

Q The inclusion of the word fraternity in Preamble is of historic importance and contemporary relevance. Discuss.

Ans

The word 'fraternity' means sense of common brotherhood transcending religion, language, regional or sectional diversities.

Fraternity remains the least understood, least discussed and least practiced of the four pillars spelt out in the Preamble - justice, liberty, Equality & Fraternity.

Historic importance:-

- Though Karachi Resolution 1931 was a landmark moment towards making our Constitution, in 1936, Ambedkar's powerful text 'Annihilation of Caste' was an exceptional contribution towards it.
- B.R Ambedkar wrote in it, 'an ideal society would be a society based on liberty, equality and fraternity'. Thus, it was Ambedkar, who injected this word into constitutional conversations.
- The objective resolution of 1946 also did not include the word 'fraternity'. Two weeks ~~after~~ after Independence, Aug 29, 1947, the Drafting Committee headed by Ambedkar suggested

UPSC

to include a clause about fraternity in the objective resolution.

- The adoption of this word in Feb, 1948 also connected to the assassination of M.K. Gandhi which had occurred a week before^{on} 30th Jan, 1948.

Contemporary relevance :-

- In view of persistent communal tension & riots on the basis of religion & caste, the values like fraternity are more relevant today.
eg - Protest movement in support & against CAA & NRC, put a dent on the country's image.
- To achieve social democracy by eradicating the discrimination and inequality, fraternity is a much needed value this time.
- To counter the vote bank politics and divisive policy of politicians and build a responsible & standing together by choosing the right, fraternity can guide us.

According to Ambedkar, "without fraternity equality and liberty will be no deeper than coats of paint." The Hindi of fraternity, Bandhuta is a more inclusive word which can build the bond between human to fight with the contemporary tensions.