

## SOCIOLOGY (TEST CODE : 1208)

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Medium Hindi/Eng.	ENGLISH	Registration Number	106714
Center	BHOPAL	Date	24.07.18

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:		
Remarks:		
Signature of Examiner		

## 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.
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 than 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.

1. Write a short note on each of the following in not more than 150 words.

10 x 5 = 50m

(a) How Durkheim's idea of Sacred and profane be used to understand the contemporary society?

In his seminal work 'Elementary forms of religious life' Emile Durkheim elaborated on the primitive form of religion referred as Totemism. He argued that humans divide the world into sacred and Profane. While sacred is the realm par excellence and absolute; of purity which people cannot touch with impurity, profane is the rest part of the common man's life.

Even in contemporary society the relevance of these concepts is appassent :-

- 1) In Religious sphere, people still consider ~~Baptism~~ 'Sanskaras' in India as important rituals and take out shoes before entering temple showing separate sacred realm.
- 2) A new Civil Religion is rising with growth in Nationalism & national festivals, symbols, personalities are kept at a high pedestal.
- 3) People tend to uphold the Individual freedom, liberty & values leading to Cult of Individual.
- 4) Innovations and deviations in profane realm like hairstyle, living conditions etc is acceptable.

1. (b) "Social strain theory" of Merton

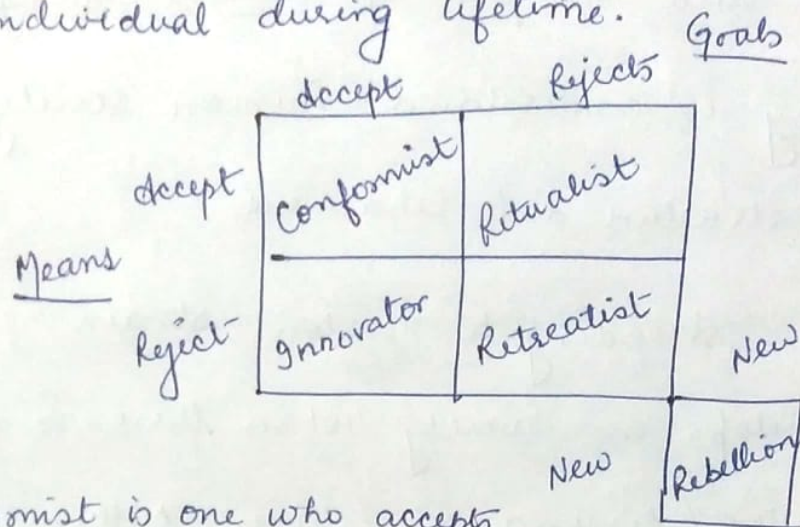
10

Robert Merton was a neofunctionalist who tried to put up middle range theory to understand human society & its structure and behaviour.

According to Merton, strain develops in society when there is a complex / dissonance between culturally set goals and structurally available means to reach them. This Goal-Means complex causes strain and leads to deviance in society which is manifested in different forms.

Contrary to Durkheimian thought of 'anomie' being a pathological state, Merton called strain as ever present in systems.

Merton created a framework of responses to the structural strain faced by individual during lifetime.



- (1) Conformist is one who accepts both goals & means Eg uses education and jobs to reach high status
- (2) Innovator accepts goals but rejects means Eg thief, bribe taking or even scientist due to incomplete socialisation
- (3) Ritualist causes displacement of goals red tapism etc
- (4) Retreatist ~~are~~ - drug addicts who do not ~~have~~ accept goals or means
- (5) Rebellion - like social reformers & Revolutionary

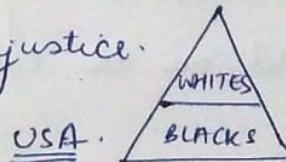
1. (c) Illustrate with examples: Ethnicity and race as dimensions of stratification 10

Amongst various other dimensions of stratification, Ethnicity and Race continue to occupy space even today.

