

SOCIOLOGY (TEST CODE : 1212)

Name of Candidate	- Neha Bhoole 135596		
Medium Hindi/Eng.	English	Registration Number	135596
Center	-	Date	-

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1 (a)	10	
(b)	10	
(c)	10	
(d)	10	
(e)	10	
2 (a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	
3 (a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	
4 (a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	
5 (a)	10	
(b)	10	
(c)	10	
(d)	10	
(e)	10	
6 (a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	
7 (a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	
8 (a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

Signature of Examiner

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
2. The Candidate should **attempt FIVE Questions out of EIGHT** questions strictly in accordance with the instructions given under each question printed in ENGLISH.
3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
4. 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 medium other than the authorized one.
5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
6. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

16-B, 2nd Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

M-1/4, Plot No-A-12/13, 1st Floor, Ansal Building, Dr. Vidya Sagar Homeopathic Clinic, Mukherjee Nagar, Delhi-110009

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
 2. Content Competence
 3. Language Competence
 4. Introduction Competence
 5. Structure - Presentation Competence
 6. Conclusion Competence
-

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

1. Write a short note on each of the following in not more than 150 words.
10 x 5 = 50m

(a) "Economic life is embedded in social life". Critically analyze.

Economics is the study of production and distribution of goods and services. These activities form an important part of social life.

Pierre Bourdieu stated that a true economic science should look at all costs of the economy. Not only economic parameters, but also parameters like crime, suicide rates, etc.

Durkheim established division of labour as a social fact, an explanation contrary to that of Adam Smith and his invisible hand of the market.

Marx is an economic determinist and states that it is the substructure of economy that defines and shapes the

superstructure of society.

[Goldthorpe] and his study of affluent workers in Sutton showed the effect of class background on consumption and saving habits, while [Veblen] demonstrated 'conspicuous consumption'.

[Weber] 'Wirtschaft and Gesellschaft' is another demonstration of how economic and social life are intertwined.

Welfare economists like [Amartya Sen] have brought both economics and sociology closer.

Economics without sociology is a mechanistic pursuit, and with societal insights, it becomes a humanistic endeavour.

Critical social research is an approach that is critical of the society in order to facilitate social change.

It denies the objective status of knowledge and value neutrality.

The research is aimed at revealing and changing oppressive structures. Class, gender, race, ethnicity are its main focus areas.

However, Martin Hambrley finds the following issues:

- (1) There are problems in identifying the source of oppression: Many people may be simultaneously oppressed and oppressor. Example: A religious minority may be ~~so~~ oppressed due to its beliefs, but the religion

itself may be patriarchal and oppresses women.

(2) What constitutes oppression is a subjective judgement

(3) Interests of different oppressed groups might clash. Example: Kurds and Shias are both oppressed in Iraq, but are also rivals.

(4) Oppressed groups may not be able to evaluate the truth due to false consciousness

