

CLASS 10

CIVICS

GENDER, RELIGION AND CASTE





One Shot Live Revision Series

Date	Class 10 th Live @ 6:00 PM Daily	Class 9 th <mark>Live</mark> @ 8:45 PM Daily
17 Sep 23	The rise of nationalism in Europe	The French Revolution
18 Sep 23	Resources and Development	India - Size and Location
19 Sep 23	Power Sharing	What is democracy? Why democracy?
20 Sep 23	Development	The story of village Palampur
21 Sep 23	Nationalism in India	Socialism in Europe and the Russian Revolution
22 Sep 23	Forest and Wildlife Resources	Physical Features of India
23 Sep 23	Federalism	Constitutional Design
24 Sep 23	Sectors of the Indian Economy	People as Resource
25 Sep 23	Gender, Religion and Caste	Electoral politics
26 Sep 23	Water Resources	Drainage



Introduction

Religion

Caste

- **G**ender
- Public/Private division
- Discrimination faced by women.
- Women's political representation
- Religion and politics
- Communalism
- Secular state

- Caste and politics
- Caste inequalities
- Caste in politics
- Politics in caste



Gender and Politics

Gender is considered as natural and unchangeable.



However, it is not based on biology. Rather, it is a social expectations and stereotypes.

Public/Private division



- Sexual division of labour.
- Domestic work performed by women is not valued.

Raising these issues in politics.



Helped to improve women's role in public life.

Advantages of this



- Still due to the male dominated and patriarchal nature of our society women face disadvantage, discrimination and oppression in various ways.
 - Literacy rate [54 per cent], drop out rate.
 - Proportion of women among the highly paid and valued jobs is still very small. [Working hours] 1
 - (The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976) However, women are paid less than men in many areas.
 - **Sex Selective Abortion** \rightarrow **Decline in child sex ratio.**
 - Harassment, exploitation and violence against women. (Domestic violence.)

How the situation can be improved?



Women's political representation

- Meaning
- challenges
- advantages



Religion, Communalism and Politics



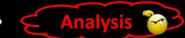
Expression on religion in politics



- **Gandhi's view** → Religion can never be separated from politics.
- **Communal riots** → Need for protection.
- Discrimination with women under the name of family laws.



Instances of relationship between religion and politics.





OR Good



These political acts are not wrong as long as they treat every religion equally.





Belief that people belonging to the same religion should form a nation, and in this process the power of state is used to establish domination of one religious group over the other.

- Religion as a basis of society.
- Beliefs of one religion are presented as superior to those of other religions.
- The followers of a particular religion must belong to one community. Their fundamental interests are the same.
- State power is used to establish domination of one religious group over the rest.

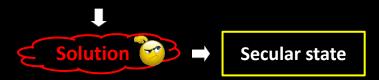




• Communalism can take various forms in politics.



- Religious prejudices, stereotype of religious communities and beliefs in the superiority of one's religion over other religions.
- A communal mind with the guest for political dominance to majoritarian dominance.
- Use of sacred symbols, religious leaders etc to mobilising people's support.
- Sometimes communalism takes its most ugly form of communal violence, riots and massacre.





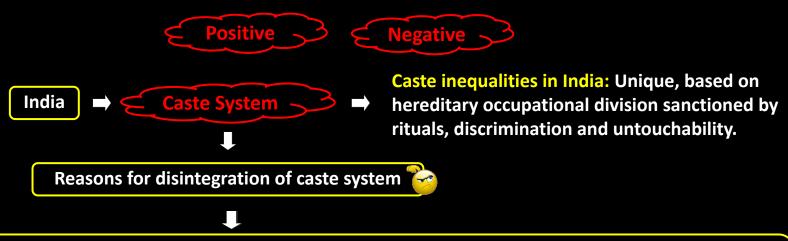


- There is no official religion for the Indian state.
- The Constitution provides to all individuals and communities freedom to profess, practice and propagate any religion, or not to follow any.
- The Constitution prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion.
- At the same time, the constitution allows the state to intervene in the matter of religions order to ensure equality within religious communities.

Communalism V/S Secularism



Caste and Politics



- Social reformer (advocated and worked to establish equality).
- Socio economic changes (Urbanisation, Literacy and education, Occupational mobility, etc.)
- Constitutional provisions.



- Marriage
- Caste linkage with economic status



Caste in Politics

Domination of caste in politics can take various forms



- Caste composition of constituency and nomination of candidates accordingly.
- Political parties and candidates appeals to caste sentiment to muster supports.
- Universal adult franchise and principle of one person one vote had brought new consciousness among the caste that were earlier treated inferior and low.



Counter Argument

- No parliamentary constituency in the country has a clear majority.
- No party wins the votes of all the voters of a caste or community.
- Many political parties may put up candidates from the same caste (if that caste I dominate the electorate in a particular constituency).
- The ruling party and the sitting MP or MLA frequently lose elections in our country.



Politics in Caste

Politics too influences the caste system and caste identities.



It is not politics that gets caste-ridden, it is the caste that gets politicised.

- Each caste group tries to become bigger by incorporating within it neighbouring castes or sub-castes which were earlier excluded from it.
- Various caste groups are required to enter into a coalition with other castes or communities and thus enter into a dialogue and negotiation.
- New kinds of caste groups have come up in the political arena like 'backward' and 'forward' caste groups
- Is there any advantages?
 - > Helped people from dalits and OBC castes to gain better access to decision-making
 - > Still this can divert attention from other important issues like poverty, development and corruption.



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