

Time Allowed : 3 Hrs

SOCIOLOGY
PAPER I

Max. Marks: 250

QUESTION PAPER

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions.

- There are **EIGHT** questions divided in **TWO SECTIONS**.
- Candidates have to attempt **FIVE** Questions in all.
- Questions Nos. **1 and 5** are compulsory and out the remaining, **THREE** are to be attempted choosing at least **ONE** question from each section.
- The number of marks carried by a question / part is indicated against it.
- Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in a medium or other than the authorized one.
- Word limit in the questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.
- Attempts of Questions shall be counted in sequential order. Unless struck off, attempt of a question shall be counted even if attempted partly. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

SECTION A

Q1. Write short answers to the following questions in about 150 words each, with a sociological perspective: (10 x 5 = 50)

- (a) What are variables? Illustrate some variables which Merton used in his analysis of deviance. (10)
- (b) How has the contributions from history influenced the scope of sociology? (10)
- (c) Examine the contemporary relevance Durkheimian perspective on 'Division of labour'. (10)
- (d) How did the advance of capitalism revolutionize family as an institution? (10)
- (e) Poverty means more than simply low income. Elaborate. (10)

- Q2.** (a) Industrial revolution has important bearings on growth and development of sociology. Discuss. (20)
- (b) Examine the significance of non-positivist paradigm in social science research. (20)
- (c) How is skilling an important dimension of social mobility? (10)
- Q3.** (a) How do you view and assess the use of case studies and biographies in sociological research? (20)
- (b) How is the Weberian theory of religion different from that of Durkheim's? (20)
- (c) How could one use the Marxist class struggle concept to understand the farm protests and crisis in India? (10)
- Q4.** (a) Qualitative research methods are concerned with opinions, feelings and experiences. Comment on their reliability and validity. (20)
- (b) What do you understand by ethnicity as a dimension of social stratification? How does it impact the nation-states? (20)
- (c) Globalisation has disproportionately affected lower-paid workers. Validate your argument on the same. (10)

SECTION B

- Q5. Write short answers to the following questions in about 150 words each, with a sociological perspective: (10 x 5 = 50)**

- (a) Describe the various characteristics of Weberian bureaucracy. Are they relevant now? (10)
- (b) Who are contract labour? What are the challenges they face? (10)
- (c) Religious fundamentalism is a challenge to the truth of other religions. Examine. (10)
- (d) How does post patriarchy impact the emerging pattern of sex-roles in modern society. (10)
- (e) Distinguish between formal and informal work with suitable illustration. (10)

- Q6.** (a) Examine the impact of secularisation on family and marriage systems. (20)
- (b) Describe the modernization theory on development. How did the under-development theorists it? (20)
- (c) Discuss the types and dynamics of new social movements. (10)
-
- Q7.** (a) Globalization has accelerated the rise of consumerism, individualism and questioned religion and provided for pluralist societies driven by distinctive religions. Comment. (20)
- (b) Differentiate between Functionalist and Marxist theories of Stratification. (20)
- (c) Elaborate on latent and manifest functions of technology? (10)
-
- Q8.** (a) “Because law is deeply implicated in our economic, political, and social worlds, pursuit of social change invariably involves an engagement with law.” Critically examine the statement. (20)
- (b) No society gives absolute freedom to its members to select their partners. Examine the changing rules of marriage. (20)
- (c) Do religion and science necessarily go together? Give your views. (10)



ALL INDIA CIVIL SERVICES COACHING CENTRE

SOCIOLOGY (OPTIONAL)

FULL LENGTH TEST - PAPER I



போட்டித் தேர்வுகள் பிரிவு

CANDIDATE NAME:	A. AGNES	MOBILE NUMBER:	
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NM ID		Date of Exam	29-03-25
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Marks Details (To be filled by the Examiner(s))

Parts Q.No	a	b	c	d	e	Marks Obtained	Total Marks of Question
1							50
2							50
3							50
4							50
5							50
6							50
7							50
8							50
GRAND TOTAL							250

INSTRUCTIONS

There are **EIGHT** questions divided in two Sections and printed in **ENGLISH**.

Candidate has to attempt **FIVE** questions in all.

Question Nos. **1** and **5** are compulsory and out of the remaining, **THREE** are to be attempted choosing at least ONE question from each Section.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.

