sustainability to the scheme of

governance of AI (UNESCO, 2021). According to the Ethics Guidelines on the Trustworthy AI released by the European Union, there are several essential criteria, including human supervision, technical soundness, privacy, and social welfare (European Commission, 2019). These policy frameworks are also a great step in developing worldwide ethical guidelines of AI systems.

Nevertheless, irrespective of these developments, prevailing systems tend to focus more on universal moral standards which do not necessarily reflect patterns of moral reasoning which are rooted in a culture. Liberal philosophical traditions show in a number of international principles of AI ethics, which focus on individual rights, privacy, and autonomy.

Despite the fact that these values are still relevant, the ethical considerations associated with the duty, social harmony, relational accountability, and the well-being of the community can also be essential in governance system functioning in culturally diverse environments (Ess, 2020). Lack of culturally based ethical views can reduce the capacity of the governance systems to attain social legitimacy in various societies.

Moreover, the issues of AI governance are not only technical but also philosophical. The issues of justice, responsibility, authority, and moral judgement have been subject to questioning in different schools of thought around the globe. Non-Western traditions tend to offer some helpful ideas on context-sensitive decision-making and relational ethics, and such insights may be useful in other societies in which moral reasoning depends on collective well-being, not only individualistic concerns (Arora, 2019). The inclusion of these viewpoints into the AI ethics discussion can help build more all-encompassing and context-specific governance frameworks.

Such ethical dilemmas lead to the necessity to develop frameworks that would go beyond the rule-based and outcome-based approach to discussing models that encompass contextual judgment, moral responsibility, and social balance. Such framework is seen in the notion of dharma, which is based on ethics of duty, proportional justice and obligation of those in power to the well-being of the society at large.

Through the analyses of dharmic ethics, one can investigate possible alternative models of AI regulation that would supplement the current international standards and would help in the contextualization of moral dilemmas.

The following discussion then focuses on dharma as an aspect of philosophy and how it applies as an ethics system of governance and decision-making within technologically mediated societies.

3. Dharma philosophy

The idea of dharma plays a pivotal role in Indic philosophies, and it constitutes of a wholesome system of ethics incorporating duty, justice, responsibility, and social harmony. Contrary to the narrow-minded moral rules, dharma is a multidimensional concept that governs the conduct of an individual and the governance of an institute. It has a Sanskrit origin of dh which means to hold on, to support, implying that it serves to preserve social order in the community and moral

equilibrium (Radhakrishnan, 2008). According to classical Indian philosophy, the concept of dharma does not just imply a religious doctrine but rather a normative system of governance of ethical behavior within personal, social and political circles.

The context-sensitive nature of dharma is one of the scientific features of this religion. Instead of setting strict rules that universally apply without any exception, dharma focuses on the situational discretion and ethical proportionality. No moral action is judged according to the responsibility of ones role, social effects, or even whether justice and harmony would be considered in the broader sense (Bilimoria, 2017).

This is what makes dharmic ethics stand out of other more rule-based systems, the ethical reasoning is free to react to complex and dynamic situations. Such flexibility is especially applicable in the modern governance processes where it is required to balance competing values as efficiency, fairness, innovativeness, and social welfare.

Dharma can be also characterized as an ethical system which is duty based, meaning that moral commitments are associated to social roles and institutional duties. The meaning of ethical action is not the only factor that relies on individual rights or personal preferences but rather duties to society and the overall system of morality (Matilal, 2015). This is a frequently expressed notion in the governance setting via the notion of the raj dharma which means the ethical responsibility of rulers and common authorities.

Raj dharma focuses on justice, accountability, welfare orientation, and responsible use of power. Leaders are supposed to serve not to benefit the self but the interests of the entire society, which entails fairness and stability in a social system.

One more significant point of dharmic ethics is the focus on the balance between justice and compassion. Moral judgments also demand not only an adherence to the principles but also human responsiveness. This balance has the message that moral judgment must include the element of rational evaluation and sympathetic perception.

Dharma based ethical models recognize, thus, that even purely procedural justice may not provide fair things when contextual realities are ignored. Such an approach can be used to tackle the drawbacks of purely mathematical measures of fairness that do not incorporate more social inequities, in technically mediated settings like AI governance.

The principle of yukta-viveka which is frequently understood as a rational or genre discrimination makes the applicability of dharma as a moral system even more robust. Yukta-viveka is the capacity of discerning ethical principles with regard to given situations instead of operating by a rulebook.

This makes the decision-making process ethical to be considered an interpretive process which entails wisdom, reflection and accountability (Ganeri, 2018). This view is consistent with the discussion of AI governance today, in which ethical consideration frequently involves consideration of balancing technical precision and social effects and institutional normativity.

The accountability of authority is another idea in Dharma that states that power should be used with restraint which is morally correct. The only time that ethical authority is seen to bear

legitimacy is when they help in bringing about societal harmony and the long-term wellbeing. Misuse of power is considered as a kind of injustice or a break of the dharma causing social imbalance.

This normative accent of responsible authority can offer a topical point of view regarding the consideration of AI systems that progressively affect the process of decision-making by citizens. The ethical duty that arose with such authority is one of the main governance issues when algorithmic systems have control over resource allocation, public services, or institutional judgments.

In contrast to strictly individualistic ethical approaches, the dharmic philosophy is capable of recognizing the connectedness of people in a larger social system. At that, ethical decision-making is not only assessed in individual terms but also within the context of the common good and social order (Bhatta, 2018).

Such a relational approach is especially sufficient to the scenario of governance, where policy-making concerns different social categories of people with varying degrees of weakness. Relational ethics AI governance structures can thus be more effective at explaining the social consequences of technological judgment.