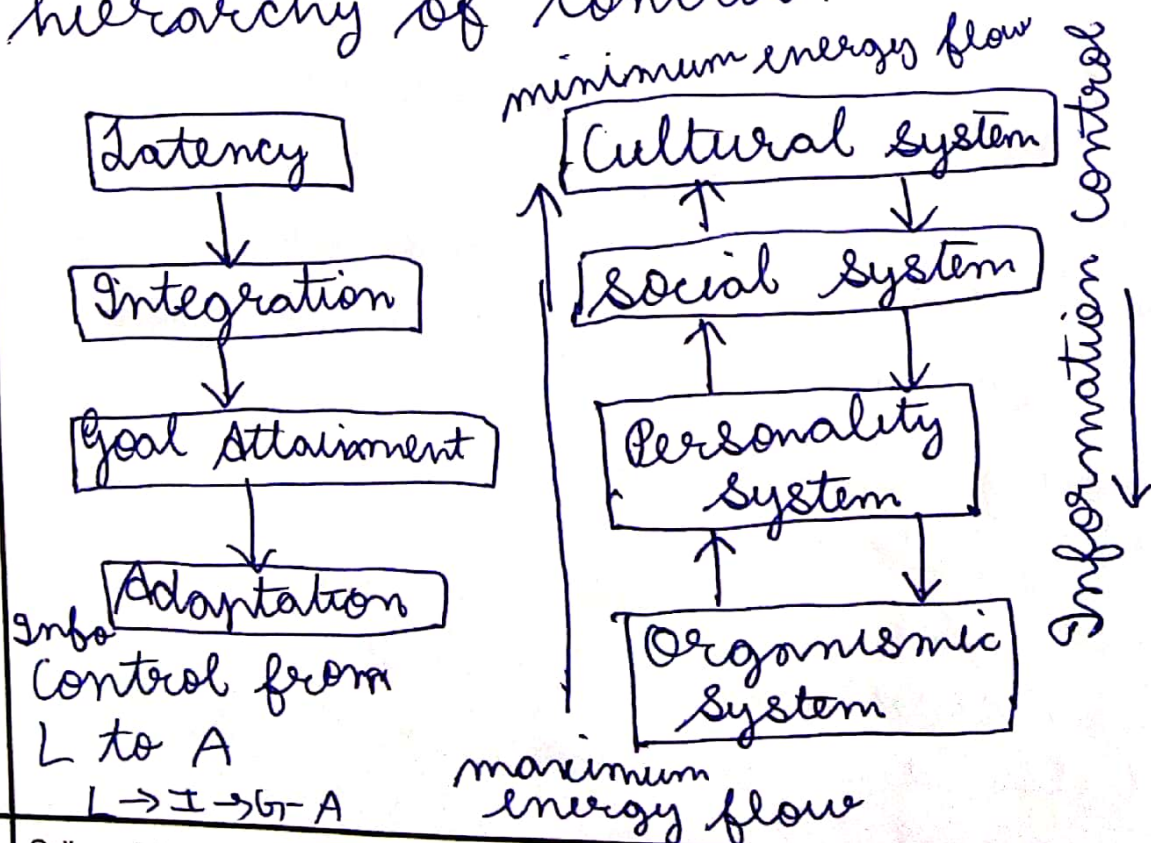
(5) Identification and recognition may not automatically lead to social change.

However, Phil Carspecken is optimistic and believes that researchers should be open to finding evidences which may contradict current theories and challenge present values to bring about social change.

1. (c) Cybernetic hierarchy of control

Talcott Parsons in his structural functional view of the society synthesized the Action theory (micro) and the Systems theory (macro).

He also sees inter-relation and inter-linkages in the systems. Social System is linked with other systems through Energy flow and Information Control which is termed as Cybernetic hierarchy of control.



The theory states that as a system's information increases, so does the system's energy. A system high in information can control a system high in energy.

The AGIL system is considered a cybernetic hierarchy from an informational point of view in the order $L \rightarrow I \rightarrow G \rightarrow A$.

This means that 'Latency' can control or define the 'integration' function.

Also, the 'cultural system' can define the 'social system' but not 'determine it'.

Parsons is criticized for being status quoist by suggesting that culture which has the highest information has cybernetic control over both action and social systems.

A pilot study is a small-scale preliminary study conducted before the main research in order to check the feasibility or to improve the design of a research.

They help save time and money being wasted on any inadequate or inappropriately designed projects.

Pilot studies have the following importance:

- (1) It can help develop the research skills, especially of amateur interviewers
- (2) It can help researchers develop ways of building rapport and ensuring full cooperation of the subjects. This can help in getting open and honest answers in main research.

(3) Questions can be tested to make sure they are unambiguous and produce the required information.

This can help improve reliability and response rate

(4) It can determine if a research goes ahead or not. Funding organizations may demand results of pilot study before approving the whole research.

