

# NEXT IAS



## MAIN TEST SERIES 2.0 - 2025 (SLT)

(To be filled by candidate)

TEST CODE : SLT2501

Test No. : 01

Name of Candidate: MOHIT GUPTA Mobile No. ....

Roll No. : MT25SLTRA004 Start Time 12:00 End Time 2:30

Date of Examination: 17/06/25 Medium : English  Hindi

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1.	10	
2.	10	
3.	10	
4.	10	
5.	10	
6.	10	
7.	10	
8.	10	
9.	10	
10.	10	
TOTAL MARKS - 100		

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
11.	15	
12.	15	
13.	15	
14.	15	
15.	15	
16.	15	
17.	15	
18.	15	
19.	15	
20.	15	
TOTAL MARKS - 150		

GRAND TOTAL - ..... / 250

EVAL CODE: ..... EVAL DATE: .....

### GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Immediately on receipt of the QCA booklet, please check that this QCA booklet does not have any misprint or torn or missing pages or items, etc. If so, get it replaced by a fresh QCA booklet.
2. Candidates must mention all relevant details like Name, Email, Roll No, Mobile, etc. in the space allocated.
3. Candidate is expected to attempt all 12 questions within the given timeline.
4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized at the time of admission.
5. Candidates must write answers for the specific question under the respective question itself. Any answer written outside the space allotted may not be given credit.
6. Please write neatly. Avoid illegible writing.
7. Do not write/mark irrelevant matters in the QCAB.

### सामान्य निर्देश

1. QCA पुस्तिका प्राप्त होने पर कृपया तुरंत जांच लें कि इस QCA पुस्तिका में कोई पृष्ठ या सामग्री आदि गलत छपी हुई या फटी हुई या गायब तो नहीं है। यदि ऐसा है, तो इसे एक नई QCA पुस्तिका से बदल लें।
2. अभ्यर्थियों को सभी प्रासंगिक विवरण जैसे नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर, मोबाइल नंबर आदि का आवंटित स्थान पर उल्लेख करना होगा।
3. अभ्यर्थियों से अपेक्षा की जाती है कि वह आवंटित समय-सीमा के भीतर ही सभी 12 प्रश्नों के उत्तर-लेखन का प्रयास करें।
4. प्रत्येक उत्तर, प्रवेश के समय चुनी गयी भाषा के माध्यम में ही लिखे जाने चाहिए।
5. अभ्यर्थियों को विशिष्ट प्रश्न के उत्तर संबंधित प्रश्न के नीचे ही लिखने होंगे। आवंटित स्थान के बाहर लिखे गए किसी भी उत्तर को क्रेडिट नहीं दिया जाएगा।
6. कृपया साफ-सुथरा लिखें। अपठनीय लेखन से बचें।
7. QCAB में अप्रासंगिक तथ्यों को न लिखें / न ही चिह्नित करें।

REMARKS: .....

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

**Student Concerns / Query**

1 .....

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2 .....

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**Evaluator's Feedback / Response**

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**MARKING SCHEME \***

Marks Per Ques	Below Average	Average	Above Average
10 Marks	Below 3.00	3.00 - 3.75	4.00 and above
15 Marks	Below 4.50	4.50 - 5.75	6.00 and above

\* Subject to change without prior notice.

**IMPORTANT QR CODES**



Topper's Copy



Common mistake and Correct Filled QCAB



Copy Scanner App



Next IAS Test Centre Location

**MACRO COMMENTS**

*The Purpose of MTS 2.0 Score Improvement Program (SIP) is to provide constructive suggestions on 'How to improve Answer Writing and thereby score better marks.*

Q1.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q2.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q3.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q4.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q5.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

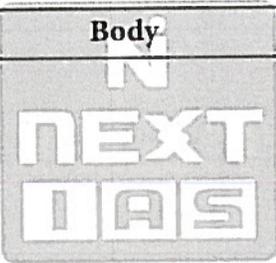
Q6.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q7.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q8.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion
		

Q9.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q10.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

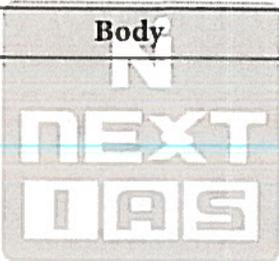
Q11.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q12.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q13.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion
		

Q14.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q15.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

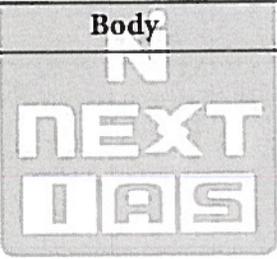
Q16.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q17.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q18.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion
		

Q19.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

Q20.

Introduction	Body	Conclusion

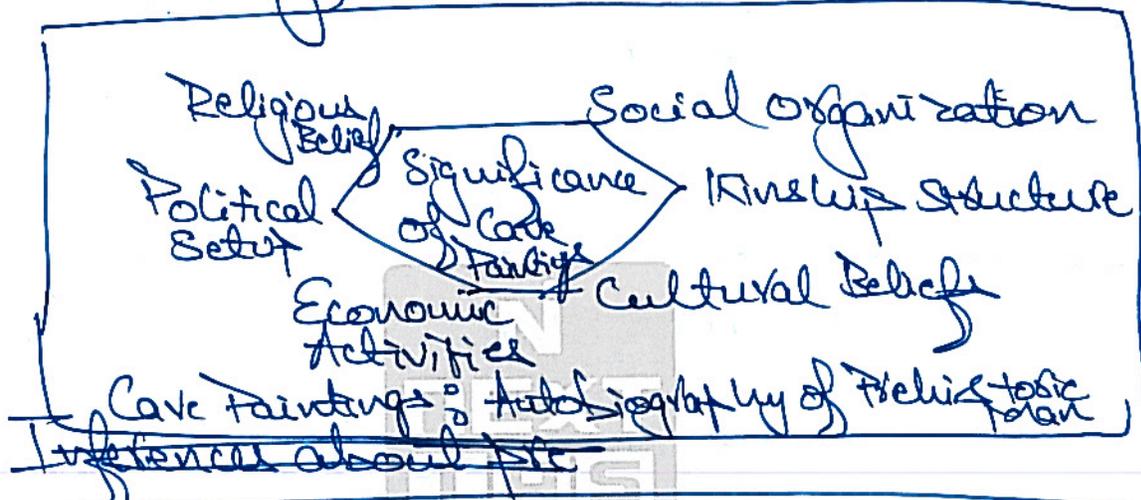




1. शैल चित्र (Cave paintings) प्रागैतिहासिक मनुष्य की दृश्य आत्मकथा हैं। भारत में शैल चित्र से हम प्रागैतिहासिक विश्वासों और सामाजिक प्रथाओं के बारे में क्या अनुमान लगा सकते हैं? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Cave paintings are the visual autobiography of a prehistoric man. What can we infer about prehistoric beliefs and social practices from the cave paintings in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Ans 1) Cave paintings / Rock Art refers to prehistoric art engraved at pre-historic sites such as Belan Valley, Bhim Betka Caves



Inference about pre-historic beliefs

① Nature worship and dominance of natural figures -

Ex: ◦ Son worship at Fanchuarhi Cave (M.P)

② Shamanistic traditions of pre-historic era -

Ex: ◦ Bhim Betka Caves have assumed figures of male and female shamans -

③ Fertility cult and emphasis on

## Plenus/Yoni worship

- (4) Communal Gatherings for worship.  
 Ex: Blimbetta painting of social gathering of Mesolithic Era.

