

1 Each Species has its own Nature

The evolution of life has brought about many different species. The difference between species has biological and only biological reasons. Consequently, each species has its own biological nature. This is why also the human species has its own biology-based “human nature”, which does not change during lifetime and does not change over all human generations.

For all human generations, there are very few things, which are more stable or as stable as the human nature. More stable are the laws of nature, which control since the beginning the evolution of our universe, which also brought life about.

As all species are a byproduct of the evolution of life, their natures may have properties in common and they also have species-specific properties. In any case, the mix of a specie’s natural properties makes a species unique.

The survival strategy of a species is determined by its biological nature, and by the opportunities and risks this world offers to all species.

If this is true, then survival can be achieved best,

- by the best possible knowledge and awareness of the details of this world and of a situation
- and by the best possible knowledge and intuitive awareness of your own nature and your capabilities, as both together allow best to optimize the usage of opportunities and to minimize the risks for survival.

This in essence means survival of the fittest.

So, the human nature can be best discussed in context of human survival strategies, as here properties can be found, which helped human beings to survive since the human species emerged.

2 The Characteristics of human Nature

Here I want to focus on human **basic emotional needs**. Our basic emotional needs push us to act forward-looking and proactively. Like basic physical needs, they are part of human nature. Our physical needs we largely share with other species. What is specific for the human nature are mainly **basic emotional needs**. We owe them our ability to survive as a species and to a limited extent also as individuals. They also drive human culture.

2.1 The Longing for best possible Orientation

Orientation is defined

- by the best possible knowledge and awareness of the details of this world and of a situation
- and by the best possible knowledge and intuitive awareness of your own nature and possibilities.

See above what “survival of the fittest” means for all species.

2.2 The Longing for FACT-GUIDED THINKING

Animals collect experiences how to use best the strength and skills of the own body in a given situation. And this is what they teach their kid.

Humans have an advanced architecture of their brain. This enables humans to look for materials, methods, and tools for compensating weaknesses of the own body and go far beyond the potentials of the own body, in any situation. Humans are able to and eager to improve their skills to find more,

- by exchanging their experiences, thoughts, and imagination about this world with others
- by extending their horizon of imagination combined with FACT-GUIDED THINKING for a better understanding of this world, and of their own nature, in order to identify more of their possibilities in this world.

The human Nature

FACT-GUIDED THINKING can be seen as tool or method to reach best possible orientation, and to extend the means for FACT-GUIDED ACTING, which means to implement, what your orientation advises you to do.

FACT-GUIDED THINKING often is not experienced as pleasure. It can be painful and terribly slow. But the longing for the results of FACT-GUIDED THINKING is lasting and strong. If your curiosity is more demanding and promising as the pain of effort of FACT-GUIDED THINKING, you will do it.

2.3 Continued Learning across all Generations

Humans teach their kids about their imaginations and the knowledge they have reached, and how to improve their skills to find more about this world, by extending their horizon of imagination combined with FACT-GUIDED THINKING.

This is the starting point for a learning process, lasting over all generations since the very beginning of humanity. Each human generation is standing on the shoulders of former generations. This continuous learning process across generations is part of the human nature.

How to use the own body is a very limited scope, as the body of a species is always the same.

New materials, methods and tools are a nearly unlimited offer of this world. Once you have access to it and master it, it gives you unforeseen means and understanding of this world, and of the human nature. But it also creates the risk of destruction once the new potentials are not applied with care.

Extending the own imagination about this world, generation by generation and applying FACT-GUIDED THINKING and ACTING seems to be the core of human survival strategy. It allows much more than just surviving.

However, the results of FACT-GUIDED THINKING and newly discovered potentials have to be implemented with care. Otherwise, we may end up at the end of human survival.

2.4 The Ability to act requires the Victory of Believe over Doubt

Faith is trust in certain ideas about this world and in the orientation (rules) derived from them. If you doubt ideas or an orientation, they will not guide your acting.

People develop faith and trust in ideas regardless of the content or correctness of their ideas and regardless of the level of their knowledge. This is unavoidable. People need the ability to act at all times in their lives, regardless of what knowledge they currently have and what knowledge is available in their generation. Also, the anticipation of the future is linked with uncertainties.

Believe is the link between imaginations and acting.

Only ideas can be (more or less) wrong or right, belief cannot. For the same reason believe cannot be religious, only imaginations can be religious. But you need believe to act according to religious imagination. A strong belief is therefore not a criterion for correctness. Faith can only be strong or weak.

You also have to believe in knowledge, otherwise it will not guide your actions.

Believe belongs to the human nature as an indispensable prerequisite for action-leading orientation.

2.5 The Longing for Freedom from Hardship and Fear

The aim of the human survival strategy is threefold:

- protecting human life against hardship, violence, and blackmailing
- improving human living conditions,
- and being able to meet the challenges of the own life.

The human Nature

These burning desires are a part of human nature and at the same time a challenge for FACT-GUIDED THINKING and for rules and orientation, to meet these desires.

