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Moksha
UPSC MAINS TEST SERIES

SOCIOLOGY (OPTIONAL)
(PAPER I)

VETERANS 2025 - TEST - 3

DATE:

CANDIDATE NAME:

Ad123

MOBILE
NUMBER:

UPSC ROLL NO:
(compulsory)

Email ID:

SIA UNIQUE ID

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.
- 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.
- Write answers in ink only. Do not use pencil for writing the answers. However, pencil may be used for drawing diagrams, sketches, etc.
- Do not write answers in bad/illegible handwriting. Such answers may not be evaluated.
- If you wish to cancel any work write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be valued.
- Do not write in the QCA Booklet anything other than the actual answer such as couplet, obscene, abusive expression

etc., nor put any sign/mark having no relevance to the answer. Do not make any direct/indirect appeal/threat to the examiner.

- Please mention the question number and question before each answer, if you are submitting your answers in A4 sheets.
- Students submitting copies online must ensure that the **quality of scanning is not compromised. Badly scanned answers will not be evaluated.**
- Marks allocated to each answer is final, and we will not entertain any kind of reevaluation.

IF THERE ARE ANY CONCERNS/GRIEVANCES/SUGGESTIONS/
please mail to mokshasocio@shankariasacad.in

TIME TAKEN :

START:

9:00pm

END:

12:37pm

IF THERE ARE ANY SPECIAL REQUESTS WITH REGARD EVALUATION

EVALUATOR FEEDBACK

(THIS WILL INCLUDE COMMENTS ON POSITIVES / AREAS OF IMPROVEMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS WHEREVER RELEVANT)

Question Interpretation		
Content	Relevance	
	Quality	
Answer Structure		
Presentation		
<u>Other Parameters</u>		

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)

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Variables are social aspects in sociology which are quantified and mapped to understand cause and effect relation. R.K. Merton widely used variables in his middle range theory of deviance.

Merton's use of variables in deviance

① Merton used dependent and independent variables to define deviance.

eg) Culturally defined goals (dependent) when not matched with socially available means (independent) creates deviance.

② Multivariate and multi causal analysis
Merton defined deviance based on multiple

factors such as:

(i) Retriatist - who are depressed and drug addict (variable 1) and do not follow means & goals (variable 2).

(ii) conformers - such as students follow school and societal norms (variable 1) thus accept both goals & means (variable 2)

(iii) merton also counters Darkheim as deviance always exist in society.

thus, his causal explanation is to study such factors and variables to solve deviance.

(iv) He also noticed positive, latent aspect of deviance (variable 1) such as innovators and scientist (variable 2).

Deviance of merton expands our sociological imagination to correlate personal and structural variables to understand them better.

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

(10)

History and sociology complement each other as twin sisters and sociologists derived their subject material widely to expand sociological subject matters.

contribution of history in sociology

① historical changes contributed in the emergence of sociology

eg- feudalism to capitalism, secularism from religious society changed social morals & sociology emerged.

② subject matters of history adopted in sociology

eg- Anthropological studies of Ghurye, Dumont of caste, religion taken from hindu texts

③ historical evolutionary study used to understand and learn society.

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(eg) - Comtes law of three stages, Marx's law of historical materialism.

④ History provided comparative understanding in temporal scale

⑤ comparing calvinism & capitalism by Weber in protestant ethics & spirit of capitalism