## Cave paintings: Inferences of social practices

- (1) Evolutionary study of subsistence activities i.e.
- |              |   |                           |
|--------------|---|---------------------------|
| Palaeolithic | → | Hunting Gathering         |
| Mesolithic   | → | Domestication of Animals  |
| Neolithic    | → | Paintings of Agriculture. |

- (2) Gendered Division of labour showing different male (hunting) & female (gathering).

Ex: Sore Valley Palaeolithic paintings.

- (3) Communitarian living and extended kinship

- (4) Evolution of political setup. Ex: Mesolithic paintings show proto-tribal kinship.

Cave paintings are a reflection and descriptor of history of ancient India.



2. "औपनिवेशिक शिक्षा नीति, जिसका उद्देश्य आज्ञाकारी क्लर्क बनाना था, राजनीतिक जागृति और राष्ट्रीय स्वाग्रह (self-assertion) का माध्यम बन गई।" विवेचना कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक
- "Colonial education policy intended to create obedient clerks, became a channel for political awakening and national self-assertion." Discuss (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Ans 2) T. B. Macaulay said, "Aim of colonial education is to create a class which ~~is~~ has views & taste of British and looks of Indian".

Colonial Education policy to create obedient clerks from Indians

- ① Suited to needs & demands of colonial powers.
- ② Ex: Fort William College to train lower Indian clerks.
- ② Did not include scientific and technical education. Ex: <11,000 graduates till 1911 in science streams.
- ③ Create obedience and accept authority of British.
- ④ Ex: ~~How~~ White Man's Burden value based curriculum.
- ④ Lack of inclusive education. Only certain classes were educated to make them comprised ob class of Britain.

Education became Channel for Political Awakening and National Self Assertion

① Moderate leaders (Fathers of Political Movement) were colonial educated elites like Theobald

Melton, M.G. Ranade etc.

② Reason and Rationality led to nationalization of Indian mindset.

Ex: Socio-religious reform movement led by western educated leaders like Raja Ram Mohan Roy.

③ Helped expose colonial design and exploitation.

Ex: Drain of wealth theories by intellectuals.

④ Spiritual Awakening and development of new Indian identity.

Ex: Reaction against colonial education → Rediscovery of India's glorious past.

⑤ Vertical and horizontal growth of education gave impetus to freedom movement.

Education albeit colonial in nature was

driving force behind Emergence of Indian Nationalism.

3. गुप्त अर्थव्यवस्था ने किस हद तक सांस्कृतिक और वैज्ञानिक प्रगति को सुगम बनाया, इसका मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Evaluate the extent to which the Gupta economy facilitated cultural and scientific advancements.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Ans) Pax Gupta's resulted to stable Gupta polity & economy that led to overall development of society.

Positive Cultural developments in Gupta Period

① Development of Sanskrit literature.

Became a literary language

Drama and Plays

Ex: Mudrarakshasa (Visakhadatta)

Poetry

Kalidasa's Raghuvansham, Meghadoot etc.

Nyaya Shastra Philosophy

② ~~Compilation~~ Compilation of Epics (Mahabharata, Ramayana) and Puranas (Ex: Matsya Puran)

③ Development of Nagara style of temples-

Ex: Deogarh Temple in U.P.

④ Growth of all religions like Hinduism, Buddhism etc.

Ex: Grants to Ajanta Caves.

⑤ Zenith of Numismatics: Gupta gold coins

## Development in scientific arena

- ① Growth of metallurgy and material sciences.  
Ex: Rust free Iron Pillar of Mehrauli
- ② Development in Astronomy & Cosmology.  
Ex: Brihatsamhita by Varahmihira.
- ③ Development of Mathematics.  
Ex: Aryabhatya, calculation of  $\pi$  etc. (Aryabhata)
- ④ Development of medical sciences.  
Ex: Urbasa Samhita & Sushruta's Surgery

### Limitations in Gupta Economy

- ① Gender Divide increased as women were subjugated.  
Ex: Sati inscription of Eran.
- ② Lack of robust maritime science and trade.
- ③ Decline of Gupta was marked by increased stagnation in science & cultural domain.

4th-6th Century of Gupta Rule are dubbed as era of scientific-cultural revolutions.



4. बदलती पारिवारिक संरचना और प्रवासन प्रवृत्ति किस प्रकार भारत में बुजुर्गों के सामाजिक अलगाव को बढ़ावा दे रही है? 10 अंक (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक
- How are changing family structures and migration trends increasingly leading to the social isolation of the elderly in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Ans 4) UNESCO's report on Ageing issues highlight the psychological issues of alienation faced by elderly in India.

### Changing Family Structures & Isolation of elderly

① Shift from joint to nuclear family structures has led to familial isolation of old age people.

Ex: Jump from 43% to 52% in percentage of Nuclear families (2001 to 2011 → Census data)

② Generation Gap and lack of emotional connect - Ex: Lack of familiarity with 'bhar' culture of old age people.

③ Conflict between traditions & modern values creating mental marginalisation.

Ex: Shift from gerontocracy to democratic families.

④ Cultural Erosion of values & reduced salience

of elderly say in family decisions.

Impact of Migration Trends on elderly isolation

- ① Migration of children for job and educational opportunities (X) ∘ Rural-Urban Migration of children leaving parents back at rural areas.
- ② Stem families ∘ Elderly feel alienated in new city environments.
- ③ loss of community relations due to high geographical mobility.
- ④ Concept of Elderly Care Homes ∘ as urban spaces have high cost of living.

Remedies to minimise social isolation

- ① Value education ∘ Emphasis on elderly care.
- ② Community life enhancing activities ∘ Sports Club for Elderly
- ③ Technological ∘ TATA's app for connecting old age people to youth

Experience & wisdom of elderly need to be leveraged & not marginalised.



5. शहरीकरण, भारतीय समाज में सामाजिक सामंजस्य को पारंपरिक धारणाओं को किस प्रकार चुनौती देता है?

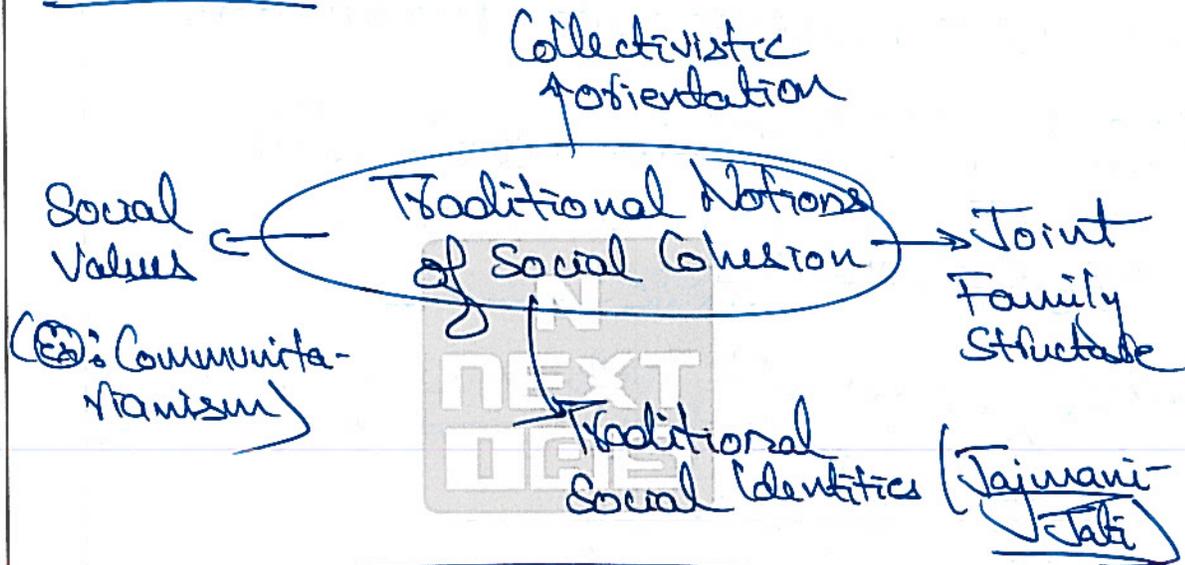
(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

In what ways does urbanization challenge traditional notions of social cohesion in Indian society?

(Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Ans)

Urbanization refers to rapid growth of Urban area, population and ideology of Urbanism.



Urbanization Challenging traditional notions of social cohesion

① Growth of individualism and self-orientation. Ex: Salience of self-interest as priority in cities.

② Cosmopolitanism leading to breakdown of traditional social structures.

②: Caste based residence to cosmopolitan urban societies

③ Breakdown of traditional family structure.

Ex: Joint families → Nuclear and Separated Families

④ Formalistic impersonality as urban way of living leading to loss of social support.

Ex: Workplace → Engage only till extent of work demands.

⑤ Marginal Man identity as loss of community support leads to alienation.

⑥ Isolated social gatherings reflecting loss of social cohesion.

Ex: Marriage from village affair to family affair.

Urbanization's challenge to social cohesion is accurate representation of social strain

due to interplay of tradition & modernity  
in Indian society.



6. सुरक्षा और गतिशीलता लैंगिक बाधाएँ हैं जो भारत में श्रम बल में महिलाओं की भागीदारी को महत्वपूर्ण रूप से प्रभावित करती हैं। परीक्षण कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Safety and mobility are gendered constraints that significantly influence women's participation in the labour force in India. Examine. (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Ans) Female LFPR at 37.1% still lags behind  
Male LFPR at 78% reflecting gendered  
constraints at workplace.

### Safety Issues as Gendered Constraints

① Workplace Harassment and lack of safety mechanisms.

Ex: Shanwar Desai Case of Rajasthan.

② Poor implementation of POSH Mandate.

Ex: Ministry of Women & Child Development reported 35% workplaces have not constituted Internal Complaints Committee.

③ Issues of physical safety and sanitation at workplace. Ex: Frequent cases of women's hair being tangled at latrine machines & deaths.

④ Informal Sector: women are over-represented

feel in unorganized sector & low paid, exploitative and insecure -

⑤ Intersectional violence against women at workplace.

Ex: Article 15 Move showing violence against caste workplace.

## Mobility as Gendered Constraint

① Social Mobility Issues

→ Gender Pay Gap -

(UN Women: at 7% Gender Pay Gap)

→ Pink Collarization of Jobs

→ Glass Ceiling at workplace

Ex: Only 5% Indian CEOs are women

→ Constraints after motherhood.

② Physical Mobility Issues

→ Issues of Cheap transportation to workplace.

(80% Auto slips in Delhi)

→ Lack of jobs in highly paid organized sectors.

→ Reluctance of Indian families for inter-state & foreign migration of women for jobs.

IMF Reports emphasize that widely ensuring equality at workplace will boost India's GDP by 28%.



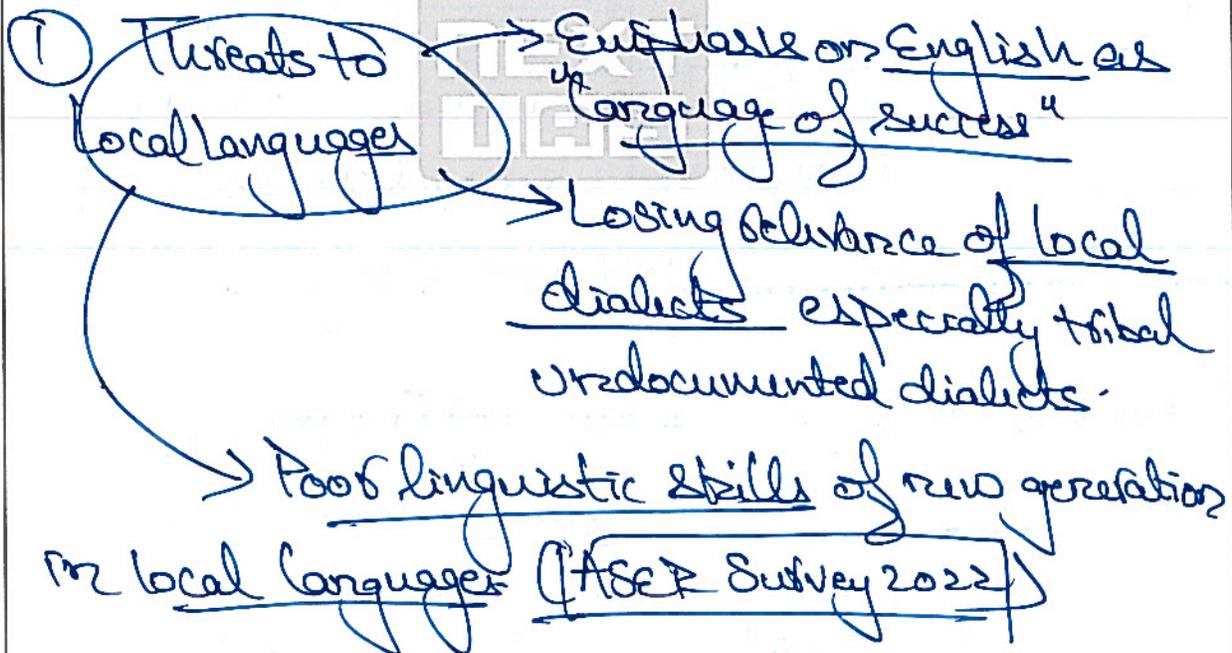
7. क्या वैश्वीकरण के कारण भारत में स्थानीय भाषाओं और पारंपरिक संस्कृति का क्षरण हो रहा है? अपने उत्तर की पुष्टि कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Is globalisation leading to the erosion of local languages and traditional culture in India? Justify your answer. (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Ans)

Giddens defined globalisation as, "increasing integration of culture, capital, ideas etc. such that local events are affected by events occurring at global level."

Globalisation leading to erosion of local languages and traditional culture



② Homogenization of culture driven by "west-toxification".

③ Shift from Indian cuisines to McDonaldization.

④ Losing relevance of traditional Indian values.

Ex: Shift from savings culture to Conspicuous Consumption.

4 Commercialization of Indian traditions.

Ex: Tradition: Ritualistic → Marriage → Modern idea: Status signalling.

However, globalization also help preserve tradition

1 Preserving ancient customs and practices.

Ex: National Manuscript Mission's Digitizing & global publishing of manuscripts.

2 Emergence of hybrid culture like Jains-Kutte: Synthesis of tradition & modernity.

3 'Globalisation' of Indian traditions.

Ex: Pichwai Art in demand in Europe.

4 Technology and global outreach to preserve cultural traditions. Ex: AYUSH medicines in demand at global stage.

Globalisation is transformative force and active efforts of whole of society are required to preserve cultural heritage.