A pilot study is carried out on members of the relevant population, but not on those who will be part of the final sample, so as not to influence behaviour.

Thus, pilot studies act as a dip-stick before embarking on the whole project

Robert Merton defines 'reference group' as an aspirational group whose perspective is assumed by the actor.

It is defined in normative terms as a standard of comparison.

Anticipatory socialization is a concept in which the individual starts to behave in manner in which members of the aspirational reference group behave.

This leads to :

(1) Change in value system of individual and it may facilitate easy integration in the aspirational group.

(2) However, in case of a closed system, the actor will not get an entry into the

reference group.

(3) This will reduce him to the status of 'marginal man' and he will not be desired even by his membership group.

Self-fulfilling prophecy is a concept closely linked to anticipatory socialization.

Also, when a non-membership aspirational group is the reference group, it may also escalate feeling of relative deprivation.

[M N Srinivas] concept of Sanskritization and Westernization is also similar to anticipatory socialization.

Thus, it can be a tool for social mobility in an open system, but may also create a marginal man.

3. (a) "For Marx, the history of mankind is not only a history of class struggle but also of the increasing alienation of man". Discuss. 20

Karl Marx sees history of mankind as a history of class struggle and alienation.

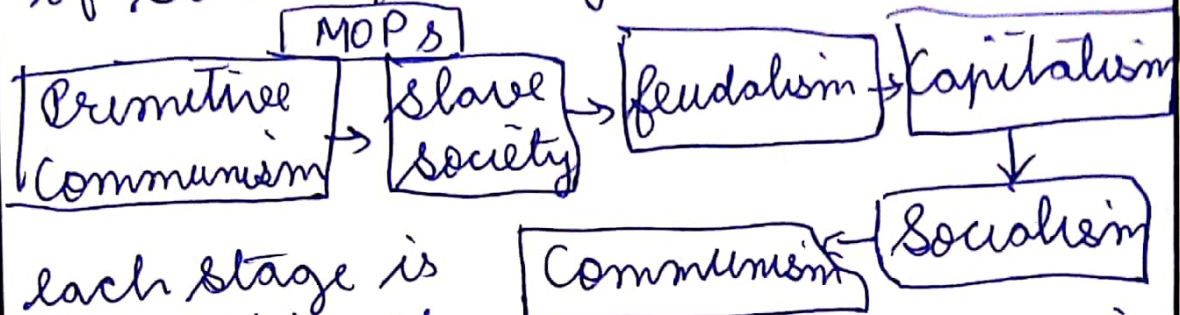
He proposes historical materialism based on the laws of dialectics:

(1) The law of unity and conflict of opposites → The universe is one whole. The economic substructure determines the various superstructures like politics, religion, family.

However contradictions are present in the system which themselves lead to conflict. He sees relation with the forces of production as the basis for conflict.

(2) Negation of Negation → every new stage of history is a negation of the previous stage (mode of production)

Thus, slave society was a negation of primitive communism but feudalism is a negation of slave society and so on.



Each stage is a negation of past stage. But with communism class struggle will end and history will end.

(3) Transformation of Quantity into Quality → quantitative changes keep on happening due to conflict of opposites. These changes will lead to a leap qualitative, which will be a revolutionary change.

However, these stages of class struggle also lead to increasing alienation of man.

⇒ There are 4 dimensions of alienation in the current

mode of production capitalism

- (1) Alienation from process of production → machines are leading to loss of control over production
- (2) Alienation from the product → it does not belong to the worker. He cannot decide its quantity, quality or nature. He has to purchase it from market
- (3) Alienation from coworkers → due to long work hours and compartmentalised work.
- (4) Alienation from oneself → loses control over thoughts and work just becomes a compulsion.

However, Socialism in USSR did not reduce alienation nor did it lead to true communism. At the same time, innovation and creativity blooms in the pool of alienation.