⑥ sociology adopted historical methods

(eg) - Biographical studies, case studies, primary data

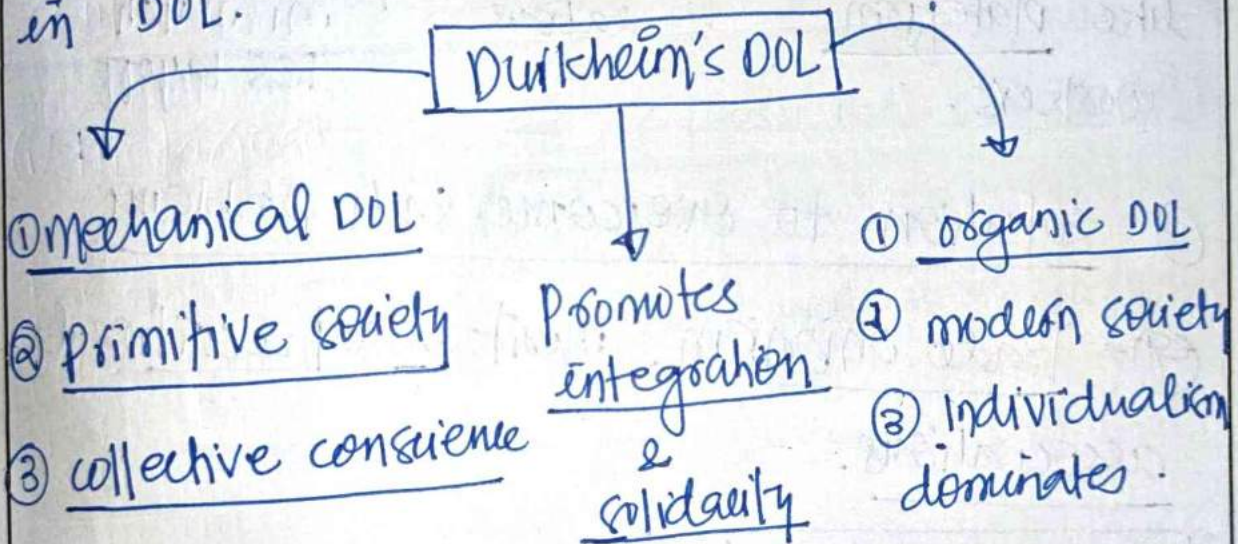
Thus, history helped sociological scope expansion from emergence to even today.

Historical sociology used to explain relation in different events further widening the subject matter of sociology.

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

(10)

Emile Durkheim gave an evolutionary perspective of division of labour (DOL) to establish DOL as social fact, compare different types of DOL & also study problems in DOL.



Relevance today

- ① Understanding transitioning DOL of India
- eg- GST, digitization creating organic DOL but, informal sector (90%) still dominated by mechanical solidarity

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② Understanding problems in DOL

Anomie

eg - Globalization & rapid changes like platform workers.

Forced DOL

eg - Child labour, bonded labour

improper work allocation

eg - Skill - requirement mismatch
TCS layoff

③ Solution to overcome such problems

eg - Trade unionism, merit based recruitment, associations.

Not relevant today

① Eurocentric view - seeing DOL of Europe as universal. ② Karma based caste DOL can't be understood.

③ simplistic design

↳ contradictory class location like manager also exist

(Eric olivier)

Durkheim's DOL helps us to find the status of DOL, compare and resolve issues in labour codes.

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

(10)

Capitalism as per Karl Marx is based on profit maximization, privatization and exploitation of labour, which affects family as a social unit.

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capitalistic advancement revolutionizing family

① changing focal of production & consumption

<u>Pre capitalism</u>	<u>Post capitalism</u>
family as <u>unit of production</u> <u>on</u>	factory as production unit & family as consumption unit

② large scale migration & family nuclearization

Parsons see nuclear family (mobile family) best suited for industrial economy.

③ confinement of females as housewife

Ann Oakley in her 'The Housewife' shows capitalism promoted free household labour from females.

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④ marital breakups and threat to family
Edmund Leach sees double income family
has high stress & less emotional support
which leads to fight & divorce.

⑤ consumerist consumption & unhealthy families
eg- Advertisement targeting wife &
childrens of middle class family as ideal &
happy family → status, conspicuous
consumption.

Thus, family as a unit faces significant
challenges. David Cooper in his 'Death
of family' sees family as conditioning
device, a capitalist tool which sustains
capitalism.

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

(10)

Poverty is a multidimensional aspect involving health, status, hunger, ownership. Pierre Bourdieu sees it in the absence of social, cultural & symbolic capital.

Quantitative methods (positivists) use to measure poverty on the basis of income level. Jendulkar committee, Y.K. Alagh committee also define it on the monetary terms.

However, Qualitative thinkers such as Bourdieu sees poverty beyond income terms such as, absence of decision making ability (symbolic violence of Bourdieu).