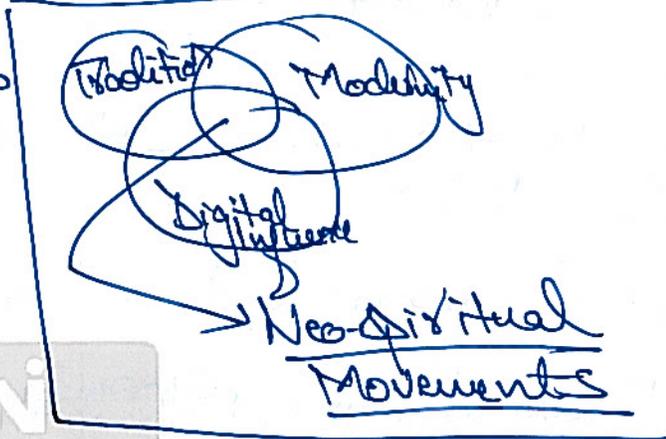
8. भारत में नव-आध्यात्मिक आंदोलन आस्था के अभ्यास में परंपरा, आधुनिकता और डिजिटल प्रभाव के सम्मिश्रण को दर्शाते हैं। विवेचना कीजिए।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Neo-spiritual movements in India reflect the fusion of tradition, modernity, and digital influence in the practice of faith. Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Ans 8) Neo-spiritual Movements refers to rise of cults sects and new denominations characterised

by confluence of :-



Features of Neo-spiritual Movements

① They emphasize on modern interpretation of traditional values to suit the demands of followers.

Ex: Osho Cult → New age values based on old traditions.

② They are highly privatized and individualized offering solutions to challenges of modernity. Ex: Amlerice cult offering

Solutions of unemployment, mental stress etc

③ They often employ digital mediums to connect to wider set of audience.

(Ex)°: IASCON using youtube channels & twitter.

④ They provide new social communities in highly individualized world.

(Ex)°: ~~Ashrama~~ Sects and cult groups.

⑤ They offer traditional solutions to modern problems. (Ex)°: Retreat to Ashrama facilities provided by various cults.

⑥ Neo-spiritualism aims to provide 'meaning to life' in fast changing world.

⑦ Digital innovations like e-Darshan, Online Communities, anonymous advices etc. are services offered by neo-spiritual cults.

As material & value structure change, so does religious forms reflected in rise of Neo-spiritual movements.



9. जनजातीय समाजों में महिलाओं की स्थिति और भूमिका, मुख्यधारा के भारतीय समाज में लैंगिक मानदंडों से किस प्रकार भिन्न है?

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

How does the status and role of women in tribal societies differ from gender norms in mainstream Indian society? (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Ans) Women role in mainstream society is generally subjugated to males, however, it is in contrast with tribal status of women

Status and Role in Mainstream

① Patriarchy dominates  
womenal secondary  
Citizens -

② Mostly patri-lineal  
families -

③ Gender Pay Gap &  
Feminisation of Agriculture.

Status and Role in Tribal Societies

① Principle of Gender  
Equity & no distor-  
tion between male &  
female -

② Instances of  
matrilineal & matri-  
archal families -

④ Khasi tribes of  
Meghalaya.

③ No rigid role  
divisions and

↑ Vote distribution according to skills.

4) Practices of female infanticide.

4) Female Birth invites wide celebrations -

Ex: Tribes of Kerala celebrating female birth

5) Hypergamous marriage and practices of dowry.

5) Exogamous marriage and practice of 'brideprice'

6) Female are traditionally viewed as burden of family → Son's Male Preference

6) Female are equal members & resource of tribes

7) Sexual Control on women

7) Sexual Autonomy & South Indian Tribes

However, increasing integration of tribals in mainstream has led to rising cases of gender violence and gender-discrimination in tribals.

Female to Gender Norms of tribes can serve as inspiration for egalitarian gender roles in mainstream.



10.

क्या प्रवासी समुदाय भारतीय सांस्कृतिक परंपराओं के संरक्षक या सांस्कृतिक परिवर्तन के एजेंट के रूप में कार्य करते हैं? उपयुक्त उदाहरणों के साथ आलोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Do diaspora communities act as custodians of Indian cultural traditions or agents of cultural change? Critically examine with suitable examples. (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Ans 10)

Recently <sup>Hon'ble</sup> PM Modi was welcomed by  
Bhujpuri Habitor of Greet Gawai in Mauritius

Showing role of diaspora in cultural promotion

Diaspora Communities as custodians of Indian Traditions

① Act as ambassadors of Indian Culture.

Ex: ~~Relax~~ Diwali Day Parade in New York

② Establish cultural sites, associations & practice Indian culture

Ex: Gurmitiya laborers established temples & mosques in Caribbean countries.

③ They actively protect Indian traditions abroad. Ex: Language classes & Classical Dance workshops in London.

④ They invest in cultural preservation by

technological solutions -

(Ex)° Indians at Google → preserving Indic Scripts

Diaspora as agents of cultural change

① Diaspora promote hybridisation of cultures. (Ex)° Chicken Tikka Masala as a famous dish in West.

② Over generations, diaspora tend to lose cultural roots. (Ex)° Americanised Indians of third generations.

③ They can criticize Indian culture.

(Ex)° Salman Rushdie criticized various Indian traditions -

④ Cultural innovations of diaspora.

(Ex)° Mixing or Indian Martial Arts <sup>with</sup> MMA fights -

India Diaspora play both roles of custodians - as well as agents of cultural change.



11.

अरब और यूरोपीय यात्रियों के विवरण मध्यकालीन भारत में सामाजिक और आर्थिक जीवन की प्रकृति के बारे में क्या बताते हैं?

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

What do the accounts of Arab and European travellers reveal about the nature of social and economic life in medieval India?

(Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Ans:)

Post ~~10th~~<sup>12th</sup> Century, there was influx of Arab travellers by land routes and post 15<sup>th</sup> Century of European travellers by sea route to document Indian culture.

Foreign Accounts detailing social life in India

① Details about Caste system and increasing rigidity in medieval times.

② Kitab-ul-Hind highlighted multifold Jati divisions.

③ Details about status of females in medieval India like Marco Polo visited court of Rudrama Devi and Noriz highlighted various roles taken by females in Vijaynagara empire.

④ Political setup of monarchy & regional

kingdoms are outlined in Kitab by Al-Biruni.

4) Various European scholars highlighted religious obscurantism & lack of scientific education in society.

Ex: Domingo Pae emphasized domination of tradition.

5) Multiple Accounts of coexistence of various religions in India.

Ex: ~~Abul Fazl~~ in Ziauddin Barani in Tarikh-i-Ferozshahi highlight state of various religions.

6) Joint Indian Family and institution of Karta was highlighted as unique feature.

7) Max Muller emphasized on reverence to natural elements (Rig Vedic influence) in India.

Foreign Accounts about Economic life of Medieval India

1) Emphasis on feudalism and description

of systems like Tpta and Anab-Nayaka.

Ex: Abdur Razag highlighted Nayaka system of south.

② Details about maritime trade and export potential of India.

Ex: Details about Huy's renorse or chain of gold from Europe to India.

③ Various travellers highlighted mining of gems & precious stones.

Ex: Jean-Baptiste Tavernier outlined about Golconda & gems trade.

④ Details about fertile agricultural land and revenue systems of state.

