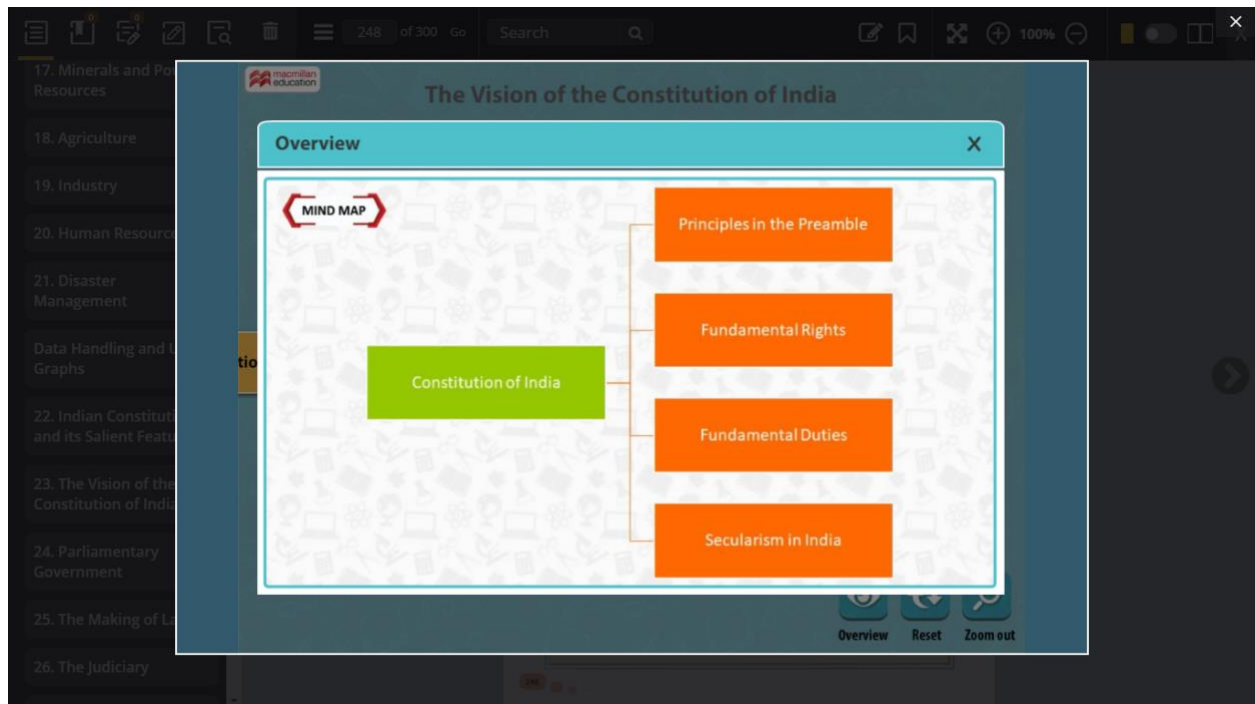


DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL, MANDLA ROAD, JABALPUR
CLASS NOTES ON CIVICS

CHAPTER 23 - THE VISION OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

BASIC CONCEPTS



IV. ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS IN ONE OR TWO SENTENCES.

1. What is the Preamble?

The Preamble to the Constitution of India is a brief introductory statement which serves as the guiding principle of the Constitution.

2. Define natural rights.

Natural rights are those rights that every individual enjoys simply by virtue of being human. These rights are not granted to an individual by the law or the government of a country, and are only recognised and enforced by the law.

3. What is meant by human rights?

Human rights are universal rights which are essential for leading a dignified human life. These are applicable to everyone irrespective of social, political, economic, religious and other considerations.

4. Which Fundamental Right prohibits child labour?

Right against exploitation prohibits child labour.

5. Mention any one Fundamental Duty.

One fundamental duty: To abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, and also respect the National Flag and the National Anthem.

V. ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS IN BRIEF.

1. What is the significance of the Preamble to the Indian Constitution? How does it describe India?

The Preamble to the Constitution of India is a brief introductory statement which serves as the guiding principle of the Constitution. It is significant as it contains the essence of the Constitution and lays down the most important goals that the government and every citizen of the nation must try to achieve. It describes India as a sovereign, socialist, secular and democratic republic, which guarantees to its citizens justice, liberty, equality and fraternity.

2. Define the following terms :

- a. Sovereign

The word 'sovereign' means 'independent'. A sovereign nation is one that is completely independent of any external control.

- b. Socialist

The word 'socialist' implies social and economic equality amongst the citizens of the country.

- c. Justice—social, economic and political

Social justice implies that society should progress as a whole, without any sections being left behind or exploited.

Economic justice means that economic growth must benefit all the people of the country.

Political justice implies that all citizens have the right to vote and stand for political offices in the country.

3. Discuss the different Fundamental Rights.

The six Fundamental Rights that have been given to the citizens of India include :

(a) Right to Equality

It guarantees equality before law, social equality, equal access to public areas, equality in the matters of public employment, abolition of untouchability and abolition of titles.

(b) Right to Freedom

It includes the right to protection of life and personal liberty, freedom of speech and expression, freedom to assemble peacefully without arms, freedom to form associations, freedom of movement, freedom to reside and settle in any part of India and freedom to practise any profession or occupation.

(c) Right against Exploitation

It provides for the abolition of trafficking of human beings and prohibits the employment of children below the age of 14 years in hazardous jobs such as those in factories and mines.

(d) Right to Freedom of Religion

It provides religious freedom to all the people of India with the objective of ensuring secularism in India.

(e) Cultural and Educational Rights

It protects the rights of minority communities, both linguistic and religious.

(f) Right to Constitutional Remedies

It allows every citizen of India to appeal to the Supreme Court directly in case of any violation of their Fundamental Rights.

4. What are the different Fundamental Duties listed in the Constitution?

The fundamental duties under Part IV A of the constitution are:

(a) To abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, and also respect the National Flag and the National Anthem.

(b) To cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom.

(c) To uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India.

- (d) To defend the country and render national service when called upon to do so.
- (e) To promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India.
- (f) To value and preserve the rich heritage of India.
- (g) To protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wildlife.
- (h) To develop scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of enquiry and reform.
- (i) To safeguard public property and reject violence.
- (j) To strive towards excellence in all spheres of individual and collective activity for the steady progress of the nation.
- (k) As a parent or guardian, to provide opportunities for education to his or her child between the age of six and fourteen years.

5. How does the Indian government maintain its secular nature?

The Indian government maintains its secular nature by :

(a) Distancing itself from religion:

The government neither favours nor discriminates against people of any religion in matters of employment to government jobs. Government spaces such as schools and offices are also not allowed to display anything which promotes a particular religion.

(b) Following a policy of non-interference:

The government does not interfere in the beliefs and practices of religious communities in the country in order to respect their sentiments.

(c) Following a policy of intervention:

The government can intervene in the affairs of a religious community if any of its practices are considered to be a form of discrimination.

SUBJECT ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY (TO BE DONE BY THE STUDENTS)

1. Design a poster on 'Secularism and the Need for Religious Tolerance'.

VALUE BASED QUESTION (TO BE DONE BY THE STUDENTS)

1. While the Constitution grants us Fundamental Rights which help us to lead a free and dignified life, it is important for us to remember that we must respect the country above all else. Do you think that the people around you follow the Fundamental Duties that have been laid down in the Constitution?