Attempts of questions shall be counted in sequential order. Unless struck off, attempt of a question shall be counted even if attempted partly. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

TIME TAKEN :	START: _____	END: _____
IF THERE ARE ANY SPECIAL REQUESTS WITH REGARD EVALUATION		

SECTION "A"

Q.1. Write short answers to the following questions in about 150 words each, with a sociological perspective: (10 x 5 = 50)

(a) What are variables? Illustrate some variables which Merton used in his analysis of deviance. (10)

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Variables are parameters defined in a research method, the study of which helps to determine the outcome of research.

Dependent variables

Values change with respect to other variables eg., suicide rate in Durkheim's theory

Independent variables

Values do not impact the other ~~va~~ outcomes but influence dependent variable eg., marital status in Durkheim's theory.

Other types include discrete variables, continuous variables.

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Variables used by Merton in deviance

Deviance refers to non-conformity to expected standards.

- 1) culturally defined goals - success in exams, employment
- 2) Structurally available means - equality or inequality of opportunity.

Merton studied how means and goals vary with respect to conformity and deviance as variables.

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(b) How has the contributions from history influenced the scope of sociology? (10)

GE Howard States that
 history is the past sociology and
 sociology is the present history to
 show their interdependence.

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Influence of history in scope of sociology

1) According to Marx, history is the process of man's self-creation. Hence it is important to understand history to understand society.

eg., historic materialism

2) As sociology is the study of society, history which determines the

society is important - eg., Satavahana

are matrilineal society

3) History helps to understand the transformation of a society

eg.. British rule transformed Indian agriculture from feudal to capitalist mode of production.

4) History gives overall view of events which helps sociology to understand and analyse its impacts on society. eg., impact of Mughal rule in India.

The distinction between descriptive history and analytical sociology has blurred in recent times with both contributing to each other.

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- (c) Examine the contemporary relevance Durkheimian perspective on 'Division of labour'. (10)

Durkheim stated that Division of Labour (DOL) or splitting up of task is not only an economic phenomenon but also a social phenomenon.

Contemporary Relevance

1. Increasing specialisation & interdependence in modern societies leading to solidarity eg, manufacturing industries assembly units depend on production units
2. Division of labour in family - men are predominantly bread winners & women take up household chores
3. Anomie DOL leading to conflicts and agitations eg, labor union strike

4. Increase in universalism and secularisation in cities as people come from diverse socio-economic backgrounds.
5. DOL in bureaucracy to improve its efficiency.
6. Interdependent DOL in village communities contributing to solidarity.

Durkheim's theory is relevant and helps in differentiating between primitive and modern societies.

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(d) How did the advance of capitalism revolutionize family as an institution?

(10)

GP Murdock defines family as a social institution characterised by common residence, shared economic responsibilities and reproduction.

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Impact of capitalism on family

1. Emergence of nuclear families that are geographically mobile to suit industrial needs.
2. Symmetric families in modern societies where husband and wife share responsibilities as stated by Michael and Wilmott
3. Alternatives to family in capitalism eg., day-care centers to take care of children of working women.
4. Increasing participation of women

in workforce eg., service industry

5. Family is no longer unit of production rather become unit of consumption.

6. Decline of patriarchy, women more assertive of rights

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(e) Poverty means more than simply low income. Elaborate.

(10)

Poverty which is generally being defined in terms of economic factors ignores the other dimensions like socio-cultural factors.

Multidimensional Poverty

Poverty is seen as lack of basic resources not only for survival but also for a meaningful participation in the society.

Hence the multidimensional poverty index takes into consideration several other factors rather than sole reliability on poverty line or economic factor.

These include standard of living, health and education and

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per capita income. NITI Aayog's MPI also includes bank account and maternal health to determine poverty.

MPI is important because only economic factor cannot explain the depth of poverty, hence multiple parameters are used to give a more accurate picture of reality.

MPI also helps in developing better poverty alleviation schemes to address the diverse needs of the society. This helps in creating a more inclusive society and reduce inequality, as poverty is more than simply low income.

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- Q.2. (a) Industrial revolution has important bearings on growth and development of sociology. Discuss. (20)

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The Industrial Revolution in mid-18th century Europe brought significant changes in society, thus influencing the emergence of sociology.

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Industrial Revolution and outcomes

Industrial revolution was the transformation of European society from agrarian and handicraft-based economy to one dominated by machine manufacturing and industrial production.