Ex: Abul Fazl's accounts of Ain-i-Akbari.

⑤ Salience of temple Economy & Merchants Guilds in India Ex: Accounts of Nicolo Conti

Travellers's epilogues are a rich collection about socio-economic organization of medieval India.

12. विभिन्न सामाजिक मुद्दों के समाधान में ब्रह्म समाज और आर्य समाज जैसे सुधारवादी संगठनों द्वारा निभाई गई भूमिका का परीक्षण कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक
- Examine the role played by reformist organizations like the Brahma Samaj and Arya Samaj in addressing various social issues. (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks



Ans: Various organizations emerged in 19th Century highlighting issues of religious obscurantism and advocating for religious reforms.

Brahmo Samaj Role in addressing social issues

- ① Rejection of idolatry and excessive rituals.  
They emphasized on monotheistic spirituality.
- Ex: Concept of No-idol temples by Brahma Samaj.
- ② Gender Justice: Advocacy against Sati & female infanticide.
- Ex: Raja Ram Mohan Roy & Brahma Samaj role in getting Sati Abolition Act passed.
- ③ Reaction against caste discrimination & untouchability. - Ex: Equal membership to all castes.

④ Emphasis on religious tolerance & essential unity of all religions -

Ex: Kesub Chandra Sen → Inclusion of all religions in 'Brahmo Samaj'.

⑤ Emphasis on Education which is blend of scientific rationality and Indian values.

Ex: Opening up of ~~Sans~~ David Hare's College.

⑥ Rallies & Voices against Kulin polygamy of Bengal.

⑦ Bengal Bangabhashika Sabha was first political organization by followers of Brahmo Samaj.

Reforms brought about by 'Arya Samaj'

① Rediscovery of glorious India's past by emphasizing on rich civilizational heritage.

Ex: 'Go Back To Vedas' was motto of Arya Samaj.

- ② Rejection of Untouchability and discriminatory Caste system.
- Ex: Emphasis on ritualistic Chaturvarna based Caste division (Rig Vedic Caste idea).
- ③ Emphasis on educating Indians at mass scale.
- Ex: DAV schools established by Arya Samajis.
- ④ Reaction against Sati, advocacy for widow Remarriage and gender justice.
- ⑤ Denouncing ritualistic & lavish marriage and prohibition on dowry.
- Ex: Registration of Arya Samaj marriages with no dowry.
- ⑥ Building a national identity based on shared history → Preursor & Base to National Movement.

Arya Samaj (1875) & Balram Samaj (1828) were two central pillars of Indian Socio-Religious Reform Movement.



13. उन तरीकों का परीक्षण कीजिए जिनसे गांधीवादी जन आंदोलनों ने भारतीय महिलाओं के लिए राजनीतिक स्थान खोला।

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Examine the ways in which Gandhian mass movements opened political space for Indian women.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Ans (13) Mahatma Gandhi asserted, "No true freedom can be gained without participation of half of India i.e. women of India".

Gandhian Mass Movement opening political space for Indian women

① Gandhiji emphasized on merit & equal participation of women in Indian freedom movement and denouncing traditional stigma about women in public spaces.

Ex: More than 17,000 women participated in Salt Raids of 1930s.

② Gandhian idea of Satyagraha and Ahimsa found resonance among Indian women.

Ex: Female Satyagrahis during Non-Cooperation of 1920.

③ Gandhiji advocated practical methods on how to make everyday activities as part of freedom struggle.

Ex: Women activities during Civil Disobedience → Picketing of liquor shops.  
→ Boycott of foreign clothes  
→ Home spinning of Khadi

④ Constructive Program of Gandhi emphasized on gender justice & women rights during non-struggle phase.

Ex: Idea of sanitation needs of women; adequate nutrition to women.

⑤ Gandhiji believed in female leadership & giving them prominent roles in movements -

Ex: Usha Mehta, Sushila Kripalani etc. are leaders of Quit India Movement.

⑥ Gandhiji advocated for denouncing practices deleterious for women & encourage political activity against them.

⑤ Gandhiji supported <sup>setting</sup> ~~setting up~~ of Women India Association & Passage of Savitri Act.

⑥ Gandhiji's message was delivered using selfish ideals which was easy to understand for women. ⑦ Idea of Ram-Rajya.

⑧ Gandhiji called women as ideal category as they have "infinite capacity for sacrifice".

However, women's participation went beyond Gandhian politics too.

① Female Political Associations like All India Women Congress.

② Female Revolutionaries like Bina Das, ~~Establa~~ Wodekar, Durga Devi etc.

③ Part of Indian National Army like Lakshmi Sehgal.

④ Important Political figures like Annie Besant. Mahatma Gandhi truly made Indian Freedom Movement mass movement by emphasizing on equal political participation of women.



14. कानूनी और शैक्षणिक प्रगति के बावजूद, आधुनिक भारत में दहेज, जातीय सगोत्र विवाह या बाल विवाह जैसी कुछ सामाजिक प्रथाएँ क्यों जारी हैं? उदाहरण सहित विश्लेषण कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक
- Despite legal and educational advances, why do certain social practices, such as dowry, caste endogamy, or child marriage, continue to persist in modern India? Analyse with examples.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Ans) Legal method of social reform involve a TOP-DOWN Approach where these activities still occur in clandestine & secretive manner.

Legal & Educational Measures against social evils

- ① Various laws like Dowry Prohibition Act, Prevention of Child Marriage Act etc.
- ② Inclusive education emphasizing on gender equality and liberal outlook.
- ③ Rise in human development indicators of vulnerable section owing to social justice policies.

Persistence of Various social evils in Indian society

- ① Persistence of Dowry : ① Idea of Dowry as a 'status symbol'. ② Fem India Report highlighting 'Sanstisation of Dowry'.

② Persistence of dowry based violence-

Ex) Jaspreet Kaur Murder Case in Punjab, 2022

③ Low reporting & Tacit social approval  
of Dowry.

④ Lack of societal mobilization leading to  
merely bookish relevance of Dowry law.

⑤ Persistence of Caste Endogamy :-

① Idea of caste hierarchy still being present.

Ex) :- only 20% marriages were inter-caste in 2011 (low)

② Blending of traditional values with modern  
means :- Ex) :- 'Caste filter' or matrimonial  
websites.

③ Instances of Honour killing & social  
ostracism against inter-caste couples.

Ex) :- Case of Honour killing of Manoj - Bhabli  
(2010) & Ayushi Chaudhary (2022).

(4) Traditional mindsets reinforced by caste-class correlations.

(E)° Santosh Goel's study highlighting monopolisation of high paying jobs by Scija.

(C) Persistence of Child Marriage°

(1) Social Approval and Support of Child Marriage.

(E)° Community Child Marriages during 'Asha Teej' in Rajasthan.

(2) ~~not~~ Conflicting identities of cutting edge bureaucracy & police officials as law enforcers & members of Community.

(3) Lack of gender sensitisation and women rights especially among rural communities.

Social mobilisation, value education,

awareness about law, empowerment of lower

castes, women etc. are necessary to change

LETTERS OF LAW TO SPIRIT OF SOCIETY°



15. "भारत में आधुनिक परवरिश (parenting) तेजी से पारंपरिक अपेक्षाओं और उभरते सामाजिक मानदंडों के बीच संतुलन बना रहा है। इस तनाव के सामाजिक निहितार्थों का विश्लेषण कीजिए।" (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक  
 "Modern parenting in India is increasingly balancing traditional expectations and emerging societal norms. Analyse the social implications of this tension." (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Ans (1) Modern Parenting involves a delicate balance between traditional norms & modern values leading to precarious identities of parents.

