



Indian society

Class XII

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CHAPTER -1

Introducing Indian Society

2MARK QUESTIONS

1Q. What are the main problems of national integration in India?

Ans. The problems of India are linguistic identity, regionalism, demand for separate states and terrorism etc. create hindrances in the way of national integration. Due to these. problems, usually strikes, riots and mutual fights take place, which have posed a severe threat to national unity and integration.

2Q. Why is sociology a distinct subject in comparison with all other subjects?

Ans. Sociology is a subject with which everyone knows something about society. Other subjects are learnt at home, school or elsewhere through instructions but much of our with growth in years as it appears to be acquired naturally or automatically.

3Q. What are the basic functions of a society?

Ans. Sociologists and social anthropologists have adopted the term function from biological sciences where it has been used for certain organic processes necessary for the maintenance of the organisms. Basic functions necessary for continuity and survival of any society are :

- (i) Recruitment of members (ii) Socialization
- (iii) Production and distribution of goods and services and preservation of order.

4Q. What do you understand by social structure?

Ans. A society consists of (i) Males and females, adults and children, various occupational and religious groups and so on. (ii) The interrelationship between various that of parents and children and between various groups. (iii) Finally, all the parts of the society are put together and system are interrelated and complementary concepts.

5Q. Why is the social map provided to us in childhood by the deluding socialization essential?

Ans. Social maps are provided by our parent siblings, relatives and neighbour. It may be specific and partial. It provides us only with common sense or unlearnt or perceivable knowledge which may or may not be real.

A proper use and application of reflexivity is essential for drawing other kinds of maps. It is sociological perspective that teaches us the procedure of drawing social maps, wholesome and exclusive.

6Q. What is Self-reflexivity?

Ans. Sociology can show us what we look like to others. It can teach us how to look at ourselves from outside, so to speak. It is called “Self-reflexivity” or sometimes just “Reflexivity”.

4MARK QUESTIONS

1Q. What is community identity? Discuss its characteristics.

Ans. Community that provides us the language and cultural values through which we comprehend the world. It is based on birth and belongings and never on some form of acquired qualification or accomplishment. Birth based identity is called ascriptive because this does not involve any choice on the part of the individual's concerned. It is actually worthless and discriminating. These ascriptive identities are very hard to shake off because irrespective of our efforts to disown them, others may continue to identify us by those very markers of belonging.

Such ascriptive identity is the most deterrent to self-realisation. Expanding and overlapping circles of community ties i.e. family, kinship, caste, ethnicity, language, region or religion give meaning to our world and give us sense of identity, of who we are.

2Q. 'Sociology can help us to map the links and connections between 'personal troubles' and 'social issues'. Discuss.

Ans. C. Wright Mills a famous American Sociologist has mentioned, "Sociology can help us to map the links and connections between personal troubles and social issues." As far as personal troubles are concerned Mills means the kinds of individual worries, problems or concerns that everyone has

3Q. How colonial rule facilitated Indian consciousness to emerge? Discuss.

- Ans.**
1. Colonial rule unified all of Indian for the first time politically and administratively.
 2. Colonial rule brought in the forces of modernization and Capitalist economic change.
 3. However this economic, political and administrative unification of India under colonial rule was got at great expense.
 4. Colonial exploitation and domination scared the whole Indian society in different ways.
 5. Colonialism also gave birth to its own enemy—nationalism. The concept of modern Indian nationalism took shape under British Colonialism..

4Q. What steps were taken by colonial rules for the smooth functioning of its rule?

Ans. The steps taken by colonial rules for the smooth functioning of its rule were that they:

- (i)Used new mechanical techniques in production.
- (ii)Started new market system in trade.
- (iii)Developed means of transport and communication.
- (iv)Formed bureaucracy based on civil service of all India nature.
- (v)Established formal and written law.

5Q. Which social reformers carried out social reform movements during the British colonialism in India?

