

PART - A : INDIAN SOCIETY

CHAPTER-1

INTRODUCING INDIAN SOCIETY



Revision Notes

Introduction:

- ▶ The advantage of a subject like Sociology is that no one starts it from zero. Everyone who studies sociology knows something or other about Society.
- ▶ Previous knowledge or familiarity with society is both an advantage and a disadvantage for sociology, the discipline that studies society.
- ▶ The advantage is that the students are generally not apprehensive about Sociology as they feel that Sociology is not a very strenuous subject to learn.
- ▶ The disadvantage is that this previous knowledge can be a problem. In order to learn Sociology, we need to “unlearn” what we formerly know about society.
- ▶ The need to “unlearn” prior knowledge of Society is because our earlier understanding about Society is developed through common sense and is focused through the viewpoint of our social group and context only.
- ▶ Thus, this knowledge at times can be partial as it might be incomplete or biased.
- ▶ Sociology offers to educate us how to see the world from numerous edge points – not just our own, but also that of others unlike ourselves.
- ▶ Understanding Indian society and its structure provides a kind of social chart on which you could locate yourself, like with a geographical chart, locating oneself on a social map.
- ▶ Sociology can do further than simply help to detect you or others in this simple sense of describing the places of different social groups.
- ▶ Sociology can help to collude the links and connections between “personal troubles” and “social issues”. By personal troubles and by social issue, C. Wright Mills explains that it is about large groups and not about the individuals who make them up.
- ▶ The “generation gap” or disunion between aged and young generations is a social miracle, common to numerous societies and numerous time ages. Severance or the goods of a changing occupational structure is also a societal issue, that enterprises millions of different kinds of people.
- ▶ A sociological perspective teaches you how to draw social maps.
- ▶ This book of Sociology is titled as Indian Society with an aim to help learners understand Indian Society from a Sociological standpoint rather than from common sense.
- ▶ The emergence of Indian consciousness happened largely during the colonial governance.
- ▶ “The administrative, political and economic unification of India...” of India under the social rule was achieved at a great expenditure. Social exploitation and domination spooked Indian society in numerous ways. But paradoxically, colonialism also gave birth to its own adversary —nationalism.



Key Facts

- *Amar Sonar Bangla'* was written by Rabindranath Tagore in 1905. The first 10 lines of this song were adopted as the national anthem of Bangladesh.
- The method used by the British to civilize Indians was to Christianize them.
- The stagnant economy of India during British rule was an important factor in the growth of communalism in India.
- ▶ Historically, Indian nationalism took shape under British colonialism. The participant's experience of social domination helped unify and energise different sections of the community.
- ▶ Colonialism created new classes and communities which came to play significant places in posterior history.
- ▶ Indian society is a pluralistic society. Full of diversities of language, region, religion, estate and customs, Indian society is moving towards modernization.
- ▶ The main values of the Indian modernization model are Socialism, Liberalism, Imperialism, Nationalism, Secularism, Industrialism, Democracy, Individual Freedom and Fundamental Rights.

- ▶ The establishment of the democracy in India that rests on the principles of equality, freedom and universal ballot, changed the traditional structure of Indian society.
- ▶ A new mindfulness surfaced during the social period itself. During this period while all Indians came together for a common cause, colourful social, profitable, political and executive changes took place as a result of modernization and financial forces.
- ▶ Various colourful processes of changes got actuated during the British period. Some of these processes were fully external while some were internal. The external processes include Westernization, Modernization, Secularization, Industrialization and others; while Sanskritization and Urbanization were internal processes. The commencement of modernization and westernization is the consequence of our contact with Britain.
- ▶ Mechanical ways in product, request system in trade, development of means of transport and communication, conception of civil service grounded on bureaucracy, formal and spoken law, modern military association and trained separate legal system and modern formal education system were important ways that prepared the background for modernization.
- ▶ British colonialists were taking way to cover their own interests.
- ▶ Tradition and modernity in Indian society caused various problems for Indian society.
- ▶ Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, Keshav Chandra Sen, Dayanand Saraswati, Ranade, Tilak and Gandhi are some of the prominent names associated with the reform movements to annihilate social immoralities like the Sati System, Restrictions on Widow Remarriage, and Untouchability.
- ▶ Since sociology in India hadn't developed totally at that time, they portrayed the Indian villages from the British point of view of British policies.
- ▶ Villages are the pillars of Indian society and Indian culture. For the same reason indeed the East India Company had considered the study of Indian villages.
- ▶ The first study of Indian society was presented by B H Baden Powell in 1892 in his book, The Indian Village Community, After World War I, the poverty in Indian villages and the Indian public movement for freedom also attracted the attention of numerous scholars towards the townlets.
- ▶ Sir Charles Metcalfe, Sir George Woodward, Baden Powell and Francis Buchanan prepared a detailed report after conducting a study and check of colourful townlets and metropolises of Madras, Mysore, Bihar, etc., on behalf of the East India Company. Latterly, Herbert Risley, D Abbatson, C B Lucas, W George Briggs and William Crook tried to understand the Indian rural problems.
- ▶ The middle class surfaced after entering western education and the same middle class challenged the social role.
- ▶ Colorful social and artistic communities were organized in the indigenous and public situations that tried to save the Indian culture and traditions. Because of colonialism new classes and communities surfaced that played an important part in history later on. The civic middle class sounded the bugle of nationalism and initiated the movement for India's freedom.
- ▶ Sociology teaches tone reflexivity of oneself and the capability to reflect upon yourself to turn- back or do soul-searching. It should be quick to condemn and decelerate to praise one self. A similar social chart understood through soul-searching tells one's position in the society.
- ▶ Sociology tells kinds of groups or feelings was in the society in its wider import i.e., nation, connections to each other and it's meaning. It's meaning in terms of one's own life.
- ▶ Sociology helps in mapping the links and connections between personal troubles and social issues. Particular troubles correspond to individual worries, problems or enterprises; while social issues correspond to generation gap and severance, communalism, order, gender inequalities, etc.



Key Terms

- ▶ **Accommodation:** Process of social interaction among individuals in a society by which they try to adjust themselves within society or the group of people.
- ▶ **Ascriptive identities:** Community identity is based on birth and belonging rather than on some form of acquired qualifications or accomplishment. It is an identity with one's present and has nothing to bear with the future.
- ▶ **Class:** One of the groups of people in a society that is thought of as being at the same social or economic level. E.g., the working class, upper class, middle class. It's the way that people are divided into different social and economic groups.
- ▶ **Colonialism:** It is the practice by which a powerful country controls another country or other countries.
- ▶ **Community:** A group of people who share the same religion—race, job, etc. E.g. local community, the international community, ethnic community.
- ▶ **Culture:** The symbolic and learned aspects of society that includes language, customs, and traditions which are passed from one generation to another.

- **Globalisation:** A process by which a decision and the activities in one part of the world have significant consequences for individuals and communities in quite a distant part of the globe.'
- **Integration:** The social process by which different units of a society are united viz- brought together to form a whole.
- **Nation:** A community of people sharing a common culture, history, language and lineage living within an identified geographical area.
- **Nationalism:** The desire by a group of people who share the same race, culture, language, etc., to form an independent country.
- **Social Map:** The standing of an individual by virtue of birth in society. It consists of age, region, economy (status), religion and caste boundary. It's worth understanding and introspection.
- **Reflexivity:** An ability to understand one's social map thoroughly and break all demarcations with an axe of cosmos-consciousness. It requires a critical self-inspection.
- **Society:** Society is a group of people who share a common culture, occupy a particular territorial area and feel themselves a unified and distinct entity.
- **Social structure:** Refers to the way, the different parts of society are organized and follow stable patterns of collective rules, roles and activities.
- **Self-reflexivity:** An ability to reflect upon oneself or do introspection in depth.
- **Unity:** To bring different elements within a society (or a nation) to form a single unit or whole. It is the state of being in agreement and working together.

CHAPTER-2

THE DEMOGRAPHIC STRUCTURE OF INDIAN SOCIETY



Revision Notes

- Demography is the systematic study of the trends and processes associated with population. Examples: A census is the procedure of systematically calculating, acquiring and recording information about the members of a given population.
- It is composed of two Greek words: demos (people) and graphein (describe). Thus, implying the description of people.
- Different varieties of demography – formal demography and social demography.
- The formation of nation-states as a form of political organisation, and the beginnings of the modern science of statistics led to expansion of role and functions of the modern state.
- The need for quantitative data on various aspects of the population and economy by the modern state led to the development of social statistics in its modern form towards the end of eighteenth century.
- Aggregate statistics are numerical characteristics that represent a large group.

Theories and Concepts in Demography

- **The Malthusian Theory of Population Growth:**
 - Outlined in the Essay on Population (1798) by Thomas Robert Malthus.
 - The theory explains that the population grows in geometric progression (2, 4, 8, 16, 32,..) while the means of subsistence grows in arithmetic progression (2, 4, 6, 8, 10...). Growth of human population overtakes the growth of agricultural production. Because of this, humanity is doomed to be in poverty. In order to balance the outgrowth of population, the nature will induce various diseases and famines. These are called positive checks.
 - **Fact:** Covid-19 pandemic has effected the demographic trends worldwide. It brought negative impact to human living and economy. It has been noted that both Italy and Spain, for example, saw a 20% fall in the monthly number of births between December 2019 and December 2020, the latter month recording Spain's lowest monthly level since comparable records began in 1941.
 - Malthus suggested that it is essential to control the growth of population by postponing marriage or practicing sexual abstinence or celibacy. These are called preventive checks.

- The theory was refuted by the historical experiences of European countries and criticised by Marxists and liberal scholars.
- ▶ **The Theory of Demographic Transition:**
 - Every society follows a typical pattern of development related growth.
 - **Three basic phases of population growth:** Stage of low population growth in underdeveloped society, stage of population explosion or demographic transition, stage of low population growth in a developed society.
- ▶ **Expression of demographic concepts – rates and ratios**
 - **Rates:** Birth rate, death rate, rate of natural increase, fertility rate, total fertility rate, infant mortality rate, maternal mortality rate.
 - **Ratios:** Sex ratio, dependency ratio.



Key Words

1. **Birth Rate:** Number of live births per thousand population.
2. **Death Rate:** Number of deaths per thousand population.
3. **Sex Ratio:** Number of females per thousands males.
4. **Fertility Rate:** Number of live births between the age of 15-49 yrs per thousand women.
5. **Life expectancy:** estimated number of years that an average person is expected to survive.
6. **Age structure:** proportion of persons in different age groups relative to the total population.
7. **Literacy:** Literacy is the ability to read or write.