- 1) Discovery of steam engines, power looms and new source of power
- 2) The invention of printing press - Spread of knowledge to large extent.

3) From subsistence production to production for market.

4) Advanced naval technology and surplus production - search for colonies

5) Strengthening of capitalism and mercantilism

Contribution to sociology

1) Industrial Revolution threw the society into turmoil due to rapid social changes.

2) changes in traditional social institutions - family, religion, bureaucracy.

3) Emergence of sociologists to study about the causes and impact on the society.

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Durkheim studied about social integration and social regulation.

He showed division of labour exist even in societies. Marx studied about the inhumane working conditions in the factories and also spoke about commodity fetishism.

Weber studied about the growing rationalism and secularisation in industrial societies.

Thus early schools and perspectives of sociology were established - functionalist, conflict and interactionist perspective. The Industrial Revolution not only transformed

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the European society but also transformed the discipline of Sociology. Thus Industrial Revolution helped to lay a firm foundation for sociology as a distinct discipline.

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(b) Examine the significance of non-positivist paradigm in social science research. (20)

Non-positivist emerged as a reaction to the positivist's view that reduced man into a cultural dope in the society.

Significance of non-positivist paradigm in social science research

According to non-positivist, human beings have their own consciousness. It is subjective and hence cannot be directly observed or objectively measured.

Non-positivists attempt to study the meanings and motives of individual actions which are disregarded by positivist.

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~~the European society but also transformed the discipline of sociology with enriched inputs from various sociologists.~~

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in their research methodology. In the words of Adorno, while positivists focus on only one or two layers, non-positivists focus on multiple layers of truth.

Positivists like Comte and Durkheim ignore values for being subjective and having undesirable influence on sociological research. However non-positivists like Alfred Shutz state that man construct their own social reality

based on their experiences, values and assumptions.

Interpretativists like AM Mead reject cultural and biological determinism of man as emphasised by positivist. Even man can influence society through his social actions.

Non-positivist focus on qualitative research technique such as participant observation and field studies to understand human actions from first person view.

Hence non-positivist paradigm is significant in the following aspects,

1. Consider humans as active

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participants rather than passive
receptors.

2. Focus on micro-level analysis of human interactions.

3. Takes into account socio-cultural
constraints on social action.

4. Idiographic rather than nomothetic

Challenges

1. Subjectivity in research outcome due to biases and values.

2. Low validity and reliability.

3. Cannot be empirically tested.

These challenges led to hybrid methodologies such as Semi-structured interviews with both positivist & non-positivist aspects.

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(c) How is skilling an important dimension of social mobility?

(10)

Sorokin defines social mobility as transition from one social position to another.

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Social Mobility

Social mobility can take place through various sources such as marriage, promotion, urbanisation and so on. In modern industrial society, skilling is an important dimension.

- 1) Opens avenues for better wages or new occupations - class mobility
- 2) Provides for migration to different place or country - eg., demand for skilled workers in the middle East.

3) Skilling is inevitable to reap demographic dividend in India - a precursor to transform into high-income country by 2049.

4) Skilling helps to break from caste-based occupations - eg., low-caste in white-collar jobs.

5) Skilling and education can provide for sanskritisation (MN Srinivas) thus cultural mobility in caste system.

6) Skilling prevents downward mobility amidst job cuts due to 4th Industrial Revolution.

Thus skilling can provide for both individual and structural mobility much needed especially for a country like India.

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Q.3. (a) How do you view and assess the use of case studies and biographies in sociological research? (20)

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(b) How is the Weberian theory of religion different from that of Durkheim's?
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(c) How could one use the Marxist class struggle concept to understand the farm protests and crisis in India? (10)

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- Q.4. (a) Qualitative research methods are concerned with opinions, feelings and experiences. Comment on their reliability and validity. (20)

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- (c) Globalisation has disproportionately affected lower-paid workers. Validate your argument on the same. (10)

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SECTION "B"

Q.5. Write short answers to the following questions in about 150 words each, with a sociological perspective: (10 x 5 = 50)

(a) Describe the various characteristics of Weberian bureaucracy. Are they relevant now? (10)

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Weber defines bureaucracy as a rationality designed hierarchical organisation in the pursuit of large-scale administrative tasks and organisational goals.