4. Ramayana Ethical Analysis

Ramayana of Valmiki is single-handedly one of the greatest sources of stories on which dharmic principles of ethics in the governing, leading, and moral accountable fields can be respected or comprehended. In contrast to the theoretical texts of philosophy, the Ramayana introduces ethical problems in the form of narrative scenarios in which characters have to make complicated choices, balance conflicting obligations, and the moral values that conflict. The reading describes ethical decisions as a thoughtful procedure that entails judgment, responsibility and consideration to the general social implications. These narrative examples are an excellent interpretative theory of the functioning of dharma as a practical ethical system, especially, as applied to authority and government.

Additionally, dharma has also been defined as a living ethical principle, which changes with the societal situation and with the changes in history. According to the classical texts, ethical obligations may change with respect to institutional functions, social requirements, and ethical issues.

This flexibility enables the dharmic ethics to stay pertinent in the shifting conditions even in the technological context that could not be contemplated during the ancient philosophical discourse. The flexibility of dharma implies that it can be used in the modern discussions regarding digital governance and AI ethics.

The application of dharma in governance ethics is more active in the discussion of governance responsibility, the delivery of justice, and accountability of people. The term ethical governance can be interpreted as the requirement to govern the vulnerable populations fairly, avoid at-risk groups, and preserve social trust.

Such reflections find good resonance in the current apprehensions about the notion of algorithmic governance, whereby government agencies are required to make sure that automated processes do not threaten transparency, fairness, or democratic legitimacy.

Dharma provides some normative insights in terms of AI governance. First of all, ethical responsibility cannot be fully applied to technological systems; human controls cannot be avoided in the association of moral responsibilities. Second, situational implications and not general technical actions should be involved in that application of ethical assessment.

Third, the governance systems should change to place a priority on social good over efficiency short term gains. These principles align with more recent requirements of human-centered AI that takes care of societal values and institutional responsibility (Floridi et al., 2018).

Holistic philosophy In full-fledged dharmic tradition, there is the whole-sale approach to the complex matters of governance, which would be provided by defining ethics as a balance of our duty, justice, compassion and contextual thinking. The focus on accountability in duties of responsibility, relational responsibility and proportional decision-making make it especially applicable to situations in which technological systems are the determinants of social consequences. An incarceration like this of dharmic moral notions in cyber AI governance discourse is, therefore, a breaching of the philosophical justifications of responsible AI beyond hegemonic paradigms.

The paper will discuss the motif of morality in Ramayana of Valmiki and how one can apply dharmic concepts in his/ her story telling in terms of promoting leadership, justice and decision making based on the condition of uncertainty. These narratives provide reveal interpretative insights that can be used to inform contemporary argument on governance of ethical AI.

Relationship between duty and personal interest is one of the main ethical themes of the Ramayana which the episode of Rama exile depicts. Rama also opts to go into exile to honor his father as he is ready to put his moral obligation before his right to political power. This choice represents dharmic emphasis on obligations to the institutional commitments and social trust. Ethical legitimacy in governance is presented to be not only based on obtaining power but respecting moral duties which maintain social order. This story reveals the role of having an ethical responsibility model rather than limiting AI governance to instrumentally efficient contexts in modern times. AI systems aimed at maximizing results alone can ignore larger scopes of ethical responsibilities involving fairness, transparency, and trust in the community.

The other relevant ethical example can be created in terms of Bharata, the person who does not accept the throne when it is time to be ruled by the law. This move by Bharata illustrates the fact that moral legitimacy of authority relies not only on the position of the authority but on its morality.

It also represents leadership as an obligation based on moral responsibility and not selfish gain. The episode echoes with modern debates on the topic of algorithmic authority, where the power of decision-making can be technically correct but has natural, ethical flaws. The story indicates

that governance legitimacy involves ensuring that there is balance between power and ethical responsibility.

The moral complication of the governance decision-making process is also presented in the Rama-Vali episode as Rama interferes in the dispute between Vali and Sugriva. The episode has been well understood as being a moral dilemma of fairness, proportionality, and the moral boundaries of power (Goldman, 2016). The rationale behind the action taken by Rama has to do with the fact that rulers must step in when the social justice is being infringed upon. In the story, the need to defend the moral order by the people in power is highlighted despite the fact that moral decisions in complicated circumstances are not very clear evil or good. In the context of AI governance, the dilemma raises the issue of creating the decision systems that would be able to interpret context and strike a balance between conflicting ethical factors instead of relying on strict rules.

The Ramayana also addresses the moral conflicts between civic duty and individual ethics especially in the controversies that surrounded the agni pariksha of Sita. The episode is representative of the moral weight that leaders have to bear to ensure the society trusts them and at the same time take into account personal relationships and morals. The meaning of this episode is subject to interpretation but most of the time it highlights how challenging it has become to remain legitimate in governance when the ethical choice has to touch institutional trustworthiness and personal dignity (Sharma, 2019).

Similar tensions are emerging in the context of AI governance, with the cases when public institutions are dependent on the use of algorithmic systems that need to balance efficiency with fairness and human sensitivity. Moral governance means that the decisions cannot be taken in a way that is socially acceptable and morally respectable besides being technically correct.

The idea of Rama Rajya, which, when translated into English, can be taken to mean a perfect implication of moral governance, also supports the dharmic aspect of leadership with an orientation towards welfare. The idea of governance is represented as an obligation to provide justice, social stability and welfare of the people, more than keeping administrative control (Pollock, 2017). Ethical leadership is about constant responsibility to the citizens and long term interests to the societies. Such an outlook corresponds to modern-day debates about responsible AI, where governance systems should be designed based on the long-term social impact of a technological system instead of adopting short-term performance indicators.