Ans. The prominent leaders of the reform movements were Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, Dayanand Saraswati, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Mahatma Gandhi and others.

6Q. State the processes the began during the British colonialism in India.

Ans. This was the period when modern period began in India and the external forces of modernization, westernization, industrialization entered.

7Q. State main differences between Sociology and other subjects.

Ans. 1.Sociology is a subject in which no one starts from Zero, as everyone already knows about society. However, other subjects are taught at school, at home or elsewhere.

2.Being an integral part of the process of growing up, knowledge about society seems to be got naturally or automatically.

In case of other subjects, no child is expected to already know something.

3.It means we know a lot about the society in which we live and interact. As far as other subjects are concerned, prior knowledge is almost negligible.

4.However, this prior knowledge or familiarity with society is both an advantage and disadvantage for sociology.

In the absence of prior knowledge there is no question of advantage or disadvantage in case of other subjects.

7MARK QUESTIONS

Q1. What is meant by Class System?

Ans:

It is a social system in which the status of an individual is determined by the family in which he/she is born. The members of a class have some responsibilities, rights and powers. Class consciousness is the necessity of class. The person in class considers others as superior or inferior to him. People in this system keep close relations with members of their own class. They keep limited relations with members of other classes. The class system is an open system in which a person can change his class with his ability.

Q2. How many types of classes can we see in urban areas?

Ans:

- 1. Upper Class:-**It is that class which is rich and most powerful. Political leaders, industrialists, IAS officers come in this category. They have more wealth and authority because of official power.
- 2. Middle Class:-**Doctors, Engineers, Teachers, White collar people and small businessmen come in this category. The upper class uses this class to retain its domination over the lower class.
- 3. Lower Class:-**Those people come in this class who sell their labour to earn their livelihood. For example, labourers. They have no means of production and they work for the other two classes.

Q3. Explain the main features of the Urban Society.

Ans:

1. Large population. A most important feature of urban society is the large number of people living there and more density of population. Meaning of density of population is how many people are living in one square kilometre.

Cities can be divided into different classes on the basis of more or less population like small cities, medium cities and metropolitan cities. The population of the metropolitan cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, etc. is more than one crore but the population of about 13 states of India is less than one crore.

2. Less living space. Another important feature of urban society is the lack of a place of living. It is so because of the large population in cities. It is a very serious problem in most of the urban societies. Many poor people are living on roadsides or under the trees or in slums. Middle-class families are living in small houses in cities where there is no place to play for children and no separate room for children to sleep and study.

3. Different Occupations. Cities are developed on the basis of different occupations. Many industries, occupations and institutions can be found in cities because of which different people are engaged in different types of occupations. Doctors, Managers, Engineers, specialised labourers, non-specialised labourers etc. thousands of occupations are found in urban areas.

4. Division in Economic Classes. Not much importance is given to caste, region and occupation of the person in urban areas. But the population in cities is divided into economic classes on an economic basis. Population, in cities, is not divided only in two classes of capitalists and labourers but many other small classes and sub-classes exist in cities on the basis of their economic status. The difference between higher and lower classes can also be seen in cities.

5. Competition. Everyone in cities gets enough chances to progress in every sector. We can find literate and able persons in large number. That is why competition is there in cities to get admission in educational institutions, to get jobs and to get promotions in the job.

Q4: Describe in detail the main features of rural society.

Ans:

1. Agriculture, the main occupation. The main occupation of rural society is either agriculture or any of the related work. Because they are closely related to nature, that is why their views towards life are very much different. Yet, many other people, like carpenter, blacksmith, etc. are there in villages but they also make tools related to agriculture.

2. Simple Life. Life in rural society is very simple. People here do a lot of hard work to fulfil their needs and they do not know about the luxuries of life. People also like to engage their children in agricultural works because most of them cannot afford education. They are always ready to help each other.

