

CHAPTER – 7

Marginalization

❖ EXECISES

Question 1:

Write in your own words two or more sentences of what you understand by the word ‘marginalisation’.

Answer:

The word ‘Marginalisation’ simply means exclusion from the mainstream. It is a social process by which certain sections of the society are confined to lower social standing.

Marginalisation results in a certain minority or lower castes of the society having a low social status and not having equal access to education and other resources.

Question 2:

List the two reasons why Adivasis are becoming increasingly marginalized.

Answer:

Adivasis are becoming increasingly marginalized because of the following reasons:

- (a) People in the society always considered that adivasis are primitive and backward.
- (b) The way of living of adivasis is completely different from the other people. They wear colourful costumes, strange type of head gears and have different cultures.

Question 3:

Write one reason why you think the Constitution's safeguards to protect minority communities are very important.

Answer:

The Constitution's safeguards to protect minority communities are very important because of the following reasons:

(a) Firstly, the Constitution of our country is supreme book of laws and regulations. The constitution of our country provides fundamental rights to every citizen of the country.

(b) Also, according to our constitution every citizen has a right to access to the Apex Court of the country. Communal harmony, national integrity and uniform development are aimed to be achieved through these provisions.

Question 4:

Re-read the section on Minorities and Marginalization. What do you understand by the term minority?

Answer:

The term 'Minority' simple means those groups or communities who are small in number as comparted to those communities who are large in the number.

e.g.: If we look in our own country than Muslims are in minority as compared to Hindus.

Question 5:

You are participating in a debate where you have to provide reasons to support the following statement:

‘Muslims are a marginalized community’. Using the data provided in this chapter, list two reasons that you would give.

Answer:

Muslims are marginalized community because of the following reasons:

(a) Firstly, if we look facts than more than 63% of the Muslims live in Kuccha houses while the percentage of people of majority is less than the people of minority.

(b) Secondly, we always talk about that India is a secular country and it is fastest growing or developing nation in the world but still only 30% of Muslims have access to electricity which is quite less than those of majority people.

(c) Only 19.4% of Muslims have access to piped water while 25.3% of Hindus have access to it.

(d) If we look the literacy rates by religion wise than these are lowest for the Muslims according to 2001 census.

Question 6:

Imagine that you are watching the Republic Day parade on TV with a friend and she remarks. “Look at these tribals. They look so exotic. And they seem to be dancing all the time.”

List three things that you would tell her about the lives of Adivasis in India.

Answer:

Three things about the life of adivasis is as follows:

- (a) Adivasis still usually shown in the colourful costumes, headgear and dancing.
- (b) They are not a homogeneous population. There are over 500 different Adivasi groups in our country. They are particularly numerous in states like Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and in the north-eastern states.
- (c) Still people have mentality that adivasis are exotic, primitive and backward caste people.

Question 7:

In the story board you read about how Helen hopes to make a move on the Adivasi story. Can you help her by developing a short story on Adivasis?

Answer:

A short story on Adivasis is as follows:

- (a) There is a foreign company who has planned to establish a metal company in the area of Adivasis. For the establishment of industry these groups are forced to move in very large number to various area of India. There is a man and his girl, they both have planned A to make an association after which they will approach to district authority, state Government and lastly to central government.

(b) Adivasis under the leadership of this association demanded three things forest, water and livelihood. After having a long struggle, Human Rights Commission comes forward and their demands are accepted. These groups are handed over fairly large forest-lands, supply of water and also they are given employment in companies.

Question 8:

Would you agree with the statement that economic marginalization and social marginalization are interlinked? Why?

Answer:

Economic and social marginalization are interlinked; this can be said on the basis of these points:

- (a) As discussed in the chapter the minority groups like Muslims in our country have less access in terms of occupation, houses, piped water etc.
- (b) Muslims have low standard of living as compared to Hindu as they are working in the unorganized sector. This is because of lack of education due to which they find it difficult to get both public as well as private sector jobs.
- (c) As they are economically backward, they fail to attain a higher status in Indian society.

❖ Intext Question Pg-83

Question 1:

Explain at least three different reasons why groups may be marginalised.

Answer:

Three reasons of marginalizing the groups are as follows:

(a) Firstly, these groups are socially and economically backwards.

(b) Secondly, these groups have no power to oppose the discrimination.

(c) Third and main point is that these groups are not well-educated.

Question 2:

Why was Dadu forced to leave his village in Orissa?

Answer:

Dadu was forced to leave the village in Orissa because his land was captured by the Company holders for mining iron ore there.

Question 3:

In your own city or village, who would you think are the marginalised groups? Discuss.

Answer:

In my city if I look around then I find the people living in the slum portions are the marginalised groups as neither they have

the basic living of life nor the basic education to enjoy the rights given to them by the state.

Question 4:

Can you name some Adivasi communities that live in your state?

Answer:

Depends on the city where students live. If we look those students who belong to Delhi, then there is no Adivasi community.

Question 5:

What languages do they speak?

Answer:

Most of the Adivasis speak Dravidian language.

Question 6:

Do they live close to the forest?

Answer:

Yes, most of the adivasis live close to the forest which is also the main reason for their illiteracy and backwardness.

Question 7:

Do they migrate to other regions looking for work?

Answer:

Yes, since most of the Adivasis do not have any permanent sort of work or job so they move from one place to another in search of work in order to feed their family.

❖ Intext Question Pg-85

Question 1:

What metals are important in present-day India? Why?