Similarly, Anthony Giddens in his double hermeneutics & CM Mills in his sociological imagination would see poverty beyond individual terms. For example, illiteracy is not just lack of education but, inequality, absence of school, child labour etc.

Feminist thinker like Ann Oakley counter family as unit to measure poverty while intra family poverty (status of women, elders) also exists.

Subalterns (Gail Omvedt) found poverty in the intersection of caste, class & gender.

Thus, to overcome poverty, one should look beyond into multidimensional nature of poverty specially in policy making.

Q2. (a) Industrial revolution has important bearings on growth and development of sociology. Discuss. (20)

The 18th-19th century Europe was going through rapid industrialization in terms of mass production, privatization. This created a perfect social condition for the emergence of sociology, to understand the impact of these changes in society.

Industrial revolution & growth and development of sociology

① Industrialization led to new secular norms such as poverty can be mitigated, mass production can fulfill people's need. This undermined churches domination on social events.

② Changing family patterns

- ↓ rise of migration & nuclear family
- ↓ family as consumption unit
- ↓ marital breakups

③ Elite capture of surplus and capitalism

Private monopoly of industries and precarious situation of working class, give Durkheim, Karl Marx subject matter to study division of labour & class conflict respectively

④ Rise of crime rates and deviances

Chicago school (Gn mead), Howard school (Merton) studied deviance developed due to industrialization.

⑤ Urbanization and slums

Industrial centers developed into towns and slum as dilapidated structure attracted thinkers to like Oscar Lewis to study the problems emerged out of industries.

⑥ feminist sociology due to Industrialism

The confinement of women as housewife (Ann Oakley) and women as reserve army (Marxist) became prominent subjects due to Industrial growth.

⑦ colonialism and mercantalism

World system theories of Theodore Wallestein, Ag Frank shows how Industrialism and colonialism exploited third world countries and created de-Industrialization there.

Industrial growth and its impact on economy (capitalism by Weber), political science (rise of nation state), religious belief (secularism) and social norms (nationalism, humanism) created a vacuum, which was explained in other by but the sociology of Comte, Durkheim and Spencer.

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

Non-positivist paradigm argue that humans are made up of subjectivity and so is the society, which cannot be quantified empirically, and thus we need interpretation of meanings to study society.

Significance of non positivist paradigm

① Finding deep rooted truths, belief & values
Participant observations (William Whyte),
ethnographical studies reveal hidden aspects
which is often overlooked in positivism.

eg- why female practices fasting

② they provide indepth understanding with
high validity.

Case studies used to understand one
or more aspect in ¹⁴ 'whole some approach'

(eg) - Polish peasant studies found the issues of migrant population.

③ They provide micro level understanding. Unlike macro studies (of Durkheim), non-positivist delve into understanding meanings motives of social action.

(eg) - Peter Berger's - externalization → objectivation
↓
internalization

④ They complement positivist studies

Alan Bryman's mixed method approach argues to combine positivist & non positivist streams to find complete reality

(eg) - Questionnaire with open ended interview

⑤ They are used to validate not only verify. Karl Popper argues how non positivism can help in falsification of grand theories.

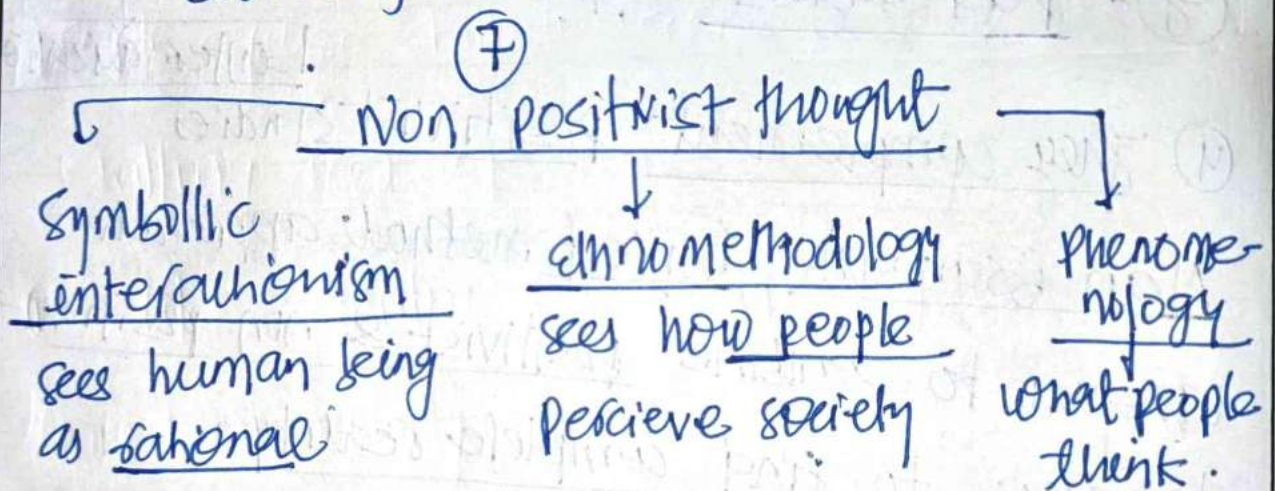
(eg) - Margaret Meads Papua New Guinea refuted dominant gendered understanding.