3. (b) Draw a comparison between Durkheim's functional model and Marx conflict model in their treatment of the concept of 'division of labour'. 20

Division of labour is the splitting of activities in a number of parts or smaller processes, undertaken by different persons or groups.

Durkheim and Marx presented two different models of 'Division of Labour' both contradictory to the classical economics explanation.

<u>Durkheim</u>	<u>Marx</u>
(1) Functional (2) DOL in industrial society is a result of increased <u>material & moral density</u>. It makes <u>harmonious coexistence possible through specialization</u>.	(1) Conflict theory (2) DOL is not a means of cooperation or coexistence. Rather the workers are <u>forced</u> for DOL as it helps in <u>maximising the profits for capitalists</u>.

(3) DOL leads to integration and cooperation. It is a survival mechanism and brings harmony

(3) DOL is an unequal relation between haves and have nots and potential source for conflict

Durkheim sees DOL inevitable in the industrial era as the mechanical solidarity has been replaced by organic solidarity born out of interdependence.

Marx sees alienation rising at 4 levels - process, product, coworkers and oneself - due to such DOL.

Durkheim also states about deviance which occurs due to abnormal DOL such as:

- (1) Anomic DOL
- (2) Poorly coordinated DOL
- (3) Forced DOL.

Solution :

Durkheim sees occupational associations play an important role in preventing abnormal DOL. Deviance can thus be resolved within the existing framework of society.

However, Marx sees DOL as leading to decomposition of labour and thus :

- (1) no difference between labourers → easy to replace one with other
- (2) pauperization of the proletariat
- (3) Sinking of petty bourgeoisie into the proletariat.

Thus, it is a tool towards class polarization and prevents true class consciousness from developing. Communism is the only solution to this.

Thus, Durkheim and Marx present two contradictory views of DOL.

Positivism is an approach of studying sociology which has aimed to apply principles similar to those in natural sciences.

The method consists of :

- (1) Empiricism and observation
- (2) Inductivism (3) Cause & Effect
- (4) Reductional analysis

However, several criticism of positivism are made and they have enriched sociology:

- (1) Weber gave the social action perspective to show that human beings do not just react to a stimulus. Verstehen and Ideal Types were proposed as a supplement to positivism.
- (2) Merton rejected the universal theories of positivism and instead gave middle range theories.

(3) Peter Berger and Alfred Schutz worked on phenomenology to show how reality is not fixed, but is made, dismantled and re-made. 'Typification' helps make sense of the world and meanings attached should be seen

(4) Mead saw actions and interactions as the driving force behind social actions

(5) Harold Garfinkel proposed Ethnomethodology to study the reality from people's perspective using 'Documentary Method'

(6) Karl Popper developed falsification as a true test.

(7) Post modernists like Derrida and Foucault developed multiple ways to study reality, rejecting metanarratives

Thus, critique of positivism gave many new theories and methodologies, enriching sociology

4. (a) Sociology under Weber, through his Interpretative approach asserted its 'uniqueness' and 'distinctiveness' from the physical sciences. Examine 20

Weber saw sociology as a science which attempts an interpretivist understanding of social action, in order to arrive at the explanation of its cause and effect.

He is credited to having bridged the gap between Positivism and Idealism by:

- (1) Favouring use of Scientific Method for achieving objectivity
- (2) Developing scope of sociology as the meaning attached by the actors to their actions.

Thus, he opposed pure application of methods of natural sciences and did not subscribe to Durkheim view of social facts which are external as being responsible for human action.

[Social Action] was defined as any action which is social due to the meanings attached to it by the actors, and it takes into account the response of others and is oriented on its basis.

He proposed following ways to understand meaning:

- (1) Verstehen
- (2) Causal Pluralism
- (3) Ideal Types of social action
 - a) Traditional social action
 - b) Affective social action
 - c) Zweckrational d) Wertrational

Understanding meaning can help establish cause and effect relationship.

