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SOCIOLOGY (TEST CODE : 2295)

Name of Candidate	Saurabh Sharma		
Medium Eng/Hindi	English	Registration Number	1040829
Center	ORN	Date 17/06/2023	

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:

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 & HINDI
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 that 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.

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.

All the Best

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

(a) Discuss the significance of symbols in symbolic interactionism approach of G.H. Mead.

G.H. Mead through the work on "Mind-Self and Society" has bridged the gap between sociology and psychology by emphasising on "Interactions" which refers to coming together of two reflexive minds to produce a social context with help of symbols.

"Mind" which is storehouse of knowledge, experiences, rules, norms incorporates meanings attached to certain symbols in a particular culture reaching and reflecting to which he/she conducts an ~~re~~ action.

(Eg.) Smiling, Crying, Laughing, Shouting are attached to certain emotions and guide the action of the other individual.

Symbols are learnt through the process of socialisation i.e. in game stage and play stage. (Eg): Girl playing with a kitchen set develops a notion that symbols attached to domestic work are associated with her and thus gets socialized in a feminine way as society wants.

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Man is a reflexive animals unlike other animals according to Mead, as a result of which a self is cultivated based on the symbols present in society, culture, religion and law complying to which man acts in a socially desirable way.

Without symbols, it becomes difficult to understand expectations of others thus one can't adapt / steer / change one's behaviour.

Importance of symbols has thus lead to development of symbolic interactionism and other methods like ethnomethodology, phenomenology in sociological enquiry thus expanding the scope of the discipline.

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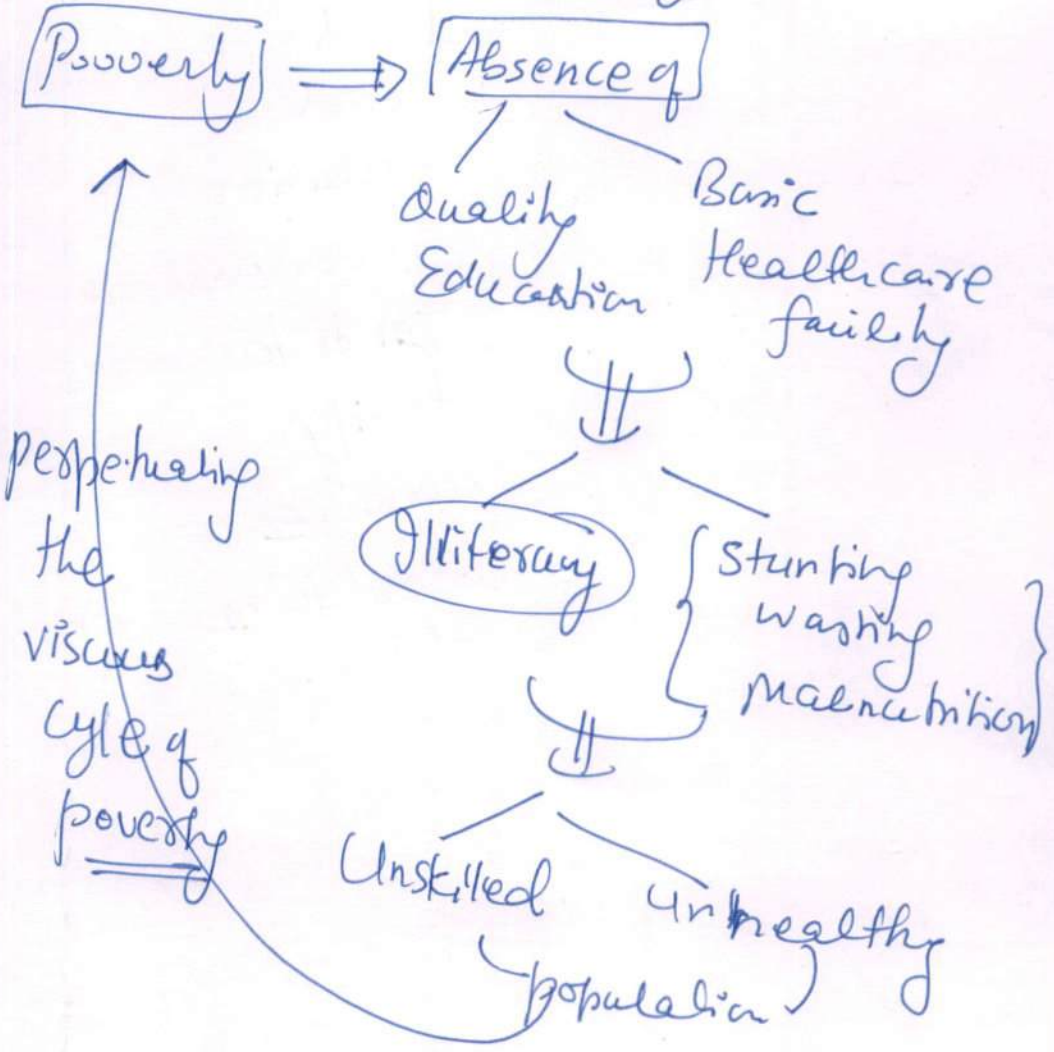
1. **(b)** Discuss the relationship between poverty and social exclusion.