Characteristics of Weberian bureaucracy

1. Hierarchical organisation
2. Meritocracy based recruitment
3. Based on written, formal rules and regulation
4. Job is permanent and full time
5. Incumbent cannot occupy the position as it belongs to the organisation.

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6. Specialisation of task which increases efficiency.

7. Defined jurisdiction of work

Relevance of Weberian bureaucracy

1. Recruitment of bureaucrats by the State through open competitive exams
2. Hierarchy maintained eg., District collector - Block Development Officer.
3. Work based on rules and code of conduct defined.
4. Bureaucratic inertia such as apathy and delay as evidence for Weber's iron cage of rationality.

Weberian model continues to hold true even for today's bureaucracy to a large extent.

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(b) Who are contract labour? What are the challenges they face? (10)

Contract labour is where labourer is employed for a specific duration as mentioned in contract without permanent job security.

Challenges faced by contract labour

- 1) Denied of social security such as healthcare insurance due to limited engagement.
- 2) Often out of pension facilities as criteria of minimum working years not satisfied.
- 3) Poor representation due to lack of unions and hence reduced bargaining power.
- 4) Highly exploited especially the migrant labourers.

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- 5) Delay in payments, no equal pay for equal work for women.
- 6) Mostly in informal sector without formal contract, based on kinship or refusal preferences.
- 7) Excluded from legal welfare measures such as maternity benefits, pay for overtime.
- 8) Often employed as cheap labourers to cut input cost.

To overcome the challenges formalisation of workforce is being pushed along with effective implementation of labour codes by the government.

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- (c) Religious fundamentalism is a challenge to the truth of other religions.
Examine. (10)

Religious fundamentalism is an attempt to paint the whole world with a single brush i.e., emphasis on only one religion.

Religious fundamentalism as a challenge to other religions

- 1) fundamentalists are against the principle of religious tolerance
- 2) Disregard for other religious belief and try to impose one's own religion.
- 3) Do not accept secularism or separation of state and religion creating panic among minorities
- 4) Attempt to control the educational

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institutions to indoctrinate pupils with religious ideas especially fundamentalist character.

- 5) Disrupt other religious gatherings, attack on their religious institutions
- 6) Vehemently oppose inter-religious marriages as it affects their motive of one religion.
- 7) Threat to communal harmony & peace especially in a multi-religious society.

Antidote to religious fundamentalism is secularism which aims at safeguarding State's independence and also protect religious faith of all the people.

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(d) How does post patriarchy impact the emerging pattern of sex-roles in modern society. (10)

Sylvia Walby defines patriarchy as men domination over women, however post patriarchy is redefining the institutional structure.

Post Patriarchy and emerging Roles

1. Dilution of patriarchy and due to globalisation and modernisation.
2. Women more assertive of rights and plays important role in decision-making.
3. Increase in women-headed households.
4. Increased autonomy in sexual role and reproduction.

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eg., delay in child birth

5. Men began to contribute more
to household chores and
domestic work - symmetrical
families.

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(e) Distinguish between formal and informal work with suitable illustration. (10)

~~Work refers to patterning of activities~~

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Formal work

1. Defined by contract
2. Job security and social security
3. Covered under legislations
eg., Bureaucracy

Informal work

1. Defined by preferences
2. At the mercy of employer
3. No protection against exploitation
eg., gig workers

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Q.6. (a) Examine the impact of secularisation on family and marriage systems.

(20)

Secularisation promotes universal values thus impacting traditional institutions of society like family and marriage system.

Impact of secularisation on family

1. Increase in nuclear families and decline in joint households.
2. Emergence of symmetrical families (Michael and Wilmott) where husband and wife take equal responsibility of household.
3. Emergence of alternate kinship institutions such as live-ins and cohabitations.
4. Families becoming more filio-

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centric as children play important role in decision-making.

5. Traditional definitions no longer hold true - eg., Double Income No kid or DINK families with no reproductive role ;

6. Decline in patriarchy due to neolocal / duolocal families, property rights to women.

7. Importance to fictive KINS over consanguinal or affective KINS - eg., birthday parties with colleagues

8. Increase in single-parent families due to death or marital breakdowns

9. Alternative institutions such as

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day-care centers for children and
schools for value transmission.