- ▶ Life expectancy refers to the estimated number of years that an average person is expected to survive. **Example:** Children, youth and old-aged people.
- ▶ Age structure of the population is the proportion of persons in different age groups relative to the total population.
- ▶ Demographic dividend is the temporary benefit flowing from the changing age structure owing to the falling dependency ratio.
- ▶ India is the second most populous country in the world.
- ▶ The impact of demographic transition phase can be observed in the decade 1921-31.
 - Decline in death rate – control over famines and epidemic, advancement of medicine, improved sanitation.
 - Birth rate, a socio-cultural phenomenon, did not fall sharply.
- ▶ **Age Structure of Indian population**
 - Majority of Indian population is young with the average age less than that of other countries.
 - Age structure varies across states as well.
 - The bias towards younger age is perceived as an advantage, i.e., a demographic dividend.



Key Facts

- The medical facilities and equipment have increased in different parts of the country. Many communicable diseases like tuberculosis and malaria have been properly controlled to a certain extent. For e.g., During Five Year plans more than ₹ 2000 crores were spent on medical facilities.
- Kerala has the maximum literacy rate and approaching universal literacy whereas Rajasthan and Bihar have low literacy rate.
- ▶ **The Declining Sex-ratio in India**
 - The sex-ratio is improving according to the provisional data of Census of India 2011.
 - Drastic fall in child sex-ratio – differential treatment of girl child, sex specific abortions increased with advancement in medical technology.
- ▶ **Social factors:**
 - Mindset of the people.
 - Neglect of girl child.
 - Female foeticide/infanticide.
 - Maternal mortality rates-women die during child birth.
- ▶ **Literacy**
 - Literacy levels improved after independence.
 - It varies across gender, regions and social groups.

Rural-Urban Linkage and Divisions

- A large part of Indian population lives in rural areas.
- Census of India, 2011, shows an increase in the urban population share over a decade, along with a decrease in the rural population share.
- The socio-economic significance of agrarian-rural way of life is declining in the light of modern developments.
- Growth of non-farm occupations. **Examples:** non agricultural activities, such as post office, teaching, business enterprises, transport services, and communication.
- Mass communication and mass transit system are bridging the urban-rural gap.

Reasons for rapid urbanisation

- Rural-to-urban migration in search for work.
- Decline of common property resources in the rural areas. **Example:** Continuous decline of common property resources such as ponds, forests and grazing lands.
- City life offers anonymity to the oppressed.

Population Policy in India

- India was one of the first countries to announce a population policy in 1952.
- The National Family Programme was an important part of India's population policy.
- The programme aimed at influencing the rate and pattern of population growth in desirable directions by promoting birth control measures, improving public health standards and public awareness.
- The Family Planning programme suffered a setback during the time of Emergency (1975-76).
- The Programme was renamed as the National Family Welfare Programme after the Emergency.

CHAPTER-3**SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS: CONTINUITY AND CHANGE****Topic-1****Caste and the Caste System**

Concepts Covered • *Caste: Past and Present, Colonialism and Caste*

**Revision Notes**

- **Definition of caste:** Caste is a type of social stratification found in the Indian sub-continent. It is a hereditary organization of social grouping restricting occupational mobility.

Past

- Caste is unique to the Indian sub-continent.
- Characteristic of Hindu society but has spread to other religions as well.

**Key Facts**

- There aren't four castes but, there are 5,000 of them.
- Every day, 4 Dalit women are raped by non-Dalits
- Caste is Untouchability by other name.
- 'Caste' is an English word which has originated from Portuguese word 'Casta'. In Portuguese, the word 'casta' means pure breed or group.
- Indian language terms – Varna and Jati.
- Caste in the late Vedic period (900-500 BC) was not rigid.
- **Defining features of a caste:**
 - It is determined by birth.
 - Marriage is restricted to members of the group.
 - It prescribes rules about food and food-sharing.
 - It is arranged in a hierarchy of rank and status.
 - A caste has sub-divisions within itself.
 - It is traditionally linked to an occupation.
- These features are prescribed in ancient scriptural texts.
- Two principles of caste system – difference & separation, and wholism & hierarchy.

- Hierarchy is based on the notion of purity and pollution.
- Castes are supposed to be complementary and non-competing groups.

Colonialism and Caste

- Caste as it is in the present has been shaped by changes during the colonial period as well as in the independent India.
- British administrative officials pursued surveys and studies to understand complexities of caste.
- **1901 Census under Herbert Risley:**
 - Information on social hierarchy and official counting of castes.
 - Impacted social perception of caste.
 - Different castes claimed higher position.
 - Identities before were more fluid.
- Land revenue settlements and related arrangements by the colonial state gave legal recognition to customary rights of the upper caste.
- Towards the end of the colonial period – Government of India Act, 1935 offered legal categories of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, marking special treatment by the state.

Present

- Efforts to organise “depressed classes” and untouchable castes begun in the second half of nineteenth century by members of lower caste and upper caste reformers.
- The nationalist movement also viewed caste as a social evil and a plot to divide Indians.
- Both Ambedkar and Gandhi were at the forefront of anti-untouchability protests.
- Gandhi’s approach had contradictions as he also took into account the interests of land owning upper caste.
- **Post-Independence:**
 - Inherited contradictions
 - Constitution – abolishment of caste
 - No radical reforms to curb economic basis of caste inequality
 - State operated in caste-blind manner
 - Modern industry created jobs for all irrespective of caste
 - Urbanisation – caste segregated patterns of interaction
 - Caste played important role in industry recruitment
 - Endogamy prevailed
 - Caste is central to electoral politics
- M. N. Srinivas’s conceptual contributions to the understanding of caste – ‘Sanskritisation’ and ‘Dominant Caste’.
- Caste in the contemporary times has become ‘invisible’ for the upper caste.

Topic-2

Tribal Communities and Family & Kinship

Concepts Covered • *Tribe: Classification of Tribe* • *Mainstream attitude towards tribe*
• *Family and Kinship*



Revision Notes

Tribe

- The term tribe is used for oldest inhabitants of the sub-continent.
- Represents disparate communities.
- Introduced in colonial era.
- Tribes in India are defined in terms of what they are not:
 - Communities that did not practice religion with a written text
 - Communities that did not have a state or political form of a normal kind
 - Communities that did not have sharp divisions
- According to Census 2001, tribes constitute 8.2 percent of the total population of India.

Classification of Tribes

- **Permanent traits** – Region, language, physical characteristics and ecological habitat.
- **Regional distribution:**
 - About 85 percent of tribal population lives in ‘middle India’
 - Over 11 percent lives in the North-Eastern states
 - Over 3 percent live in the rest of India
 - All North-Eastern states except Assam have over 30 percent concentration of tribal population

- Besides, the concentration is less than 12 percent in the rest of the India, except for Odisha and Madhya Pradesh
- **Linguistic classification** – Indo-Aryan, Dravidian, Austric and Tibeto-Burman.
- **Physical-racial classification** – Negrito, Australoid, Mongoloid, Dravidian and Aryan.
- **Size:**
 - **Biggest tribes** – Gonds, Bhils, Santhals, Oraons, Minas, Bodos and Mundas
 - **Small tribes** – Andaman Islanders
- **Acquired traits** – Mode of livelihood and extent of incorporation into Hindu society.
- **Modes of livelihood** – Fishermen, hunters and gatherers, shifting cultivators, peasants, and plantation and industrial workers.
- **Assimilation:**
 - **Tribe's perspective** – Tribes that are positively inclined towards Hinduism and tribes that resist or oppose it
 - **Mainstream perspective** – Status accorded to tribes in Hindu society

Tribes a concept

- 1960s – A one end of the continuum of the caste-peasant society.
- Supporters argued that tribes are only less stratified.
- Opponents argued that tribes do not have the notion of purity and pollution and were culturally different.
- **1970s** – All major definitions of tribes were found to be faulty.
- Absorption of tribes into the Hindu Society:
 - Sanskritisation, acculturation
 - Cultural aspect and political & exploitative aspect
- It has also been argued that there is no coherent basis for treating tribes as 'pristine'.
- Tribes are "secondary" phenomena arising as a result of colonialist contact between state and non-state societies.
- The idea of tribes as hunters and gatherers and oppressed groups has also been challenged.



Key Facts

- The Khasi people, who reside in Meghalaya, might just have the solutions to the 21st century problems of sustainable development, global warming and pollution.
- The Ghoomar, which is a traditional folk dance of Rajasthan, was developed by the Bhil tribe.
- Tribal peoples have developed extraordinary survival skills over millennia. An Amazonian hunter may mimic a predator to frighten it or copy the call of a female animal to attract males.

Mainstream Attitudes Towards Tribes

- **Changes brought by colonialism:**
 - Incursion of money lenders and non-tribal settlers
 - Government policy of reservation of forests
 - Introduction of mining activities
 - Appropriation of forest areas for resources
- Tribal rebellions of eighteenth and nineteenth century
- Isolationist versus Integrationist debate of the 1940s
 - Isolationists argued that the tribes need protection
 - Integrationists argue that the tribes are merely backward Hindus and must be integrated with the mainstream society
- National development in India has been at the expense of tribal development.

Tribal Identity Today

- Tribal identities are formed by interactional process.
- They are centered on ideas of resistance and opposition to the non-tribal world.
- **Positive impact:**
 - Achievement of statehood. E.g., Jharkhand & Chhattisgarh
 - Emergence of educated middle class among the communities
- However, there are other states where tribes have limits to their civil liberties. E.g., Manipur & Nagaland.
- Tribal identity assertions have taken a different form due to development of class divisions. They want to develop a "tribal consciousness".
- **Tribal Movements** – Issues related to control over economic resources and matters of ethnic-cultural identity.

Family and Kinship

- Family a group of people who are related to each other.

- ▶ Family as a space for care and compassion.
- ▶ Family as a site of conflict – female infanticide, conflict over property, legal disputes.
- ▶ Family can be studied as a social institution and also in relation to other social institutions .
- ▶ Structure of the family is related to other structures of the society – political, economic, cultural, etc.
- ▶ Structural and compositional changes in family – migration of men, war, changing work schedule of members, children setting up separate household after marriage.
- ▶ Change in family and marriage norms are resisted violently.
- ▶ In the Indian context, family types that are discussed the most are nuclear and extended families.
- ▶ **Joint family:**
 - is viewed as symptomatic of India
 - is not a native category
 - is confined to certain sections and regions of the community
- ▶ **Different family forms are based on:**
 - residence – matrilineal and patrilineal
 - rules of inheritance – matrilineal and patrilineal
 - exercise of dominance or authority – patriarchal
- ▶ There is no historical or anthropological evidence of matriarchy.
- ▶ An example of matrilineality is the Khasi Matrilineality.
- ▶ Even in the Khasi matrilineal structure, the man controls the property inherited by his sister and the control is passed on to her son.
- ▶ **Kinship:** A person related to the other, biologically or legally. Biologically means blood relation e.g., parents. Legally means marriage-alliance e.g., spouse in laws.