Throughout these episodes, the use of ethical reasoning is provided as one that involves interpretative judgment, not rule application. The solutions can be judged based on their influence on social harmony, justice and moral order. The stories show that ethical governance is about striking a balance between conflicting values and being prepared to take responsibility of the ramifications of actions. The given approach will provide valuable insights to the debate

on AI governance today, where the process of making decisions is frequently associated with uncertainty and conflicting goals, as well as complicated social consequences.

Among the lessons that were learned this was the fact that the power of ethics must be held accountable to morals even in the situations of complexity and uncertainty during decision making procedures. The Correctness of the procedure is in itself not the basis of rightness of governance but rather the beability in place of morality of the decision makers which is expected. The logic in which this method is based is that, the AI governance systems should not be grounded on the technical compliance but should introduce normative concerns both as pertains to justice and responsibility and social trust.

Furthermore, it can be observed that not all the ethical issues can be resolved with references to the sheer formal thinking according to the plot of Ramayana. Interpretative acumen, social awareness and sensitivity to the situation might also be required in moral inference. This expressive element of dharmic ethics offers them yet another image to computational models of reducing ethical action to quantifiable variables. Even though AI systems can work with considerable amounts of data, they may lack a contextual perception that identifies the complexity of ethics. Therefore, the ethical control systems remain fundamental in ensuring that decision making that relates to technology are geared towards the remaining parts of the societies.

In the context of moral quandary, exploring the dilemmas based on the detailed matrix of the Ramayana, it is possible to find out such principles that can be applied to the current problem of ruling as responsibility of power, justice proportion, responsibility in relations and welfare focus. These values may serve to assist in establishing the collection of ethical principles, which have a user in AI, as such that incorporate technical probility and moral responsibility. The dharmic perspective is not against the technological advancement; it only emphasizes the need to control the power of technology with ethical accountability.

The teachings in the Ramayana are therefore a house of stories on the concept of dharma as a system of ethics deployed in governance situations. The above moral values can be translated into theories that may be applied in the formation of responsible AI practices and policy-making. The next paragraph develops a comparative analysis of robust Western AI ethics paradigms and dharmic-based ethical arguments based on the substantial philosophical differences and additions regarding new AI governance discourses.

5. Comparative Ethics

Contemporary discourses regarding the regulation of Artificial Intelligence (AI) are mostly driven by the Western ethical cultures, in particular, utilitarianism, deontology and virtue ethics. The traditions have informed international recommendations and guidelines that involve the both the OECD Principles on AI, AI Ethics Recommendation and Trustworthy AI regulations by the UNESCO and European Union respectively. Even though these solutions provide systematic methods to evaluate the ethical risk in the technological-based decision

making, they are primarily premised on the philosophical assumptions that emphasize on individualism, shared values, and rule-based logic (Mittelstadt et al., 2016; Jobin et al., 2019).

Dharmic ethics in line with the Ramayana, in turn, provides a more context-sensitive theory of responsibility to relational, proportional justice, and duty-based morality. Comparative discussion of these traditions allows seeing both complementary insights and philosophical contrast that can be used to design inclusive AI governance models.

5.1 Utilitarianism and Outcome-Oriented Ethics.

Utilitarianism is an ethical theory that judges morally correct or incorrect choices by their outcomes, which is usually intended to produce the greatest happiness or utility in general (Mill, 1863/2017). In AI governance, a utilitarian reasoning frequently guides the optimization-based decision models which assign more weight to efficiency and accuracy in addition to aggregate welfare results.

As an illustration, predictive algorithms can be assessed with their efficiency in terms of efficiency in resource allocation or operational cost reduction. Although outcome-related reasoning can be useful when evaluating the performance of AI systems, critics believe that utilitarian approaches are purely utilitarian in their nature and thus can be used to provide an assessment of decisions that benefits the majority of people at the expense of minority groups (O'Neil, 2016).

Dharmic ethics is at variance with utilitarianism in its focus on the proportionality of ethics and situational fairness as opposed to the aggregate outcomes. The philosophy of dharma accepts that any activity that influences social balance should have references to justice and accountability to the frail members of society. It is therefore also ethical to make decisions based on ethical considerations that attribute fairness and moral responsibility not only on their quantitative results but also on their qualitative ones. This viewpoint presents in AI governance contexts is that efficiency gains must not outweigh ethical requirements to do with equity and social justice.

5.2 Deontology and Rule-Based Ethical Frameworks

Deontological ethics that is linked to Immanuel Kant is based on the compliance to universal rules of morality and responsibilities irrespective of outcomes (Kant, 1785/2002). Some ethics rules on AI include deontological ethics by focusing on rights protection like privacy, non-discrimination, and non-informed consent (Floridi et al., 2018). Rule frameworks would also be effective in regulatory matters, as they allow organizations adopting the use of AI to be given a clear set of compliance standards.

But when ethical question arise or contradictory responsibilities or ambiguous situations are in play rule-based efforts might be constrained. Dharmic ethics co-exists by adopting an alternative view that moral rules need an interpretative judgement in ambiguous cases. Yukta-viveka stresses the value of responsible judgment, in which moral requirements are judged according to circumstances and outcomes. Such a variety of options is specifically applicable

to governance of AI, since strict adherence to rules might not be suitable to emerging technological threats or societal nuances.

5.3 Virtue Ethics and Character-Based Moral Reasoning

Virtue ethics focuses on the moral personality and ethical temperaments instead of following rules or considering consequences (MacIntyre, 2007). Virtue ethics has also been used in AI ethics to undertake topics involving responsible innovation, professionalism, and moral consciousness in computer developer circles (Vallor, 2016). This is a view that emphasises the need to inculcate some form of moral accountability in the technological communities.