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⑥ They help to expand the sociological imagination of individual aspect
 @ CW Mills sees, how individual problems are result of wide social realities.

eg- Unemployment due to depression in economy.



⑧ However, non positivist methods lack reliability, are time & cost expensive, demand specialization and subjective.

non-positivist methods help in 360° understanding of social aspect which is vital to make any comprehensive policy to resolve social issues.

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

(10)

Social mobility is the hierarchical change in social position of an individual, either vertically or horizontally. Skill allows an individual to achieve social mobility.

Skilling and social mobility

① Skilling expands 'life chances' (Weber)

eg- A person with software skill can get job in IT industry.

② Skilling raises 'employability'

eg- TCS lays off of 13,000 employees due to lack of employability (52% graduates are unemployable in India - India Skill report)

③ Skill allows to do self entrepreneurship

eg- A person who knows fishing can also open fish shop.

④ Skill raises cultural capital (Pierre Bourdieu)

eg- skill based associations, entry into elite class

⑤ Skilling allows to change social behaviour.

R.T. Merton's Reference group study shows how people acquire skill to become part of other group.

Skilling does not ensure nobility

① Elite recruitment - Goldthorpe study shows long term mobility missing despite skill. David Glass also observes the same.

② Secular mobility doesn't mean ritual mobility

SC Dube found 'need of negotiation' for status to gain access in dual system class.

[Skill] allows a person to earn bargaining power, get formal jobs and acquire achievement oriented mobility.

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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)

Max Weber in his conceptual tool of 'ideal types' provided detailed characteristics of bureaucracy, which is relevant till today.

Weberian Bureaucracy

- ① Based on rational legal principle (which rational authority) with clearly defined goals and means.
- ② Hierarchically organized system of obedience and secrecy with position based work allocation.
- ③ Non possessiveness of official position and objective, unbiased role allocation.
- ④ long term carrier and satisfactory fulfillment

of egoistic needs (salary).

Relevant today

① Medonalization of modern world (Pitber)
shows how work structure is specified.

② Rise of Bureaucratic mindset across
fields like church & economy (managers).

③ complex issues like climate change and
digitization are segregated for effective manage-
ment.

Not relevant today

① Informal structure work more efficiently
(Munten & Blau)

② even Bureaucracy has some from of informality
(Goldthorp)

③ New management ethics like compassion
and subjectivity needed to serve vulnerables
The ideal type Bureaucracy (feminist)

of weber still exists largely, however new
values & needs has changed its structure.

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

(10)

contract labour are based on the formal agreement for a fixed term and fixed remuneration between employer and employees.

Challenges before contract labour

① Uncertainty over long term career prospects

(eg- they have sun set clause, can end in between the career.

② Subject to exploitation & discrimination

(eg- Justice Nema committee report on casting couch practices in Malayalam film industry.

③ strict code of conduct & performance evaluation

Michael Foucault's 'discipline & punish' shows,

how performance is evaluated to extend contract mars individual freedom and dignity.

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④ Lack of promotion & career advancement goes against Weber's Bureaucracy which argues for timely growth. This affects their motivation & leads to dissatisfaction.