Impact of secularisation on marriage Systems

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1. Marriage is no longer a sacrament
rather a contract - eg., no
elaborate religious rituals.
2. Divorce is no longer a social
stigma (Nicky Hart)
3. Incidences of serial monogamy
(Anthony Giddens)
4. Marriage no longer seen as
duty - eg., 38% of 18-45 years
population in New Zealand is single.
5. Women today have increased
choices and decision-making in

marriage - eg., delayed marriage age
& priority to career growth.

b. New forms of marriage such as
convenience marriage - for property
rights and walking marriage -
no marital obligations.

Despite such changes,
family and marriage still remain
as universal social institutions and
are cornerstones of any society.

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- (b) Describe the modernization theory on development. How did the under-development theorists counter it? (20)

Development refers to a progressive change in society that is desired by all.

Modernization theory on development

Modernization theory states that modernization or spread of universal values will lead to overall development of society.

It is based on the assumption of downward transmission or trickle down theory. For eg., laissez-faire or free hand in market would benefit all due to competitiveness satisfying both producer and consumer.

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However this theory is countered by under-development theorists as trickle-down effect did not happen in reality.

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Arguments of under-development theorists

The backwardness of Latin American, African and Asian nations are result of artificial dependency created by the developed countries.

It is due to unequal integration of economies into the world market in the name of globalisation. Ag Frank states that prosperity of west is due to the poverty in the east.

This unequal interdependency is explained by Immanuel Wallerstein in his world system theory.

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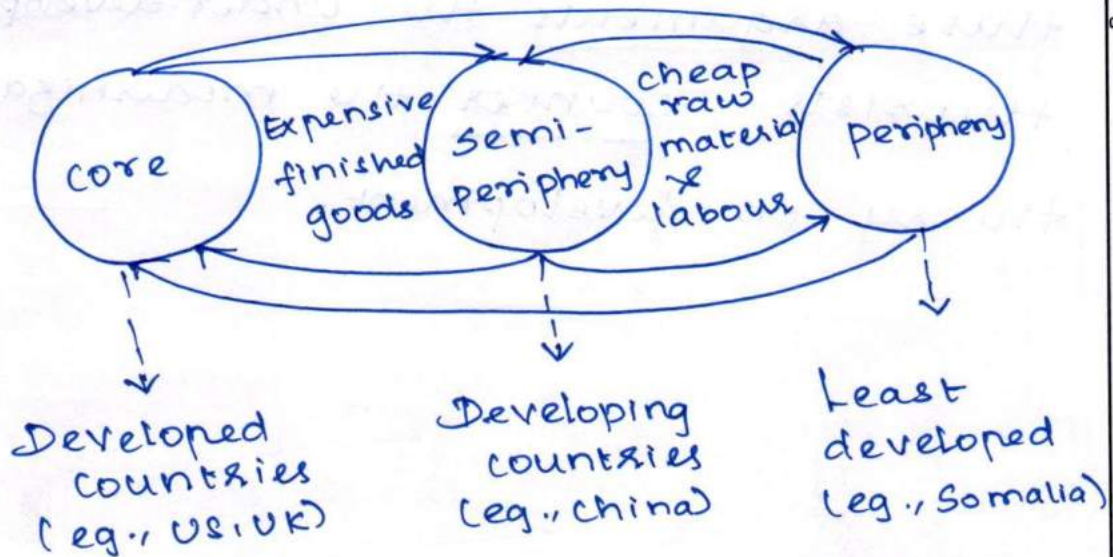


Fig- world system theory

Hence by forcing to "sell cheap" and "buy dear" the developed countries create underdevelopment or misdevelopment (Emmanuel) rather than underdeveloped as portrayed by the West.

This is evident through
unfair bilateral agreements and
stalling WTO negotiations. Through
these arguments the under-development
 theorists counter the modernization
 theory on development.

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(c) Discuss the types and dynamics of new social movements.

(10)

Social movements are sustained collective actions that aim at resisting or bringing a social change.

New social movements

Emerging in 1960s as coined by Allaine Touraine to denote movements different in ideology and organisation when compared to the erstwhile movements.

1) Focus on non-material aspects rather than material aspects eg., quality of life.

2) Dissociate from political parties unlike old movements.