### RACE

Based on perceived physical differences, people were stratified as belonging to a single race. Positivist theories based on scientific study tried to deepen these inequalities leading to Racial discrimination, Nazi - Gypsy Holocaust etc.

In USA, even today African Americans face marginalisation, perceived as criminals, shot at by police despite powerful political leaders like Obama, Martin Luther etc & civil war. SOCIAL Movements like Black lives Matter are trying to undo the injustice.



## ETHNICITY

Ethnicity ~~is~~ is a feeling of belongingness experienced by a group based on a common history, culture, practices, norms and values.

- ) Most prominent in tribal societies and even in North East India eg in Nagaland, Meghalaya (Kukis, Garos-, Jaintias)
- ) North East Indians face violence or teasing by North & South Indians due to ethnic origin eg recent mob violence.
- ) But multi-ethnic communities coexist in USA and even in India. eg in USA, all Indians refer themselves as ETHNIC INDIANS.
- ) Globalisation and greater contacts can lower sensitivity to ethnic differences but some scholars argue that people will try to hold on to their uniqueness also



1. (d) The functional prerequisites of social systems by Talcott parsons 10

Talcott Parsons, an American structural functionalist, provided a grand theoretical framework to study social system in terms of the functional pre-requisites that it fulfills due to which it exists.

Social system is seen as a body consisting of different structural parts/ components comprising of institutionalised social interaction for optimisation of gratification.

Functional Pre-requisites are - AGIL

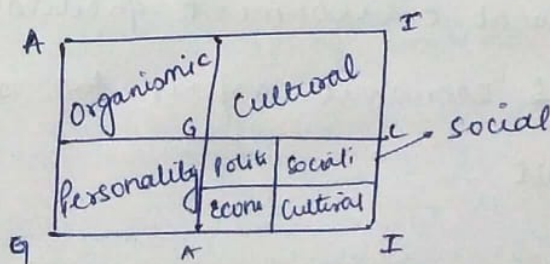
1) ADAPTATION: this involves adjusting to the local environment facilitated by ~~political~~ 'economic' aspects for survival & existence.

2) Goal ATTAINMENT - This involves the aspirational goal setting done by political system to guide behavioural direction. Eg by leaders, philosophers.

3) Integration - this function keeps the members together, closely knit in norms and values facilitated by cultural system

4) Latency - Pattern maintenance can be sustained using socialisation by family school etc to release tension & stress to ensure continued existence of system:

These are performed by social systems that exist and be part of larger ACTION SYSTEM in society. Any organisation can be analysed threadbase only to realize that individual units fulfill these functions for system:



1. (e) Give an account of Weber's conception of wert rational action and its importance in world today. 10

Max Weber ~~the~~, who laid the foundation of Interpretive Sociology, analysed social action as act of an individual oriented towards others in a social setting.

He gave IDEAL TYPES of social action, one of which is WERT RATIONAL action. It refers to the VALUE oriented rational action, as it is based on the traditional, cultural values and norms of the society.

Unlike Zweck rational action based on logical analysis, Wert Rational action conforms with societal values and hence depends on role institutionalisation and people's adherence to social norms.

- ) Increasing love marriages, live in relationships, late marriages & small family size are going against usual traditional norms of agricultural societies.
- ) Rational choice of career Eg son of a labourer choosing to study further and becoming civil servant also is an example of deviation & innovation

But certain values remain dear to the society even today. Eg Soldiers in every part of world are ready to sacrifice their lives for nation - West rational action.

Eg Recent protests by Rajput women in India and threats to perform "Jauhar"/sacrifice if a movie was released indicates persistence of such action

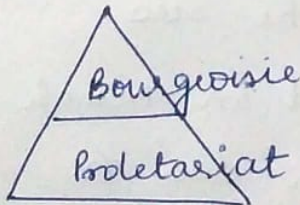
2. (a) In what ways are Marx's and Weber's theories of class at odds with each other and to what extent can they be seen as complementary? 20

Both Karl Marx and Max Weber provided basis and form of stratification in the society based on their approach which were different in many ways.