This was distinct from physical sciences where cause and effect both were caused by external forces

In Ideal Types, he states that such pure types never actually occur in nature, thus deviating from physical science which saw various systems as self-contained and perfect.

Critique:

- (1) He placed great importance on individual meanings but ignored the influence of social structure in understanding reality
- (2) Verstehen and Ideal Type are subjective to the researcher
- (3) Collective action is ignored
- (4) Latent Functions are ignored

Weber's interpretive sociology thus added new dimensions to the budding discipline and helped differentiate it from physical sciences -

4. (b) Critically examine to what extent the concept of 'latent and manifest functions' evolved by Robert K. Merton, has given greater 'significance and relevance' to the 'functional analysis' in understanding social reality.

20

Robert K Merton proposed the modern functional paradigm in the backdrop of the limitation in application of classical functional paradigm to modern industrial societies.

He also accounted for conflict and change.

Latent and Manifest Functions

- (1) Latent functions are the unrecognized, unintended functions of a social process. Example: Hopi Rain Dance helps in increasing social solidarity.
- (2) Manifest functions are the recognized and intended functions of a social process. Example: Rainfall due to Hopi Rain Dance.

These concepts helped improve over the functional analysis by:

- (1) Making it necessary to deeper observation to understand the function behind any action
- (2) Showed the dysfunctions in a society and demanded that
 $\Rightarrow$ If an item is dysfunctional for a society, find its functional alternative (Structural strain solved)
- (3) The presence of dysfunction defined conflict and its replacement with a functional alternative defined social change and thus resolution of conflict.

Thus, they resolved the most prominent criticism of the functional analysis as being status quoist.

The manifest and latent functions also help in:

- (1) Understanding why certain seemingly 'irrational' practices still continue
- (2) Eliminates moral judgements of the researcher.

Merton also rejected grand theories and proposed Middle Range Theories which can be tested for generalisations

It also removed elements of teleology from functionalism

Thus, by including the psychological and cultural aspects through latent functions, Merton made the functional analysis more relevant in the understanding of social reality, as well as social strain, conflict and social change.

Karl Marx work is called Historical Materialism. It is historical because it traced the evolution of human societies from one stage to another.

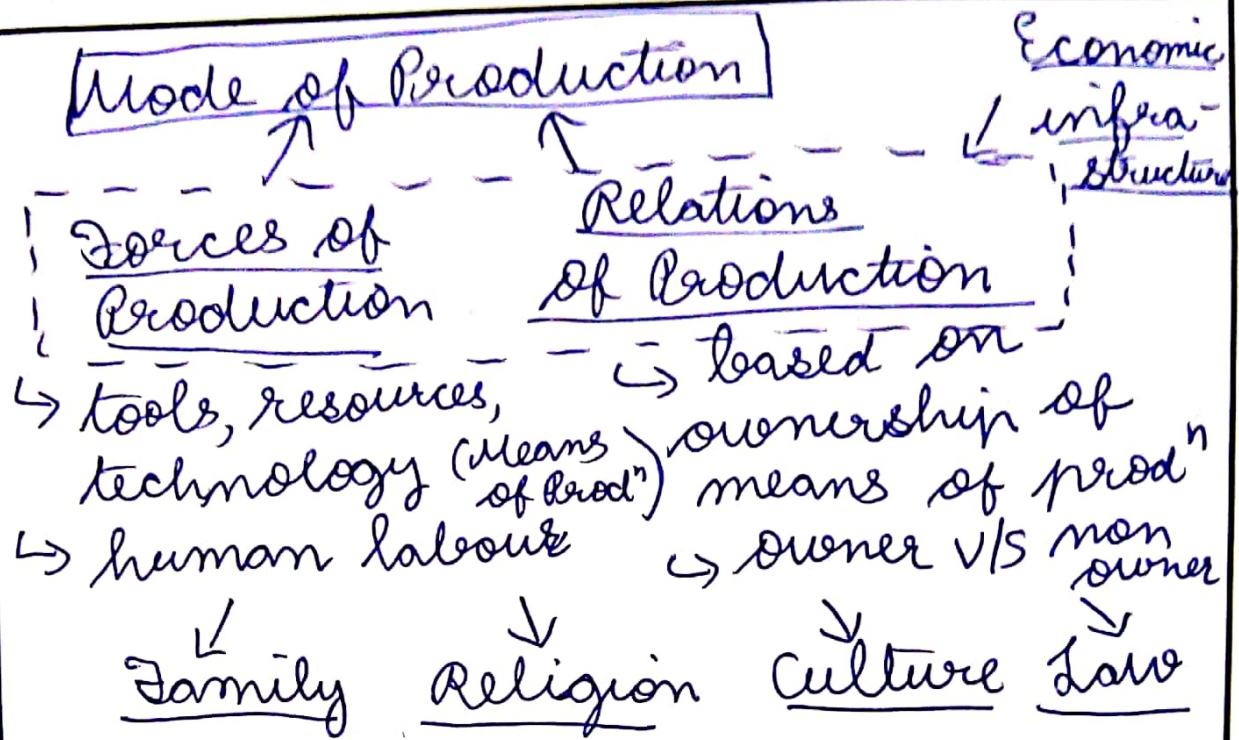
It is materialism because he interpreted the evolution of societies in terms of their economic base.