Poverty refers to the absence of basic needs for living a decent life such as absence of clothing, shelter, food. Poverty as a concept has been involving with advent of ideas of multidimensional poverty.



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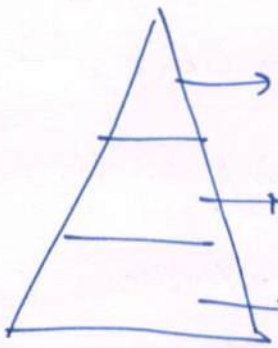

→ upper class : voluntarishic closure

→ middle class : ~~usurption~~ dual closu.

→ lower class : usurption

⇓

Due to social exclusion lower class tends to forcify acquire wealth of others...

FRANK PARKIN

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1. **(c)** Formal bureaucratic structure offers a dichotomy of benefits and challenges for a diverse country like India. Discuss.

Weberian "Ideal Type" of Bureau-cracy emphasized on formal - Impersonal relationship based on hierarchy, rule of law, objectivity, neutrality and represented legal-rational authority.

According to weber, with advent and progress of modernity, society will move towards "Bureaucratisation" however the utility of formal bureaucratic structure as propounded by weber has been a subject of debate especially in developing nations like India. Benifits associated with this model:-

- Impartiality : given the diverse population size and scale Indian bureaucrats have to serve, neutrality becomes essential.
- Non-Partisanship : ensured through Security of Tenure ensures that bureaucrats don't favour/align with a single/some party and its affiliates unlike "Spoil system" present in U.S.
- Rule of law is upheld according to the values enshrined in Indian constitution in even times of adversity.

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[Challenges] :-

- Overemphasis on rules :- absence of humane aspect eg) girl in Jharkhand dying of starvation since ~~her~~ her Aadhar wasn't linked with Ration card.

- Era of LPG, ICT : requires domain expertise and weberian generalists bureaucrats mayn't be the best fit.

- Elitism and Bureaucratic Apathy: disconnects the officers from the masses at the times when development at grass root must be promoted.

- Rent Seeking Behaviour : as described by "Latif Chaudhary".

- Delay in decision making due to chain of commands (Iron Cage of Rationality)

Weber himself was apprehensive of bureaucracy transforming itself into "Specialists without Spirit" "Cog in machine".

However Indian bureaucracy has also stood test of time and contributed to welfare

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1. **(d)** To what extent, in your opinion, are religion and science compatible?

Einstein described that "religion without science is blind and science without religion is lame."

The compatibility of religion and science has been contested since the advent of science during Renaissance period which saw numerous scientific discovery (13th - 18th CE)

Positivists like August Comte claimed that society would progress :-

Theological → Metaphysical → Scientific

Thus religious explaination to social reality would be replaced by philosphical explaination and eventually by rational and scientific enquiry. Herbert Spencer who is often termed as Social Darwinist backed this School of thought.

Early scientist like Galileo, Newton faced severe reprimand and often persecutions for challenging religious explaination of phenomenons like Sun being at the centre, Earth being a sphere etc. Thus science since its advent was at direct conflict with religion.

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However, even with advancement of science today, religion still occupies a central role in society testifying Durkheimian stand that religion being a social fact will remain universal and not just confined to primitive society.

As we see idols present even in superspecialist hospitals in India, we see religion and science coming close.

With the help of technology like mass media, religious preachings by charismatic leaders are propagated even faster today.

Fundamentalist who advocate for religious revivalism in absolute / orthodox manner are often using modern weaponry which is a product of science. Eg) Taliban forces carrying AK-47.

Religion and science can thus mutually reinforce each other, in placating man's intellectual desire and standing in times of his adversity.