Key Terms

- ▶ Varna refers to the pan-Indian version of caste system that divides the society into four hierarchically ordered groups – brahmin, kshatriya, vaishya and shudra. These categories are called varnas.
- ▶ Jati refers to the region-specific hierarchical ordering of castes that marry within their boundaries, pursue hereditary occupations and are fixed by birth.
- ▶ Sanskritisation refers to the process by which castes lower in the hierarchy seek upward social mobility by imitating the ritual and social practices of castes above themselves.
- ▶ Dominant Castes are the upper-middle ranking castes with a large population and newly acquired land ownership rights leading to their political, economic and social dominance in a region.
- ▶ Tribalism is an ideology wherein the tribal groups begin to define themselves as tribals in order to distinguish themselves from the newly encountered others.
- ▶ Family is a group of persons directly linked by kin connections, the adult members of which assume the responsibility of caring for children.
- ▶ Kinship refers to the connections between individuals, established either through marriage or through the lines of descent.
- ▶ A nuclear family is a family that consists of one set of parents and their children.
- ▶ An extended family is a family that has more than one couple, and often more than two generations living together.

CHAPTER-4

PATTERNS OF SOCIAL INEQUALITY AND EXCLUSION



Revision Notes

- ▶ The everydayness of social inequality and exclusion makes them appear inevitable and natural.
- ▶ Sociality of Inequality and Exclusion:
 - They are not about individuals but about groups.
 - They are not economic, although there is usually a strong link between social and economic inequality.
 - They are systematic and structured.

Social Inequality

- ▶ It refers to the patterns of unequal access to social resources.
- ▶ **Social resources:** money, property, education, health, and power

- ▶ **Three forms of capital -**
 - Economic - material assets and income
 - Cultural - educational qualification and status
 - Social - networks of contacts and social association

Social Stratification

- ▶ It refers to a system by which categories of people in a society are ranked in a hierarchy.
- ▶ Three key principles help explain social stratification:
 - It is a characteristic of society, not simply a function of individual differences.



Key Facts

- Covid - 19 created an inequality explosion.
- Widows were not allowed to eat spicy food and also their hair were shaved.
- Women in India have not been able to contribute as much as they could have to the development.
- 1% of the rich holds wealth more than 6.6 billion people in the world.
- At the all-India level, the share of widowed, divorced and separated women as a proportion of the female population is higher than the comparable ratio for men.

- It persists over generations. A person's social position is ascribed.
- It is supported by patterns of belief, or ideology.
- ▶ Social exclusion and discrimination do not pertain to differential economic resources alone.
- ▶ Other bases of social exclusion - gender, religion, ethnicity, language, caste and disability.
- ▶ **Prejudices:**
 - Pre-conceived opinions or attitudes held by members of one group towards another.
 - Literal meaning - 'pre-judgement'
 - Based on hearsay rather than on direct evidence
 - Could be positive or negative
 - Are grounded in stereotypes
 - Mostly negative
- ▶ **Stereotypes:**
 - Fixed and inflexible characterizations of a group
 - Applied to ethnic and racial groups and to women
 - Could be true but not at all times many stereotypes are rooted in prejudice.
 - Refuse to recognise the variation across individuals, contexts or time
 - Many stereotypes are rooted in prejudice.
- ▶ **Discrimination:**
 - Refers to actual behaviour towards another group or individual
 - Practices that disqualify members of one group from opportunities open to others
 - May not be explicit
 - Often presented as justifiable
 - Act on your prejudice and stereotype

Social Exclusion

- ▶ The ways in which individuals may become cut off from full involvement in the wider society.
- ▶ There are a range of factors that prevents individuals and groups from having opportunities open to the majority.
- ▶ Lack of essential goods and services - education, health, security, and so on.
- ▶ It is involuntary.
- ▶ Excluded groups may stop trying for inclusion due to prolonged experience of discrimination.
- ▶ Despite protests and movements, social discrimination and exclusion continue to persist in India.
- ▶ Groups that have suffered from serious social inequality and exclusion:
 - Dalits or the ex-untouchable castes
 - Adivasis
 - Women
 - Differently abled
 - Transgender people: Transgender is part of third gender in legal terms. So use only one term i.e., "third gender" to include all the gender apart from male and female.
 - People of third gender group.

The Caste System as a Discriminatory System

- It legitimises and enforces practices of discrimination against people born into particular castes.
- The caste system classified people in a hierarchy by their occupation and status in which they were 'born'.
- Example, the Kshatriya rulers had secular power, but Brahmins held a higher ritual status.
- There is fairly close correlation between social (i.e., caste) status and economic status.
- Although, the correlation between caste and economic status is getting weaker, it remains remarkably stable at the macro level.
- Despite concerted attempts to suppress the public role of caste, it continues to affect the life chances of people.

Untouchability

- It prescribes social sanctions against members of castes located at the bottom of the purity-pollution scale.
- The 'untouchable' castes are outside the caste hierarchy.
- Notion of 'distant pollution' - mere presence or the shadow of an 'untouchable' person is considered polluting.
- Three dimensions of untouchability – exclusion, humiliation-subordination and exploitation.
- Untouchability is a pan-Indian phenomenon whose forms and intensity may vary across regions and contexts.
- The so-called 'untouchables' are known by many names, most of which have a pejorative connotation.
- Mahatma Gandhi - 'Harijan' - children of God.
- 'Dalit' - a term coined by ex-untouchables and their leaders.
 - Generally accepted term.
 - Gained currency during caste riots in Mumbai in the early 1970s..
 - Used by a radical group called Dalit Panthers.

State and Non-state initiatives Addressing caste And Tribe Discrimination

- Pre-Independence programmes for SCs and STs - listing of 'Schedules' of caste & tribes in 1935.
- Extension of special programmes to the OBCs since the early 1990s.
- Most important state initiative - 'reservations'.
 - Setting aside of some places or 'seats' for members of the SCs & STs in different spheres of public life.
 - Examples - State and Central legislatures, government service, and educational institutions
 - Proportion of reserved seats is equal to the percentage share of the SCs & STs in the total population.
 - Proportion is decided differently for OBCs.
- **Laws:**
 - It is a legal framework, not like norms.
 - Caste Disabilities Removal Act of 1850.
 - 93rd Constitutional Amendment.
 - Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act of 1989.
 - Article 17 of the Constitution.
 - Abolition of untouchability. If practiced, punishable by law.
- The problem of caste discrimination cannot be solved by state action alone.
- Contemporary political organisations - Bahujan Samaj Party in UP and Dalit Sangharsh Samiti of Karnataka.
- Dalits have made significant contributions to literature.

The Other Backward Classes

- Refers to the group of castes that were of low status and were also subjected to varying levels of discrimination short of untouchability.
- Service and artisan castes.
- Need not be based on caste alone, but generally are identified by caste.
- Socially and educationally backward.
- Neither part of the 'forward' castes, nor of the Dalits.
- Members of OBCs are not confined to Hinduism alone.
- A much more diverse group than the Dalits or Adivasis.
- First Backward Classes Commission - Kalelkar Commission submitted its report in 1953.
- Mid-50s - OBC issue became a regional affair.
- Early twentieth century political agitations in southern states.
- Janata Party and the return of OBC issue at the central level in late 1970s.
- Second Backward Commission - Mandal Commission.

- Implementation of Mandal Commission report in 1990.
- OBCs have a huge potential for politicisation.
- There are disparities between the upper OBCs and the lower OBCs.
- Under-represented in all spheres except landholding and political representation.
- Situation of urban OBCs is poor.

Adivasi Struggles

- STs are social groups recognised by the Indian Constitution as specially marked by poverty, powerlessness and social stigma.
- Jana or tribes: 'people of forest.'
- Ecological isolation is not absolute.
- Boundaries between 'caste' and 'tribe' are porous.
- There are only areas of tribal concentration in India.
- Economic and social conditions of tribes are usually much worse than those of non-tribals.
- British policy of reservation of forests severed the rights of Adivasis.
- **Life after Independence was not easy:**
 - Government monopoly over forests.
 - Capital-intensive industrialisation.
 - Acquisition of tribal land for mining and dam projects - Sardar Sarovar Dam project.
 - Policy of economic liberalisation in 1990s - displacement of tribes.
- **Adivasi:**
 - Political assertion.
 - Means 'original inhabitants'.
 - Coined in 1930s.
 - Shared experiences of the loss of forests, the alienation of land, repeated displacements.

The Struggle for Women's Equality and Rights

- Inequalities between men and women are social rather than natural.
- Gender is a form of social inequality and exclusion with its own specific features.
- Women's question in modern India.
 - Part of nineteenth century social reform.
 - Inspired by the democratic ideals of the modern west and our own democratic traditions of the past.
 - People: Raja Ram Mohan Roy, M.G. Ranade, Jyotiba Phule, Sir Syed Ahmed Khan.
- Raja Ram Mohan Roy's attempt to bring social reform in Bengal.
 - Anti-sati campaign under the Governor general.
 - Brahmo Samaj, 1828.
 - Curious mixture of Western rationality and an assertion of Indian traditionality.
- Widow remarriage movement.
 - Bishop Joseph Butler's Analogy of Religion and Three Sermons on Human Nature.
 - Ranade's The Texts of the Hindu Law on the Lawfulness of the Remarriage of Widows and Vedic Authorities for Widow Marriage.
- Jyotiba Phule's attack on caste and gender oppression.
 - Satyashodhak Samaj (truth seeking society).
 - To aid the two groups considered lowest in traditional Brahmin culture: women and untouchables.
- Social reform in Islam by Sir Syed Ahmed Khan.
 - Drew upon both modern western ideas as well as the sacred texts.
 - Education of girls but within the precincts of their homes.
- Books written by women reformers - .
 - Tarabai Shinde's Stree Purush Tulana, 1882.
 - Which spoke about how men treated women.
 - Begum Rokeya Sakhawat's Sultana's Dream, 1905.
- Women's rights in the nationalist vision - declaration on the Fundamental Rights of Citizenship in India - INC's Karachi session, 1931.
- Resurgence of women's issues in 1970s - 'modern' issues - custodial rape, dowry, murder, media representation, unequal development.
- 1980s - legal reforms.
- 21st Century - new sites of gender injustice. Example - social bias against girl child.