Dharmic ethics is similar to virtue ethics since it focuses on moral responsibilities and ethical behaviors of the decision-makers. Nevertheless, dharma does not represent individual personality limit, it connects ethical activity to roles and institutional responsibilities. The aspect of raj dharma emphasizes the fact that the institution of governance must uphold fairness and goodwill to the entire society. This institutional inclination is what makes dharmic ethics especially applicable to AI regulation, where ethical concern is shared among institutions, regulators, and technological platforms.

5.4 Individual Rights vs Relational Responsibility

The independence of individuals and the need to protect their rights are considered as the main ethical issues in Western ethical systems (Rawls, 1971). The types of AI governance systems based on the liberal political philosophy focus on privacy rights, data security, and personal consent. Although these protections are needed, ethical issues in the management of AI are frequently not limited to the concerns of individual rights, but consider the needs of social impact and collective welfare as well.

The Dharmic ethics assumes a relation point of view, as it credits individuals with being embedded in social frameworks and moral communities. Ethical analysis then takes into consideration the impact of choices on the social peace and the overall welfare. Relational ethics can be a valuable source of information in governance contexts when considering AI policies on matters of social welfare distribution, health care, and education. Such an attitude motivates policymakers to consider AI systems so that concern is not limited to individual rights but extends to the larger societal implications.

5.5 Justice as Equality vs Justice as Proportional Fairness

Fairness in most Western conceptions has been understood as treating or giving benefits equally to people (Friedler et al., 2021). Measures of computational fairness tend to seek to prevent the systematic discrimination of particular groups of the population by algorithm members. Although these metrics are crucial, only statistical methods can be conducted without taking into account contextual inequalities that should be addressed differently.

Dharmic ethics understands justice as comparative fairness, in which ethical judgments will be based upon circumstantial conditions, like susceptibility, societal responsibility and societal balance over an extended period. Ethical thinking, evident in the Ramayana, puts safety of social harmony over inflexible equality of results. Proportional fairness can be applied in AI

governance to deal with cases when treating people equally can unconsciously keep structural disadvantage intact.

5.6 Accountability as Legal Compliance vs Moral Responsibility

In Western systems of governance, compliance with regulation, system of liability, and institutional control and supervision are often prioritized as legal accountability measures (European Commission, 2019). Although legal responsibility is a required demand, ethical accountability involves institutionalized responsibility as well among decision-makers.

Dharmic ethics brings in the moral accountability meaning that authority should be permitted to apply with an understanding of the ethical repercussions. Ethical leadership encompasses service to the society and not simply by accepting formal rules. Moral responsibility can be used in AI governance to create incentives that motivate organizations to consider the wider social context of technological implementation instead of referring only to regulatory compliance.

5.7 Integrating Complementary Ethical Perspectives

The comparative analysis causes the elicitation, that the dharmic ethics does not replace the Western ethical frameworks but contributes to them with the context-dependent reasoning, relationship responsibility, and the proportional justice. The implementation of different ethical positions could help to make AI regulatory systems more powerful, and it might potentially become possible to evaluate technological risks and social effects in a finer detail.

Pro-pluralistic forms of ethics take into consideration the fact that the leadership challenges within multidimensional societies presuppose the existence of a large number of normative prisms. Artificial intelligence affects the population of the world with very dozens of cultures, social anticipations, and traditions of moral reasoning. Therefore, to attain flexibility and legitimacy in different contexts, the teachings of different schools of thought should be retained in the inclusive governance paradigm (Ess, 2020).

A combination of dharmic ethics to the current discourse in AI governance enables the development of a conceptual framework, which can be described as the elements of duty-based accountability, situational interrogation and welfare focus. In this part, it recommends a Dharmic AI Governance Framework (DAGF) that would carry over these philosophical implications into normative rules to be employed in the design, deployment, and regulation of AI.

6. Dharmic AI Governance Framework (DAGF).

The current paper based on the comparative insights on Western AI ethics and dharmic moral philosophy is a proposal of a Dharmic AI Governance Framework (DAGF) as a normative framework to advise ethical design, implementation, and regulation of Artificial Intelligence systems. The framework transforms the major ethical principles associated with dharma and the Ramayana into the government-focused constructs that may be used to enhance the modern-day responsible AI principles. Instead of substituting the current regulatory frameworks, the

offered model is supposed to strengthen ethical resilience through the use of context-specific rationale, duty-based accountability, and welfare-based governance.

The main principles of operation, which AI governance frameworks are usually concentrated on, include transparency, fairness, privacy protection, and technical reliability (Floridi et al., 2018; OECD, 2019).

6.1 Core Foundations of the Framework

Though these principles are imperative tools of protection, they tend to focus on compliance-based ethics whereby focus is on compliance with formal standards. The dharmic approach brings another aspect by focusing on the moral accountability of the decision-makers, relative justice, and the harmony of the society in the long run. This attitude inspires the institutions of governance to assess the technological systems not only as per their efficiency, but also with regard to their social implications.

The Dharmic AI Governance Framework is created grounded on the six dimensions of ethics related to the dharmic philosophy:

1.The Responsibility based (Kartavya orientation) duty.

Dharma declares that it was not morally motivated as one sought anything but did what was just and ethical. Under AI governance, this principle means that there is an ethical responsibility of developers, organizations and policymakers to make sure that technological systems advance social welfare and have negative impacts. Ethical responsibility does not just centre on the technicality of performance, but on the impact on the society as well.2. Ethical Reasoning within the Form of a Context (Yukta-viveka).

2. Dharmic Morality

Dharmic morality appreciates the fact that moral judgments and choices have many situations in which one needs to be contextual and not be guided by any mechanical rule. AI systems are often deployed in uncertain and socially complicated settings. Mechanisms of governance must thus permit interpretative leeways and human control, so that decisions that are made by algorithms could be subject to review based on contextual conditions.