3. Scarcity of population and homogeneity. Population in villages is quite less as compared to urban areas. People live in small groups and away from each other and these groups are known as villages. There are very fewer occupations in rural areas except for agriculture because of which people like to go

to cities to earn money and that's why the population in villages is very less. People have close relations with each other and their views are also common.

4. Importance of neighbourhood. The neighbourhood is of great importance in rural society. The main occupation of the people is agriculture and they get enough time at hand. They get time to meet, talk and co-operate with one another. People have very close relations with their neighbours. Neighbours generally are of the same caste because of which their status is also same. People, generally, like to give respect to their neighbour. Neighbours are the first person to ask for help. That is why the neighbourhood is of great importance in rural society.

5. Male-dominated Society. Generally, villages have patriarchal families where the head of the family is the eldest male member of the house. All the males of the house take care of the earnings of the family while the females do all the household chores. Joint families are common in villages and the major occupation of every family is agriculture or any other related activity. They all live interdependently.

6. Common culture. People in villages share a common background. Their culture, rituals, traditions, customs etc. are also common. That is why they live with each other in a peaceful atmosphere. They are united with common bonds.

Q5: What is the Class? Give its definitions.

Ans:

The base of social stratification is class. Status of a person in a class depends upon his role. Position of all the persons is not the same in all societies. Some type of inequality is always there in society and because of this inequality, classes come into being. Majorly because of westernisation, industrialisation, educational system, modernisation, etc. classes came into being in India. Stratification in western societies is also based upon the class system.

MEANING AND DEFINITIONS OF CLASS

Every society is divided into classes and every class is having different status in society. On the basis of class, a person's status is high or low. In this way when different persons achieve special social status in society, then it is known as the class system. Every class is economically different from the other. Different sociologists have given different

views about the class system which are given below:

1. According to Maclver, "A social class is a portion of community marked off from the rest by social status."

2. According to Morris Ginsberg, "A class is a group of individuals who, through common descent, the similarity of occupation, wealth and education, have come to have a similar mode of life, a similar stock of ideas, feelings, attitudes and forms of behaviour and who on any or all of these grounds, meet the another on equal terms and regard themselves, although with varying degrees of explicitness as belonging to one group."

3. According to Gisbert, "A social class is a category or the group of persons having a definite status in a society which permanently determines their relationships to other groups."

4. According to Ogburn and Nimkoff, "The fundamental attribute of social class is thus its local position of relative superiority or inferiority to other social classes." On the basis of given definitions, we can say that social class is a class of many persons who have one specific status in a specific time. That is why they have some special power, rights and duties. The ability of an individual is important in the class system. That is the reason why every person wants to achieve a higher status in society with hard work. Every society is divided into many classes. Status of a person is not definite in the class system. That is why there is an open stratification. A person determines his class status. It is not based on birth.

Q6: What are the different characteristics of the class system?

Ans:

1. Feeling of Superiority and Inferiority: Relations of inferior and superior exist in the class system. For example, people of the higher class think themselves as different and superior to the lower class. Rich people fall in a higher class and poor people comes under lower class.

2. Social Mobility: Class system is not definite for any person. It keeps on changing. Man can achieve higher status with hard work and can go to a lower status by wrong deeds. Every person wants to uplift his prestige in society. So in this way social mobility is there in the class system. For example, if a person, who is working as a clerk in an office, do a lot of hard work and passes the I.A.S. exam then his status and position will be completely changed. It means that the class system has social mobility in which a person can move from one place to another with his hard work and ability.

3. Openness: Openness exists in a class system because in this every person is free to do anything. He is free to adopt any occupation. Anyone can become a member of any class on the basis of his ability. A person from the lower class can go to a higher class with his hard work. In this, there is no value of birth of the person. Status of a person depends upon his ability. A boy from a rich family can become rich only if he has the property. If this property goes away then he would become poor. This class system gives the opportunity to everyone to move upward. In this way, openness exists in the class system.