- (\*) BASIS: Marx is seen as ECONOMIC REDUCTIONIST by Karl Popper in that he sees Economic ownership of forces of production causing two classes of HAVES and HAVE NOTS to form.

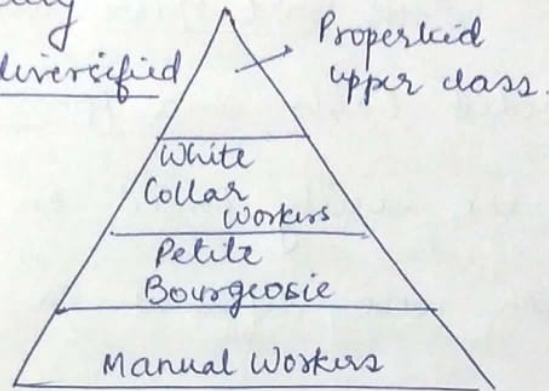
Weber gives multi-causal explanation and gives due importance to MARKET POSITION, based on consumption and life chances for classifying society.

- (\*) CLASS: Marx divides society as only between dual classes, one owning capital & labour while latter has to even sell labour.



Weber gives a four fold classification of class in society

This is a more diversified classification of class rejecting polarisation



① DYNAMICS: Marx suggests that since in Capitalism relation between labour & man is perverted, even Lumpen Proletariat (middle class - if exists) would undergo polarisation and ultimately CLASS STRUGGLE would ensue. He is ~~optimistic~~ optimistic of a COMMUNIST society where no class would exist and dialectics will end.

Weber is pessimistic about the idea of classless society as he sees proliferation of classes based on much occupational differentiation due to

division of labour in society. He is not hopeful of class antagonism or Revolution being inevitable.

Though differing significantly, theories of Marx and Weber are also complementary in that they analyse stratification in backdrop of emerging capitalism, its impact on economic & social structure of society. Both agree to the 'Alienation' or 'disenfranchisement' which class division & capitalism brings along.

Hence despite differences, Marx & Weber deepen our understanding of the CLASS in society, ensuing stratification and the Imagined future course.

2. (b) "Durkheim was not the first thinker to attempt to make sociology a science." Critically examine

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Emile Durkheim is regarded as the torchbearer of the discipline of sociology in that he played crucial role to establish it as a separate field of study.

Due to overall Durkheim stuck to Positivist understanding of society by studying social facts as independent, external entities that influence man's behaviour to be studied objectively without value interference. He elaborated in 'Rules of Sociological Method', how scientific method can be used to study society. He continued to illustrate this by using Indirect Experimentation on



Arunta tribes for study of primitive religion; as also used Multivariate analysis and Concomitant Observation for study of suicide. In this he proved how seemingly psychological phenomenon can be studied sociologically using appropriate methods.

But these attempts of Durkheim were not ~~not~~ very radical or innovative, in sense that they followed same line of thought put forward by giants like August Comte. He first called ~~to~~ the discipline 'Social Physics' before naming it sociology. Comte considered Sociology as the last of all sciences to be discovered and the king of all.

He stressed on positivist method by historical, comparative etc to study society using methods of natural sciences and to devise laws of human behaviour. Apart from Comte, Darwin's theory of Evolution and Herbert Spencer's organismic analogy of society laid the foundation of sociology as science and functionalist doctrine.

This approach is criticised by Interpretivists who claim that man acts ~~also~~ based on meanings he attaches to objective world, hence subjective understanding is important. Qualitative methods like unstructured interviews, Participant observation, conversational analysis and ethnomethodological approaches must supplement understanding of society.