3. Proportional justice (Nyaya orientation).

Instead of basing notions of fairness solely on statistical definitions, dharmic ethics focuses on proportional justice, i.e. taking into account social vulnerability and structural inequalities. The problem of bias regarding disadvantaged populations may be addressed more effectively with the help of AI governance frameworks that are informed by proportional fairness. The ethical analysis must look into the contribution of the technological results to promoting fair social balance.

4. Ethical Responsibility of the Power (Raj Dharma).

Raj dharma introduces the idea of ethical accountability of those in charge to its citizens and society. In the case of AI governance, any institution that implements algorithmic decision systems is ethically responsible to its results despite the partial automation of decision-making.

Ethical legitimacy must have constant monitoring, accountability, and consequences accountability.

5. Compassion and Social Welfare Orientation (Lokasangraha)

Dharmic philosophy insists on preservation of social order and social welfare. The AI systems affecting the healthcare sector, resource distribution to the population, or economic inclusion should take into account the welfare of society, not only through a limited set of efficiency indicators. Compassion orientated governance promotes responsible innovation that gives importance to the long-term human prosperity.

6. Automation Ethics (Human control principle)

According to Dharmic logic, ethical responsibility cannot be established to be wholly assigned to non-human actors. When it comes to situations with serious social implications, AI systems should support, and not dominate, human individual decisions on moral matters. Human control is the key to keeping the technological power in accordance with the moral responsibility.

6.2 Structure of the Dharmic AI Governance Framework

The offered framework conceptualizes AI governance as a process involving the relations between the technological ability and ethical role. In the model, there are three layers of governance:

Layer 1: Ethical Design

- bias mitigation
- transparency mechanisms
- fairness-sensitive data practices
- human-centered AI architecture

Layer 2: Ethical Deployment

- contextual review of AI results.
- continuous monitoring
- institutional accountability structures
- stakeholder participation

Layer 3: Ethical Oversight

- regulatory review mechanisms
- public accountability
- policy congruence to social welfare objectives.
- long term ethical impact assessment**.**

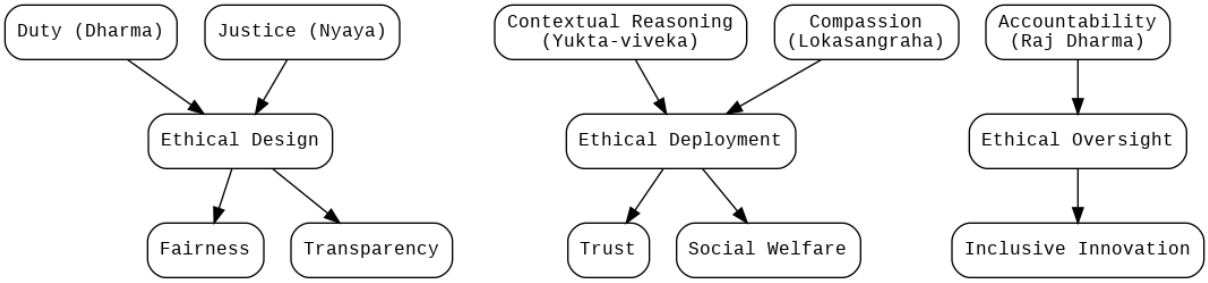
These levels are associated with the dharmic orientation toward the continuation of the emphasis on the ethical responsibility, rather than on one assessed compliance**.**

6.3 Conceptual Model Explanation

Darmatic AI Governance Frameworks implies that moral responsibility and technological efficiency of working with ethical AI systems should be in balanced interfaces. The normative evaluation mechanisms that are applied in the process of AI decision making should have the element of considering the need to consider the contextual fairness, accountability structures and societal impacts. The paradigm so unites the technical governance rules and moral traditions which are aimed at the responsibility and social harmony.

Dharmic principles at the design-level level motivate developers to foresee the possible social impact of algorithmic choices. At the deployment level the institutions should assess actual effect of AI systems in real life and have the proper remedial in place in cases of undesired damage. Regulatory level Governance bodies should also make sure that the introduction of AI is in line with other social goals like inclusion, justice, and trust in the system**.**

Figure 1. Dharmic AI Governance Framework (DAGF)



6.4 Contribution of the Framework to AI Ethics Discourse

The Dharmic AI Governance Framework contributes to the contemporary conversation of the issue by expanding the normative yet fails to implement the current paradigms to the responsible AI. Unlike the existing systems which regard the importance of transparency, fairness and accountability, dharmic ethics is concerned with the applicability of circumstances judgment, moral duty of authority and social harmony in the long run.

Integrating dharmic rational moral philosophy with the base of AI control is not the least consistent with the recent scholarly requirements, which assume the postulation of policies of culturally representative technology ethics (Ess, 2020). The world has very diverse cultural backgrounds where technological systems can be found and models of ethics that would want to attract pluralistic moral cultures should be devised. The development of AI ethics based on the dharmic philosophy also makes the subject of AI ethics more diverse in its ideas and norms that can adapt.

Besides, this framework underscores the need of the ethical consideration within the context of the technological innovation. The creation of responsible AI should place the further review of the influence of technological systems on social ties, institutional trust, and distributive justice

into practice. Dharmic ethics encourages innovative yet responsible forms of governance in such a way that the technological advancements are made to generate favorable development of the society.

7. AI Governance Policy Implications.

The growing adoption of the Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the systems of government has placed significant demands on ethical frameworks that could adequately respond to the technological complexity and the social responsibility. Dharmic AI Governance Framework (DAGF) provides policy-relevant information that will be used in helping governments, regulatory agencies, technology creators, and institutional audiences to develop ethically sound AI. Dharmic ethics can add to the policy discussion by focusing on the ethical aspects of the technology regulation, instead of reducing the moral appraisal to technical adherence.