⑤ Lack of grievance redressal due to delay in justice, absence of trade unionism. e.g. - Gig workers.

⑥ Proletarianization and Bourgeoisment mass layoffs shows, how power inequality exists between employer & contractual employees.

Schemes such as 'social security code' e.g. ESIC allows formalization of contractual labour. The challenges and their issues need deeper sociological research to resolve them.

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

Religious fundamentalism is a way by which self styled true believers claim to the monopoly of religious truth, which undermines pluralism.

Religious fundamentalism challenges other religions

① monopoly over truth

eg. Taliban claims to uphold shariya law, which according to them is only truth.

② extermination of other beliefs

eg. Buddhist fundamentalists of Myanmar permeed religious riots upon shingyal.

③ oppose secularism and plural values

eg. Islam fundamentalism uses violence, such as jihad against secularism and try to rule by islamic laws.

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④ promote hatred against other religion

eg- Hindu fundamentalists use communal ~~clashes~~ against Christmas in Christianity.

⑤ oppose modern belief systems

eg- Evangelical fundamentalists oppose abortion in USA (roe v. wade case)

⑥ selective interpretation of religious texts

which allows them to justify their acts against other religious groups such as india war.

⑦ demand separate states, secessionism such as Khalistan - 'by sikh for sikh'

Fundamentalist thought are exclusionary to other religion, they use force and intolerance, thus become threat to other religious beliefs.

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

Post patriarchy is a thought system in sociology which rejects patri-archal dominance and demands gender egalitarianism.

Post patriarchy and impact on emerging sex-roles

- ① They counter dominance of 'karta' (male head) and call for 'symmetric families' where domestic and bread winner role is equally shared.
 - ② Vocal against patriarchal ideological hegemony (male daly) and provide counter ideology. eg- phialogy in place of theology
 - ③ Gender pluralisty and queer theories
- Thinkers like Nivedita menon argues for state to overcome patriarchal laws and

institutions ~~for~~ and recognize rights of LGBTQIA+ community.

④ Redistribution along with recognition

Nancy Fraser views that mere recognition such as domestic violence act is not enough, but, redistribution such as resources & empowerment is also required.

⑤ Intersectionality (Kimberle Crenshaw)

and Gail Anvet see, gender equality

beyond class-caste and power, to solve

real issues of down trodden.

⑥ Ecofeminism & climate change (Maria

Mies) see role of females to resolve climate issues.

Post patriarchy is not just about patriarchal opposition but a way to realize equity, equality and dignity.

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

(10)

90% of India's working class belong to informal sector which present huge sociological implication; thus this understanding is important.

Difference between formal and informal

- ① Based upon the reach of social security net
 - Ⓐ formal work culture are registered with state and schemes like EPF, minimum wage, extend to them.
 - Ⓑ informal while remain out of states reach and subjected to exploitation like child labour.
- ② Based on recruitment and agents
 - Ⓐ formal sector employes skilled and professional agents based on achievement & merit.
 - Ⓑ informal recruitments are based on personal, ascriptive bonds, mostly unskilled

③ Based upon employer-employee relation

⑨ Informals have diffusive and feudal relation. eg- ~~bureaucracy~~ construction worker

⑥ formal sector has specific and contractual relation. eg- bureaucracy.

④ Based on migrant population & females
Keith Hart noted, informal sector employs migrants, with easy entry and exit compared to formal sector which has long term employment.

⑤ Based on goal and means

there exist clearly defined goals and means in formal compared to informal sector.

study by Peter Blau & Goldthorpe

shows, no work system is completely formal and completely informal, but best outcomes are possible when there is blend of both.

Q6. (a) Examine the impact of secularisation on family and marriage systems.

(20)

Secularization is a process by which social aspects which used to be governed by religious doctrines ceased to be governed by it. Family and marriage system are those social aspects.

Impact of secularization on family and marriage

① De-situalization :- process by which rituals become less significant.

eg- court or civil marriages.

② Declined traditional belief systems such as authority of karta, male as 'swami' (Brahminical patriarchy of Uma Chakravorty). There is rise of companionship in family bonds.

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③ modern secular values have eroded
superstitions beliefs such as sati system
clean shave of widows heads.

while widow remarriage is on rise.