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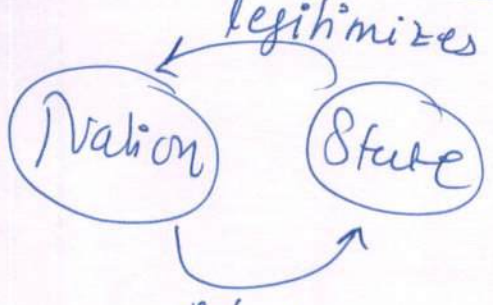
1. **(e)** Discuss the significance of ideology for a nation.

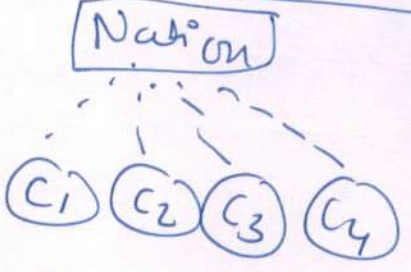
Nation according to weber refers to community of belief arising from a common ideology, culture, history sharing a common consciousness.

Thus ideology plays a pivotal role in binding the consciousness of citizens to form a nation.

Breakdown of USSR is a testimony that weakening of central ideology (i.e. socialism in this case) leads to breakdown of nation.



ideologically binds the citizens together.



Idea of oneness between different citizens results in formation of nation.

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Anderson argues that nationalism as a concept means a feeling of oneness despite not knowing each other.

In case of India, freedom ~~Stop~~ struggle wouldn't have been possible unless the Gandhian ideology (or) secular ideology (or) revolutionary ideology that India formed a single nation wouldn't have come together

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2 **(a)** Discuss the points of convergence and divergence between views of Classical Pluralism and Talcott Parsons on Power. **20**

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2. **(b)** Durkheim's emphasis on causal functional analysis is reflected in many of his works. Comment. **20**

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2. **(c)** Discuss the feminist perspective on religion. Also, highlight its relevance in contemporary times. **10**

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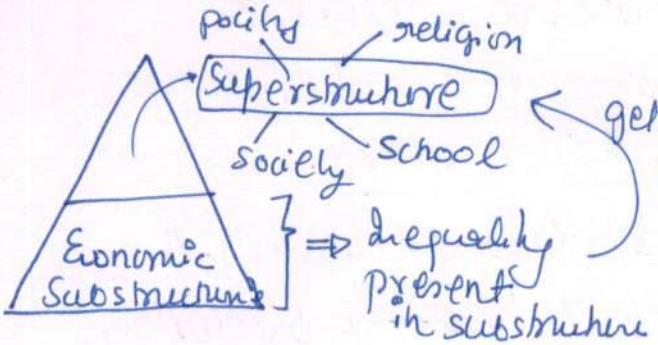
3 **(a)** Compare and contrast the contributions of Karl Marx and Max Weber on social stratification in capitalist society. **20**

Social stratification is a branch of sociology which aims to study relative positions of people in a mobile social order. It also studies/examines hierarchies, exclusion, inequality present in different societies.

According to Karl Marx's "Historical Materialism" nature gifted man with equality at the birth of society i.e. in the form of Primitive Communism where inequality was absent since ownership of whatsoever mode of production (primitive technology) was communal.

Inequality according to Marx intensified as history progressed from Ancient to feudal mode of production and reached its zenith in Capitalism.



gets reflected to superstructure according to Marxian theory.

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Marx thus offers a monocausal and deterministic approach to study of stratification in which monopoly over mode of production by Bourgeoisie i.e. factor of production (resources, skills, capital) and productive relations lead to emporverisment of Proletariat.

The solution of same lies in true class consciousness led revolution by proletariat which will lead to socialism (dictatorship of proletariat) ~~sch~~ and eventually Communism.

Weber on the contrast offers multidimensional view and highlights the presence of stratification universally through his ideal type "Class, Status, Power"

[Class]:- According to weber refers to individual's standing in market situation which determines Life chances.
[Differs from Marxian view of class which is based on ownership of factor of production]

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Status :- According to Weber, is the amount of prestige, status, respect one commands in a society irrespecting of his economic position. (Eg) Brahmin priest in case of India.

Lifestyle is the metric to judge status position of an individual.

For instance, Noveaux Rich according to weber may have gained / improved in class position but lack the status.

Power / Party : as described by Weber is organized group coming together to capture political power in a state through legitimate means such as election.

Marx on the other hand argues that state / government / political power is a mere puppet in the hand of Burgeoisie and lack real control.