Modern Parenting as Balance of traditional norms & emerging values

① Balancing career with child rearing responsibilities especially for women.

Ex: Double Burden of women of child rearing & professional work.

② Value transmission due to conflict between traditional & modern values.

Ex: Religious rituals but commercial/materialistic orientation.

③ Issue of time division between child rearing activities and other commitments.

- ④ Rising cost of raising children conflicted with idea of parents as holistic caregivers.  
 Ex: Issue of expensive education & budget constraints.

- ⑤ Generation gap between expectations of children & traditional notion of parents.  
 Ex: Issue of Career Choice of children.

### Social Implications of this tension

- ① Work-life imbalance & resulting familial tension. Ex: 24 hour work culture in metro-polis vs responsible parenting.
- ② Mental Health Challenges due to overburdened families.  
 Ex: Double Burden of women → Increasing cases of young mother's depression & anxiety.
- ③ Rise of alternative institutions for child

Caring & feeding.

(Ex)° Play schools, Cliche, Day Care Homes etc.  
 replacing traditional role of parents.

(4) Generational disaffiliation due to  
ineffective value transmission by over-stained  
 parents - (Ex)° Communication Gap between  
 children & parents.

(5) Familial Breakdown : Manifestation of  
 increasing ~~family~~ <sup>parental</sup> strains.

(Ex)° Expanding trend of single parent families -

Resolving strain of tradition & modernity for parents → (1) Joint Conjugal Role  
 where both parents share responsibility.

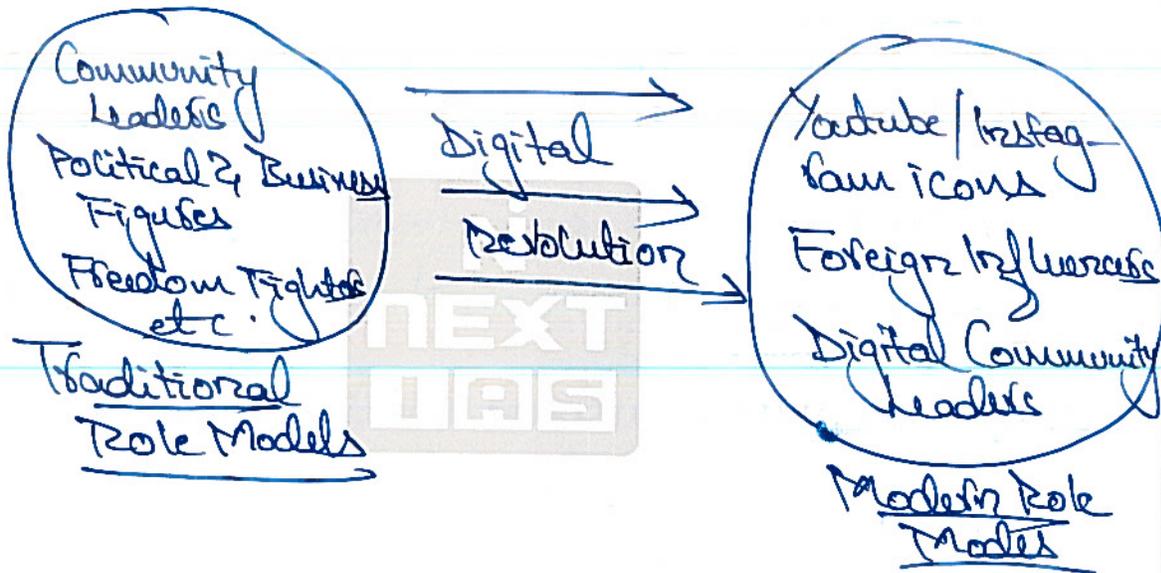
→ (2) Stem Families :  
 Using elder's support for raising child

→ (3) Parental Counselling & Digital Communities  
 Parenting in modern times involves careful  
balance of expectation & emerging social norms.



16. डिजिटल मीडिया प्रभावकों (influencers) के उदय के साथ, भारतीय समाज में पारंपरिक रोल मॉडल प्रतिस्थापित हो रहे हैं। युवा व्यवहार और मूल्य प्रणालियों पर इसके प्रभाव का विश्लेषण कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक  
 With the rise of digital media influencers traditional role models in Indian society are being replaced. Analyse its impact on youth behaviour and value systems. (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Ans) Instagram influencers, influencers, K-pop idols etc. are emerging as new role models for Indian youth in digital age



Impact on youth behaviour of shift in role models

- ① Rise of materialistic orientation and conspicuous consumption among youth.
- Ex) 'Instagram life' as ideal life conception by young people.

- ② Imitative Behaviours giving rise to alter  
rate career choices.
- Ex: Rise of Professional gaming as career choice.
- ③ Shift from traditional culture towards west-tonification.
- Ex: losing relevance of Bhajans to western hip-hop
- ④ Rising awareness about global issues  
and reengagement movements -
- Ex: #Me Too movement & Black Lives Matter  
was initiated by digital influencers.
- ⑤ Shift from Community outlook to individual  
outlook. Ex: Digital culture emphasises on  
individual success.
- ⑥ Issues of frauds and cybercrimes perpetuated  
by fin-influencers -
- Ex: uncredible advice about crypto investment
- ⑦ Culture of "Toxic Masculinity" perpetuated

by digital icons like Andrew Tate, Dan Bawliyan etc.

Impact or Value systems due to digital media influencers

- ① Shift from traditional conservatism to modern outlook (Ex): Social media influencers symbolizing female autonomy in careers & society.
  - ② Communitarianism to self-interest maximization. (Ex): Vivekananda's Service to Society Digital influencers's only self success
  - ③ Lossing relevance of traditional Indian values.  
(Ex): Culture of violence replacing culture of peace via violent video games.
  - ④ Irresponsible Consumerism as way of life for youth.
  - ⑤ Family time replaced by Gadget Time
  - ⑥ Digital Friends / Likes preferred over social relations.
- Digital Media influencers have changed attitudes and value orientation of Indian youth.

17. शहरीकरण मौजूदा शहरी अवसंरचना के लिए खतरा बन रहा है। इससे उत्पन्न विकासात्मक मुद्दों तथा शहरी समुदायों पर इसके प्रभाव पर चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक
- Urbanization is posing a threat to the existing urban infrastructure. Discuss the developmental issues it poses and its impact on urban communities. (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks



Ans: Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs highlighted that 63% of Indian cities faces severe infrastructural deficit. (MHA report 2021)

### Developmental issues of urbanization

① Overflowing and high pressure on existing resources.

Ex: High patient-doctor ratio at city hospitals.

② Lack of affordable housing and proliferation of slums.

Ex: Dharavi & Kumbhlipada slums in Mumbai.

③ Issues of illegal encroachment & urban sprawl leading to illegal colonies, wetland encroachment etc.

④ High pressure on transport facilities &

- Road congestion . Issues of pollution due to high usage of private transport .
- (5) Lack of urban amenities like sanitation, lighting etc . (Ex) : Seelampur Garbage Dump of Delhi .
- (6) Lopsided urban governance as developmental benefits are cornered by rich areas .  
(Ex) : Issues of Gentrification in urban areas .
- (7) High burden on educational institutions and lack of recreational space .
- (8) Issues of water shortage and contaminated supply .