The theory has 2 aspects:

(1) Marx created two concepts - economic infrastructure and social superstructure to explain the modes of production, and hence the stages of evolution of society.

(2) He saw evolution as a dialectic process where 2 opposing forces interact with each other and new structures are produced.

The dialectic process will continue till communism is achieved.



As he views economy as the basis of all social functions and institutions, Marx's theory is sometimes called Economic Determinism.

However, this is not entirely correct because:

- (1) Marx recognized the influence of Family, culture, Religion, but he called them 'Ideological State Apparatus' which helped maintain the capitalistic order.
- (2) They led to false class consciousness.

Thus, Marx's theory sees economy as an important base but not as the only factor.

(a) Dimensions of 'Social exclusion'

UNDP defines social exclusion as the non-recognition of basic civil and social rights.

Mary Daly considers it a wider concept than poverty as it talks not only about resource availability but also participation in various social processes.

It is characterized by six key attributes:

- (1) Multidimensionality
- (2) Dynamism (3) Relativity
- (4) Ruptured social relations
- (5) Communal resource constraint
- (6) Limitations on agency.

While poverty only addresses physical needs and distributional issues, exclusion focuses on relational issues of relative material needs and societal participation.

Its dimensions include:

(1) Weber and Andre Beteille saw it as a way of social closure where one group seeks to secure for itself a privileged position by excluding some other groups.

(2) Marr saw alienation as a process of exclusion at 4 levels - process, product, peers, self

(3) Merton speaks of self-exclusion to become a part of an aspirational reference group.

(4) Ghurze gave the concept of self-exclusion by Sadhus, Elites.

(5) Individual traits may also lead to individual exclusion

Example: drug addicts, criminals
Social exclusion is undesirable in a democracy and Merton views deviance, retreation, rebellion, crime as its effects.

Education is nothing but the acquisition of knowledge that has been accumulated by the society.

In this sense, education serves as a tool of cultural reproduction instead of social change.

Durkheim saw education as crucial in terms of preserving a certain degree of homogeneity and ingrain^ging the essential elements of collective life.

Parsons viewed educational institutions as a mini-society where the pupils learn universalistic values necessary for social integration.

Althusser terms education as an 'Ideological State Apparatus' which makes a person a slave of mass culture and dominant

ideology.

[Pierre Bourdieu] sees education as replicating middle class values. Thus, it does not transmit the culture of society as a whole, but only of dominant class. It acts as a cultural capital which can be translated into wealth and power.