They are "committees forwarding interests of burgeoisie". Instances of Crony Capitalism testify the Marxian idea of power. However, political power is still occupying greater social visibility.

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Weber and Marx thus diverge in terms of dimensions around which society can be stratified.

According to weber, even in a primitive communitic society like tribe, stratification may be present.

(Eg) Tribal head having a bigger house, wearing different clothes etc.

However, Weber and Marx both converge on class being a metric for stratification though disagree on definition.

Though, recent studies like "Pakulski and Malcom Waters" describe in post-capitalism status oriented society occupy centre stage highlighlish "Death of Class". This is seconded by "Ralf Dahrendorf" who describe 'degradation of class, capital, labour in post capitalism'.

Thus scope of stratification study have built upon Marx and weber's work.

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3. **(b)** Occupying positions at the very apex of our society, elites use the language of national interests, valour and endeavour in order to keep themselves in power. Discuss in context of theory of Power Elites by C.W. Mills. **20**

Elite theory of power was propounded by Italian scholars like Pareto and Mosca describing the usurption of power by a handfull of people in society.

Functionalist argue that power is a variable sum present for welfare of society and exerised by representatives of masses. Elite theorist contend this view that those power propound their own self interests and ensure their continuity in power by any means.

C.W. Mills in his book "Power Elite" elaborated this idea based on his analysis of instutions of USA.

Power Elite
↓ drawn from
Federal Government | Military | Corporates
Often interchange their positions

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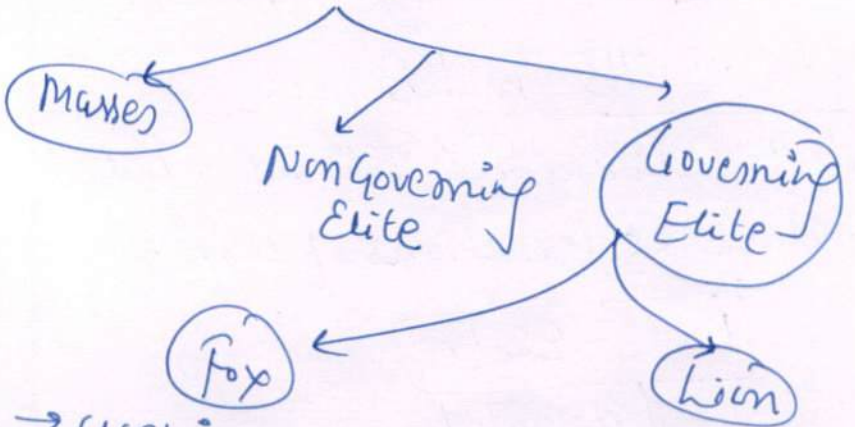
Mills argue that elites are drawn from these three institutions and often intermix. (Eg): military men being present in corporate boards.

Thus this group goes for "Voluntaristic Closure" (Frank Parkin) restricting itself from the masses and intermingling among themself.

As was described by Pareto in his work "Mind and Society" that these elites have certain psychological residues which differentiates them from masses.



Fox
→ cunningness
→ speculative
→ risk takers

Lion
→ valour
→ stabilisers
→ renters.

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Mills builds upon Pareto's idea that power elites also in the name of nationalism, valour, endeavour propound and progate self interests.

(Eg) : USA government financing war in different places in the world gives benifits to the corporates of defence industry and expansion of military bases.

As was described by Pareto that foxes have residue of combination and lions posses residue of group persistence, elites come on television give speeches which evoke nationalism among the masses and beneath the carpet own self interest of remaining in power is fullfilled

Mills describes elite formation as a recent phenomenon and at being a product of institutions producing elites due to their entrenched hierarchies.

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Floyd Hunter found similar findings in his study of local bodies in USA thus validating the "Power Edite" theory of C.W. Mills.

Dropping of bomb at Hiroshima and Nagasaki is biggest testimony of collusion of power elites taking decisions on ~~the~~ their own basis self calculation of vested interests and keeping the masses away.

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3. **(c)** Durkheim's society is merely a by-product of his concerns with moral issues. Discuss. **10**

Durkhiem in his theory of anomie described that how the societal issues such as conflict, deprivation were byproduct of weak conscience collective.

Durkhiem owing to his background in philosphy acted as moral priest and suggested :-

Anomie ⟹ Series of Reforms ⟹ New Consience collective ↓ new Social order ⇓ normaly

Reforms → Institutions promoting ethicality

Reforms → Moral Behaviour to be promoted in people.

