

Society Class 01

11th August, 2024 at 1:00 PM

A BRIEF INTRO TO THE SUBJECT (1:15 PM)

- *Why study society?*
- *To develop the perspective on the Indian social system.*
- *To sensitize the government/public officials on the discourse of society.*
- *To apply best practices of governance in the eradication of social problems.*


Isolation: (1:30 PM)

- It was introduced in the context of the tribals by **Verrier Elwin**.
- According to this policy, tribals must be separated to conserve and preserve their culture.

Assimilation: (It tells about breaking of ties from their original culture and absorbing them in dominant culture.)

- The policy was suggested by **GS Ghurye** who considered tribals as backward Hindus.
- It is defined as a process by which individuals of different cultural groups are absorbed in the dominant culture of the society.
- The focus is to ensure **social cohesion** by reducing differences.
- For example, the **Hindu Code bill**. (applied on Hindu, Sikh and Buddhist that's why example of Assimilation.)

Integration:

- The policy was introduced by the leadership in post-independent India which meant "tribal should progress but they should progress in their own way".
- Integration is defined as a process of incorporation of different cultures into mainstream society to the extent that **individual culture is retained**.
- For examples:
 - i. Multilingualism in the education system (National Education Policy) started in 1986
 - ii. Cultural festivals.
 - iii. **Tribal Panchsheel policy:**
 - a. Tribal should develop along their own genius.
 - b. No over-administration.
 - c. Rights in forests and land should be respected.
 - d. Assistance should be sought in managing polity and economy. 
 - e. Development should be assessed based on outcome rather than the money spent.

The statement "Assistance should be sought in managing polity and economy" means that help, advice, or support should be sought from others (individuals, groups, organizations, or countries) to effectively handle and improve the governance (polity) and financial systems (economy) of a state or society.

How to study society:

- **i. Deconstruct the syllabus.**
- **ii. Note making.**
- **iii. PYQs.**
- **iv. Answer writing.**

Salient Features of Indian Society: (1:46 PM)

- **i. Diversity:**
- **a. Linguistic:**
- **Issues: linguistic chauvinism.** (Linguistic chauvinism refers to an excessive or unreasonable devotion to one's own language, coupled with a belief in its superiority over other languages. It often involves dismissing, devaluing, or discriminating against other languages or linguistic groups.)
- **b. Religious:**
- **Issues: communalism, religious fundamentalism.** (Religious fundamentalism refers to a strict adherence to specific religious doctrines, beliefs, or practices, often interpreted as the original or foundational principles of a religion. It is characterized by a rigid and uncompromising approach to faith, with an emphasis on maintaining traditional religious values and opposing modern influences that are perceived to threaten them.)
- **c. Regional:**
- **Issues: regionalism.**
- **d. Racial:**
- **Issues: racial intolerance.**
- **e. Ethnic:**
- **Issues: ethno-nationalism.** (Ethno-nationalism (or ethnic nationalism) is a form of nationalism in which the nation is defined based on shared ethnicity, cultural heritage, language, religion, and ancestry. It emphasizes the belief that a particular ethnic group has a right to self-determination, sovereignty, and the establishment of a nation-state that aligns with its identity and values..)
- **ii. Caste system.**
- **iii. Joint Family.**
- **iv. Patriarchy.**
- **v. Secularism.**
- **vi. Multiculturalism.**

Multiculturalism: (1:52 PM)

- It refers to the peaceful coexistence of diverse cultures.
- People tend to celebrate, retain, and transmit their culture from one generation to another.
- It has two schools of thought: **a. Melting Pot** **b. Salad Bowl.**
- **a. Melting Pot:** (Like people forget their original culture and emerged as one after mixing. for ex: nimboo pani.)
- People of different cultures melt together **deserting** their individual cultures.
- For example, the USA. (Like they are American first)
- **b. Salad Bowl:** (People don't forget their culture even after mixing like a bowl having cucumber, tomato, onion as salad.)
- It describes a heterogeneous society where different cultures are brought together as ingredients of salad and where individual flavour is retained.
- For example, the **cosmopolitan** culture of Delhi.