④ marriage is not seen as permanent
sacred bond. Divorce, live in relation
are becoming new norms, which is not
religiously defined.

⑤ Caste based endogamy, which is religiously
sanctioned has been challenged with
inter caste & inter religious marriages.

Secularization still not imparted core
religious values of family and marriages

① patriarchal dominance in important
decisions like jobs, education still shows

that Karta plays significant role.

② Technological usage like shadi.com have caste based segregation, smooching endogamy & religion impact family.

③ collective conscience in marriage and kinship bonds.

Nivedita menon shows 'romance-obedience complex', such as ODLT type role of family in marriage despite love.

④ son preference (Tulshi Patel) and his role 'as ~~shaka~~ shraddh performer guides religious interference in family matters.

Secularism has impacted and not eroded religious belief from family and marriage. Being deeply traditional society, such transition also result into conflict like love jihad & honour killing which need urgent corrections.

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

modernization theory of development argues that all societies are basically converging into same modern rational function.

This theory showcases common modern values like scientific thoughts are guiding light for development. [August comtes]
law of three stages from theosophical → metaphysical → positivist society is based on same belief.

As societies grow, they become more specialized and differentiated. From simple to compounded (spencer), societies go through modern values of individualism

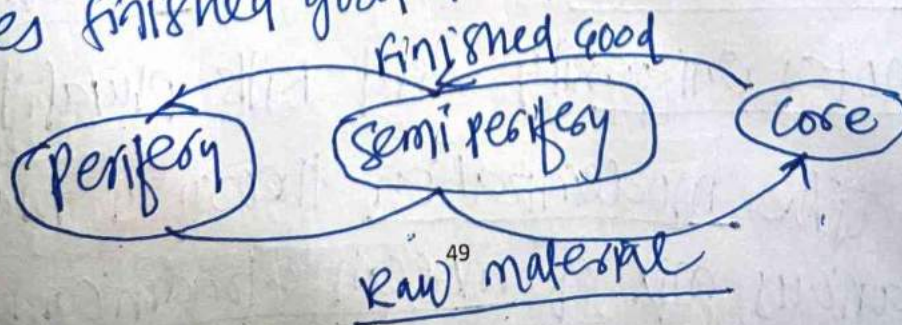
and secularism.

Yogendra Singh in his integrated theory of modernity shows how modernity changed development from holism, spiritualism & collectivism towards individualism, secularism & rationality. This imparted structures (like Bureaucracy) and culture both (live in relation).

Theorists of Under-developed

① World system theory of Theodor Wallestein

This modernization theory extracts raw material from 3rd world (periphery) and supplies finished good to them from core.



(world system theory)

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② Development of underdevelopment

Ag Frank highlighted, how modernization keeps 3rd world underdeveloped and creates dependency.

③ Arturo Escobar - criticizes modernity as a west centric, promoting western values as modern which have many flaws
(eg- consumerism)

④ Shiv Vishwanathan - modernity erodes local culture and folk tradition such as tribal values, which are way better than modern.

⑤ Ashish Nandi - views how modernization promotes uniformity and kills plurality.

The modernization theory in India has precarious mix of modern & tradition. Yogendra Singh views it as rationalization of modernity.

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

(10)

New social movement diverge from conventional movements on the basis of issues, methods and also participating agents.

Types of New social movements (NSM)
by Charles Tilly

World rejecting
they are radical
to world order

eg - for day for
future demands
radical change

World Accommodating
they stay
parallel to
the world order

eg - chipko
movement
with peaceful
protest.

World Affirming
they follow
the world
order with
modification

eg RTI
demand from
same
state.

Dynamics of NSM

① Based on issues - right based, humanity,
quality life style, environment and climate
justice
eg - Black rights matters.

② Based on recruitment - they recruit students, middle class, global community, LGBTQ+ eg- slut walk

③ Based on resources - wide application of social media, internet, pamphlets eg- MeToo movement

④ Appeal and extent - they have global appeal and reach eg- for day to future.

⑤ Outcome and impact - showcase bubblegum changes, without structural change. eg- MeToo momentarily not against patriarchy as whole.

