

# NCERT SOLUTIONS

CLASS - 12th



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Class : 12th

Subject : Sociology

Chapter : 3

Chapter Name : Social Institutions: Continuity and Change

Q1 What is the role of the ideas of separation and hierarchy in the caste system ?

Answer. The caste system is based upon the basic tenets of 'hierarchy and separation'. The idea of hierarchy is based upon the principles of 'status', ascribed to an individual by birth. It is based upon the division of powers and resources on the basis of 'power dynamics'. The whole system of 'structured discrimination' results in the exclusion or separation of the people belonging to the lower castes. It results in the creation of stratified society, which is fueled by the religious provisions.

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Q2 What are some of the rules that the caste system imposes ?

Answer. The rules that the caste system imposes are :

- (a) It is ascribed by birth, so it's completely hereditary in nature.
- (b) It monopolises the avenue of occupational choice, as it is also ascribed by the caste of an individual.
- (c) It has set some basic rules about the inter-caste marriage.
- (d) It is based upon the principles of hierarchy or power dynamics.
- (e) It has set some basic rules regarding food sharing.
- (f) The classification of caste is also legitimised under the notion of sub-castes.

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Q3 What changes did colonialism bring about in the caste system ?

Answer. The changes which were brought about by colonial rule in the caste system were :

- (a) The study of the social hierarchies and the discriminatory patterns was done exclusively by British scholars to govern India.
- (b) They documented and crystallised the caste system, which was originally fluid.
- (c) They based the whole land-settlement system on the basis of caste.
- (d) They based the whole irrigation settlements also on caste.
- (e) They presented the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes present in the country of

India.

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Q4 In what sense has caste become relatively invisible for the urban upper castes?

Answer. The invisibility of caste among the urban castes was mainly because of education and the non-caste based occupational opportunities. The liberal and unequal intellectualism led to the invisibility of caste in societal parameters. The employment opportunities were not subjected to the caste of the respective individual.

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Q5 How have tribes been classified in India ?

Answer. The tribes in India have been classified on permanent and acquired characteristics. The permanent characteristics include physical, ecological and other geographical characteristics. The acquired characteristics include the livelihood and the inclination to Hindu society, in the country of India.

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Q6 What evidence would you offer against the view that 'tribes are primitive communities living isolated lives untouched by civilisation'?

Answer. The tribal communities were part of the society and the developmental model from ages. The famous integration versus isolationism is its towering specimen. The tribal communities were affected by the money lenders and land settlement policies as they were the basic component of the society. Many laws are passed by the government to protect the tribal rights and land of these respective people because they form the imperative part of the economic structure of the country and are not living in isolation.

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Q7 What are the factors behind the assertion of tribal identities today ?

Answer. The factors responsible for the assertion of tribal identities today are:

- (a) The interaction between different communities to understand the identity of the tribals.
- (b) The argumentational participation of the tribals in policy-making notions.
- (c) The movements launched by tribals, to have autonomy over the economic resources.
- (d) The strive to eradicate the factors diluting their socio-cultural identities.

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Q8 What are some of the different forms family can take ?

Answer. The typical family can take two forms:

(a) Nuclear family : Family having on set of parents and their children.

(b) Extended family : Family having more than one couple and two or more generations living together. It can also take many forms.

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Q9 In what ways can changes in social structure lead to changes in the family structure ?

Answer. The changes in the social structure leads to the changes in the family structure. The patriarchal composition of the societal paradigm has an effect on the family structure as it takes the shape of a completely male-dominated entity. The feministic and the liberal intellectualism of the neo-society is affecting the discriminative patterns of the family in general.

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Q10 Explain the difference between matriliney and matriarchy?

Answer. Matriarchy is that social condition where the domination is exercised by the women. On the other hand, matriliney means that phenomenon where the women inherits the lineage and not men.

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