Answer:

Metals are important in present day India because of the following reasons:

(a) Metals like iron, steel, aluminum etc. are very important for the survival as all the infrastructure or development of the country is directly depends on these metals.

(b) They make up over 80% of all the elements in existence. They are not only structurally important but are also chemically important.

Question 2:

Where do they come from? Are there Adivasi populations there?

Answer:

These metals are mined from the ores which are located at different parts of the country.

Yes, all the places from where metals are mined are mostly inhabited by the Adivasis. And due to this when industries emerge in order to extract metals these Adivasis are forcefully displaced.

Question 3:

List five products that you use at home that come from the forest.

Answer:

Five products that we get from the forest are as follows:

- (a) We get medicines from the forests.
- (b) We get gum from the forest.
- (c) We get wood from the forest which is used for many purposes like making furniture, papers etc.
- (d) We get food from forests.
- (e) We also get sealing wax from forest.

Question 4:

By whom were the following demands being made on forest land?

- Timber for construction of houses and railways
- Forest land for mining
- Forest land for agriculture by non-tribal people
- Reserved by government as wildlife parks

Answer:

Timber is usually demanded by the railway for the development of railway lines.

Forest land is mostly demanded by the big industry houses to set up their industries in a large area.

Forest land for agriculture demands by non-tribal people.

Reserved wildlife parks area demanded by the government of that state or country.

Question 5:

In what ways would this affect tribal people?

Answer:

This affects tribal people in the following ways:

- (a) Due to development of industries adivasis and backwards people are forced to migrate from their land.
- (b) They are indirectly forced to work in the construction sites and they have no access to the territories of forest.

Question 6:

What do you think this poem is trying to convey?

Answer:

This poem is trying to convey a very serious and emotional message to us. It is showing the condition of poor adivasis who are with the greed of good living conditions are persuaded to go to Assam where their condition become more worse, they are forced to work, torched on not doing the work and if they want to run away from there then they are captured by the men of Babu and again beaten and made to work.

❖ Intext Question Pg-87

Question 1:

In your opinion, why is it important that Adivasis should have a say in how their forests and forest lands are used?

Answer:

The decisions of the government agencies have been directly affecting the Adivasis. They should have a say in their forest as they are the people who are associated with the forest for centuries and hence are directly affected by the decisions taken by our government regarding forest matters.

❖ Intext Question Pg-88

Question 1:

Why do we need safeguards for minorities?

Answer:

Firstly, it is important to know the minorities. Minorities are those which are fairly less in number as compared to other groups. We need to safeguard the minorities and their culture because in case if the person of this particular caste becomes extinct then we also lose their culture, language etc.

Question 2:

Basic Amenities, 1994

Kutcha houses:	63.6% of Muslims live in kutcha houses 55.2% of Hindus live in kutcha houses
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Electricity:	30% of Muslims have access to electricity. 43.2% of Hindus have access of electricity.
Piped water:	19.4% of Muslims have access to piped water 25.3% of Hindus have access to piped water

Do Muslims have the equal access to basic amenities?

Answer:

No, it is clear from the above facts that Muslims do not have equal access to basic amenities as more than 63% of Muslims live in kuccha houses whereas the percentage of Hindu is quite less than them.

Question 3:

Literacy Rate by Religion, 2001

All	Hindus	Muslims	Christians	Sikhs	Buddhists	Jains
65%	65%	59%	80%	70%	73%	94%

Which religious group has the lowest literacy rate?

Answer:

Muslims have lowest literacy rate of 59%.

Question 4:

Public Employment of Muslims (percentages)

Populations	IAS	IPS	IFS	Central Public Sector Unit (PSU)	State PSU	Banks & RBI
13.5	3	4	1.8	3.3	10.8	2.2

What do these figures convey?

Answer:

These figures clearly convey that not only basic amenities but Muslims are lacking behind in every sector of the country. These figures clearly say that Muslims have very less access in all the sectors.

❖ Intext Question Pg-89

Question 1:

Read the data related to schooling provided by the Sachar Committee Report:

- 25 per cent of Muslim children in the 6-14 year age group have either never been enrolled in school or have dropped out. This percentage is much higher than that of any other socio-religious community (page 58).

Do you think special measures are required to address this situation?

Answer:

Yes, according to me some special measures should be taken by the government to address this situation as percentage of Muslim students dropped out from the school is very high. Education is necessary for every individual and 6-14 years is

that age in which the future of children develops. If these students do not get proper education at that age, then their future might be ruin.

❖ Intext Question Pg-90

Question 1:

I live in a Muslim-dominated area. Some days back during Ramzan there was some disturbance that started taking a communal outlook. My brother and I had gone for an Iftar party in the neighbourhood and were dressed in traditional clothes, that is sherwani and salwar kameez respectively. On returning home, my brother and I were asked to change our clothes to jeans and T-shirt. Now when everything is fine I wonder what was the reason that we were asked to change our clothes and why I didn't find it odd. Were our clothes giving away our identity and is that identity linked to all kinds of fears and discrimination?

The above essay has been written by a child around your age. What do you think she is trying to convey?

Answer:

She is trying to convey the situation of communalism where she lived in a Muslim dominated area which suddenly had some violence communal outlook due to which she had to dress-up like Muslims in order to save herself from the danger of being a Non-Muslim in that area. She also conveys the message that people define your religion with the kind of outfit you are wearing.