The Struggles of the Differently Aabled

- ▶ Society is built in a manner that does not cater to their needs of the 'disabled'.
- ▶ The rights of the disabled have been recognised only very recently.
- ▶ **Public perception of 'disability':**
 - Disability is understood as biologically given.
 - Problems of the disabled person is perceived to be rooting from the person's impairment.
 - Disabled person is viewed as a victim.
 - It is often linked with the disabled individual's self-perception.
 - The very idea of disability suggests that they are in need of help.
- ▶ Disability is seen as essentially a characteristic of the individual in the dominant cultural construction in India.
- ▶ It is portrayed negatively
- ▶ The very term 'disabled' challenges the cultural conceptions and assumptions that victimise and insult disability.
- ▶ There is a close relationship between disability and poverty.
- ▶ Recognition of disability is absent from the wider educational discourse.



Key Terms

- ▶ Social stratification refers to a system by which categories of people in a society are ranked in a hierarchy.
- ▶ Prejudices refer to pre-conceived opinions or attitudes held by members of one group towards another.
- ▶ Stereotype is a fixed and inflexible characterisation of a group of people.
- ▶ Discrimination refers to the practices, behaviour or attitude towards another group or individual that disqualify members of the group or the individual from opportunities open to others.
- ▶ Social Exclusion refers to ways in which individuals may become cut off from full involvement in the wider society.
- ▶ Apartheid refers to the policy or practice of classification and separation of races that prohibited the mixing of races in colonial South Africa.
- ▶ Gender is the term reserved for the socially and culturally produced differences between men, women and non-binary peoples. It is different from 'sex' which refers to the physical-biological differences between men, women and others.
- ▶ Trans Gender as concept refers to conversions of gender status of body into opposite gender by using choice or certain compulsions.
- ▶ Third gender refers to that social category of persons who are neither male nor female. This category presents the persons having alternates of both genders—male and female.

CHAPTER-5

THE CHALLENGES OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY

Topic-1

Cultural Communities, Nation-State and Regionalism

Concepts Covered • Importance of community identity, nation-, state, Challenges of cultural diversity, Assimilation, Integration, Cultural Diversity, Regionalism.



Revision Notes

Importance of Community Identity:

- ▶ A group of people who are together due to infrastructure, resources, facilities.
- ▶ Socialisation into a community anchors self-identity.
- ▶ Community provides one with language and cultural values.
- ▶ Community identity is based on birth and 'belonging' rather than acquired traits.

- Community identities provide sense of security and satisfaction.
- Ascriptive identities are hard to shake off.
- Our life derives meaning from expanding and overlapping circles of community ties – family, kinship, caste, ethnicity, religion, etc.
- Community feeling is universal.

Nation and Nation-States

- Nation is a community of communities – a large-scale community.
- Members share the desire to be part of same political collectivity – results in a 'state'.
- **State:**
 - An abstract entity consisting of political-legal institutions claiming control over a particular geographical territory and people living in it.
 - Max Weber's definition of the state – "body that successfully claims a monopoly of legitimate force in a particular territory."
- **Nation:**
 - Easy to describe, hard to define.
 - Founded on the basis of common cultural, historical and political institutions – however, it is not necessary.
 - Each defining criterion has counter-examples



Key Facts

- Dravidian are the original race of India who live in South India. Aryan race has migrated just like Muslim rulers.
- In some Asian countries, slurping loudly is a sign that the food is good.
- Digital world promotes cultural amalgamation.
- 100% education can also not solve the challenges of cultural diversity.

Nation, Multiple States:

- The criterion that comes closest to distinguishing a nation is the state.
- Nations are communities that have a state of their own.
- Therefore, the two terms are joined with a hyphen to form the term 'nation-state'.
- However, this is only a recent development.
- The opposite can also be true – existing states are finding it necessary to claim that they represent a state.
- The nation is the most accepted or proper justification for a state.
- A nation draws its legitimacy from its people.
- There is no historically fixed or logically necessary relationship between a nation-state and the various communities it is based on.

Assimilationist Policy

- Assimilationist policies are aimed at persuading, encouraging or forcing all citizens to adopt a uniform set of cultural values and norms.
- These values and norms are of the dominant social group.
- The non-dominant groups are expected to give up their own cultural values and adopt the prescribed ones.

Integrationist Policy

- Integrationist policies insist that the public culture be restricted to a common national pattern.
- 'Non-national' cultures are relegated to the private sphere.
- Here too, the national culture is usually that of the dominant group.
- There is no necessary relationship between specific forms of community and the modern form of state.

Cultural Diversity

- India is socially and culturally diverse.
- People speak about 1,632 languages and dialects.
- Religions in India: Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Sikhism, Buddhism, Jainism, and so on.
- Although Indian state is secular, religion and language are not banished from the public sphere.
- India is an example of 'state-nation'.

Regionalism

- It is rooted in India's diversity of languages, cultures, tribes, and religions.
- It is also encouraged by geographical concentration of identity markers in particular regions.
- Federalism has accommodated regional sentiments.
- Post-Independence India was a semi-federal state:
 - Three multi-ethnic and multilingual provinces/presidencies: Madras, Bombay and Calcutta.
 - There were also a large number of princely states and principalities.

- Strong agitations led to the reorganisation of all these units into ethno-linguistic States.
- Language along with religious and tribal identity has served as the instrument of ethno-national identity.
- Indian Constitution also provides lists of 'subjects' or areas of governance for the State and the Central government.
- Periodic committees and commissions have been set up to decide on Centre-State relations.
- Contentious issues – E.g., liberalisation favoured already developed States.

Topic-2 The Nation-state and Religion-Related Issues and Identities, and the Civil Society



Revision Notes

The Nation-State and Religion-Related Issues and Identities

- Most contentious issues of cultural diversity are religious in nature.
- Two broad sets of issues – secularism-communalism & minority-majority.
- **Minority rights and Nation Building:**
 - Indian nationalism had an inclusive and democratic vision.
 - The term 'people' was not seen in exclusive terms.
 - Ideas of humanism influenced nationalists.
 - Gandhi and Tagore commented on ugly aspects of exclusive nationalism.
 - Special constitutional provisions protect minorities against the dominance of majorities.
- **The sociological meaning of the term minority:**
 - Not merely numerical distinction.
 - Involves a sense of relative disadvantage.
 - Used without qualification for the disadvantaged group.
 - Members have a strong sense of group solidarity due to common experience of facing prejudice or discrimination.
 - Groups need to form a collectivity to be termed as minorities in sociological sense.
- Minority groups may be disadvantaged in one sense and not in another – E.g., Parsis and Sikhs.
- Religious and cultural minorities are politically vulnerable.
- Article 29 and Article 30 of the Indian Constitution addresses the concerns of minorities and cultural diversity.
- Non-recognition of the rights of different groups could threaten national unity.
- Minorities are not peculiar to India.

Communalism

- It refers to aggressive chauvinism based on religious identity.
- It is peculiarly Indian, or South Asian.
- It has a different meaning from English term 'communal' which implies something related to a community or collectivity.
- There is no necessary relationship between personal faith and communalism.
- It is a political identity based on religion.
- Communalists condemn or attack anyone who do not share their identity.
- It claims that religious identity overrides everything else.
- It has been a recurrent source of tension and violence in India.
- Contemporary instances – anti-Sikh riots of 1984, anti-Muslim violence in Gujarat in 2002.
- Communal riots in the pre-Independence times were often a result of the divide-and-rule policy of the colonial rulers.
- However, colonialism did not invent communalism.
- Communal conflicts are found in almost every phase of our history.
- There has also been a tradition of inter-mixing and syncretism.

Secularism

- Most complex term in social and political theory.
- Western context – separation of religious and political authority.
- Secularisation – arrival of modernity, rise of science and rationality.
- Indian meaning – state does not favour any particular religion over others.
- Secularism is opposite of religious chauvinism.
- Equal respect for all religions.
- e.g., Indian state declares public holidays to mark the festivals of all religions.
- Conflict between the Western sense of secularism and Indian sense of secularism creates difficulties.

- ▶ Another source of tension is the commitment of the Indian state to secularism as well as the protection of minorities.
- ▶ Communalists have also added a further dimension of complexity to the problem.
- ▶ The first generation of leaders chose to have a liberal, secular state governed by a democratic constitution.
- ▶ State – conceived in neutral terms.
- ▶ Nation – conceived as an inclusive territorial-political community of all citizens.
- ▶ Nation building – a state-driven process of economic development and social transformation.
- ▶ Expectations – universalisation of citizenship rights and induction of cultural pluralities into the democracy.

State and Civil Society

- ▶ A state is crucial to the management of cultural diversity in a nation.
- ▶ It can be independent of the nation and its people.
- ▶ It has a potential of turning authoritarian.
- ▶ Non-state actors help keep a watch on the state and its activities.
- ▶ Civil society – the broad arena which lies beyond the private domain of the family, but outside the domain of both state and market.
- ▶ Civil society is a sphere of active citizenship.
- ▶ Civil society organisation should neither be state-controlled nor it should be a purely profit-making entity.
- ▶ There may be grey areas in what qualifies as a civil society organisation.
- ▶ The Emergency period saw active participation of people and civil society initiatives.
- ▶ The Right to Information campaign is a significant initiative of the recent times.



Key Terms

- ▶ Diversity refers to the presence within the larger national, regional or other context of many different kinds of cultural communities such as those defined by language, religion, region, ethnicity and so on.
- ▶ Minority groups are groups of people in a minority in a given society, who because of their distinct physical and cultural characteristics, find themselves in situations of inequality within the society.
- ▶ Communalism is chauvinism based on religious identity. It is the belief that religion supersedes all other aspects of a person's or group's identity.
- ▶ Secularisation refers to the progressive retreat of religion from public life.
- ▶ A state is an abstract entity consisting of a set of political-legal institutions claiming control over a particular geographical territory and the people living in it.
- ▶ Authoritarianism is a system of government that does not derive its legitimacy from the people.
- ▶ Civil Society is the sphere of society that lies beyond the family but is not part of the state or the market.

PART - B : SOCIAL CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA

CHAPTER-6

STRUCTURAL CHANGE

Topic-1 Understanding Colonialism



Revision Notes

- ▶ Focus on structural changes that colonialism brought in.
- ▶ Colonialism simply means the establishment of rule by one country over another and using its resources for its own economic growth.
- ▶ In modern period, western colonialism has had the greatest impact because the changes it brought in were far-reaching and deep.
- ▶ The impact of colonial rule before the British invasion in the pre-capitalist times had majorly focused on the annexation of foreign territory and domination over the weak.

- ▶ They took the surplus that was skimmed off the economic surplus that was produced traditionally in the subjugated areas.
- ▶ In contrast, British colonialism, based on the capitalist system geared towards strengthening and expanding the British capitalism and directly interfered to ensure greater profits to itself.



Key Facts

- The British also believed they were doing God's work by propagating Christianity, which they saw as the true faith.
- One alarming fact, however, is the number of major famines that occurred during the British rule.
- It was the largest empire the world had ever seen, covering around a quarter of Earth's land surface and ruling over 458 million people.
- India is the largest producer and consumer of black tea in the world. Tea is grown in 16 states.