7.1 Public Policy and Digital Governance Implications.

The increasing use of AI systems by the public sector run into such issues as taxation, social welfare allocation, monitoring of health conditions of the population, and planning of cities. Although algorithmic governance has the power to make the administration efficient, it also comes with ethical dangers of bias, opacitance, and asymmetrical effects between social cohorts. The Dharmic ethics focuses on how the power to govern has a moral responsibility towards making sure justice and social well being. The policymakers ought to also consider AI systems not only by measuring them according to the performance efficiency but according to their role in contributing to fair and inclusive social results, as well.

Dharmic-informed policy frameworks would put long-term social good over short-term improvements in efficiency. This point of view is specifically applicable to algorithmic decisions which affect access to the most vital services like healthcare, education or financial inclusion. Monitoring of technological outcomes should be carried out on an ongoing basis in order to make sure that AI systems will not strengthen the structural inequalities or discriminate vulnerable groups. A dharmic policy orientation helps governments embrace evaluation measures that embrace social justice among other technical accuracy indicators.

7.2 Implication on Regulatory Institutions.

The regulatory organizations that are to supervise the implementation of AI are required to find the ways to introduce the measure of responsiveness and openness of the algorithmic decision-making procedures. Existing regulation approaches are usually called compliance based, where regulatory measures are made on technical standards and legal accountability. Despite the importance of these mechanisms, dharmic ethicism incorporates the concept of ethical accountability of authority which means that the regulatory authority should be equally ethical responsibility in the sense of responsible attitude which does not necessarily mean strident obedience.

Integration of dharmic principles There is an opportunity to introduce dharmic features when regulators committed to using ethical impact analysis to compel organizations to ensure the implementation of high-risk AI systems. These analyses would include potential social

consequences, allocative consequences and ethical dangers regarding algorithmic decision-making. The ethical review systems can be associated with the interdisciplinary component review boards that will possess the skills to understand all technical aspects and the social science and ethical learning. This would be the most appropriate means of bringing the processes of governance conscious of the values of the society and the contextual complicacies.

7.3 Implication on AI Developers and Technology Organizations.

Technology developers can determine the ethical nature of AI systems through design choice, source of data and performance optimization. The dharmic model puts responsibility on developers to the consequences of the society, and to the developers to consider the large-scale social impact of technological production. Ethical design processes must incorporate the methods of reducing bias, elaborate mechanisms and practices of data being unjust to the individual standards.

The dharmic dogma can be incorporated by developers adopting the human approach to AI development, which is based on transparency and accountability. The ethical duty presupposes a constant test of potential undesirable consequences of algorithmic decision making. Any form of AI systems used in organizations should install in-house governance system whereby they would help in moral reflexivity and responsible innovation. Integrity of cross scientific knowledge and skills on ethics, sociology and public policy would enhance the organizational capacity of anticipating ethical dilemmas during the technology and machinery implementation.

7.4 Organizational Governance Implications.

Companies in various industries are employing AI-based analytics to influence the managerial decision making process. Although the use of algorithmic tools can make the process of organizational planning more productive and strategic, ethical governance must maintain a decision-making power consistent with the organizational values and the need to be responsible to society. Dharmic ethics stresses that authority should be followed taking into account the impact that it will have on stakeholders.

Dharmic precepts can be embedded in the formal structures of organizations by developing ethical scrutiny procedures to evaluate algorithmic decision-making systems against employees, customers or citizens. The stakeholders may enhance the elements of trust and institutional legitimacy through the presence of transparency in decision logic and accountability mechanisms. Some of the ethical governance practices can involve routine auditing of AI results, stakeholder consultation, and disclosure of algorithmic decision criteria in some instances.

7.5 Consequences regarding Global AI Ethics Discourse.

The application of the dharmic ethics in AI system of governance is a factor that contributes to the occurrence of pluralistic approaches in technology ethics discourse in the world. The current world orders are tending to lean towards philosophical suppositions which are largely of the western intellectual traditions. Despite the fact that these models provide an effective

normative guidance, they incorporate a wide range of ethics that enhance the cultural sensitivity and contextual fluidity nature of governance models.

The Dharmic ethics also makes its contribution to the global discourse on AI by highlighting such aspects of the ethical governance framework as relational responsibility, proportional justice, and social harmony. This standpoint goes along with wider degrees of scholarly activity that seeks inclusion of Global South epistemologies in technological policy discourse (Arora, 2019). Through the integration of ethics models based on cultures, international governance institutions can establish more diverse ethics models that can be used to overcome ethnically sensitive issues in a variety of social settings.

7.6 Dharmic Ethical Principles as Policy Relevant.

Dharmic ethics has a policy implication by focusing on striking a balance between innovation and responsibility. AI technologies have transformational potential, and their use should be in line with more general societal goals like justice, inclusion, or trust. Dharmic inspired ethical governance structures make policymakers view technological advancement as an extended moral obligation to society.

Dharmic AI Governance Framework hence encourages the creation of governance models that are technical about innovation and ethically considerate. By making the technological systems act in compliance to socially accepted morals, such an approach enhances the validity of such systems. The integration of dharmic ethics in the policy frameworks can promote trust in AI systems by proving its interest in equity, responsibility, and the social well-being in the long term.

8. Limitations

It has to be noted that, despite that connection between the dharmic philosophy and Artificial Intelligence (AI) governance is a novel conceptual relationship, which has not been codified in literature ever, the paper should be restricted in a number of ways to maintain analytic clarity and scholarly rigor. The awareness of these weaknesses is valuable to put the scope of the study in context and find several areas that can be further researched to enhance the applicability of the proposed framework.