### Impact on Urban Communities

- (1) Rising areas under slums reflecting low socio-economic indicators .  
(Ex) : High prevalence of vector borne diseases in slums .

② Poor standards of living leading to mental and physical health issues.

Ex: Fluoride Contamination in water leads to various diseases.

③ Rising cost of living in urban areas leading to financial hardships.

Ex: lack of affordable housing in cities.

④ High Traffic Congestion leads to loss of economic productivity of workforce.

⑤ Urbanization issues ~~are~~ disproportionately affect vulnerable communities leading to phenomenon like Ghettoization.

⑥ Poor & ineffective utilization of urban institution funds owing to lopsided urbanisation  
Convergence of Data-Driven Urban Governance  
Decongestion of urban centres and citizen led focused  
development of urban areas will solve challenges of urbanisation.

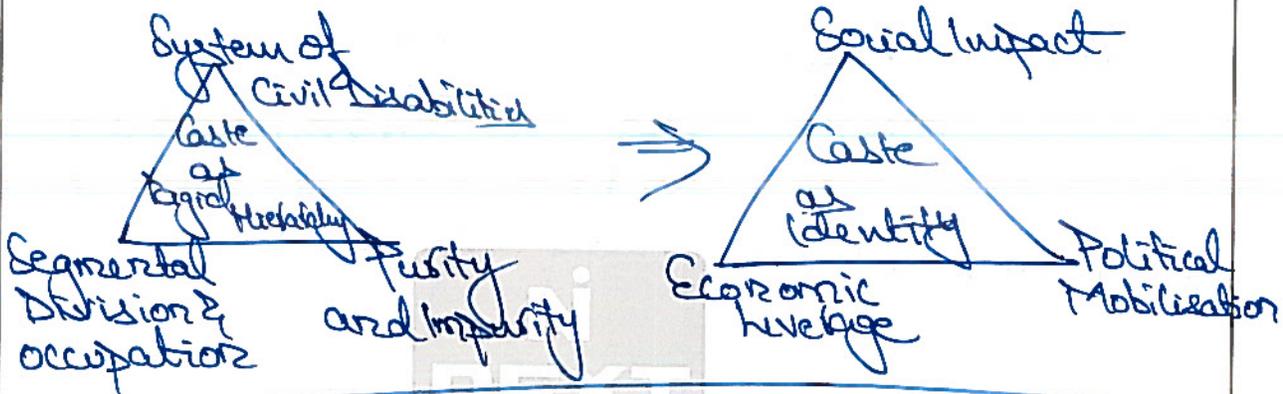


18. भारत में जाति आज कठोर पदानुक्रम (rigid hierarchy) की बजाय पहचान पुष्टिकरण (identity assertion) की एक प्रणाली के रूप में अधिक कार्य करती है। जाति समूह लामबंदी और आर्थिक परिवर्तन के संदर्भ में इस रूपांतरण पर चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Caste in India today operates more as a system of identity assertion than of rigid hierarchy. Discuss this transformation in the context of caste group mobilisation and economic change.

(Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Answer) Dipankar Gupta argues that, "Caste as a system has given way to Caste as an ideology".



Caste as system of identity for caste group mobilization

① Caste identities used for political mobilization. Ex: Dalit political parties using Dalit identities for electoral gains.

② Losing relevance of Caste as system of quasi-judicial authority. Rather shift is towards Caste mobilisation for political leverage.

Ex: Caste Panchayats gave way to Caste

Associations in political domain.

③ Civil and religious disabilities ~~are~~ associated with caste has decreased.

Ex: AA. ⑤ giving equal access to public spaces for all castes.

④ 'Caste subunits' no longer reflect position in hierarchy rather merely an identity marker.

Ex: Various castes working together in common workplace.

⑤ 'Reservation Politics' using caste for giving social support.

Ex: Demand of reservation by dominant castes like Patels, Yadavs.

⑥ 'Caste Alliances' for maximizing share in scarce ~~are~~ resource base.

⑦ Growing ~~caste but~~ intercaste marriage reflecting reduced notions of hierarchy.

⑧ Class system replacing caste system as social hierarchy. Now similar class

may have various castes -

Caste as identity assertion in economic sphere

- ① Decline of occupational role of castes.  
 Ex: Baria: Traditionally merchants but now teachers, sports person, service professional etc.
  - ② Breakdown of Jajman-Kamin relations also led to breakdown of caste as economic hierarchy.
  - ③ Caste identity used in economic arena for secular transactions.  
 Ex: 'Marwari' as identity ~~is~~ used to symbolize reliability & trust in business transactions.
  - ④ Class-Caste interplay shaping economic dynamics in society.  
 Ex: DCCI: Industrial Body for Dalit industrialists
- Caste as a system is now replaced with 'caste as a identity' where it shapes cognitive view of individual but not secular social hierarchies.



19.

क्या भारत में क्षेत्रीय पहचान, सांस्कृतिक अभिव्यक्तियों से विकसित होकर स्वायत्तता के संगठित अभिकथनों में बदल गई है? राष्ट्रीय एकता के लिए उनके निहितार्थों पर चर्चा कीजिए। (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

Have regional identities in India evolved from cultural expressions to organised assertions of autonomy? Discuss their implications for national cohesion. (Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Ans) Regionalism involves intense loyalty to one's regional identity shaped by shared cultural heritage, history, language etc.

Regional identities evolving to organised assertions for autonomy

(A) Rise of secessionist demands based on regional identities -

(Ex)° Greater Nagalim demanded by NSCN in Nagaland.

(Σ) Cases of violence and protests for increased autonomy -

(Ex)° ULFA in Assam leading autonomy demands.

(B) Growing intra-regional clashes based on perceived persecution and thus demands

for autonomy - (Ex)° Dravida subnationalism

alleging discrimination & demanding autonomy.

④ Political mobilisation for organized assertion of autonomy based on identity politics

Ex: Demand for Bodoland from A.D. of Assam.

Impact on National Cohesion of such demands

① weakening of Indian Nationalism & growing salience of secessionist ~~regional~~ regionalism.

Ex: Naga identity over Indian identity.

② Threat to territorial sovereignty and unity of India. Ex: Khalistan Movement demanding separation from India.

③ Cases of regionalism backed violence and deteriorating law & order.

Ex: Clashes over Belagavi dispute & resulting deaths.

④ Confrontational Federalism and inter-state disputes.

⑤ Divisive politics leading to perceived marginalisation & social unrest.

However, not all regional identities are evolving to organized assertions of autonomy

① Raising just demands for greater autonomy within Indian Union.

Ex: Jharkhand's demand for 6th schedule.

② Demand for equitable distribution of developmental benefits.

Ex: Demands of Jharkhand (Eastern UP) for more funds.

③ Assertion of cultural subnationality as part of broader identity.

Ex: Emphasis on Assamese culture as part of Indian culture

Regionalism can be a positive way to assert regional cultural identities. However, checks must be there for degenerating against subnationalistic secessionism.