▶ Acts of Britishers to gain power:

- Laws of the land – changed land ownership laws and decided what crops ought to be grown.
- Altered the ways by which production and distribution of goods took place.
- Brought Forest Laws – Cleared trees and started tea plantations, displaced tribals.

- ▶ Introduced changes in every sphere, be it legal or cultural or architectural.
- ▶ Introduction of Western education – English language
- ▶ Intended to create Indians who would manage British colonialism.
- ▶ Backfired with the growth of a nationalist and anti-colonial consciousness.

MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE

- ▶ People from present-day Jharkhand moved to Assam to work on the tea plantations.
- ▶ A newly emerging middle class from the British Presidency regions of Bengal and Madras moved as government employees and professionals to different parts of the country.
- ▶ People were carted in ships from India to work on other colonized lands in distant Asia, Africa and Americas.

UNDERSTANDING CAPITALISM

- ▶ An economic system in which the means of production are privately owned and organized to accumulate profits within a market system.
- ▶ It is dynamic and global in nature; its potential is to grow, expand, innovate and use technology and labour in a way that ensures greatest profit.
- ▶ Western colonialism was inextricably connected to the growth of western capitalism.
- ▶ If capitalism became the dominant economic system, the nation-states became the dominant political form.

NATION-STATE

- ▶ A government has sovereign power within a defined territorial area.
- ▶ People are citizens of a single nation – have nationality or national citizenship.
- ▶ Right to be free and exercise sovereign power – important part of the rise of democratic ideas.

Topic-2

Urbanization and Industrialization during the Colonial Time and Independent India



Revision Notes

- ▶ Industrialization refers to the emergence of machine production, based on the use of inanimate power resources like steam or electricity.

ADVANTAGE:

- Large majority of the employed population worked in factories, offices or shops rather than agriculture.
- New jobs created.
- ▶ Majorly, urbanization and industrialization occur together but not always.
- ▶ In India, the impact of the British industrialization led to de-industrialization in some sectors.
- ▶ Cities like Surat and Masulipatnam saw their decline when manufacturing boomed in Britain and traditional

exports of cotton and silk manufactures from India declined due to the competition from Manchester. While Bombay and Madras grew being the export centres.

- Towns like Thanjavur, Dhaka and Murshidabad lost their importance when the Britishers took over.
- Some towns became heavily populated due to the installation of mechanized factory industries.
- Industrialization is not just about new machine-based production but also the growth of new social groups in society and new social relationship and changes in the Indian social structure.
- Cities had a key role in the economic system of empires – easy export and import – concrete expression of global capitalism.
- Bombay – raw cotton
- Calcutta – jute
- Madras – coffee, sugar, indigo dyes
- However, Calcutta was to become the capital of British India. In 1690, an English merchant named Job Charnock arranged to lease three villages by the river Hugli in order to set up a trading post.
- In 1698, Fort William was established for defensive purposes and a large open area was for military engagements.

THE TEA PLANTATIONS

- Assam – sparsely populated – tea plantations were often located on uninhabited hillsides.
- Tea Plantation started in India in 1830.

PLIGHT OF THE LABOURERS

- Colonial government often used unfair means to hire and forcibly keep labourers and clearly acted on behalf of the British planters.
- Harsh measures were taken against the labourers to make sure that they benefited the planters.
- They were also fully aware that the laws of a colonized country did not have to stick to the democratic norms that the British back home had to follow in Britain.
- Unhealthy climate.
- Penal laws made by the Britishers.
- The recruitment of labourers was carried on by contractors under the provisions of the Transport of Native Labourers Act (No. III) of 1863 of Bengal – Indenture Labourer.
- **DISADVANTAGE:**
 - Low level of technological development did not permit more than a small minority to grow.
 - Challenges in the living conditions.
- Independent Indian state played an active role in promoting industrialization.
- Indian nationalists saw rapid industrialization of the economy as the path towards both growth and social equity.
- Development of heavy and machine-making industries, expansion of the public sector and holding of a large co-operative sector were considered very important.
- A modern and prosperous India, as visualized by Jawaharlal Nehru, was to be built.
- Nehru compared dams to the temples of modern India as they provide employment, electricity and control floods.
- Globalization has led to enormous expansion and change of cities.
- In the 21st century, India will be witnessing fast pace of urbanization – scheme of ‘Smart City’ initiated by the Government of India.
- Sociologist M.S.A. Rao argued that in India many villages all over India are becoming increasingly subject to the impact of urban influences – but the intensity of the affect depends on the kind of relations a village has with a city or town.
- He describes three different situations of urban impact as mentioned below:
 - Villages in which a large number of people are employed in far off cities – live away leaving behind the members of their families in their native villages.
 - Villages which are situated near an industrial town – advantage as there is demand of the houses for settlement – disadvantage as problems of between native residents and immigrants.
 - The growth of metropolitan cities accounts for the surrounding villages – used for urban development.
 - It will be obvious to you that colonialism is not just a topic in history but something which lives on in complex ways in our lives even today. It is also evident from the above account that industrialization and urbanization imply changes not just in production systems, technological innovations, density of settlements but also ‘a way of life’.



Key Terms

- ▶ **Structural Change** refers to change and transformation in the network of social relationships, e.g., Caste, family and kinship.
- ▶ **Industrialization** refers to the emergence of machine production, based on the use of inanimate power resources like steam or electricity.
- ▶ **Capitalism** is economic system in which the means of production are privately owned and organized to accumulate profits within a market system.
- ▶ **Colonialism** simply means the establishment of rule by one country over another.
- ▶ **Urbanization** is the increase in the proportion of people living in towns and cities and the development in the life style.
- ▶ A **nation-state** has a government with sovereign power within a defined territorial area. The people have the national citizenship and right to exercise democratic ideas.

CHAPTER-7

CULTURAL CHANGE

Topic-1

Social Reform Movements in the 19th and Early 20th Century

Concepts Covered • This topic has covered Social Reform and related Movements.



Revision Notes

- ▶ Challenges faced by the colonial Indian society were highlighted by the social reform movements during the 19th century.
- ▶ Famous issues are that of sati, child marriage, widow remarriage and caste discrimination.
- ▶ Ideas of western liberalism and a new outlook on the traditional literature were seen as an attempt to these movements.
- ▶ Sociologist Satish Saberwal explains the modern context by elaborating three aspects to the modern framework of change in colonial India:
 - (i) Modes of communication
 - (a) New technologies speeded up communication.
 - (b) Invention of printing press, microphones, movement of goods through railways helped in the movement of new ideas.
 - (ii) Forms of organisation
 - (a) Formation of modern social organisations like Brahma Samaj in Bengal and Arya Samaj in Punjab.



Key Facts

1. The Indian culture is one of the oldest in the world, going back to about 4,500 years.
 2. 'NAMASTE' mudra by joining hands has a reason of giving pressure to the pressure points of ear, eyes, nose etc which gets activated.
 3. The usage of the Swastika, in the Indian context, does not point towards Adolf Hitler or Nazism. It is the symbol of Lord Ganesha, the remover of obstacles. The arms of the Swastika have various meanings. They signify the four Vedas, the four constellations, or the four primary aims of human pursuit.
 - (b) All-India Muslim Ladies Conference was founded in 1914.
 - (c) Indian reformers started using media as a platform to present their ideas.
 - (d) Translation of writings from one language to another took place.
- (iii) The nature of ideas
- (a) New ideas of liberalism and freedom, homemaking and marriage, value of education and self-conscious pride in culture and tradition emerged.

- (b) New roles for mothers and daughters emerged.
- (c) It became important for the nation to come up with modern ideas, but retain its ancient roots.
- The idea of female education was debated - social reformer Jyotiba Phule opened the first school for women in Pune.
- Reformers argued that women's education is important for the society to progress leading to the justifications of the thoughts based on the modern and traditional ideas.
- Jyotiba Phule recalled the glory of pre-Aryan age, while Bal Gangadhar Tilak emphasized the glory of the Aryan period.
- 19th century reform was a period of questioning, reinterpretations and intellectual and social growth.
- There were various concerns that upper caste and middle-class women and men faced. Injustice suffered by the discriminated castes, social evils, caste and gender oppression, polygamy, purdah system were central questions.
- A resolution against the evils of polygamy was proposed by Jahanara Shahnawaz arguing that the kind of polygamy being practiced by certain sections of the Muslims is against the true spirit of the Quran, and it is the duty of the educated women to exercise their influence among the relations to put an end to this practice.
- Debates within communities were common during this period. Sati was opposed by the Brahma Samaj, however orthodox members of Dharma Sabha argued saying that reformers had no right to interpret sacred texts.
- Dalits stood up for their privileges and started demanding their rights and respect from the society.

Topic-2

Different kinds of Social Changes - Sanskritisation, Modernisation, Secularisation and Westernisation

Concepts Covered • This topic has covered Social Changes in Sanskritisation, Modernisation, Secularisation and Westernisation.



Revision Notes

- In many situations they operate very differently, but majorly, they co-exist. Colonial modernity had its paradoxes.
- Taking an example of western education, it is explained that Colonialism led to the growth of an English educated Indian middle class who read about the thinkers of western enlightenment, philosophers of liberal democracy and dreamt of a liberal and progressive India. Yet, humiliated by colonial rule they asserted their pride in traditional learning and scholarship.
- Modernity did not only mean new ideas but also the reinterpretation and rethinking of traditions.
- As culture and tradition are living entities, people learn them and in turn modify them.
- India's structural and cultural diversity is self-evident and it shapes different ways that modernisation or westernisation, sanskritisation or secularisation effects or does not affect different groups of people.

SANSKRITISATION

- Sanskritisation is referred to as a process that pertains to social mobility that existed before the onset of colonialism.
- The term was coined by M.N. Srinivas it is a process in which a 'low' caste or a tribe takes up the customs, ritual, beliefs, ideology and style of life of a high caste.
- The high caste is referred to as 'twice-born (dwija) caste'.
- The influence can be seen in language, literature, ideology, music, dance, drama, style of life and ritual.
- In regions where the non-Sanskritic castes were dominant, it was their influence that was stronger which can be termed as the process of 'de-Sanskritisation'.
- Srinivas argued that "the Sanskritisation of a group has usually the effect of improving its position in the local caste hierarchy. It normally is the improvement in the economic or political position of the group concerned or a higher group self-consciousness resulting from its contact with a source of the 'Great Tradition'."
- However, in a country like India with varied ethnicities, it was difficult as the people of dominant castes punished the ones of the low castes for attempting to imitate them. Autobiography of 'Kumud Pawade' is an example.