However, education can also be an instrument of social change. This is seen by:

- (1) social mobility enabled by educational accomplishments
- (2) [Lyonsci] sees education of working class as tool of social change.
- (3) Spread of liberal ideas → example: gender-stereotyped lessons are removed by NCERT.

Education thus has a potential to be much more than a mean of cultural reproduction.

5. (c) "Patriarchal values reinforce 'gendered roles' in society". Discuss

Patriarchal values are those which give greater importance to men than women.

Gendered relations means specific mechanisms whereby the culture determines the functions and responsibilities of each sex.

Patriarchal values are reinforcing 'gendered roles' in society as seen by:

(1) Margaret Mead in her study of three primitive societies showed how women of a particular tribe did heavy lifting, hunting and such 'masculine' work, and men adorned themselves, stayed at home, gossiped and were less aggressive, typical 'feminine' traits.

This showed how not sex, but socialization led to gendered roles.

(2) Michelle Rosaldo in study of Mbuti Pygmies showed how in an egalitarian tribal society, both men and women shared domestic responsibilities.

However, Shulamith Firestone holds biology responsible for disadvantaged position of women as menstruation, child birth, breastfeeding increase their dependence on men.

Sylvia Walby identified six patriarchal structures which help maintain dominance over women:

- (1) Paid work
- (2) Culture, religion
- (3) Relations within household
- (4) Sexual control
- (5) Violence
- (6) State.

Thus, gendered roles are a result of patriarchal social structures and not determined by biology.

New religious movements are a broad range of socio-religious ideas that co-exist alongside mainstream religions.

Their main features are:

(1) They encompass an enormous diversity of groups.

(2) Membership is from well educated and middle class backgrounds.

(3) Bryan Wilson sees them as an outcome of rapid social change.

(4) They are also seen as movements which provide solace to those who feel alienated from the society.

Ray Wallis has defined three types of new religious movements:

(1) World Affirming → they focus

on spirituality. They do not reject the worldly values, but work on the ability to unlock the potential of those values.

They act as self help groups or therapy. Example: Mahesh Yogi and transcendental meditation.

(2) World Rejecting → They are critical of the outer world and prescribe lifestyle changes to achieve inner peace.

Example: ISKCON

(3) World Accomodating → They emphasize more on inner religious life over ~~other~~ outer worldly concerns, but do not reject them. The focus is on reclaiming spiritual purity.

Example: Neo-Pentecostalism

These movements are valued for the personal experience they offer and reinforce secularization.

[Wallace and Wallace] define social mobility as the movement of a person or persons from one social position to another.

Social implications of mobility:

- (1) Mobility is an indicator of a meritocratic society and stability of class architecture.
- (2) [Lyddens] says that if the rate of social mobility is low, class solidarity and cohesion will be high.
- (3) [Merton] talks about socially accepted goals and culturally defined means to achieve them. In absence of mobility even after following the means, retreatism, rebellion or innovation may be seen.
- (4) [Frank Parkin] sees social mobility as a 'political safety valve'.

- (5) Ralf Dahrendorf sees mobility as leading to decrease in the possibility of class conflict.
- (6) Kinship ties weaken.
- (7) In case of failure to attain upward mobility, deviance may increase.
- (8) Anomie of infinite aspiration is created which may lead to usage of illegitimate means to climb up the ladder.
- (9) Reduces proportion of class inequality. Example: from caste stratified Ancient India, today a more nebulous relation between caste and class is seen.

Mobility thus serves to create an egalitarian society but 'elite self recruitment', inequality of opportunity hinders true mobility.

Marriage is a socially acceptable and approved sexual union between two adult individuals.