To begin with, the study is grounded on the conceptual and interpretative methodology; the most important elements of the research project are the philosophical approach to dharma and the textual search of Ramayana of Valmiki. As much as conceptual research has an important role to play in developing the normative frameworks it is not the one that empirically supports the proposed Dharmic AI Governance Framework (DAGF). The model does not undergo testing using primary data, case study and experiment. It is because of this that the practical implications of the dharmic ethical measures on the practical governance bottom-line results in AI remains theoretically founded rather than experimentally verified. The second set of empirical literature research might be exploring the impact of dharmic ethical concepts on the fairness, accountability, or trust of AI systems among stakeholders.

Second, dharma may have different interpretations in terms of philosophical traditions, history and views of science. Nearly, all indic philosophy is not a single one and texts and schools of philosophy have subtle interpretations of ethical duty, justice and social responsibility. This introduced meaning of this paper reflects on governance-based dharma, which can be used in the discussion of AI ethics. But other interpretations can also lay more stress on metaphysical or spiritual aspects, which are out of the scope of the present study. Such selective attention to governance ethics can then restrict the extensiveness of the philosophical representation.

Third, reading of the Ramayana is a textual investigation, which incorporates interpretative judgment which can be affected by the modern time moral issues. Classical works can have more than one layer of narrative and symbolism open to alternative analytical approaches. Adaptation of old ethical stories to a new technological setting consists of a hermeneutic translation which might not entirely reflect the socio-historical background of the text. Although interpretative adaptation facilitates conceptual relevance, subjectivity of analytical analysis also becomes a possibility.

Fourth, the paper concentrates on dharma based on the Ramayana, which is only one of numerous sources of Indic ethical thinking. There are other schools of Indian intellectual history, including Buddhist ethics, Jain philosophy and Nyaya theory, which could offer further insights of interest to AI governance. The benefits of restricting the analysis to the Ramayana include the ability to interpret the text closely, at the cost of reaching out to wider pluralistic approaches in Indic philosophy.

Fifth, Dharmic AI Governance Framework is focused on normative ethical direction instead of attempts at describing particular technical implementation approaches. The framework offers conceptual principles of responsible AI governance, though the realisation of the principles into details of particular algorithmic architectures could demand interdisciplinary efforts with the involvement of computer science, public policy, and legal scholarship. The translation of principles of philosophy into the quantifiable technical standards is an elaborate issue which lies outside of the domain of this research paper.

Sixth, dharmic ethics might be culturally inapplicable in some processes of the world. Although the framework is oriented to the pluralistic AI ethics debate, the interpretative roots of the framework draw on Indic philosophical traditions. Implementation of dharmic ethical views banner in international governance systems might necessitate situational modification to make them relevant in different socio-cultural contexts. The framework is thus meant to complement and not to oppose current ethical methods in the global discourse of AI governance.

Irrespective of these shortcomings, the research paper is part of the current academic endeavors to develop the philosophical essence of AI ethics through the introduction of culturally oriented views. Conceptual research is significant so as to give out normative principles that can be used to guide future empirical research and policy experimentation. The limitations found in this paper offer avenues of conducting additional interdisciplinary research on how the practical use of ethical traditions that are culturally embedded can be used to shape the technology governance framework.

9. Future Research Directions

The utilisation of dharmic philosophy to Artificial Intelligence (AI) governance is a novel interdisciplinary research topic that offers numerous opportunities to conduct further scholarly research. The given paper considers a theoretical framework of dharma and ethical AI governance though, a future study can develop the given literature further to become empirically valid and conduct comparative philosophical research as well as test the policies. Further investigation in the field can be used to create better and more universalized ethical models that are culturally based and can resolve the multifaceted technological issues in various social settings.

One way of interest in further research would be to empirically test culturally based AI ethics models. Quantitative or qualitative research might be taken to evaluate the impact of the dharmic philosophy-based ethical foundations on the perception of trust, fairness and legitimacy in AI based-decision systems by the stakeholders. Research design Surveys, interviews or experimental research design can be used to evaluate the way individuals of different cultural backgrounds understand ethical responsibility in an algorithmic governance environment. Such an empiric inquiry would come in handy in finding out whether or not dharmic ethical principles make AI systems more socially acceptable.

Another opportunity of the research development can also be described as the comparative analysis of different non-Western ethical traditions and modern models of AI governance. Whereas this paper is dealing with dharma within the framework that is developed in the Ramayana, there are other schools of thought such as Buddhist ethics, Confucian relational ethics and African communitarian philosophy that can offer and give an adjaciant perspective on the question of responsibility, social harmony and moral responsibility. Comparative studies can be applied to development of pluralistic ethical paradigms of utilising divergent philosophical understandings in the technology governance world..

The future studies can also focus on operationalization of dharmic ethical principles in the technical AI design systems. Computer scientists, ethicists, and policy scholars can interdisciplinarily engage in collaboration to find ways to bring the contextual fairness, relational accountability and proportional justice into the algorithmic decision-making process. As an example, studies can explore how contextual social variables can be accounted for in the fairness metrics or how models of explainability can be sensitive to ethical responsibility issues that are not necessarily handled by technical interpretability.

Another important research opportunity is the creation of policy frameworks based on culturally based ethics. Regulatory bodies and governments can consider a synthesis of pluralistic ethical insights in proposals at the national level of AI development, especially in those nations where the cultural diversity and that of social organization is multidimensional. Policy studies can assess whether dharmic ethical justification can be utilized alongside the current regulatory structures on issues of algorithmic bias, digital inclusion and technological responsibility.

The other relevant research area is the case study analysis of AI implementation in situational contexts of governance, i.e. the public welfare distribution, smart city implementation, digital identity systems, or healthcare analytics. Case based studies could assist in identifying the nature of ethical issues within an institutional setting, whether dharmic ethical principles can be useful in resolving governance dilemmas that concern the designation of technological decision-making power.