Criticism of Sanskritisation

- For exaggerating the scope of the lower castes to move up the ladder and social mobility as it leads to positional change of some individuals and the inequality would still persist.
- The ideology of sanskritisation clearly accepts the 'upper caste' as superior and that of the 'lower caste' as inferior.
- Sanskritisation justifies the model of inequality and exclusion. It justifies the division of the groups and the privileges given to the few.
- Since sanskritisation encourages the adoption of upper caste, rituals which include practices of secluding girls and women, adopting dowry practices are justified.

- Due to sanskritisation, the characteristics of the Dalit culture have eroded. The worth of the work done by the lower castes has eroded.

Consequences of Sanskritisation

- With the growth of the anti-Brahminical movement there was an attempt to drop Sanskrit words and phrases.
- As a result of the Backward Classes Movement, the role of secular factors in the upward mobility of caste groups and individuals was emphasized.
- It was prestigious to be a member of the dominant caste.
- The Dalits have got some pride and confidence with their identity but mostly remain excluded and discriminated.

WESTERNISATION

- M.N. Srinivas defines westernisation as “the changes brought about in Indian society and culture as a result of over 150 years of British rule, the term subsumes changes occurring at different levels...technology, institutions, ideology and values”.
- The emergence of a westernised sub-cultural pattern with the understanding of the experience of the Indians who first came in contact with Western culture. This includes the Indian intellectuals who not only adopted the cognitive patterns, but also emphasized on its expansion.
- There has been a general spread of Western cultural traits, such as the use of new technology, dress, food and changes in the habits and styles of people in general.
- Apart from ways of life and thinking, the West influenced Indian art and literature.
- Srinivas suggested that while ‘lower castes’ sought to be Sanskritised, ‘upper castes’ sought to be Westernised.

MODERNISATION AND SECULARISATION

- Modernisation in the starting phase referred to improvement in technology and production processes. Later, it referred to the path of development that much of West Europe or North America has taken and suggests that the other societies have to follow the same path.
- Modernisation and secularization are linked and are a part of a set of modern ideas.
- Modernisation means a modern way of thinking, working or the contemporariness.
- It is assumed that the cosmopolitan attitude is adopted instead of the local ties; that the truths of utility and science take an upper hand over emotion and the non-rational; that the individual rather than the group be the primary unit of society; that a society in which men live and work be based on choice not birth; that identity be chosen and achieved, not ascribed and affirmed; that work be separated from family, residence and community in bureaucratic organizations. (Rudolph and Rudolph, 1967).
- It would be easy to term the complex combinations as a mix of tradition and modernity as they themselves are fixed entities.
- Secularisation is meant to be a process of decline in the influence of religion.
- It has been an assumption that modern societies become increasingly secular as the indicators of secularisation have referred to levels of involvement with religious organisations, the social and material influence of religious organisations, and the degree to which people hold religious beliefs.
- Rituals have secular dimensions as distinct from secular goals as they provide an opportunity to people to socialise with their peers and superiors, and for showing off the family’s wealth, clothing and jewellery.
- In traditional India, caste system operated within a religious framework but today it functions as political pressure groups.



Key Terms

- **Brahminisation:** Process of mobility of low caste Hindus to the upper caste hierarchy was initially called Brahminisation.
- **Culture:** ‘Culture’ is socially established norms or patterns of behavior.
- **Dominant caste:** Caste which own a sizeable amount of the arable land locally available, have strength of numbers and occupy a high place in the local hierarchy.
- **Sanskritisation:** The term ‘sanskritisation’ was coined by M.N. Srinivas. It may be briefly defined as the process by which a low caste or tribe or other group takes over the customs, ritual, beliefs, ideology and style of life of a high and, in particular, a twice-born (dwija) caste.’
- **Tahsib-e-Niswan:** Leading journal for women in the Punjab came out in favour of the resolve, but others disapproved.
- **Twice-born caste:** The upper caste who undergoes the initiation or the “Thread ceremony” to become, dwija, as twice born caste.
- **Westernisation:** M.N. Srinivas defines westernization as “the changes brought about in Indian society and culture as a result of over 150 years of British rule, the term subsuming changes occurring at different levels technology, institutions, ideology and values.”

- **Cultural change** refers to change and transformation made in the network of individuals and society and community behaviour. e.g., Sanskritisation, Modernisation, Westernisation.
- **Sanskritisation** is a term coined by M.N. Srinivas which is defined as a process in which a 'low' caste or tribe takes over the customs, ritual, beliefs, ideology and style of life of a high caste.
- **The high caste** is referred to as 'twice-born (dwija) caste'.
- **Modernisation** means a modern way of thinking, working or the contemporariness.
- **Capitalism** is economic system in which the means of production are privately owned and organized to accumulate profits within a market system.
- **Colonialism** used to simply mean the establishment of rule by one country over another.
- **Secularisation** is meant to be a process of decline in the influence of religion.
- **M.N. Srinivas** defines westernisation as "the changes brought about in Indian society and culture as a result of over 150 years of British rule, the term subsumes changes occurring at different levels such as, technology, institutions, ideology and values".

CHAPTER-8

CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT IN RURAL SOCIETY

Topic-1

Agrarian Structure: Caste and Class in Rural India

Concepts Covered • This topic has covered Agrarian structure and class, the colonial period, the independent period, the green revolution.



Revision Notes

- Despite the rapid growing urbanization, India is predominantly a rural society.
- According to 2001 Census 67 per cent of Indian's livelihood depends upon agriculture.
- People make use of agricultural land as the means of production and a form of property.
- It also depicts their way of life and culture as most of the Indian regions celebrate the days of harvest, beginning of the agricultural season and thank nature for providing them the livelihood through agriculture.

AGRARIAN STRUCTURE AND CLASS

- Agrarian structure refers to the structure as well as distribution of landholding in rural India.
- Majority of the agrarian people own small area of land or no land at all.
- **Medium** and **large owners** can earn sufficient and excess income through cultivation.
- The profit through cultivation may be influenced by factors like monsoon, etc.



Key Facts

- Half of the habitable land on earth is used for agriculture.
- About 1/4 of the world's population work in agriculture.
- Did you know 30% of farmers are women.
- Did you know 1 in 8 people in the US are food insecure. Yet, more than 30% of food grown is wasted and never consumed. And of the food that reaches American homes, about 25% of it is thrown away.

- Agricultural labourers are often under waged.
- Agricultural labourers are employed as **tenants** and daily-wages labourers.
- Tenants who cultivate land have to pay fifty to seventy-five per cent of profit to the land owners.
- Thereby, agrarian society is divided by class.

AGRARIAN STRUCTURE AND CASTE

- Brahmins, who occupy the highest position in the caste hierarchy, are not a major agricultural land-owners.
- Varnas such as Shudras and Vaishyas are the major land-holding groups.
- A few castes hold maximum parts of land in a village and the sociologist, M. N. Srinivas categorizes them as dominant castes.
- The dominant castes are economically and politically powerful groups which influence their respective society.

- The **landless** groups mostly fall under SCs, STs and OBCs.
- Dalits who are treated as untouchables are not traditionally allowed to own land and they are employed as labourers.
- In most of the regions 'propriety caste' owns land and commands other castes to work for them.
- Similarly, most of the lower castes work as 'hereditary' labours or bonded labours.
- The bonded labour system has been legally abolished.

THE COLONIAL PERIOD

- In Colonial India, British controlled most of local administration through Zamindars.
- British imposed heavy taxes on the agricultural land.
- Zamindars extracted maximum profit out of labours.
- As a result of oppression, peasants faced series of famine and wars. This eventually affected the population.
- In other areas British had direct control over the local farmers known as the ryotwari system.
- In this system, the 'actual cultivators' (who were themselves often landlords and not cultivators) rather than the zamindars were responsible for paying the tax.
- In such places taxes were reasonable and farmers had incentives to invest in agriculture.
- Thereby, those areas were relatively prosperous and productive.

THE INDEPENDENT PERIOD

- From 1950s to 1970s a series of land reforms were legislated to reduce inequality, poverty and the shortage of food grains.
- The Zamindari system was abolished.
- The Land Ceiling Act was enacted and land owning limit was fixed and excessive lands were seized.
- The legislation paved way for daughter's property rights.
- Excessive lands were distributed among SCs and STs.

THE GREEN REVOLUTION AND ITS SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES

- The Green Revolution took place between 1960s and 1970s. The Green Revolution was a period that began in the 1960s during which agriculture in India was converted into a modern industrial system by the adoption of technology, such as the use of high yielding variety (HYV) seeds, mechanized farm tools, irrigation facilities, pesticides and fertilizers.
- It was a government programme with reference to agricultural modernization.
- It was funded by international agencies regarding the utilization of high yielding variety or hybrid seeds, fertilizers, pesticides and other inputs to farmers.
- Regions such as Punjab, western UP, coastal Andhra Pradesh and parts of Tamil Nadu received the first wave of Green Revolution.
- The technological advancement in agriculture was enhanced by scientists and farmers were able to produce surplus crops.
- Due to the introduction of tillers, tractors, threshers and harvesters, the people who were formerly involved in these tasks migrated to urban areas.
- The demand and the wage for labours increased.
- However, class divide increased.
- Regional inequalities increased. States such as Bihar, eastern UP and Telangana remained underdeveloped.
- Given few negative consequences few farmers and scientists suggest traditional agricultural method such as organic farming.

Topic-2

Transformation in Rural Society after Independence & Circulation of Labour



Revision Notes

- The commercialisation of agriculture has led to the growth of migrant agricultural labour.
- The 'traditional' bonds of patronage between labourers or tenants and landlords broke down and the seasonal demand for agricultural labour increased.
- In prosperous Green Revolution regions such as the Punjab, a pattern of seasonal migration emerged in which thousands of workers circulate between their home villages and more prosperous areas where there is more demand for labour and higher wages.
- Labourers migrate also due to the increasing inequalities in rural areas from the mid-1990s, which have forced

many households to combine multiple occupations to sustain themselves.

- On the contrary, landless workers do not have many rights, for instance, they are usually not paid the minimum wage. It should be noted here that wealthy farmers often prefer to employ migrant workers as can be paid lower wages.
- Agriculture was commercialized and farmers had a direct link with the international companies.
- This led to the flow of money in villages and increased employment opportunities.
- Maharashtra became famous for producing cotton and the farmers were linked to world market.
- Circulation of labourers was high during the peak season of agriculture.
- Feminization of agriculture took place and more women were involved in agriculture. But, they were underwaged as compared to men.
- The transformation in labour relations is regarded by some scholars as indicative of a transition to capitalist agriculture.
- Because the capitalist mode of production is based on the separation of the workers from the means of production (in this case, land) and the use of 'free' wage labour.
- In general, it is true that farmers in the more developed regions were becoming more oriented to the market. As cultivation became more commercialised these rural areas were also becoming integrated into the wider economy.

