

**Recorded Society Class 10**

**1st July, 2024 at 9:00 AM**

**THE CLASS STARTED (IN CONTINUATION) AT: (09:04 AM):**

**COMMUNALISM: (09:06 AM):**

- Communalism reflects one's strong attachment to their religious community.
- In a positive sense, it stands for the affinity of the individuals with their religious groups which will ensure socio-political and economic.
- It refers to an ideology that emphasizes the separate identities of different religious groups.
- Evolution of Communalism:
  - Although the communal bickering started before the arrival of the British, the destruction of temples, forced conversion, and imposition of taxes on religious practices of other religions the genesis of communalism will be traced to the British period.
  - Agriculture was in distress, lack of emergence of modern industries, a lack of adequate job opportunities, & there was a rise in the middle class due to education opportunities.
  - 1) However, the aspirations of the new middle class were not satisfied, and due to discrepancies in demand & supply led to nepotism, groupism & favoritism (based on Religious identities).
  - The shorter benefits it provided validation for communal politics.
  - 2) The irony of Indian society was that its class distinctions coincided with religious differences.
  - For example, the Zamindar class belonged to a certain religious community & peasants belonged to another religious community.
  - Hence, the economic problem was given a communal color.
  - Communalism was also the result of conflict between the haves and have-nots, because rather than viewing the economic issues it was seen from the lens of religious differences.
  - 3) It was also the result of the struggle for power between the haves.
  - 4) Divide and Rule Policy of the British:
    - This policy was brought to counter growing nationalism, and hence communalism became the main prop of colonialism.
    - For example, the separate electorate, the partition of Bengal (1905), patronage of communal media, and late response to the incidences of communal violence.
    - Overthrowing of the colonial state was the necessary condition to tackle communalism but not sufficient, due to the following reasons:

- For example, the failure of the national leadership to unify the different sections of the society as they indulged in negotiations with religious leaders without making any direct appeal to the masses.
- There was an implicit acceptance among the people that they only share political & economic interests but socially and culturally they are distinct.
- Leadership is restricted to a policy of negotiations with leaders of the respective religious groups without making any direct appeal to the masses.
- Giving a religious touch to a nationalist agenda or glorification of a certain period of history to the extent of undermining another historical period generated apprehensions among educated people of the religious groups & their alienation from the freedom struggle.

#### **PERSISTENCE OF COMMUNALISM IN THE POST-INDEPENDENCE PERIOD: (09:38 AM):**

- **Post-Independence Period:**
- **1) Lack of cultural integration:**
- It brings stereotypical beliefs which include emotions of hate/anger and results in violent manifestation.
- The target group resorts to the survival technique of invisibility, which turns into Ghettoisation.
- **2) Divisive Politics:**
- Some politicians use religion to achieve political gains e.g. manipulation by the political leadership for the vote bank or selection of candidates based on the religious composition of the constituency.
- It is also known as the communalization of politics.
- **3) Politics of Appeasement:**
- For example, the overturning of the Shah Bano Verdict to appease the minority group.
- **4) Psychological factor:**
- Lack of trust & understanding among different religious groups which is further aggravated due to media.
- **4.a) Due to sensitization of trivial news.**
- **4. b) Trivilization of the real news.**
- **4. c) The media have been accused of spreading rumors as news.**
- The situation has further worsened with the penetration of Social Media.
- **5) Administrative failure to tackle the incidences of communal violence.**
- **6) Socio-economic disparity among different religious communities provides fodder for communal politics.**

- **Question:** arises either due to power struggle or relative deprivation argue by giving suitable examples.

#### **RELIGIOUS FUNDAMENTALISM: (10:01 AM):**

- According to Gabriel Almond;
- a) Violent offshoot of communalism.
- b) Visible pattern of the religious militancy by which self-styled true believers try to arrest the erosion of religious identities.
- **Rationale:** It is believed that due to modernization & secularization, the world has changed so much that it is difficult to promote & preserve religious beliefs and practices.
- **Causes:**
- 1) Modernization.
- 2) Secularization.
- 3) Ideological cohesion(single sacred text).
- 4) Supply of potential recruits (relatively deprived section).
- 5) Charismatic personality and leader: This can influence the masses to perform certain actions even if they are causing harm.
- 6) Information and communication technology.
- 7) Anti-social groups which radicalize people and disrupt the democracy.
- 8) Political deprivation (Sikh militancy phase in Punjab).