Researchers can also consider theoretical ways of integrating dharmic ethics with modern responsible innovation approaches. Responsible innovation texts focus on social impact prediction, stakeholder involvement and technological agency of itself, as well as ethical reflexivity. The Dharmic philosophy can make contributions that can have impacts in this discourse through focusing on responsibility of authority, long term welfare orientation and moral accountability in the making of decisions. Theoretical bases of ethically regulated AI may also be reinforced by interdisciplinary communication between the philosophy of technology and research on public policy.

Further studies may also focus on how AI ethics, based on culture, can be applied to education, especially in the area of professional training of technology developers and policymakers. The inclusion of ethical reasoning systems based on various philosophical traditions in the education process can facilitate the creation of ethical-minded technologic leadership. These educational programs can help promote ethical consciousness and responsible decision-making processes in the course of technological innovation.

Lastly, longitudinal studies can be done to examine the effect of pluralistic ethical frameworks on the developments of global AI governance standards over time. With the ever-growing use of technology systems in both social and institutional spheres, the ethical governance systems should keep on changing to suit the emerging social demands and perilous technological conditions and issues. The integration of different perspectives on philosophy can also help in the creation of governance patterns that will have the ability to ensure that legitimacy remains across culturally varied international settings.

By defining these research directions, the current research undertaking will facilitate an interdisciplinary dialogue between philosophy, public policy, and studies of technology. The growing body of research around culturally based ethical frameworks has the potential to improve the capacity of governance bodies to deal with moral complexity related to AI systems that are implemented in a wide array of social settings.

10. Conclusion

The accelerated growth of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the governance sector, economic, and social institutions has raised a pressing necessity to have ethical frameworks that are able to present sophisticated issues of responsibility, fairness, transparency and legitimacy. Although modern AI ethics discourse has come a long way by exploring principles of accountability, transparency, and human-centered design, there is still a prominent overlap of Western philosophical traditions in normative approaches. Even though utilitarian, deontological, and rights-based theories are valuable when it comes to the provision of ethical basis, culturally

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entrenched moral reasoning patterns that are evident in pluralistic societies may not be fully covered by them. The growing popularity of AI technologies across the world thus leads to the need to adopt more inclusive ethical standards that reflect varying philosophical viewpoints that can possibly respond to the contextually contingent complexity of morality.

This paper has suggested dharma as explained in the Ramayana of Valmiki as an adjacent ethical rule with AI regulation. Dharma was analyzed not as the religious doctrine but as the normative system in relation to the priority of duty, justice, reasoning of the situation, and the social harmony. Conceptual analysis indicated that the dharmic ethics can offer a relational and responsibility-based approach that can be applied to the modern discussions on the responsible AI. The ethical issues mentioned in the Ramayana demonstrate that proportional justice, responsibility of government, and welfare-based governance are important in the contemporary technology decision-making settings.

The comparative study of Western AI ethics and dharmic ethical reasoning indicated the main philosophical differences and complements. Whereas Western systems presume universal values and rights-protective concerns, contextually-dependent judgment and relational responsibility are proposed by the dharmic ethics as valuable ingredients of the ethical assessment. By incorporating these views, the normative strength of AI governance frameworks can be strengthened through the ability to make ethical decisions that are sensitive to both general and institutional attributes of the society. In different societies with different governance systems, such pluralistic treatment proves especially useful in terms of having to deal with a range of ethical demands and with a range of social reality.

The paper created a conceptual framework called the Dharmic AI Governance Framework (DAGF) that connects dharmic moral values in terms of governance-focused designs applicable to AI design, implementation, and regulatory supervision. The model was focused on the duty-based responsibility, situational ethics, pragmatic justice, moral accountability of power, and the orientation to social welfare in the long term. With the introduction of these principles in the sphere of governance, AI systems can be more consistent with overall societal values, including fairness and inclusiveness and societal trust.

The study policy implications reveal the need to pay serious attention to ethical reflection in technological innovation. Regulatory agencies, technocracy, and the government should establish that AI implementation is consistent with the goal of social welfare and does not support the solidarity of inequalities. Ethical governance stipulates that the evaluation of technological systems must be conducted on a regular basis to ensure that the efficiency gains do not compromise on justice and social legitimacy. Dharmic reasoning on ethics helps this goal by focusing on finding a balance between innovation and responsibility, promoting forms of governance that would put the social good in the long term.

The research is a part of an emergent academic community of those who support introduction of Global South optic in the discourse of technology ethics. Integrating a variety of philosophical traditions into the AI governance frameworks allows increasing the conceptual inclusiveness and advancing the creation of ethically sound technological systems that can

work in anthropoculturally diverse settings. Pluralistic forms of ethics reinforce the efficiency of the governance structures by accepting that in the society, there are varied ethical reasoning customs which share similar areas of concern pertaining to the matters of justice, responsibility and human wellbeing.

Despite the fact that the Dharmic AI Governance Framework needs additional empirical confirmation and interdisciplinary enhancement, it gives a theoretical background to the idea of integrating culturally-based ethical rationale into the AI governance discourse of today. As a response to the intricate moral issues surrounding technological change, the philosophical generalisation of AI ethics can enhance governance institutions in addressing such issues. Dharmic ethics, by highlighting responsibility, circumstantial evaluation and harmony in society, provides useful guidance in developing responsible technological futures.

To sum up, religion is another significant aspect of AI that is positively reflected in the introduction of dharmic philosophy in the development of AI ethics, and this idea can serve as the key to crafting more inclusive governance capable of encompassing global intellectual diversity. To place ethical AI governance, the supposed technical innovation needs to be accompanied by moral thought that can resolve the societal effects of the technological authority. The dharmic approach adds to this goal since it promotes governance systems that are efficient and responsible, innovative and accountable, and technological and human well-being oriented.

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