

BA SOCIOLOGY
Second Semester
Social Stratification in India

(BSO - 07)

(The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions)

Duration: 20 minutes

Marks – 20

(PART A- Objective)

Answer all the following questions:

1×20=20

1. According to Max Weber, there are three major criteria used for measuring social inequality:
 - a. wealth, power and prestige
 - b. prestige, education, and religion
 - c. power, race and religion
 - d. wealth, religion, and prestige
2. Types of societies based on levels of social inequality are
 - a. band, tribe, chiefdom, and state.
 - b. state and acephalous.
 - c. egalitarian and state.
 - d. egalitarian, rank, and stratified.
3. Egalitarian societies
 - a. are the most highly stratified.
 - b. allocate wealth, power, and prestige fairly evenly.
 - c. provide relatively equal access to power and wealth, but not prestige
 - d. do not recognize any personal differences in certain skills.
4. In a rank society, high-status positions
 - a. are available only to the best qualified.
 - b. often expand to include all qualified candidates.
 - c. are often filled on the basis of kinship.
 - d. are constantly expanding.
5. Chiefs in a rank society possess great prestige and accumulate large amounts of tribute which
 - a. is used for their sons' inheritance.
 - b. is used for the inheritance of all of their children.
 - c. they then give away.
 - d. they keep for their own use.

6. Which statement about occupational ranking is false?
- Rankings have changed considerably over the past fifty years.
 - Rankings have remained remarkably stable over the past fifty years.
 - Rankings in the U.S. are surprisingly consistent with those in other parts of the world.
 - High level occupations generally require more education and more abstract thinking.
7. Caste and class societies
- differ in terms of social mobility.
 - have either absolute mobility or a total lack of mobility.
 - differ in terms of ascribed versus achieved status.
 - a and c only
8. _____ systems are based on achieved status and permit considerable social mobility.
- Chiefdom
 - Egalitarian
 - Class
 - Caste
9. Members of the same social class share similar economic levels
- but very different political views and values.
 - and often similar educational backgrounds and political views.
 - but very different occupations and memberships in organizations.
 - but very different life chances.
10. In caste societies,
- no caste has a monopoly on certain occupations.
 - marriage between castes is strictly prohibited.
 - all castes have equal access to power, prestige, and wealth.
 - social mobility is virtually unrestricted.
11. Caste societies are found
- in South America and Asia.
 - in Scandinavian countries.
 - in several regions of the world, such as Hindu India and central Africa.
 - only in Hindu India.
12. The *jati* (sub-castes) of India
- have social rankings which vary from one region to another.
 - are local groups that are strictly endogamous.
 - only socialize with members of their own group.
 - all of the above
13. Ethnicity
- refers to cultural traits passed from generation to generation.
 - tends to cut across socioeconomic lines.
 - refers to physical and cultural traits of human populations.
 - a and b

14. As a scientific concept, race
- is very significant because it gives us a clearer understanding of human behavior than the concept of culture provides.
 - is seldom, if ever, influenced by people's beliefs.
 - justified the exclusion of some groups from the activities of others.
 - is not very significant because it gives us little insight into human behavior.
15. Which statement about the term *Dalit* is false?
- It refers to the upper caste in Hindu India.
 - It means literally the "crushed" or "oppressed" people of India.
 - It is a more politically correct term for "Untouchables."
 - It refers to the caste of people relegated to performing the most menial tasks.
16. Sanskritization refers to the process in India
- of moving up the caste ladder.
 - of slowly adding beef to one's diet.
 - of gradually eliminating social mobility from the society.
 - of becoming more Islamic and less Hindu.
17. Stratification means
- Division of society into 'higher' and 'lower' social units
 - Equality of status for all the groups in society
 - A system of integrated social relationships
 - Equal distribution of duties and privileges
18. The clerk occupies higher status than a cobbler because
- He does an honourable occupation
 - The functional importance of his occupation is greater
 - He puts on white collar clothes
 - He sits in an office
19. Which of the following is not a characteristic of caste
- Social and religious hierarchy
 - Restrictions in social intercourse
 - Freedom of marriage
 - Endogamy
20. Caste system is harmful because
- It denies social mobility
 - It prohibits inter caste marriage
 - It hinders national unity
 - It separates social from political life

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Duration: 3Hrs.

Full Marks: 70

(PART-B: Descriptive)

Duration: 2 hrs. 40 mins.

Marks: 50

1. Answer any five of the following questions:

3×5=15

- i. Define Social Stratification.
- ii. Define Vertical Stratification.
- iii. What do you mean by class consciousness?
- iv. Karl Marx's concept of social classes.
- v. Define Social Exclusion.
- vi. Define Sanskritization.
- vii. What are the sources of social change?

2. Answer any four of the following questions:

5×4=20

- i. Define social mobility and its types.
- ii. Weber's contributions on social stratification.
- iii. Social stratification in the agrarian setting of India.
- iv. Culture and social stratification.
- v. Gender and social stratification in Indian society.
- vi. Modernization.

3. a) Define caste. Mention three differences between caste and class. Explain the caste stratification system prevailing in Indian society.

2+3+10= 15

Or

b) Write an essay on the theory of social change.

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