- **Way forward:**
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<b>Short Term</b>	<b>Long Term</b>
<b>a) More deployment of the Police Force and enhancing security through proper barricading.</b>	<b>a) Eradicating the problems of poverty, illiteracy, &amp; unemployment.</b>
<b>b) Prevent mass gatherings in one place.</b>	<b>b) Value-based education without any ideological coloration.</b>
<b>c) Temporary suspension of the internet to prevent the spread of emotionally charged and divisive content.</b>	<b>c) Responsible &amp; restrained journalism.</b>
<b>d) Communal outfits should be immediately targeted &amp; their capacity to disrupt law and order must be crippled.</b>	<b>d) Reforms in the criminal justice system e.g. speedy trials through fast-track courts, adequate compensation, etc</b>
<b>e) To prevent diffusion of responsibility immediate actions to ensure surveillance.</b>	<b>e) Use of cinema &amp; other cultural platforms to promote communal harmony</b>
<b>f) Setting up peace community or community policing.</b>	<b>f) In the long run banning communal outfits</b>
<b>g) The administration should make efforts to prevent</b>	<b>g) Proper scrutinization of domestic &amp; international funding of religious</b>

**the politicization of institutions &  
the issue. organizations.**

**h) An innovative  
diffusion  
framework can be  
adopted and  
persuade the  
religious leaders to  
ensure peace and  
also people do not  
indulge in violence.**

**h) Proper codified  
guidelines for  
administration to  
tackle the  
incidences of  
violence.**

**i) Patriotic feelings  
can be generated  
by playing  
motivational songs**

**i) The  
communication of  
political elites or  
administrative  
personnel should  
be checked & any  
incident of hate  
speech or flaring  
communal  
sentiments must  
be reprimanded.**

**j) Providing victims  
with**

**j) Reduce the  
marginalization to  
restrict the  
communalization  
of politics.**

**k) Ensure mobile  
infrastructure w.r.t  
medical  
emergencies.**

**k) Stringent  
punishment for  
spreading  
communal  
violence.**

**l) The police force  
should be well-  
equipped to ensure  
their safety.**

**l) Creation of units  
for social media  
monitoring and  
fact-checking.**

**m) The  
intellectuals,  
writers, journalists,  
and voluntary  
organizations,  
should be  
encouraged by the  
government to take**

the lead in building up a healthy public opinion against communalism.

n) Creating vigilante groups.

o) Based on the reports of the Rangnath Mishra Committee, proper sensitization & training of police personnel is required.

p) Prevent Ghettoization of communal groups to prevent the feeling of isolation.

#### **REGIONAL DIVERSITY: (10:49 AM):**

- **Concept of Region:**
- **1) Homogenous area.**
- **2) Physically/culturally distinct from neighboring areas.**
- **3) People have sufficient awareness that they are similar but different from people of other regions.**
- **4) Development of Regional identity (start professing political loyalties more towards a region rather than a state/nation.**
- **For example, South Indian states are characterized by the Dravidian language which brings them under one fold.**
- **Similarly, Northeastern states create a region that creates cultural, historical, and ethnic ties due to geographical proximity and shared practices.**
- **On the other hand, there could be multiple regions within a state e.g. within UP, Purvanchal, Bundelkhand, Paschim Pradesh, etc.**
- **Also, within Manipur Imphal valley & hill regions, within Rajasthan, we have Marwar, Shekhwati, Mewar, etc.**
- **Question: In the context of the diversity of India, can it be said that regions form cultural units rather than States, give reasons with examples. (10 Marks/150 Words).**
- **Regionalism:**

- **Regionalism is rooted in India's diversity w.r.t to caste, religion, language, ethnicity, etc, when all these factors get geographically concentrated along with the feeling of relative deprivation it is referred to as Regionalism.**
- **In a positive sense, it encourages people to develop a sense of oneness, where people work towards promoting the interest & development of the region.**
- **However, in the negative sense, it might lead to excessive attachment to the region which may threaten unity in diversity.**

## **POLITICS OF REGIONALISM: (11:15 AM):**

- **Son of Soil Theory:**
- It is defined as an ideology according to which the natives of the land exercise their rights over the resources of the land to the extent of exclusion of outsiders.
- It underlines the view that the State specifically belongs to the main linguistic group and it constitutes the exclusive homeland for its main language speakers.
- For example, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Assam, Meghalaya, etc.
- **Factors Responsible for Son of Soil:**
- a) Failure of the State administration to create enough opportunities for both the natives and migrants.
- b) Discrepancy in the demand & supply w.r.t. essential resources.
- c) Dilution of culture due to constant migration which creates a feeling of relative deprivation.
- d) Presence of strong regional forces that try to remain relevant by applying the zero-sum game theory of power in the context of native or migrant.
- e) Lack of culture of out-migration due to the strong attachment to the land.
- f) Son of soil often happens when there is a struggle for middle-class jobs.
- g) Due to rising aspirations everyone has high expectations and anything short of expectation will lead to disenchantment.

**TOPICS OF THE NEXT CLASS:**Continuation of Regionalism, etc.