4. Limited Social Relations: Social relations of a person are the limited in-class system. Persons of every class establish relations with the people of their own class. Every class wants to establish contacts with persons of their own class. They socialize among themselves.

5. Development of Sub-classes: We can divide the class system into three parts from an economic point of view and these are:

1. Upper Class

2. Middle Class

3. Lower Class.

These classes are again divided into sub- classes. For example, we can see the difference between rich people. Someone is a billionaire and somebody else is a millionaire. In the same way, we can see sub-classes in the middle class and lower class.

6. Different Bases: Classes are made on different bases. According to Karl Marx, the main base of the class system is economic. According to him, there are two classes in society. One is the capitalist class and another is the labour class. According to Ogburn and Nimkoff, MacIver and Gilberg social base is important for the class. Ginsberg and Lapierre have accepted cultural base as the main base of the class system.

In this way, we can say that there is not a single base of the class system but there are many bases of the class system.

Q7. What is meant by Colonialism? How did nationalism emerge during the colonial rule?

Ans:

The process of colonialism started during the Industrial Revolution when an excess of wealth and things produced were available with the western countries. The process of winning over the Asian and African countries by the western countries and establishing their rule in those countries is known as colonialism. The age of colonialism started in the 18th century and went over to the middle of the 20th century. Major imperialist countries were England, France, Portugal, Spain, Germany, Italy etc. Later on, countries like Russia, America and Japan also joined the race.

Reasons for the advent of Nationalism in India: Following were the reasons for the emergence of nationalism in India:-

1. Political Unification of the Country-The first and most important factor was British imperialism. The British imperialism brought all the Indian states together and united them into one. This gave political unity to India with one set of administration and law. The anti-imperialist feelings of the people throughout the country created a common national outlook.

2. Economic Exploitation of the People-The East India Company and even under the Crown, the foreign government followed a policy of economic exploitation in India. Indian wealth was drained to England that led to economic exploitation. The result was unemployment, poverty and famines all around. The peasants were under the new land tenure system. Such a horrible state of affairs created economic discontentment and prompted the people to oppose the British.

3. Western Education and Thought-The British conquest brought the Indians to very close contact with the Europeans. In the 19th century, national movements were going on in European countries. It had its impact upon the Indians too. The Indians got a Western education and studied Western literature. The Western ideas of equality, liberty and brotherhood had their influence in India too. It enabled the Indians to study the evil effects of imperialism and exploitation by an imperialist power. This went a long way to awaken the people of India.

4. Press-Press is a powerful medium for the growth of consciousness and for mass awakening. Both the Indian and the English press did a lot to infuse nationalism among the people. Newspapers like Kesari, Bombay Samachar, Hindu and Amrita Bazar Patrika played an appreciable part in this direction.

5. Contribution of Literature-The Indians came in contact with the Western literature. They studied the writings of great Western thinkers and revolutionaries like Burke, Mill, Milton, Rousseau, Montesquieu, Voltaire, etc. Many poets and writers in India too tried their best to infuse national feelings and awakening among the people. 'Anand Math' written by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee brought a new awakening among the people.

Multiple choice

Q 1. Who were the main carriers of nationalism during colonial period? .

- (a) Rural upper classes**
- (b) Urban upper classes**
- (c) Urban middle classes**
- (d) Rural middle classes**

Ans: (c) Urban middle classes

Q 2. During which period Indian consciousness took shape?

- (a) Colonial period**
- (b) French period**
- (c) Persian period**
- (d) Mughal period**

Ans: (a) Colonial period

Q 3. The economic, political and administrative unification of India was achieved at great expense under

- (a) French rule**
- (b) Emergency rule**
- (c) Colonial rule**
- (d) Dutch rule**

Ans: (c) Colonial rule.

Q4. Which one of the following class does not exist in Villages?

- (a) Laboure class**
- (b) Landlord class**
- (c) Farmer class**
- (d) Middle class**

Ans:- (d) Middle class

Q5. Who were the most carriers of nationalism during colonial period?