GLOBALIZATION, LIBERALIZATION AND RURAL SOCIETY

- In cooperation with World Trade Organization during 1980s India encouraged imports and exports.
- It encouraged foreign investments and exposed farmers to compete in the global market.
- It reversed self-reliance policy of food grains.
- Farmers involved in contract farming with government as well as private concerns.
- Contract farming was widely prevalent in the production of specialised items such as cut flowers, fruits such as grapes, figs and pomegranates, cotton and oilseeds.
- Globalization policy also influenced the consumption of agricultural inputs.
- Farmers are forced to buy these expensive fertilisers.
- The process of globalization has led to the increased number of suicides.



Key Terms

- **Large Landers:** Own large amount of land, earlier known as zamindars.
- **Medium landowners, Small landowners:** Have small amount of land and can make a profit.
- **Marginal landowners:** These along with small family grow just enough for consumption of their family and do not have enough land to get surplus to sell in the market.
- **Landless landowners:** Have no land of their own, work for others.
- **Tenants:** Take land on rent and give the landowner a share of the profit. Positions of women.
- **Ryotwari System:** One member of the family (joint family) was selected to collect the tax from the family and give it to the British.
- **Footloose labor:** Describe the situation of migrating labours.

CHAPTER-9

CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT IN INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY



Revision Notes

IMAGES OF INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY

- Karl Marx, Max Weber and Emile Durkheim associated a number of social features with industry: Urbanisation, loss of face-to-face relationships that were found in rural areas and their substitution by anonymous professional relationships in modern factories and workplaces.
- **Industrialisation:**
 - Detailed division of labour. Work is often repetitive and exhausting.
 - 'Alienation' coined by Karl Marx, is a concept wherein people are unable to enjoy their work as the work is often repetitive and exhaustive. People are unable to enjoy work and see it as something they have to do only in order to survive. human labour.
 - Early sociologists saw industrialisation as both positive and negative. By the mid-20th century, from the

perspective of modernisation theory, industrialisation came to be seen as inevitable and positive. According to modernisation theory, societies are at different stages on the road to modernisation, but they are all heading in the same direction. Modern society, for these theorists, is represented by the West.



Key Facts

- India has practiced some restrictions ever since the introduction of the first industrial policy resolution in 1948.
- Thinkers associated a number of social features with industry, such as urbanisation, the loss of face-to-face relationships that were found in rural areas where people worked on their own farms or for a landlord they knew and their substitution by anonymous professional relationships in modern factories and workplaces.

- The merits and demerits of industrialisation are:

MERITS		DEMERITS
1.	Industrialisation leads to greater equality in some spheres. e.g., caste distinctions do not matter anymore in trains, buses or in cyber cafes.	Older forms of discrimination may persist even in new factory or workplace settings.
2.	Facilitates social equality through positive social mobility based on better job opportunities.	Often social inequality and income inequality overlap. e.g., the domination of upper caste men in well-paying professions like medicine, law or journalism. Women often get paid less than men for similar work.

INDUSTRIALISATION IN INDIA

- Comparative analysis of different countries suggests that there is no standard model of industrial capitalism.
- Organised sector consists of all units employing ten or more people throughout the year. These have to be registered with the government to ensure that their employees get proper salaries or wages, pension and other benefits.
- **Developed vs Developing countries:**
 - In developed countries, majority of the people are in service sector, followed by industry and less than 10% in agriculture (ILO figures). In India, in 2018–19, employed in primary sector (agriculture and mining) 43%, secondary sector (manufacturing, construction and utilities) 17% and tertiary sector (trade, transport, financial services, etc.) 32%. But the output is greatest from tertiary sector and least from primary sector.
 - Number of people in regular salaried employment: In developed countries, the majority is formally employed. In India, only 24% are in regular salaried employment, while approximately 24% are in casual labour.
 - **What are the social implications of the small size of the organised sector in India?**
- First, it means that very few people have the experience of employment in:
 - large firms where they get to meet people from other regions and backgrounds.
- Second, very few Indians have access to secure jobs with benefits. Of those who do, two-thirds work for the government. This is why people
 - strive hard to get into government jobs. The rest are forced to depend on their
 - children in their old age.
- Third, since very few people
 - are members of unions, a feature of the organised sector, the unorganised or
 - informal sector workers do not have the experience of collectively fighting for proper wages and safe working conditions.
- **Privatisation and Liberalisation (1990s):**

In India's mixed economy policy, some sectors were reserved for government, while others were open to the private sector. e.g., Airlines, telecom, power generation companies are now private, while defence and railways are completely owned by the government.

Liberalisation policy allows foreign investment by disinvestment by the government. When the government sells its share in several public sector companies then, it is known as disinvestment. In such a case, the private ownership of the company is more than that of the government. Many government workers are scared that after disinvestment, they will lose their jobs. e.g., Parle drinks was bought by Coca Cola. Parle's annual turnover was Rs. 250 crores, while Coca Cola's advertising budget alone was Rs. 400 crores. This level of advertising has naturally increased the consumption of coke across India replacing many traditional drinks. e.g., In Modern Foods, which was set up by the government to make healthy bread available at cheap prices and which was the first company to be privatised, 60% of the workers were forced to retire in the first five years.

Globalisation created new jobs due to outsourcing. e.g., IT firms in India that work for foreign companies.
- Industries cause pollution, land acquisition issues. e.g., adivasis, who constitute approximately 40% of those displaced, are protesting at the low rates of compensation and the fact that they will be forced to become casual labour living and working on the footpaths of India's big cities.

- Privatisation and liberalisation has also caused income inequality. Small companies have to compete for orders from the big companies, they keep wages low and working conditions are often poor.

HOW PEOPLE FIND JOBS

- Advertisements/employment exchanges.
- **Personal contacts:** Self-employed, e.g., plumbers, private tuitions and freelance photographers.
- **Contractors/Jobbers:** They are workers themselves and are called as *mistris* in the Kanpur textile mills. They are from the same regions and communities as the other workers. They boss around and put pressure on the workers. Today, the HR and union recruit the workers or employees.
- *Badli* workers substitute for regular permanent workers who are on leave. There are contract workers in the organised sector.
- Employment opportunities have two important components: (i) Job in an organisation as a casual wage labourer or regular salaried (ii) Self-employment.
- **Self-employment schemes:** MUDRA, Aatmanirbhar Bharat or 'Make in India', supports marginalised sections SC, ST and other backward classes.
- Workers are freer in an industrial society than in an agricultural society.

HOW IS WORK CARRIED OUT?

- The aim of any industry is good output and it is the responsibility of manager to get more work done from the workers. Therefore, the work is carried out in respect to this aim. The two main ways of making workers produce more are: (i) extend the working hours and (ii) to increase the amount that is produced within a given time period.
- Another way of increasing output is by organising work.
- **Taylorism:** Frederick Winslow Taylor invented a system in the 1890s, called 'Scientific Management' or Taylorism or industrial engineering. All work was broken down into its smallest repetitive elements and divided between workers. Workers were timed with the help of stopwatches and had to fulfil a certain target every day.
- **Assembly line:** Production was further speeded up by this. Each worker sat along a conveyor belt and assembled only one part of the final product. The speed of work could be set by adjusting the speed of the conveyor belt.
- **Indirect control:** In the 1980s, there was an attempt to shift from this system of direct control to indirect control, where workers are supposed to motivate and monitor themselves.
- **Outsourcing and just-in-time:** All services like cleaning security and manufacturing of parts are outsourced. The parts suppliers are located around the factory and send the parts every two hours or just-in-time.
- e.g., in Maruti Udyog Ltd. two cars roll off the assembly line every minute.
- IT firms affect working hours of shops and restaurants.
- Joint family re-emerged as both parents are working.
- **Knowledge economy:** Growth of IT sector in India.
- Harry Braverman argues use of machinery skilled workers. e.g., Earlier architects and engineers had to be skilled draughtsman, now the computer does a lot of the work for them.

HOME-BASED WORK

- Important part of the economy.
- Includes manufacture of lace, zari or brocade, carpets, bidis, agarbattis and many such products.
- Mainly done by women and children. Workers are paid on a piece-rate basis.
- An agent provides raw materials and picks up the finished product.
- The manufacturer gets the maximum value of the finished bidi because of the image of the brand, showing the power of images.
- Workers pluck tendu leaves→government auctions to bidi factory owners→bidi factory owners give it to contractor→contractor supplies tobacco and leaves to home-based workers→mostly women, roll the bidis→contractor picks up→sells them to the manufacturer who roasts them, puts on his own brand label→manufacturer sells them to a distributor→distributes to wholesalers→sell to pan shops.

WORKING CONDITIONS

- Government has passed a number of laws to regulate working conditions. e.g., for mining workers: The Mines Act 1952, now included in the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Condition Code, 2020, specifies the maximum number of hours a person can be made to work in a week, the need to pay overtime for any extra hours worked and safety rules. These rules may be followed in big companies, but not in smaller mines and quarries.
- **Sub-contracting:** It is widespread. Many contractors do not maintain proper registers of workers, thus avoiding any responsibility for accidents and benefits.
- **Risks in mining:** Cover up of open holes and restoration to earlier condition not done.
- Flooding, fire, the collapse of roofs and sides, the emission of gases and ventilation failures, breathing problems, diseases like tuberculosis and silicosis, face injuries due to mine blasting, falling objects.
- The rate of mining accidents in India is very high compared to other countries. In many industries, the workers are migrants.

- ▶ Fish processing plants along the coastline employ mostly single young women from Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala with little time to socialise. The nature of work in a globalised economy is taking people in the direction of loneliness and vulnerability. For women, it is independence and financial autonomy. e.g., In 1992, 85% of the 2 lakh Oriya migrants in Surat were single.

STRIKES AND UNIONS

- ▶ Harsh working conditions, sometimes workers go on strike.
- ▶ **Strike:** Workers do not go to work. Difficult, as managers may try to use substitute labour and workers find it hard to sustain themselves without wages.
- ▶ **Lockout:** The management shuts the gate and prevents workers from coming.
- ▶ Dr. Datta Samant, a trade union leader, led the Bombay Textile strike of 1982. Affected more than 2 lakh workers and their families. Lasted nearly two years. Their demand was better wages and the right to form their own union. Bombay Industrial Relations Act (BIRA), a union that could be 'approved' was if it gave up the idea of strikes. The Congress-led Rashtriya Mill Mazdoor Sangh (RMMS) was the only approved union and it helped to break the strike by bringing in other workers. The government also refused to listen to the workers' demands. Hence, workers went back to work after 2 years or lost their jobs and went to smaller towns to take up casual labour.