It may be inferred that marriage is no longer a popular institution as:

- (1) Increase in the average age at the time of first marriage, for both men and women
 - (2) Increase in divorce rates.
 - (3) Social acceptance of institution of 'cohabitation'
 - (4) Openly homosexual relations.
 - (5) Legal recognition to adoption by a single parent.
 - (6) Medical advances which have led to IVF, surrogacy technologies which are allowing singles to have non biological children
- Example: Karan Johar, Tusshar

- (7) Inclusion of friends in the kinship network and household
(8) Adultery

However, this is only a partial picture and marriage as an institution has evolved but not disappeared as seen by:

- (1) Serial monogamy replacing pure monogamy.
- (2) Proliferation of dating Apps like Tinder and matrimonial Apps like Bharat Matrimony.
- (3) Legal pronouncements which apply domestic violence Act, Maintenance Act and Inheritance Act even in case of 'cohabitation' thus giving it a status similar to marriage.
- (4) Legal recognition and increasing social acceptance of homosexual marriages in the West.

- (5) 'Open marriage' as a concept is finding some takers and acceptance.
- (6) Marriage among elderly for companionship is seen.
- (7) 'Shared Parenting' continues even after divorce.

Thus, some functions of marriage have reduced like:

- a) sexual regulation
- b) reproduction
- c) economic → women empowerment
- d) status definition, social placement.

However, certain functions like affectional and companionship have grown in importance and hence overall, marriage as an institution still survives.

8. (b) Critically examine "functional theories of religion".

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Religion is a cultural system of commonly shared beliefs and rituals that provide a sense of ultimate meaning, by creating an idea that is sacred, all-encompassing and supernatural.

Functional theories of religion examine religion in terms of society's needs. Society needs a certain degree of social solidarity, value consensus, harmony and integration between its parts and religion makes contributions to meet the same.

The theories are:

(1) Emile Durkheim sees religion as a division between sacred and profane.

While studying a primitive religion of Totemism, Durkheim saw the 'sacred' or the 'Totem'.

being an outward and visible representation of the clan.

Thus, while worshipping the Totem, they were actually worshipping the society.

Religion acted as a medium of reinforcing the collective conscience.

(2) Malinowski in Trobricand Islands saw religion as a means of dealing with emotional stress and uncertainty that threaten social solidarity.

Life crises like birth, puberty, death produce anxiety and tension which may disrupt social life. Hence, a funeral or other ceremonies are used to express social solidarity and reintegrate society.

Rituals during fishing in the open sea also act as a way to reduce lack of control.

(3) [Parsons] sees religion as providing the cultural values that help attain value consensus

(4) [Kingsley Davis] says religion provides a common focus for identity

Critique :

(1) Ignore dysfunctional aspects like religious fundamentalism

(2) Maintain status quo

(3) Promote Fatalism, pessimism

(4) Generalization from studies of small tribal societies

(5) Overstress social order and continuity, instead of social transformation.

(6) Give no importance to individual emotional needs

(7) Functional alternatives to religion exist → example: communism

Thus, functional theory of religion does not account for certain differences

8. (c) Critically evaluate the 'Impact of automation' on the workers in the industrial and post-industrial societies. 10

Automation is the increasing use of machines to automatically perform tasks that were hitherto performed by humans.

The impact of automation on workers is : (Industrial society)

(1) Deskilling of labour force

Harry Braverman sees automation leading to worker only learning part of production and thus becoming more dependent on capitalists

(2) Robert Blauner found that increasing use of technology leads to higher degree of alienation.

(3) Ritzer spoke about McDonaldization where work becomes low skilled and efficiency, uniformity and control are template rules.

In Post-Industrial Society :

- (1) Rise of Gig economy
- (2) Portfolio worker is the new normal.
- (3) Automation will be used to drive mass customization instead of mass production → thus higher skills needed.
- (4) Feminization of labour
- (5) Displacement of blue collar jobs → pauperization of the proletariat
- (6) CW Mills talks of 'Personality Market' which leads to alienation among white collar workers.

Thus, industrial and post-industrial societies with automation will impact classes of labour differently