Society Class 08

17th August, 2024 at 2:30 PM

DIVERSITY (2:35 PM)

- **Concept of diversity:**
- **Collective difference which marks one group different from the other.**
- **Manifestation of diversity:**
- **Linguistic**
- **Religious**
- **Regional**
- **Racial**
- **Ethnic**
- **Problems associated:**
- **Linguistic nationliasm**
- **Communalism/religious fundamentalism**
- **Regionalism**
- **Racial intolerance**
- **Ethno-nationalism**
- **It is said that every individual is governed by two aspects i.e. culture and livelihood.**
- **If any one of them or both of them are discriminated against or dominated then it creates the situation of objective reality.**
- **However, there is a third-party intervention that leads to a subjective realization of objective reality which leads to a feeling of relative deprivation and which creates a feeling of resentment.**
- **The above-mentioned framework can be applied in the following context:**
- **Bofors scam and the role of media in exposing the scam.**
- **JP Movement which mobilizes the masses against authoritarianism and corruption.**
- **Anti-corruption movement by Anna Hazare.**
- **Role of Asom Jana Sangram Parishad during the ~~1979~~ Assam crisis.**
  1979-85

- The persistence of caste-based discrimination is considered to be the ==retribution== of past karma. However, with the emergence of leaders, there was a subjective realization of objective reality which led to resentment.

- (Although it is important to ensure one has a realization about reality it should not be a false realization. Hence the role of a third party is extremely important).

LINGUISTIC DIVERSITY (3:09 PM)

- **Status:**

- **India is a land of extreme linguistic diversity.**

- **According to the Census 2011, ==121 major languages== and approximately ==1599 other languages== are spoken in India.**

- **So it is characterized by 'kos ==kos== par badle pani char kos par vaani.'**

- **Language is an integral part of our culture hence it is the source of both cohesion and conflict.**

- **Advantages of linguistic diversity:**

- **i) Many Indigenous languages contain valuable knowledge, it reflects the country's rich cultural heritage as these languages have their unique history, literature, and cultural nuances.**

- **ii) Vernacular media can help in providing legitimacy to government policy and programs and ensure better service delivery.**

- **iii) It exemplifies the salad bowl nature of India's multiculturalism.**

- **iv) It enhances the soft power and credibility of our democracy at the international level.**

- **v) It can help in achieving the goal of universal education by imparting elementary education in the mother tongue.**

- **vi) Respect for linguistic diversity fosters a culture of tolerance which in turn promotes social cohesion.**

- **Challenges:**

- **i) It might create an environment of linguistic chauvinism which when creates a feeling of relative deprivation can create conflict in society.**

- **ii) It can give rise to language-based ==regionalism.==**

- **iii) Communication barriers between the states.**

- **iv) It might create challenges for migrants or challenges for businesses to operate across the region.**

- **v) Social inequality for minority language speakers.**

- **vi) It creates administrative challenges.**

- **vii) Difficulty in finding jobs or accessing services for non-dominant speakers.**

- viii) Native languages are dying due to lack of use and preservation.

- **Question:**

Q• **Implementation of language provision proved to be a challenging task in the initial two decades of post-independence. Discuss.**   (question is w.r.t official language) (Prepare Intro and Body part by yourself)

- ~~Conclusionary~~ Conclusionary **remarks: Post-1967 the problem gradually disappeared from the political scene demonstrating the capacity of the Indian political system to deal with the problem democratically and promote national consolidation.**
  (conclusion should be in positive manner)

- **Question:**

- **To what extent linguistic reorganization of states has contributed to Indian unity? Discuss.**

→ • **Arguments in favor:**

- i) If we want to ensure a massive spread of literacy universal education and the development of tolerance linguistic reorganization is needed.

- ii) It helped in the development of provincial languages.

- iii) Linguistic reorganization helped resolve the basic source of conflict and helped in keeping **political extremism at bay.**
  both
- iv) Democracy can be realized in letter and spirit if administration and politics are carried out in the language that is commonly understood by all.

- v) According to Rajni Kothari, **it** created homogeneous political units that can be administered through a medium that a large population can understand.

- vi) Linguistic reorganization made people feel that their **right to self-determination** was respected.

→ • **Arguments against:**

- i) Linguistic reorganization did not resolve all the problems as we are extremely diverse. It was like an opening of **Pandora's box.**   (as there are 121 major languages or 1599 total languages.)
- For example, demand for Gorakhaland, Mithilanchal, etc.

- ii) It has aggravated the consciousness among people concerning their linguistic identity which has accelerated linguistic chauvinism.

- iii) Linguistic reorganization involves the possibility of political, administrative, and economic dislocation.

- iv) It can threaten unity in diversity as when demands are not met it may lead to negative regionalism.

- v) It also had a spillover effect where different bases of creation of small states started emerging.

RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY (3:55 PM)

- **Extent of diversity:**

- **Inter-religious and intra-religious**

- **Inter-religious:**

- **Hinduism, Sikhism, Buddhism, Jainism**

- **Intra-religious:**

- **Different sects and cults.**

- **Sects:**

- **It is defined as an offshoot of the existing religion due to disagreement over the interpretation of the core beliefs or different interpretations of the beliefs.**

- **For example, in Christianity, Catholics and Protestants, Shia and Sunni in Islam, etc.**

- **Vaishnavite, Shaivite, Shakta, and Smarta in Hinduism.**

- **A sect is defined as a close-knit group that consists of deeply committed members and any dissent is not tolerated.**

- **The individual voluntarily joins the sect and agrees to follow the beliefs.**

- **Sects do not have a hierarchy of officials. However, if any authority exists it is of the charismatic leader.**

- **Sects are largely emerging among those groups that are marginalized. For example, the Ravidasiya sect, Kabit Panth promoted the idea against caste-based discrimination.**

- **Cult:**

- **It is defined as a loose-knit organization that is the result of cultural innovation or cultural importation.**

- **It is organized around charismatic personality and it often does not challenge mainstream religion.**

- **It accommodates dissent, it is a voluntary organization that is open to all.**

- **Reasons for the growth of sect and cult:**

- **According to Olridge,**

- **i) Religion guarantees salvation in the afterlife, and cult provides relief in this life.**

- **ii) Religion addresses spiritual needs and cult provides solutions to mundane problems.**

- **iii) Religion points out challenges in direct communication with god however cult provides a medium where devotees can directly interact with charismatic personalities.**

- iv) Sects provide an alternative perspective to the youth who might feel trapped due to social constructs such as the caste system.

- v) Sect may also emerge as a result of urbanization or growing individualism.

- For example, people from the middle class are joining sects and cults to access community living.

- vi) Urban educated upwardly mobile class may feel relatively deprived due to spiritual deprivation in the backdrop of capitalism and consumerism.

- vii) With modernization and secularization significance of religion has declined. However, growing uncertainty or challenges posed by modernity there is a religious revivalism and one of the manifestations is the growth of sects and cults.

- viii) Today's society is driven by social media where the visibility of sects and cults has increased and therefore their proliferation.

- Question:

- Analyze the salience _(significance)_ of the sect vis-a-vis caste, region, and religion in Indian society. (10 marks)

TOPIC OF THE NEXT CLASS: Rest of the topic of diversity

A sect is defined as a close knit group which is the offshoot of existing religion and formed because of disagreement of the interpretation of the core belief of religion or different interpretation of the beliefs. Sect has a significant role in the Indian society from long time itself like Bishnoi samaj in Rajasthan exist from 1485CE, Shia and Sunni exist from 632CE after the death of Prophet Mohammad and also it has huge significant vis-a-vis caste, region, and religion in Indian society.