Key Terms

- ▶ **Commercialisation:** Commercialisation is the process of transforming something into a product, service or activity which has economic value and can be traded in the market.
- ▶ **Decentralisation:** Decentralisation refers to a process of gradual devolution or change of functions, resources and decision-making powers to the lower-level democratically elected bodies.
- ▶ **Digitalisation:** Digitalisation refers to the process whereby information is produced as a universal binary code, and can thus be easily processed, stored and circulated at faster speed across communication technologies like internet, satellite transmission, telephones, fiber optic lines, etc.
- ▶ **Disinvestment:** It includes privatisation of public sector or government companies.
- ▶ **Primary sector** refers to cultivation and production of raw materials, e.g., agriculture, fishing and mining.
- ▶ **Secondary sector** refers to manufacturing of finished products using the raw material, e.g., car and biscuits manufacturing factories.
- ▶ **Tertiary sector** refers to the service sector that supports the first two sectors and helps in reaching the final consumer, e.g., transportation, teaching, banking.
- ▶ **Organised sector** refers to those companies which are registered with the government. People get assured work and the employment terms are fixed and regular. In unorganised sector there is no job security, stable income, social benefits and no scope for trade unions.
- ▶ **'Alienation'** coined by Karl Marx, is a situation when people do not enjoy work and see it as something they have to do only in order to survive.
- ▶ When the government sells its share in several public sector companies then, it is known as disinvestment.

CHAPTER-10

SOCIAL MOVEMENTS



Revision Notes

SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

- ▶ Social movements refer to the organised collective action that aims at bringing about a social change to address a societal issue. This occurs when individuals or groups of people experience dissatisfaction, deprivation or dissent from the existing order or system.

FEATURES:

- ▶ Sustained collective action over time.
- ▶ Collective action marked by some degree of organisation.
- ▶ Leadership and structure in the organisation.
- ▶ Shared objectives and ideologies.

- Aim of bringing about a change on a public issue.

COUNTER MOVEMENTS

- While social movements arise against any social issue, counter movements arise in defence of the status quo. Example, When Raja Ram Mohan Roy organized campaigns against Sati, Dharma Sabha petitioned the British not to legislate against Sati Pratha.

Difference between Social Change and Social Movements

- Social Change is a continuous and ongoing process. The broad historical processes of social change are a culmination of numerous social actions gathered across time and space.
- Social Movements are organized with specific goals. It involves all-encompassing efforts of people.

THEORIES:

➤ **Relative Deprivation theory:**

- As per this theory, origin of conflict in society is due to the psychological factors like resentment and rage. This happens when people of one social group start feeling that they are worse situation as compared to other social group.

- **Limitation:** The belief of deprivation might be necessary for collection action, but its not a reason enough in itself. Like, all experiences and beliefs of deprivation do not lead to social movements.

- **Collective Action theory:** Mancur Olson says that the social movement is an aggregation of rational individual actors pursuing their self-interest. This theory is based on the perception of rational, utility maximizing individuals who come together for their personal gains notion of the rational, utility-maximising individuals.

Key Facts

- Sunderlal Bahuguna coined the Chipko slogan, "Ecology is permanent economy".
- Though these revolts were not aimed at uprooting the British rule from India, they created awareness amongst Indians.
- The landlords of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa formed a Zamindar Association in 1837 with that name.
- The original movement dates back to the 18th century in Rajasthan where people of Bishnoi community resisted.
- The movement was led by Amrita Devi, 383 people from 84 villages sacrificed their lives protecting a group of Kehri.
- In 1875, a society called 'India League' was established by political leaders who thought that there is need of All India Society for giving people awareness about the Nation.

- **Resource Mobilisation theory:** McCarthy and Zald argued that when resources such as leadership, organisational capacity and communication facilities, are within the available political opportunity structure, it is more likely to lead to the formation of a successful social movement.
- The criticism of this theory is that a social movement is not dependent on the current resources, rather it can create resources like new symbols and identities.

TYPES:

- **Redemptive social movements:** Change in the personal consciousness and actions. e.g., people in the Ezhava community in Kerala were led by Narayana Guru to change their social practices.
- **Reformist social movements:** Change the existing social and political arrangements through gradual, incremental steps. e.g., the 1960s movement for the reorganisation of Indian states on the basis of language and the recent Right to Information campaign are examples of reformist movements
- **Revolutionary social movements:** Radically transform social relations, often by capturing state power. E.g., the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia that deposed the Tsar to create a Communist state.
- **Old vs. New Social Movements:**

OLD SOCIAL MOVEMENTS	NEW SOCIAL MOVEMENTS
Central goal: Reorganisation of power relations.	Central goal: About addressing issues on quality of life.
Functions within the frame of political parties. INC led the Indian National Movement.	It is led by civil society, political parties, NGOs, pressure groups, etc.
Class related: Peasant movements, workers movements, anti-colonial movements.	Environmental movements, women's and tribals movements.
Major fight against economic inequality.	Fights economic, social, cultural and political inequality.

ECOLOGICAL MOVEMENTS:

- The unchecked use of natural resources and a developmental model that exploits natural resources that encourages the further exploitation of already depleting resources has been criticized. The movement aims at criticizing the

assumption that these development projects benefit all the sections of our society. e.g., big dams displace people from their homes and sources of livelihood.

➤ **Chipko Movement:**

- Mentioned in Ramachandra Guha's book, *Unquiet Woods*.
- Villagers, including women rally to save oak, rhododendron forests near their villages.
- Hugged trees when government & contractors came to cut the trees.
- Forests are important to get firewood, fodder and livelihood.
- Issues of economy, ecology and political representation underlay the Chipko Movement.
- Trees are necessary for environmental conservation. Clean water is necessary for a healthy environment. Hence, government policies of 'Integrated Ganga Conservation Mission' (Namami Gange) and Swachh Bharat Abhiyan for ecological sustainability.

CLASS BASED MOVEMENTS:

- **Peasant Movement:** Famous: These movements started before the independence of India. They are largely localised, disjointed and focused on particular grievances. Bengal Revolt of 1859-62 against the indigo plantation system, 'Deccan Riots' of 1857 against moneylenders.
- **Bardoli Satyagraha (1928, Surat District):** 'non-tax' campaign, campaign for refusal to pay land revenue, and Champaran Satyagraha (1917-18) was directed against indigo plantations, part of the nationwide non-cooperation movement.
- **First organisation:** Bihar Provincial Kisan Sabha (1929) & in 1936 the All India Kisan Sabha. Demanded freedom from economic exploitation for peasants, workers and all other exploited classes. Supported by Kisan Sabha and the Communist Party of India (CPI).
- **Tebhaga Movement (1946-47):** Against feudal conditions in the princely state of Hyderabad and was led by the CPI.
- The peasant movements after independence are the new farmer's movement and the Naxalite movement.
- The new farmer's movement started in 1970s and its basic ideology was anti-state and anti-urban. It focused on price related issues and used novel methods of agitation like blocking roads, refusing politicians to enter the villages, etc. It broadened its ideology and included environment as well as women's issues.
- The Naxalite movement started from the region of Naxalbari (1967) in Bengal.
- **Workers Movement:** Exploitation of workers in factories of Calcutta, Bombay & Madras, Tea plantations in Assam since 1839. Unregulated wages and working conditions by the colonial government.

EMERGENCE OF TRADE UNIONS

- **First trade union:** April 1918 in Madras by B.P. Wadia.
- Mahatma Gandhi founded the Textile Labour Association (TLA). All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC), 1920 in Bombay. The AITUC was a:
 - Communists led by S.A. Dange & M.N. Roy.
 - Moderates by M. Joshi & V.V. Giri.
 - Nationalist movements by Lala Lajpat Rai and Jawaharlal Nehru.
- In 1922, the government passed the Fourth Factories Act which reduced the working day to 10 hours. And in 1926, the Trade Unions Act was passed, which provided for the registration of trade unions and proposed some regulations. By the mid-1920s, the AITUC had nearly 200 unions affiliated to it and its membership stood at around 250,000.
- Major railway workers' strike in 1974.

CASTE-BASED MOVEMENTS:

- **Dalit movement:** Fight for self-respect and dignity. The movements were organised against the practises of untouchability and discrimination. Some examples of Dalit Movements are: Dalit Panthers Movement, Anti Brahman Movement, Mahar Movement, Adi Dharma Movement, etc.
- **Social change:** Abolition of untouchability, reservation in education, employment and promotion.
- **Backward class castes movements:** United Provinces Hindu Backward Classes League, All-India Backward Classes Federation, All India Backward Classes League.
- The 'Backward Classes' term was widely used in Madras Presidency from 1872 onwards.

THE TRIBAL MOVEMENTS:

- **Tribal belt:** Santhals, Hos, Oraons, Mundas in Chota Nagpur and the Santhal Parganas, constitute Jharkhand.
- Jharkhand formed from resistance. Birsa Munda was an adivasi who led a major uprising against the British.
- Christian missionaries and literacy helped in unified ethnic consciousness and a shared identity-Jharkhandis.
- Common hatred for dikus – migrant traders and moneylenders who settled and grabbed its wealth, impoverishing the original residents.
- One of the key issues that bind tribal movements from different parts of the country is the alienation of tribals from forest lands.

- ▶ Combination of old and new social movements – economic and cultural issues.

WOMEN'S MOVEMENTS:

- ▶ The Women's India Association (WIA) (1917)
- ▶ All India Women's Conference (AIWC) (1926)
- ▶ National Council for Women in India (NCWI) (1925)
- ▶ Tebhaga movement in Bengal
- ▶ Telangana arms struggle from the erstwhile Nizam's rule
- ▶ Warli tribal's revolt against bondage in Maharashtra
- ▶ Gender-just society

**Key Terms**

- ▶ **Theory of Relative Deprivation:** Social conflict arise when a social group feels that it is worse off than others around it. Such conflict is likely to result in successful collective protest.
- ▶ **Resource mobilization theory given by McCarthy and Zald's:** A social movement's success depends on its ability to mobilize resources or means of different sorts.
- ▶ **Social Movement** refers to the sustained collective action over time. It consists of leadership and structure in the organisation, shared objectives and ideologies, which aim to bring about a change on a public issue.
- ▶ **The redemptive social movement** aims to change in personal consciousness and actions.
- ▶ **Reformist social movements** aim to change the existing social and political arrangements through gradual, incremental steps.
- ▶ **Revolutionary social movements** attempt to radically transform social relations, often by capturing state power.
- ▶ The **old social movements**, often based on class-related issues like the trade union or peasant movements, are different from the new social movements like the environmental, women or tribal movements.



BOSWAL
LEARNING MADE EASY