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4 (a) What do you understand by Religion? How Max weber's understanding of religion is different from that of Marx in capitalist society? 20

Religion as defined by Durkheim in his work "Elementary forms of Religious Life" is a body of belief & practices related to "Sacred" i.e. something which is forbidden and kept apart around which single moral community "Church" is contructed

There is no single universalistic understanding of religion. Religion according to evolutionary theorist emerged to satisfy the questions which primitive man faced in response to nature.

Herbert Spencer gave Dream / Ghost theory of religion which symbolises the intellectual curiosity of man of how we see other and often dead person in our dreams.

Soul theory tried to build upon it by differentiating dead from living.

Max Mullen's Naturism traces the origin of religion from nature's worship and obeying to forces of nature.

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Religion comes to rescue in times of adversity (as was seen by Malinowski in his study of Trobriand islanders).

Its widely accepted that religion has been an agent of social solidarity (as was hypothesized by Durkheim based on his finding on Arunta tribe).

Presence of religion even in times of modernity and forces trying for its revival highlight its functionality.

Marx on the other hand had a antagonism view on role of religion in capitalism. According to Marx, religion was false myth injected in minds of Proletariat for furthering of Bourgeoisie interest.

"Religion is hope for hopeless
sigh for the sighless"
– Marx.

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God is a creation of human mind according to Marx for promotion of class interest. Religion justifys poverty and gives a hope to change its in future birth. It promotes false class consciousness thus acting as an impediment to Proletarian revolution. Marx imagined absence of religion in his utopian communistic order.

Max Weber in his Seminal work "Protestant Ethics and Spirit of Capitalism" on the other hand established a positive link between role of a particular religion and growth of capitalism.

Protestant Ethics according to weber propounded certain values which helped in growth of capitalism in Europe.

According to weber, both Spirit and material resources were essential for growth of capitalism in any society.

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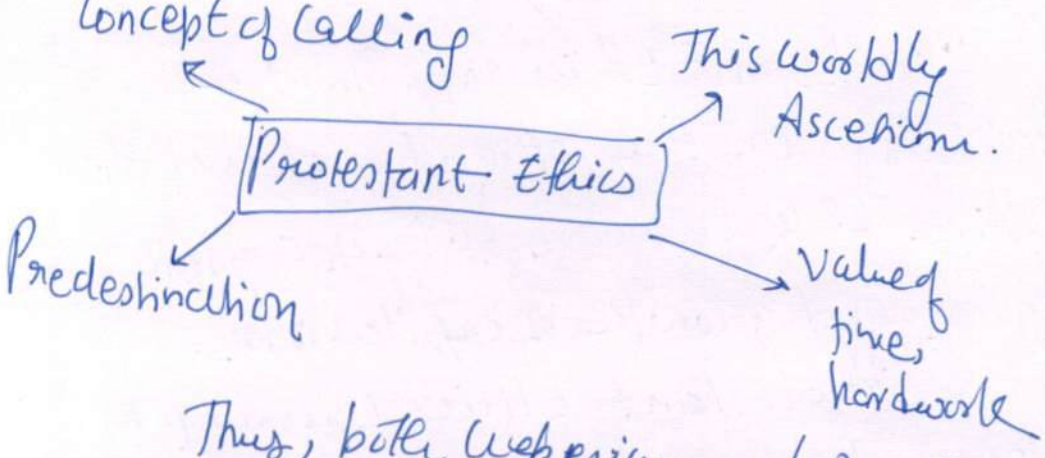
Weber conducted a cross cultural comparision in which he studied Hinduism, Judaism, Catholicism, Islam, Taoism and found that all of them either had no or weak linkage with capitalism. This was due to the fact they didn't promote Spirit of accumulation of wealth which was necessary for growth of capitalism. Protestantism on other ~~had~~ hand had following values:-



Thus, both Weberian and Marxian view stand in contrast to one other as to role of religion in capitalistic society.

Ayan Bellah's concept of Civil Religion highlight the recent conceptions around religion in modern industrial societies.

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4. **(b)** Talcott Parsons, like other functionalists, focused on considering how stratification system helps to maintain order and stability in society. Elaborate. **20**

Parson's view on stratification glorifies American capitalism in light of criticism by Marxist, feminists, critical school which argue that stratification is a myth and closed hierarchical social order perpetuates social inequality.

Parsons argues that stratification is functional to society as absolute equality would be disharmonic and is far from reality. Stratification according to Parsons has the following benifits.