2. (c) "Religion is the opium of masses and an instrument of classes". Critically  
analyse 10

The Conflict perspective of Marxian paradigm sees the social superstructure of religion, law, family culture being shaped by Economic Infrastructure which is forces and relation of production between man, labour and things.

Hence Religion is seen as an Instrument of domination or a part of Ideological / Moral State Apparatus.

(Louis Althusser) to lull people into believing that their class position is divinely ordained or based on their 'karma' of last birth (Eg. in Caste system). This becomes an opium for masses as it creates a sense of

'False consciousness' in man that  
tries to justify subordinate & antagonistic  
class position of proletariat.

" Religion is the illusory sun that revolves  
around man as long as man doesn't  
revolve around himself."  
- Marx & Engels.

Critique:

- 1) Social movements based on religion to  
protect religious freedom, doctrine, practices  
Eg Counter protest by Maulvis by fatwa  
shows that religion can be a source of  
agitation and political activism.
- 2) It may also give support in times of  
crisis (Malinowski) or integrate the  
society (Durkheim).
- 3) Secularisation due to urbanisation,  
individualism, socialisation (Bruce) has  
reduced religion's importance.

4. (a) "Emile Durkheim, division of labour could be 'functional' as well as 'anomic' for society". Explain

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Emile Durkheim tried to understand European society when it was in a state of huge flux due to capitalist factory mode of production and occupational differentiation due to urbanisation.

Division of labour is thus seen as a result of need for greater productivity and efficiency, when people divide jobs into several components.

Since there was complexity, heterogeneity and differentiation, Durkheim analysed that it's the DIVISION OF LABOUR which provides basis for ORGANIC SOLIDARITY in the society.

It is functional as it has taken the role of mechanical solidarity based on few differences, similarity of production and following norms, values when material and moral density was low.

But with increase in both production & population, dynamic density leads to the organic solidarity that now plays <sup>functional</sup> role of INTEGRATION in society for maintaining social order and continuity.

But due to the sudden nature, it may also be ANOMIE for society in these ways:

1) State of ANOMIE - normlessness and confusion due to transitional pressure is seen as a pathological state

where 'old balance/scale is upset and new scale cannot be immediately improvised'<sup>2</sup>

This occurs as moral regulation cannot keep pace with economic & technological development leading to heightened desires lack of control, increased divorce, breakdown etc

2) forced division of labour - discrepancy

between skill of a person and work allotted can create unusual condition of forced labour which is unsustainable.

3) Inappropriate division/organisation - defeats

the very purpose of labour division and efficiency

Though Durkheim, thus saw division of labour as functional for the contemporary society but he also recognised its anomic effects though he considered them as only temporary.

4. (b) Indian society is still in a state of transition. Using the concept of Pattern variable, account for the contradictions present in Indian society today? 20

Pattern variables are the links between Parsonian framework of social system and social action. They represent the classic dilemma that a human faces due to Motivation - Value complex in daily life. These are choices based on values categorised in extreme-states combination which are apparent in Indian society as well.

Indian society is experiencing a transition from agrarian to service economy; from collective to individualistic values to urban centres of productivity and modern rational democratic features due to development, modernisation and globalisation.



1) Ascriptive vs Achievement based - while ascriptive norms put Brahmin boy at helm in village in school, he has to prove his mettle for any job in corporate world based on his achievement.

2) Diffuseness vs specificity - Modern Bureaucratic structures have penetrated but rationality has not. so, people demand eg high caste/class farmers bribe the executive for works in villagers corruption persists in hope of getting specific favour from a diffuse system

3) Affective neutrality vs Affectivity - This dilemma can be of a doctor/ politician etc of emotional detachment or attachment to action.

#### 4) Particularistic vs Universalism -

Despite adopting democracy and principle universal values of non discrimination, MPs continue to elicit votes based on caste, class, ethnicity & language; caste panchayats / khap give orders to ban use of mobiles by girls.