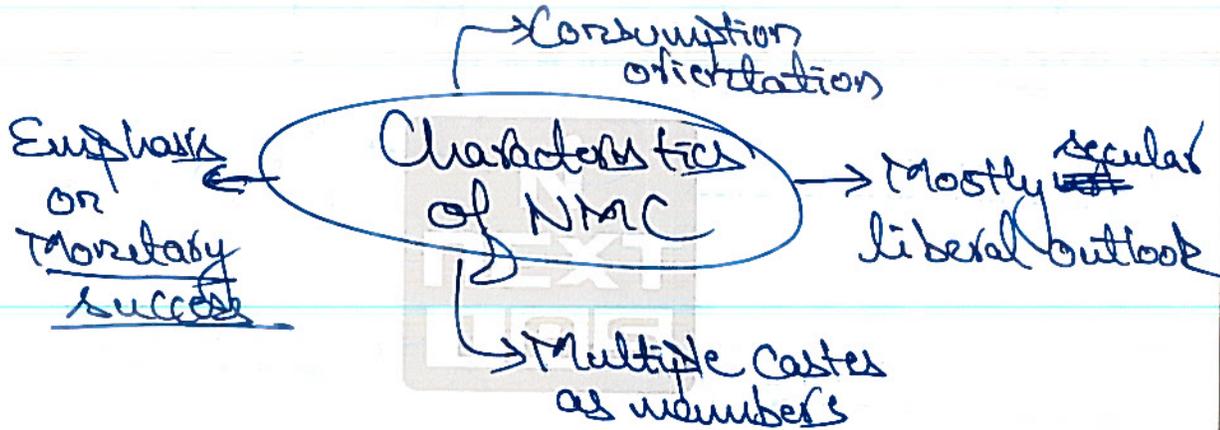
20. भारत में नए मध्यम वर्ग का उदय उपभोग की संस्कृति से चिह्नित है। सचेतन उपभोग से आवेगपूर्ण उपभोग की ओर संक्रमण किस प्रकार शहरी भारत में पारिवारिक संरचना और गतिशीलता (dynamics) को प्रभावित कर रहा है?

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 15 अंक

The rise of the new middle class in India is marked by a culture of consumption. In what ways is the transition from conscious to impulsive consumption affecting family structure and dynamics in urban India?

(Answer in 250 words) 15 Marks

Ans) BB Mishra asserts that New Middle Class (NMC) is compositionally varied and ideologically different from traditional old middle class.



Impulsive Consumption impacting family structure

① Familial values shift from culture of saving to culture of conspicuous consumption. Ex: Immediate gratification of material need.

② Breakdown of 'jointness' of income, debt and expense. Nuclear family is

new site of consumption.

③ Rise of Alternate Family Forms based on "new-consumeristic notions of family".

Ex) % DINK % Double Income No kids Family.

④ Rising impulsive consumption coupled with greater cost of living has led to reduced family size. - Ex) % ~~that~~ <sup>Norm of</sup> small family of cities

⑤ Family rituals gave way to commercial aspects of rituals.

Ex) % Marriage from ritual based to status signaling based.

Impact of Impulsive Consumption on dynamics in urban India

① Growing materialistic culture of Indian cities creating challenges of

Urbanisation :

(Ex) % More cars on road  $\rightarrow$  Traffic Congestion.

(2) New Middle Class being bulwark of urban economic activities.

(Ex) % 67% of Indian GDP is from urban consumption.

(3) 'Urban inflation effect' due to impulsive

consumption. (Ex) % ~~Commodity price in Bangalore~~

(Ex) % High rates of rent in cities.

(4) Consumeristic lifestyle leading to unsustainable urban consumption pattern.

(Ex) % High plastic waste generated by Middle Class in urban India.

(5) Financial Constraints faced due to material life of NMC in cities.

(Ex) % Cases of high debt on software engineers of urban areas.

Shift to materialism is a broad pattern of wasteful modernization - New Middle-class should re-cognize traditional values of conscious consumption.

# NEXT IAS

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# NEXT IAS

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# NEXT IAS

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## महत्वपूर्ण निर्देश

अभ्यर्थियों को निम्नलिखित निर्देशों को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ना चाहिए। किसी भी निर्देश का उल्लंघन करने पर दण्डित किया जा सकता है।

क्या न करें-	क्या करें-
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका के भीतर कहीं भी अपना नाम या पंजीकरण संख्या न लिखें।</li> <li>2. अपनी QCA पुस्तिका में कहीं भी प्रश्नों के वास्तविक उत्तरों के अलावा कुछ भी न लिखें।</li> <li>3. अपनी QCA पुस्तिका से कोई भी पृष्ठ न फाड़ें, यदि आपको कोई पृष्ठ गायब लगे, तो पर्यवेक्षक/निरीक्षक को सूचित करना न भूलें।</li> <li>4. अपनी QCA पुस्तिका को अपनी टेबल पर न छोड़ें, परीक्षा समाप्त होने के पश्चात इसे निरीक्षक को सौंप देना चाहिए।</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. कवर पृष्ठ पर दिए गए निर्देशों को ध्यान पूर्वक पढ़ें और उनका सख्ती से पालन करें।</li> <li>2. QCA पुस्तिका के कवर पृष्ठ पर दिए गए स्थान पर अपना पंजीकरण नंबर और अन्य विवरण लिखें।</li> <li>3. स्पष्ट और पठनीय तरीके से लिखें। खराब/अपठनीय लिखावट में न लिखें।</li> <li>4. रफ नोट्स या गणना के लिए, इस पुस्तिका के अंतिम दो खाली पृष्ठों का उपयोग किया जाना चाहिए। रफ नोट्स को बाद में क्रॉस कर देना चाहिए।</li> <li>5. यदि आप किसी कार्य को रद्द करना चाहते हैं, तो उस पर अपना पेन चलाएं या उस पर "रद्द" लिखें, अन्यथा उसका मूल्यांकन किया जा सकता है।</li> <li>6. परीक्षा हॉल छोड़ने से पहले अपनी QCA पुस्तिका व्यक्तिगत रूप से निरीक्षक को सौंप दें।</li> </ol>

## ऑनलाइन सुविधा का लाभ उठाने वाले अभ्यर्थियों के लिए विशेष अनुरोध

1. QCA पुस्तिका को ठीक से स्कैन करें। हम चाहेंगे कि आप स्कैनिंग के लिए कैमस्कैनर ऐप (CAM SCANNER) का प्रयोग करें। (यह कोई प्रमोशन नहीं है)।
2. कृपया QCA पुस्तिका को पर्याप्त रोशनी में स्कैन करें। कम रोशनी में स्कैन की गई पुस्तिकाएं, उनके मूल्यांकन की गुणवत्ता को बाधित कर सकती हैं।
3. स्कैन के दौरान छाया वाले किसी भी पृष्ठ/पीडीएफ को फिर से स्कैन किया जाना चाहिए। कृपया सुनिश्चित करें कि आपके द्वारा अपलोड की गई पीडीएफ यथा संभव स्पष्ट हो।
4. QCA पुस्तिका का उपयोग नहीं करने वाले उम्मीदवारों को अपना विवरण पहले पृष्ठ पर देना चाहिए और मैक्रो टिप्पणियों के लिए अगला पृष्ठ खाली छोड़ दें। यह समझना चाहिए कि उत्तर स्कैन की गई पीडीएफ में पृष्ठ नंबर 3 से शुरू होना चाहिए।
5. QCA पुस्तिका का उपयोग नहीं करने वाले उम्मीदवारों को प्रश्नपत्र के अनुसार उत्तर के अनुक्रम का पालन करना चाहिए।
6. कृपया स्कैन किए गए संस्करण में उत्तर के अनुक्रम और कुल पृष्ठों की संख्या की जाँच करें। सुनिश्चित करें कि यह उसी के भौतिक संस्करण के अनुरूप है।