- (a) Rural upper classes**
- (b) Rural middle classes**
- (c) Urban middle classes**
- (d) Urban upper classes**

Ans:- (c) Urban middle classes

Q6. Colonialism results in which of the following

- (a) Feudalism**
- (b) Liberalization**
- (c) Privatization**
- (d) Nationalism**

Ans:- (d) Nationalism

Q7. The establishment of rule by one country over another is known as:

- (a) Feudalism**
- (b) Imperialism**
- (c) Capitalism**
- (d) Colonialism**

Ans:- (d)) Colonialism

Q8. Which one amongst the subsequent class doesn't exist in Villages?

- (a) Laboure class**
- (b) Landlord class**
- (c) Class**
- (d) Farmer class**

Ans:- (c) Class

Q9. The economic, political and administrative unification of India was achieved at great expense under

- (a) Colonial rule**
- (b) Dutch rule**
- (c) French rule**
- (d) Emergency rule**

Ans:- (a) Colonial rule

Q10. Which of the subsequent classes will be seen in urban areas

- (a) Upper class**
- (b) Social class**
- (c) Middle class**
- (d) All of the above**

Ans:- (d) All of the above

Q11. When was the Cripps scheme started?

- (a) 1942 AD. In**
- (b) 1943 AD. In**
- (c) 1941 AD. In**
- (d) 1944 AD. In**

Ans:- (a) 1942 AD. In

Q12. Which of the subsequent is that the main objective of community development plan?

- (a) Development of rural industries**
- (b) Rural unemployed, unemployed**
- (c) Agriculture - Increase in production**
- (d) All round development of villages**

Ans:- (d) All round development of villages

Q13. What are the various styles of boundaries that exist in Indian society?

- (a) Economic and non secular**
- (b) Age and Region**
- (c) Both [A] and [B]**
- (d) None of the above.**

Ans:- (c)) Both [A] and [B]

Q14. Colonialism leads to which of the following:

- (a) Nationalism**
- (b) Liberalization**
- (c) Privatization**
- (d) Feudalism**

Ans:- (a) Nationalism

Q15. What are the different types of boundaries that exist in Indian society?

- (a) Age and Region**
- (b) Both a and b**
- (c) None of the above**
- (d) Economic and Religious**

Ans:- (b) Both a and b

Q16. From which languages did sociology originate?

- (a) Latin and French**
- (b) Latin and Greek**
- (c) Latin and English**
- (d) Greek and English**

Ans:- (b)) Latin and Greek

Q17. The emergence of machine production based on the inanimate power resources like steam and electricity is known as

- (a) Capitalism**
- (b) Globalization**
- (c) Colonialism**
- (d) Industrialization**

Ans:- (d)) Industrialization

Q18. The most basis for the separation of rural and concrete communities is

- (a) Size of population**
- (b) Nature of relation**
- (c) Nature of business**
- (d) Nature of consumption**

Ans:- (c) Nature of business

Q19. The emergence of machine production supported the inanimate power resources like steam and electricity is understood as

- (a) Industrialization**
- (b) Capitalism**
- (c) Colonialism**
- (d) Globalization**

Ans:- (a)) Industrialization

Q20. The amount of liberal nationalism is

- (a) 1885 to 1905**
- (b) 1905 to 1918**
- (c) 1919 to 1947**
- (d) 1947 to 1958**

Ans:- (a) 1885 to 1905

FILL IN THE BLANKS

1Q. The establishment of rule by one country over another is understood as _____

Ans:- Colonialism

Q2. Who wrote 'Society in India' _____

Ans:- Mendelbaum

Q3. Who is that the author of the book named Society _____

Ans:- MacIver and Page

Q4. Who has given the concept of marginal human _____

Ans:- Robert Ezra Park and Everett

Q6. Who were the main carriers of nationalism during colonial period _____

Ans:- Urban middle classes