#### 5) Collective orientation vs Individual

Orientation - due to persistence of joint families in rural areas and cultural norms, less than 5% marriages are outside caste of own person shows that people are oriented towards collective values more than individual choice or position.

Hence these dilemma continue to influence, and cause strain to individuals in everyday lives due to transitional nature.

4. (c) Marxism has lost its relevance in 21st Century. Examine the statement with suitable evidence. 10

Conflict perspective laid down by Marxism seems to be losing sheen in 21<sup>st</sup> century as -

① The Utopia of Classless communist society is nowhere seen, rather capitalist mode of production has found ways to reduce alienation & class proliferation has prevented polarisation & class struggle.

② Eq work life balance, leisure given importance in work org., Goldthorpe study of affluent workers that expressive needs are fulfilled by family, and work is not

③ an end but means ~~end~~ in itself.

Work organisation has changed by knowledge economy, reskilling, work from home opportunities etc. Revolution is nowhere seen due to decomposition of

capital and labour, emergence of middle class, democratic govt etc ( Ralph Dahrendorf )  
Though PRAXIS theory and Marx as a political rallying point might be dying but his concepts continue to exist and manifest as -

- 1) Alienation, disenchantment in office cubicles, isolation & hostility among workers
- 2) McDonaldisation happening for enhancing efficiency (RITZER)
- 3) Marxist understanding of NAXALISM as social problem due to poverty, deprivation causing them to take up arms against democratic set up.
- 4) Gramscian notion of Discourse power, also supported by FOUCAULT and neo marxists where state uses surveillance and ideological state apparatus to spread dominant values.

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

10 x 5 = 50m

(a) Citizenship and Globalization

Citizenship is the membership of a political community which is not only about getting civil, political rights but also ensuing duties and feedback as a two way process.

Also Globalisation is the free and increasing movement of goods, services, labour (people) & knowledge across countries leading to interconnectedness & interdependence.

⊙ In a narrow sense, though <sup>being</sup> citizens involves duties to own country and getting civil, (property), political (voting), social (welfare) rights as enbued by TH Marshall. But due to globalisation, boundaries of state are blurring.

- ⑥ EU already has common citizenship norms where people can move freely and adhere to common laws or rules.
- ⑥ with growing cultural homogenisation and universal values, countries are encouraged to recognize equal rights for their citizens. Eg Saudi Arabia giving rights to drive to women showing impact of global precedents.
- ⑥ Mark Smith talks about ECOLOGICAL CITIZENSHIP as growing environmental sensitivity and global citizenship values of duty towards fellow humans and even nature (plants, animals) has taken citizenship to a new realm.

5. (b) Religious revivalism

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Religious Revivalism is a broad concept that indicates how orthodox followers of religion are trying to hold on to their religious practices, trying to spread them and keep alive the doctrines, practices, beliefs and values central to religion. It includes religious fundamentalism as a movement to go back to ancient/old singular textual interpretation of religion.

- ⊙ Efforts by Bhindranwale, ~~at~~ rhetoric of Fallen Sikhs was one such example.
- ⊙ Courting Catholic community and conservative interpretation during USA's election showed revival of religious institutions and importance in politics.

- ① Revival of rituals and practices and reiteration of their importance  
eg in opposition to efforts of Muslim women against triple talaq, issuing fatwa or constitution of Muslim personal law board branches in each district are apt examples. of religion wants to reassert its importance in civil aspects of life.
- ② Demands for building temple, mosques etc or lynching or cow vigilantism shows how religious symbols are being misused to spread communal hatred.
- ③ Acceptance by UAE for temple in Abu Dhabi shows how religion occupies space even in diplomacy.



5. (c) Elaborate the contribution of religion in the development of science. 10

Science and Religion has long been seen as anti-thetical due to foundational values but they have operationally coordinated and contributed to each other's growth.

⊙ Religion provides theories or beliefs which act as Raw Material for scientific testing.

Eg recent research group constituted to study goodness of cow's milk, urine, others panchganya concoction can bring to light. ; ~~just as this~~.