Benifits of Stratification

- Rewards the meritorious ⇓ Promotes innovation
- Based on equality of opportunity ⇓ any person can rise in the ranks.
- Functionally important position in society are necessary

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Parsonian view is supported by Davis and Moore who argue on similar lines that :-

- Economic rewards incentives the labour force to work hard / innovate
- Nature and form of stratification is based on consensus i.e. values propogated by society. eg) American society values achievement orientation.
- Functionally important position must be rewarded suitably since their contribution to society is greater in quantum.
- Free competition and open to all opportunities are provided to all for everyone to prove their merit

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Parsons argues that value consensus in society ensures that antagonistic classes come together for the efficient production process.

Had the inequality perpetuated by stratification been unjust, unfair and intolerable, the oppressed and deprived in society would have led to collective mobilisation bringing some new order based on new forms of stratification

Thus Parsons advocates that cultural system propogates certain value following / basis which stratification system is built in society.

Melvin M. Tumin brings a critical view to Parson's advocacy of American capitalism based stratification that :-

- Which occupation is functionally more important is difficult to establish.

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In modern capitalism, according to Tumin, every occupation occupies its own significance without which production process won't be possible

- There is no objective and universal standards to evaluate merit.
- Development produced by such ~~cap~~ stratification mayn't lead to equal distribution of benifit.
  eg) Pollution, Inequality, Poverty
- Antagonistic classes often come in conflict with each other and don't always cooperate. eg) Labour strikes.

Bourdieu highlights that possession of cultural, symbolic, economic capital by a certain class makes free competition unfair and biased.

Nevertheless, Parsonian functional view stands the test of time with advancement of capitalism

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4. **(c)** "Citizenship is a right to have rights". Critically analyze T H Marshall's theory of Citizenship by shedding light upon those rights. **10**

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

(a) Do you agree with the statement that the bourgeoisie produces its own grave-diggers. Give supporting arguments to your answer.

Capitalism perpetuates social inequality in extreme form according to Marx thus sowing the seeds of its own destruction.

"Dialectics" has been at the centre of social change according to Marx when he describes that "History of human society is hitherto history of class struggle". Thus dichotomy present in each mode of production has indeed itself resulted in change.

Burgeoisie alienate the workers from the production process. Squeezing of petty burgeoisie is promoted by burgeoisie's quest of more wealth leading to homogenization. Pauperization of proletariat acts a final nail in the coffin.

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Thus the action of bourgeoisie themselves steadily lead to wiping out of false class consciousness and coming of true class consciousness leading to proletarian revolution.

However, bourgeoisie do make effort by infusing religion, establishing an intermidiary class in the form of managers to diffuse conflict.

Though all these steps stand futile according to Marx once objective class conciousness arises.

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5. **(b)** Discuss the factors acting as barriers to social mobility of women.

Social mobility refers to change in position / ranks in a stratificational system. In case of women, social mobility refers to rising above the patriarchal constraints and breaking numerous shackles like :—

- Glass Ceiling
- Glass Cliff
- Pink Collar jobs
- feminization of poverty
- dual burden of work
- Sexual harassment at workplace
- managing child rearing with work
- caste patriarchy
- bodily autonomy
- pressure to marry early

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Above listed factors are impediments to social mobility for women as described by femists like Ann Oackley Selvia Walby. Some radical femists have advocated for breaking away of family as an institution for true liberation of women & socially mobile order free from patriarchy.

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5. **(c)** Define New Age Movement and explain the growth of new age movement with few examples.

"New Age Movement" term given by Troeltsch reflect the shift from the traditional political based movements till 1950s to new socio-cultural-lifestyle based movement such as LGBTQ movement, climate change related movement.

Habermas describes that New Age Movement are adopting new methodology like alternate festivals, sitins, lobbying for propogation of their ideas.

They effectively using mass media as a tool to go beyond political rights to lifestyle and social equality based demands.

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Example > Greenpeace is engaged in climate activism across the world advocating against developmental projects which have an impact on environment.

Some new age movement have also gained the colours of traditional movements & have become organised, bureaucratic and traditional.

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5. **(d)** Durkheim labelled the modern form of collective conscience as the cult of the individual. Discuss.

Durkhiem in his work "Division of labour in modern society" described role of conscience collective in binding heterogenous, complex society with the help of rules, regulations, laws etc.

Modern form of conscience collective can be labelled as "cult of individual" for the reason for promoting individual choices, individualism still integration in broader fold of society.