The fluid structure, lack of political linkage and issue specific makes them less effective. Though they help in setting new discourse and social changes.

- Q7. (a) Globalization has accelerated the rise of consumerism, individualism and questioned religion and provided for pluralist societies driven by distinctive religions. Comment. (20)

Globalization is a process of rising interconnections and inter-dependency between nation states. This allows for new values of pluralism & western consumerism & individualism to dominate.

Consumerism and westernization

- ① Globalization leads to cheap transport of global products and attracts consumerism. Chinese products flooding Indian market is out of consumption.
- ② With job opportunities, rising disposable income also allows people to buy products. conspicuous consumption as 'status symbol' studied by Thorstein Bunde Veblen highlights this.
- ③ World system theory of Theodor W. Adorno observed that, third world countries

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remain consuming economy while supplier of saw material due to rising inequality in globalized world. Digital consumption is one such example.

Globalization and Individualism

① modern values like individuality as studied by Talcott parson in pattern variables reflects in globalization.

② Digitization led isolation and alienation are result of globalized world. Theodor Adorno studied how people remain disconnected as 1D man in digitally connected world.

③ Declining collective conscience and moral density due to specific division of

labour (Durkheim) has also promoted new norms like cult of individual, ~~new~~ nuclear families and individualists (Ulrich Beck)

Globalization questioning religion

- ① secular thoughts as global values like rationality have impacted religious authority (Bryan Wilson)
- ② Rise of sec and cult like Islam challenge monopoly of one religion (Stark & Bainbridge)

Globalization and pluralism

- ① Transfer of belief systems provide new options & choice to people (Rational choice theory)
- ② migration, emigration gives way to ethnic plurality, linguistic & religious plurality.

Globalization is not unidirectional, in contemporary times there is reassertion of collectivism, spirituality and religious revivalism, countering conventional globalization theories.

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

Stratification is a way by which differences be it class, caste, or power are divided into different stratas. Marxist & functionalist study provides comprehensive picture of stratification.

Difference between functional & marxist view on stratification

① perspective of studying

② marxist see stratification from conflict and dysfunctional term. eg it promotes exploitation.

③ functionalist saw stratification in its use terms, how it benefits society. eg

Parsons saw it providing solidarity.

② Basis of stratification

① marxist have economic determinist basis where materialistic ownership between haves and have not's creates strata.

② functionalist saw 'consensus' in which stratification is based on the approval of society.

③ Dimensions of stratification

① marxist see 'class' as economic dimension such as market relation of people which is imposed by elite class.

② functionalist saw, stratification in terms of 'roles', where most important position belongs to people who sacrifice more (Davis & Moore)

④ Use of talent & resources

① marxist saw waste of talent due to stratification, in which elite recruitment

unequal opportunities creates loss of talent. (m Tumin)

⑥ functionalist on the other side see best use of talent, efficiency and productivity due to stratification.

⑤ outcome or prediction on stratification

① marxist saw rise of alienation, disenchancement ② while functionalists saw it as role satisfaction, merit & rewards

⑥ solution to stratification

① Revolution which result in communism is the solution for marxists ② while dynamic equilibrium to overcome strain with new norms & values solves it for functionalists.

Both functional and marxist view fulfill in systemic manner, the sociological understanding of social stratification.

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

(10)

Technology has impacted our relation with each other and also our interactions with social institutions. R.T. Merton's latent & manifest functions helps us to understand its effect on society.

① manifest functions - which are intended and which are directly visible. In technology

① efficiency and productivity in work culture. eg- mechanised production.

② speedy delivery of communication and also ease of mobility of people. eg- whatsapp

③ wider reach due to universal usage and application eg social media

④ wide data collection, improved sampling and data analytics for policy making

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② Latent functions - functions which were unintended and not desired, in technology they are

i) promoting kinship solidarity despite migration eg- whatsapp videocalling.

ii) Saved time allow women to invest it into education and health. eg- washing machine.

iii) ease and communication transportation helped dissolving caste's pollution & purity norms. promoting equality.

iv) wider reach, data driven policies promote integrity, nationalism and dilute regionalism.

Thus technology has deeper impact in our social settings. There understanding is vital to overcome its dysfunctions also.