⊙ Religion provides direction or historical perspective that allows science an open ground to refute its existence and establish rational, logical analysis.

5. (d) Structural causes of Fundamentalism

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Fundamentalism is an ideology by which urges orthodox and original interpretation of any doctrinal or religious text and strict adherence in all walks of life.

Steve Bruce tried to give its causes :-

- It's more likely in Religions with one single text (sacred) like Bible, Quran etc. that is foundational, <sup>Guru Granth</sup> unlike Hinduism that has Gita, Veda, upanishad, Purana etc.
- Political affinity or accommodation or inability to control can feed into fundamentalism. Eg. Khomeini's efforts in Iran, Baghdadis Daesh in Syria
- Body of recruits available to spread the message and exercise social control is also necessary cause.

•) This is caused due to institutional failure, poverty, illiteracy, unemployment and lack of communal harmony.

•) Feeling of distrust among communities violence and crime can also cause so.

eg in Myanmar, army is supporting ethnic conflicts.

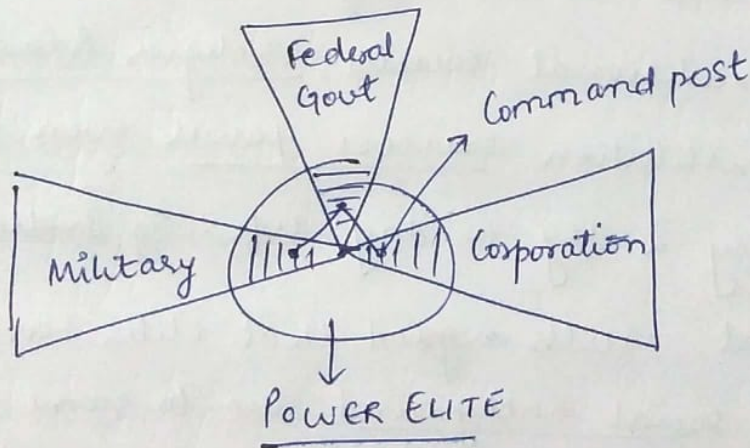
•) Samuel P Huntington in Clash of Civilization argues that as and when greater contacts occur, people try to hold on to their religious identities or fundamentalist doctrines.

This fundamentalism appears as a deeper malaise of structural issues than merely a synthetic / superficial issue.

5. (e) Concept of 'Power elite'

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CW Mills in his work "The Power Elite" tried to explain the presence of elites in USA that constitute the ruling minority. Deviating from classical notion of elites (Pareto, Mosca) based on personal qualities, CW Mills argues that it's the modern institutions that constitute Power Elites in society



The higher ranked or command posts in Institution like Corporation, Military

and federal govt exercise the  
maximum decision making power  
and over the lives of people of not  
only the own country but elsewhere  
Eg Decision for nuclear bombing Japan  
was of power elite & had little public  
accountability of common US citizens.

Critic.

- ) His analysis is only of US (American)  
society and cannot be generalised.
  - o) In traditional societies, religious & caste  
based institution exercise power even in  
democracy & day to day life. Eg <sup>in</sup> India.
- ~~Personal~~ Mills argued that elites have  
common social background due to same  
schools, interaction & are frequently  
interchanged within institution, hence  
they exert control

7. (a) Critically examine to what extent secularization in the modern society is a contested term. 20

Secularization is seen as the reduced importance of religious beliefs, practices and norms in the day to day life of a human and in society.

Various manifestation have been observed :-

- 1) Reduced church attendance in modern societies and services is seen as a parameter of secularisation
- 2) Urbanisation has prevented values like Caste based discrimination difficult to observe eg persons travelling in buses/trains, eating in restaurants etc.
- 3) Individualism has promoted secularization as more emphasis on personal freedom, choice rather than what religion prescribes

19 countries have legalised gay marriages & people are choosing own partners, live in relations no longer a taboo in urban India.