Cultural Lag: (2:02 PM)

- *Two aspects of culture:*
- *i. Material :*
- *Like roads, clothing, etc.*
- *ii. Non-material:*
- *Value system, etc.*
- *Core consists of non-material culture: like beliefs, ideologies, value system, etc.*
- *Periphery consists of material culture: infrastructure, technology, etc.*
- *Forces of change at core and periphery.*
- *When there is a difference between the pace of the change of core and periphery, it leads to cultural lag.*

Effect of globalisation on Indian society: (2:09 PM)

- *It can be divided into two parts:*
- **i. Structure:**
- **a. Sections:**
- **1. Women.**
- **2. Old Age.**
- **3. Youth.**
- **4. Middle Class.**
- **5. Child, etc.**

- **b. Institution:**
- 1. Joint Family.
- 2. Marriage.
- 3. Caste.
- 4. Religion.
- 5. Media.
- 6. Education, etc.
- **ii. Culture:**
- a. Homogenisation.
- Uniform culture.
- b. Hybridisation.
- Hinglish, global + local, etc.
- c. Revival of local culture.
- Tribal products on Amazon, International Yoga Day, Millet Decade.

Social Empowerment:

- It is defined as the ability of an individual to have **autonomy in decision-making** and **confidence to bring changes** in the structure that has kept the individual marginalised over a period of time. (for ex: govt. created job opportunities for women but they do not have ability to spend these money according to their own way so, economic and political empowerment is insignificant without social empowerment.)
- Political and economic empowerment is meaningless without social empowerment.
- For example, the concept of Sarpanch Pati.

Sources:

- **NCERTs: Class XII (Indian Society), Social change and development in India, Human Geography, India People and Economy.**
- **Mains 365.**
- **Current Affairs.**

SOCIETY (2:45 PM)

- **Approach to Society:**
- i. Concept
- ii. Impact of British Rule on Indian society.
- iii. Salient features of the Indian society: joint family, caste, patriarchy, diversity, etc.

Q:- Discuss the negative consequences of abolishing child labor. (10 Marks)

Q:- Critically discuss the paradox where on one hand sex ratio has improved (currently it is 1020 women on 1000 men). However sex ratio at birth is still the matter of concern.

Impact of British Rule on Indian Society: (2:52 PM)

- i. Tradition ii. Forces of Change iii. Modernity.

Tradition	Forces of Change	Modernity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • i. New Social change: • English language • Secular education 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ascriptive status • Hierarchy • Strong religious orientation • Collectivism • Particularism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Printing technology • Transport and communication -- > Dissemination of ideas • ii. New social order: • Industrialisation • Urbanisation • New indicators of social status - -> new elite class. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achievement status. • Egalitarianism • Secularisation • Individualism • Universalism

- **Ascriptive status/Ritual status:** (i.e. we did nothing for that)
- *Anything that one enjoys just by the virtue of birth.*
- *Examples: born in an upper caste in a caste-ridden society.*
- **Achievement status:** /Secular status: (it is opposite to Ritual status and we make efforts for this status)
- *When a status is secured by achieving something.*
- *It is based on social, political, and economic factors.*
- **Hierarchy:**
- When individuals are arranged in layers one above the other, it is referred as a hierarchy.
- However, when hierarchical arrangement leads to different access to resources then it is referred as **stratification**.

When an individual is a boy and a girl it is Natural Inequality.

When they are being assessed based on gender it is Social Inequality.

When they are being arranged in layer that a boy supreme, girl is inferior it is Social Hierarchy.

When they have access to different-different things based on gender it is Stratification.

- For example, gender, caste, race, ethnicity, etc. are the basis of stratification in Indian society.
- **Egalitarianism:**
- It is based on the belief that all are equal and deserve the same kind of opportunity.
- **Secularisation:**
- *It is a social process in which the significance of religion declines.* (for ex: In marriage value of customs are declining.)
- **Particularism and Universalism:**
- Some people are more important than others i.e. relationship obligation is given primacy over law whereas in Universalism, everyone is treated equally.
- It was perceived that with forces of change, Indian society would transform into a modern society. (so Universalism is more than Particularism.)
- However, Dipankar Gupta called it **mistaken modernity** and MN Srinivas called it **westernisation**.

Modernisation vs Westernisation: (3:27 PM)

	Westernisation	Modernisation
Concept	Blind imitation of the culture of the West.	Progressive transformation of the social, political, economic, and psychological aspects of society.
Nature	Westernisation deals with peripheral aspects of the culture. For example, food habits, dressing styles, music preferences, etc.	It deals with changes at a fundamental level. For example, education, technology, infrastructure, etc.
Scope	It is an elite concept limited to the upper and	It is a mass affair that penetrates all

middle
classes.

levels of
society.

Modernisation

It is a matter of personal choice but Desirability restricting it in the name of modernisation is wrong. It is not against tradition, it is only against those traditions which are regressive in nature.

- Question: "India needs modernisation and not westernisation". Critically analyse the statement.

NEXT CLASS: The topic of Joint Family will be discussed.