

Assignment for Evaluation:

National Happiness in Your Life



Bhutan's fourth King Jigme Singye Wangchuck (right) crowns his son Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck as the fifth King of Bhutan. November 6, 2008.

Text from the Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative Website:¹

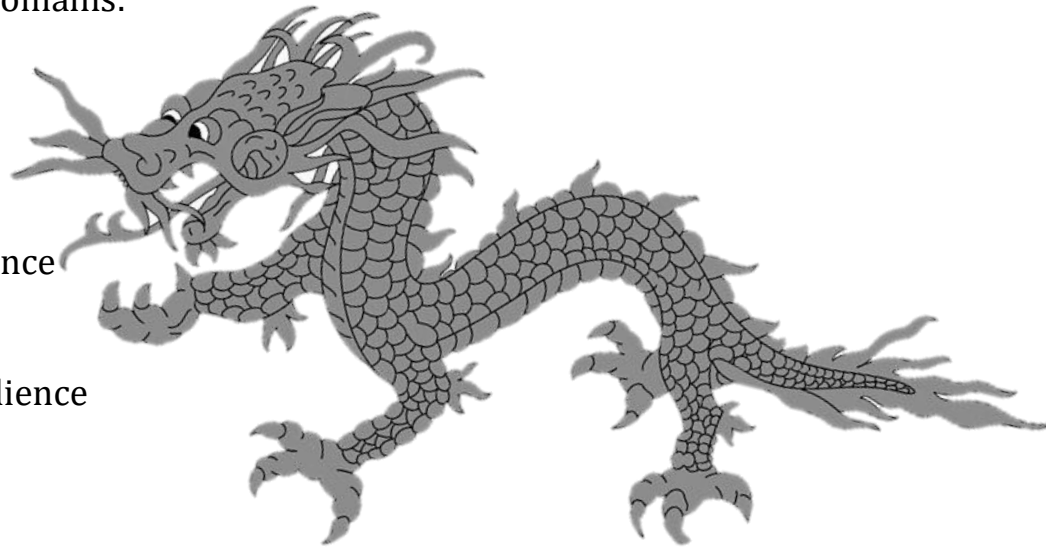
The phrase 'gross national happiness' was first coined by the 4th King of Bhutan, King Jigme Singye Wangchuck, in 1972 when he declared, "*Gross National Happiness is more important than Gross Domestic Product.*" The concept implies that sustainable development should take a holistic approach towards notions of progress and give equal importance to noneconomic aspects of wellbeing. Since then the idea of Gross National Happiness (GNH) has influenced Bhutan's economic and social policy, and also captured the imagination of others far beyond its borders. In creating the Gross National Happiness Index, Bhutan sought to create a measurement tool that would be useful for policymaking and create policy incentives for the government, NGOs and businesses of Bhutan to increase GNH.

¹ Ophi.org.uk. (2018). Bhutan's Gross National Happiness Index | OPHI. [online] Available at: <http://ophi.org.uk/policy/national-policy/gross-national-happiness-index/> [Accessed 3 May 2018].

The GNH Index includes both traditional areas of socioeconomic concern such as living standards, health and education and less traditional aspects of culture and psychological wellbeing. It is a holistic reflection of the general wellbeing of the Bhutanese population rather than a subjective psychological ranking of 'happiness' alone.

The GNH Index includes nine domains:

1. Psychological wellbeing
2. Health
3. Education
4. Time use
5. Cultural diversity and resilience
6. Good governance
7. Community vitality
8. Ecological diversity and resilience
9. Living standards



Assignment

Senior high school is a time of great change, and you may be making some important decisions for your future. **However, are you being asked the right questions?** In a world that seems to be getting faster and faster, is it possible to apply the principles of GNH to your life? If you started considering your life using GNH would you do anything different?

Exploring a copy of an actual GNH Survey – look at the questions in each of the different domains – and write a reflection on how GNH could influence (or reinforce) some of your life decisions moving forward that considers the following questions:

- Would you be making the same life choices if you were considering them through the “lens” of GNH?
- At this stage of your life do you feel you are being asked the right questions as you prepare to leave high school?
- Is GNH workable in your life?

OVERALL EXPECTATIONS

By the end of this course, students will:

- | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>E1. Social, Economic, and Political Context: analyse the significance of various social, economic, and political policies, developments, and ideas in various regions of the world since 1900 (FOCUS ON: <i>Historical Significance; Cause and Consequence</i>)</p> <p>E2. Communities, Conflict, and Cooperation: analyse interactions between various groups since 1900 and how key individuals and social, economic, and political forces have affected those interactions (FOCUS ON: <i>Cause and Consequence; Historical Perspective</i>)</p> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

	Level One	Level Two	Level Three	Level Four
Gross National Happiness Reflection	<p>Student's reflection did answer the questions that were posed by this assignment.</p> <p>Much more detail was needed.</p> <p>Considering the whole GNH Survey would have helped in the development of this reflection.</p> <p>Comments:</p>	<p>Student's reflection touched on some of the questions that were posed by this assignment.</p> <p>More detail is required in student's answer.</p> <p>Considering the whole GNH Survey would have helped in the development of this reflection.</p> <p>Comments:</p>	<p>Student's reflection answers the questions that were posed by this assignment.</p> <p>Student has demonstrated that they have considered the whole GNH survey in their reflection.</p> <p>Student has considered whether GNH is workable in their life.</p> <p>Comments:</p>	<p>Student's reflection meaningfully, and with a great deal of detail and thought, answers the questions that were posed by this assignment.</p> <p>Student has demonstrated that they have considered the whole GNH survey in their reflection.</p> <p>Student has considered whether GNH is workable in their life.</p> <p>Comments:</p>