In traditional society, diversity was absent and individual freedom, creativity, possession was missing govt rise to a monoculture of thoughts, ideas, values etc.

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Modern society has been marked with glorification of man's abilities to create, innovate and Self love irrespective of what other say.

Thus modern conscience collective promotes individuality at the same time preserves integration.

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5. **(e)** Discuss why pluralists consider interest groups as necessary elements in a democratic system.

Pluralist like Robert Dahl, Karl Manhiem argued that for decentralisation of power from elites to masses, interest groups are essential for a vibrant democracy.

Role of Interest Groups:

- Check on elites
- Voices of voiceless
- Diverse opinions in formulation of policies
- Protection of interest of all
- devolution of power
- Some emerge as political party themselves
- Bargain & Compromises.

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Interest groups's presence stands for multiple influence hypothesis and prevents single hand in a glove.

Anthony Downs argue that trade unions acting as an interest groups promote industrial democracy.

Ralf Dahrendorf described it as institutionalisation of conflict. Thus interest group play a pivotal role in democracy.

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6. **(a)** Parsons combined the Weberian notion of subjective aspect of social action with the Durkheimian notion of objective contexts of social fact. Explain. **20**

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6. **(b)** How far, do you agree with the view that Globalisation has eroded the power of nation states? **20**

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6. **(c)** 'Sociology is a science which attempts Interpretivist understanding of Social action'. Explain the Interpretative understanding of Max weber. **10**

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7. **(a)** The issue of fundamentalism illustrates that religion appears to be associated with conflict in many parts of the world. Critically discuss. **20**

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7. **(b)** Merton's critique to conventional structural functionalism provided new conceptual insights which helped to give structural functionalism a continuing usefulness. Discuss. **20**

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7. **(c)** 'I' and 'Me' are central terms in Mead's work. Critically analyse. **10**

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8. **(a)** Durkheim observes that the process of division of labour helps to integrate societies where heterogeneity, differentiation and complexity are to be found. Critically analyse. **20**

Durkhiem in his work "Division of Labour in Society" criticizes economic explanation given by Adam Smith as myopic view on division of labour overglorifying market.

According to Durkhiem, division of labour is all ~~encop~~ encompassing covering every aspect of social life. Durkhiem labels division of labour as a social fact i.e. coercive, external, emergent to actor.

Modern society which is marked by high level of material and moral density can be bound only be organic solidarity which is based on new anscience collective.

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Primitive society according to Durkhiem had homogenity and simple division of labour. Thus consience collective eminated from norms, values, religion. this acted as a "mechanical solidarity"

Modern society which marked by occupational diversification and specialisation has led to "Man being a part-producer and part consumer."

Durkhiem borrowed his ideas from "Ferdinand Tonnies" work of Gemeinschaft and Gesselschaft in which later stood for formal communities comming together especially in diverse demographic centres being governed by specific interests.

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According to Durkhiem, complex division of labour has increased dependancy on each other thus -Integrating the society based on each other's needs.

(Eg) A heart surgeon would need a dermatologist if he encounters a skin infection, despite him/her having a medical background.

According to Durkhiem, laws, rules, regulations would form new conscience collective that would bind diverse and heterogenous population by metrics of equality.

However, skeptist to modernity (Anti-modernist) argue that increasing division of labour has indeed led to greater commodification injected spirit of consumerism, materialism and has led to chaos.

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In traditional societies family was unit of production which has now turned to unit of consumption.

Overconsumption, global warming, inequality, conflict, wars are exemplifying the dysfunctions of complex, heterogenous societies.

Durkheim had witnessed a similar turmoil in France in aftermath of French Revolution and had described this situation as temporary.

Anomic division of labour, forced division of labour would disappear according to Durkheim by a series of social reforms aimed at infusing ethicality.

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8. **(b)** The decline of conventional form of religion has led to growth of Sects & Cults which provides solution to the problems created by the modernity. Discuss. **20**

Conventional form of religion has been challenged by what Ray Walis termed as "New Religious movement" in the form of growth of sects and cults.

Emergence of cults :- as described by Olidger has been attributed to:-

- Religion turning into rigid and impersonal institutions
- Religion giving solutions to ~~mundane~~ spiritual needs as man is grappled with mundane needs
- Cults over a personal connect and possibility of face to face communication between the cult and devotee which absence of religion.

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Growth of cults like Osho, Mahesh Yogi Transcedental Meditation are examples of cults providing problems of modernity.