•) Modern technology of abortion, IVF technology, surrogacy etc are breaking barriers & beliefs of religious doctrines or rituals of sacrifice to cure babies or have them.

•) Industrial production & Modernisation is also fuelling secularization as modern education has nearly replaced religious textual reading at homes. Values of Universalism and Democracy are thus spreading.

•) Socialisation function is taken over by technology (ipads, AI toys etc) hence the Parents, Grandparents' role and consequent Intergenerational transfer of mythological religious stories is diminishing.

But this has been contested by several scholars:-

- 1) Invisible Religion by Thomas Luckman states that religion is privatised & people stress on baptising kids, attending Sunday schools or home based practices.
- 2) Civil Religion by Robert Bellah argues for new basis of allegiance in national festivals, heroes, evoking similar ethos of dedication.
- 3) Elections in India reflect that Religion-Caste matrix plays huge role in candidate selection, victory, conferees etc even today.
- 4) Fundamentalism & Revivalism due to indoctrination, taliban & jihad are such <sup>egs</sup>
- 5) New Religious Movement of Sects & Cults like Mahesh Yogi's movement, ISKON, Art of living, Neopentecostalism are instances of continued existence.

Hence secularisation thesis is much contested in contemporary society



7. (b) Make a distinction between intragenerational and intergenerational social mobility. Why social mobility studies not adequately accounted for the position of women. Comment

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According to Pitirham Sorokin,  
Social Mobility is the transition of an individual or group from one social position to the other.

IntraGenerational	Inter Generational
(*) Mobility of an individual or group <u>within the same generation</u> .	Mobility of an individual or group across <u>two or three generation</u> .
(*) <u>Downward mobility</u> of a person <del>is</del> - as a victim of natural disaster due to destruction of house is an <u>eg.</u>	upward mobility of the son of a farmer who works hard & gets educated & a job in corporate sector shows <u>inter-generational mobility</u> .

(\*) Due to sudden & immediate changes like lottery, a poor beggar can become rich.

(\*) long term changes might be required and continued efforts may take time to manifest.

Social mobility studies have tried to study impact of several changes. Eg

- Lipset hypothesis of how Industrialisation promoted social mobility.
- Education as a source / growth enabler can cause social mobility specially in achievement oriented society.
- Economic mobility - Bourgeoisisation thesis due to savings, welfare state and thrift values.

These studies did not adequately account for mobility among women. This contestation by feminist scholars

like Ann Oakley is true as they argue that women continue to be oppressed irrespective of geographical or temporal considerations.

(\*) These studies fail to recognize that the public sphere continues to be dominated by men, hence workplace study is only Half the Reality.

(\*) Patriarchal mindset, household division of labour continues to relegate women as second class citizens.

(\*) Rather "Feminisation of Poverty" is occurring due to male urban migration, lack of property control by women,  $\leq 5\%$  women as Board members in corporates. pink collarisation sustains subordinate status of women.

7. (c) Critically examine role of 'pressure groups' in strengthening democracy.

10

Pressure Groups are those organisations that seek to exert influence or pressure on ruling dispensation to advance interests of their groups or people they represent.

① Pluralists see pressure groups as exemplification of multiple power centres in society exercising control.

② Pressure groups like trade unions, <sup>student</sup> union corporate industry bodies put forth their viewpoints to be accommodated.

③ It allows representation of and articulation of interests and viewpoints of diverse sections strengthening democracy.

But this may not always be true.

⇒ Pressure groups formed on basis of religion, caste, ethnicity can undermine

democratic principles and promote  
inequalities & ~~dearages~~ cleavages.

⑥>> Raymond Aron says that, "Govt then  
becomes a business of compromise",  
this undermines many policy imperatives  
and effective decision making.

>> Govt listens to pressure groups based  
on its own consideration of future  
interests, hence it might not play the  
role of honest broker (Alexis Tocquiel)