2.6 The Longing for developing the own Creativity, Interests and Talents

Humans want to develop their talents and apply them and shape their live with them. This is also valid for their interests and their creativity.

Talents, interest and creativity are the core of one's own identity, one's own importance for others, and a significant contribution to the own self-esteem and self-confidence.

That's why people don't want to experience blockages in the development of their potentials. They want support.

Talents, creativity, fascination and interests, these are inner drives which are inherent in human nature.

When people are fascinated about a part of the world they develop their skills in the area of their interest. They may be musicians, astronomers, scientists, doctors, politicians, journalists or athletes - they want to follow their interest as well as they can, mainly because they experience their focus as joyful. And they are motivated to develop in their field methods, instruments, machines, behaviors, materials, mixtures and much more. And in order to gain the best orientation, regardless of the area, they all have one method: FACT-GUIDED THINKING, which is urgently needed also for this purpose.

From a certain level of competency onwards the so derived capabilities may attract political and economic attention and support. But this is a secondary may be accelerating effect. Unfortunately, this does not automatically serve the longing for freedom from hardship and fear. It may even have the opposite effect.

2.7 The Longing for Freedom

The longing for Freedom is part of human nature (but a topic on its own). A summary can be given, as freedom in essence means to be in a position and live in a society and culture which enable you

1. to master the challenges of your life and by doing so also to escape the threat of hardship and fear.
2. to be able to develop your own talents, abilities, and to follow in your life your interests and your own creativity.

2.8 The Longing for Respect, Appreciation, Meaning, Consideration and Participation

The desire for respect, for meaning and appreciation, is at the same time a desire for consideration and participation. They together constitute human dignity, a part of human nature.

Systematic violation of human dignity is discrimination.

Most serious, in this context is the historical experience that discrimination in words and behavior has too often been and still is the gateway drug for justifying humiliation, hatred, disenfranchisement, expropriation, enslavement, isolation, torture, murder and genocide.

2.8.1 The Longing for Participation in public Life

Participation in public life has more than one motivation. One of them is to fight for the preconditions in your society and culture for the freedom you want to have.

2.9 The longing for Love

The desire for love goes far beyond the desire for a respectful relationship and sympathies for a cooperation in common interest. Love is the basis for sharing your entire life with someone.

If this desire would not be part of human nature, humanity may not exist anymore.

Love is not only the most moving and most connective basic emotional need, love also is a power-center to work for a better life.

2.10 The desire for a sexual Relationship

The need for a sexual relationship exists regardless of reproductive aspects. It does not disappear where reproduction is not possible at all, such as in homosexual relationships. It doesn't disappear because a couple decides not to have children anymore. A sexual relationship is and remains a source of joy in life with or without the desire to have a baby. But regardless, it causes reproduction to take place. And this is what counts. Our existence today is evidence of this.

2.11 FACT-GUIDED THINKING is also a basic cultural attitude

FACT-GUIDED THINKING is both an attitude and a process that does not require the knowledge of all facts at the beginning.

FACT-GUIDED THINKING means:

1. first of all, to be willing to recognize reality as the highest corrective authority for one's own ideas
2. to show tolerance when the state of facts still leaves room for different conclusions
3. to claim and use the freedom to look for new facts and to exchange facts and opinions, in order to obtain a better view for the own judgment and also for a better orientation of other people
4. and the willingness to defend this attitude

Anyone who fights FACT-GUIDED THINKING also fights its cultural dimension:

- relatedness to reality,
- tolerance,
- independent judgment and
- the right to freely research open questions of this world and to exchange facts and opinions.

This cultural attitude also is an indispensable part of a normality, in which people can live without the threat of hardship and fear. Freedom from hardship and fear is unthinkable without FACT-GUIDED THINKING.

The longing for this cultural attitude is also part of human nature.

3 The double-edged nature of human survival strategy

The aim of the human survival strategy:

- protecting human life against hardship, violence, and blackmailing
- improving human living conditions,
- and being able to meet the challenges of the own life

does not say what is meant by "human life".

Everyone interprets this from the own perspective, protecting the own interest.

"Human life" can be understood in three different ways:

- "your own life", "your own family" or
- "a limited community or interest group" or a state or
- "every human life".

So, improving human living conditions here may cause, a threat of hardship, violence, and blackmailing there – often deliberately intended.

The principle is clear:

When a state or an interest group or an individual does something for its own benefit, it must not cause (serious) secondary costs for others. However, the implementation of this principle often has serious deficiencies - intended or carelessly.

This contradicts to the cultural attitude of FACT-GUIDED THINKING (chapt. 2.11).

4 Appendix

4.1 Human Nature and Culture

All human cultures have communalities due to human nature, as well as differences, due to a different understanding of this world.

From a different understanding of this world and different experienced power relations, a different orientation follows, for one's way through life,

- in a specifically imagined and experienced world,
- with a different understanding of your own role in this world
- but with the same species-specific properties, that everyone has received from nature.

Never changing species-specific properties, like e.g. FACT-GUIDED THINKING, and also changing power-relations are the cause for cultural changes.