Cults are flexible institutions which offer the doors to practically everyone.
eg) ISKON getting popularity in western world which is facing a lot of problems arising due to modernity such as loneliness, breakdown of family, strifes, conflicts etc.

Cult leader's message acts as a placating therapy to devotees.

Emergence of Sects :- Sects are more formal and organized as compared to cults often formed when cults get bureaucratised or death of cult leader.

They offer a resistance to established religious order unlike cult.

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Sects like Calvanism, Methodists emerged as children of modernity.

As problems arose with arrival of modern values and clash with religious dogmas, new group within the parent religion emerged as dissendents to the established order.

Even in the case of India sects like Panthis, Mutts emerged for revival of original teaching of religion in response to orthodox practices.

Sects are more strict in terms of membership and thus command a greater claim over the members. Over the time sect may loose religious rigiour and gain popularity/acceptance in the eyes of people to become denominations.

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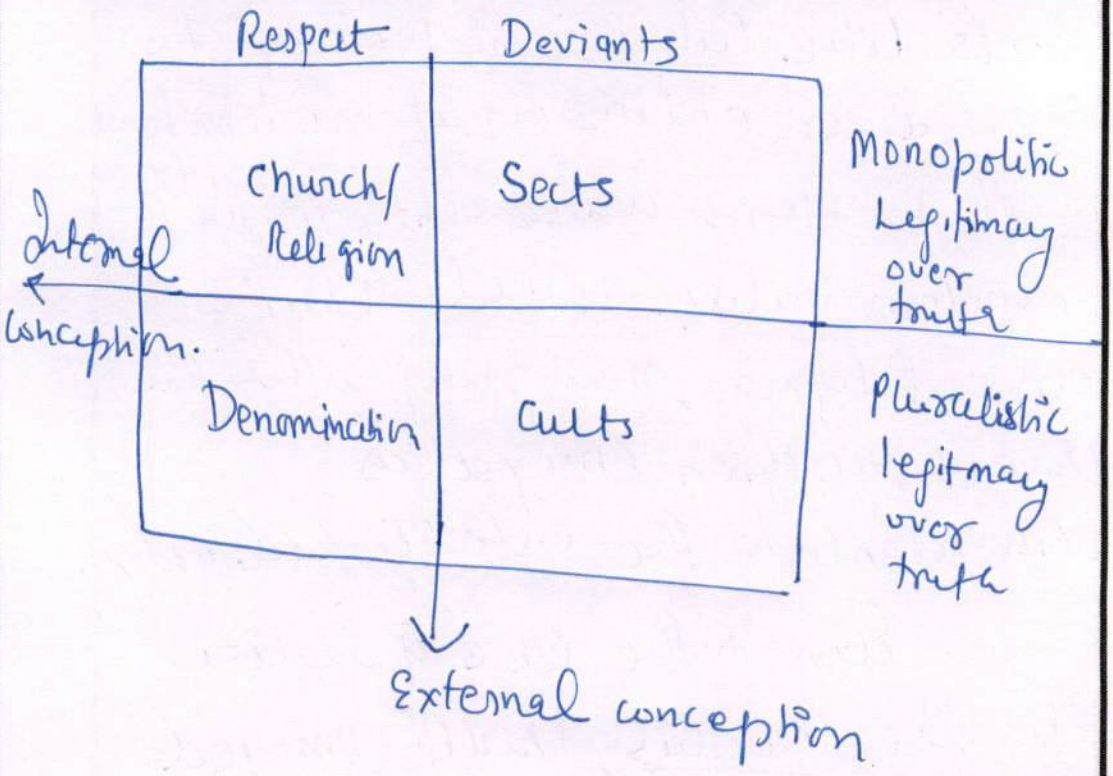

As described by Weber in his "Theodicy of Disprivileged" sects and cults offer an opportunity for the bottom strata which are the victims of evil of modernity to rise and question the established order.

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8. (c) How can we use reference group theory to understand the New middle class in India? 10

New Middle Class has been defined by Amartya Sen as "Argumentative India".

Post 1991 reforms, expansion of employment opportunity and spirit of consumerism has led to development of new class in India i.e. New Middle Class.

Reference group

New Middle Class seeks upper class as their role model & wants to acquire wealth.

Competition within the class

eg) Competition within neighbours, relative over possession, children's education.

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Middle Class in India has moved from its traditional role of being custodian of culture and has embraced new set of values injected by globalisation.

Influencers promoted by social media are being treated as reference group by new middle class ~~testy~~ testifying Merton's theory