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- 3) Diverse stakeholders like youth, student, environmentalist, women
- 4) Increased use of ICT to mobilize resources towards goal eg., social media campaigns
- 5) Alternative methods like political lobbying, sit-ins
- 6) Often institutionalize into pressure groups eg., PETA for animal rights.
- 7) Types include environmental movements, animal rights, women rights, human rights and tribal rights.

Social movements are gradually bringing social change by influencing policy making.

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- Q.7. (a) Globalization has accelerated the rise of consumerism, individualism and questioned religion and provided for pluralist societies driven by distinctive religions. Comment. (20)

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(b) Differentiate between Functionalist and Marxist theories of Stratification.
(20)

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(c) Elaborate on latent and manifest functions of technology?

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Q.8.

- (a) "Because law is deeply implicated in our economic, political, and social worlds, pursuit of social change invariably involves an engagement with law." Critically examine the statement. (20)

Social change refers to transformation in structural and functional aspects of a society.

Law and Social change

Law is a powerful agent of social change according to Yogendar Singh. Its implications can be understood through following roles.

- 1) Law legitimises a social change - eg., social movements against untouchability to Article 17 as fundamental right.
- 2) Law hastens or provides momentum to a social change.

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eg., Prohibition of child marriage Act to reduce child marriages with force.

3) Law initiates or accelerates a positive social change eg., Right to Education.

4) Law forbids a negative social change - eg., PCPNDT Act to arrest child sex-determination & abortion.

Impact of law on social change - economic, political, social sectors

1) Economic world - law played major role to establish socialist state controlled economy post-independence and later transformation to LPG phase post-1991 reforms

2) Political world - law protects

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democracy in India from derailing into a dictatorship with the constitution.

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- 3) Social world - Law helped to bring equality by preventing gender discrimination (Equal Remuneration Act) and caste discrimination (SC/ST Atrocities Act)

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Challenges that remain despite legislations

- 1) According to Andre Beteille, laws may provide directions but it is the people who determine its effectiveness through adherence.
- 2) Despite elaborate laws, social evils like gender discrimination

and caste-discrimination continues because socio-cultural values are deeply rooted.

3) Laws become ineffective due to poor implementation.

4) Often laws are outdated without amendments to reflect contemporary reality eg., Criminal Tribes Act

Hence laws are tools but not panacea for social change. Real impact should come from attitudinal changes of the people.

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- (b) No society gives absolute freedom to its members to select their partners. Examine the changing rules of marriage. (20)

Marriage or choice of life partner is based on existing social norms and cultural values which curtail absolute freedom.

Restrictions in marriage

1. Indian society strictly follows caste endogamy and gotra exogamy.
2. Tribal societies have closed kinship relations restricting outsiders.
3. Existing stratification limits choice of marriage eg., Racial divisions.
4. Exclusionary rules in certain communities eg., Parsis follow pure-blood concept.

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5. Inter-religious marriages are often unaccepted thus restricting choice.
6. Linguistic factor as a barrier to choose life partner.
7. Other constraining factors include class position, status group, geographical proximity and occupation.
8. Demands such as property ownership, high income add to limited choice.

Changing rules of marriage

1. Increase in intercaste and interreligious marriage.
2. Consumerism taking the place of religious rituals to assert social status.

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3. Increasing penetration of ICT -
changing traditional norms
eg., online marriage during covid.
4. Better transportation & communication
geographical proximity no longer
constraining factor.
5. Emergence of alternative kinship
institutions - eg., live-in, cohabitation
without marriage.
6. Today there are more ways to
escape from a marriage as
said by Nicky Hart - due to
divorce legislations.
7. Commercialisation of marriage -
event planners, destination
marriage, expensive decoys
and photoshoots.

8. Marriage is no longer one in a life-time phenomenon eg., serial monogamy by Giddens

There are restrictions in marriage however they are diluting today with globalisation and modernisation.

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(c) Do religion and science necessarily go together? Give your views. (10)

Religion is based on faith and personal belief whereas science is based on facts and universal acceptance.

Relation between Religion & Science

According to linear evolutionary theorists like Comte, science and religion are at opposing ends.

Even Weber states that influence of religion will decline with growing rationality and secularism.

However other scholars see complementary relation between them. Einstein states that science without religion

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is lame and Religion without science is blind.

Science helps to remove irrational, orthodox practices from Religion, whereas Religion steps in when science cannot answer about life and death.

Hence science and Religion are like two sides of the same coin, they complement and enrich each other.

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