

## Diversity and Unity in Indian Society

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### CHECK YOUR PROGRESS [PAGE 56]

#### Check your progress | Q 1 | Page 56

Identify two Constitutional provisions to protect weaker sections in Indian society.

**Solution:** The Constitution allows affirmative action through positive discrimination (reservation) in education and employment, based on caste and socio-economic backwardness for STs and SCs. Later, this was extended to Other Backward Classes (OBCs). Recently, the GOI has announced 10% quota for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS). These reservations are restricted to government-run or government-aided institutions. The Central Government has fixed 15% reservations for SCs, 7.5% for STs and 27% for OBCs. A sizeable proportion of Scheduled Castes who have embraced Buddhism and Christianity also qualify for such reservations.

#### Check your progress | Q 2 | Page 56

What do you understand by three-language formula?

**Solution:** The three language formula enables the inculcation of Hindi and English as languages to connect with the Union, English to connect with the outside world and the regional/local language for communication within the State. As per the policy the three languages recommended are as following:

**First language** as regional language or mother tongue.

**Second language** is English or Modern Indian Language (Hindi speaking states), Hindi or English (in non-Hindi speaking states).

**Third language** is English or modern Indian language (in Hindi speaking states).

Most states in India have implemented the three-language formula and it is followed by all State Education Boards.

#### Check your progress | Q 3 | Page 56

Identify three factors that hinder national unity.

**Solution:** Casteism, Communalism, Regionalism, Linguism and economic inequalities are the factors that hinder national unity.

### EXERCISES [PAGES 57 - 58]

#### Exercises | Q Q.1 (A) (1) | Page 57



**Complete the following statement by choosing the correct alternative given in the bracket and rewrite it.**

Gender is \_\_\_\_\_.

1. innate
2. **genetic**
3. learnt

**Solution:** Gender is genetic.

#### **Exercises | Q Q.1 (A) (2) | Page 57**

**Complete the following statement by choosing the correct alternative given in the bracket and rewrite it.**

“Social disparity encourages \_\_\_\_\_.

1. unity
2. **divisiveness**
3. homogeneity

**Solution:** “Social disparity encourages divisiveness.

#### **Exercises | Q Q.1 (B) (1) | Page 57**

**Correct the incorrect pair and rewrite it.**

1. Conflict based on language - Linguism
2. **Conflict based on religion - Terrorism**
3. Conflict based on caste - Casteism
4. Conflict based on region - Regionalism

**Solution:** Conflict based on religion – Communalism

#### **Exercises | Q Q.1 (C) (1) | Page 57**

**Identify the appropriate term from the given option in the box and rewrite it against the given statement.**

It is an achieved status.

1. Totalitarianism
2. **Class**
3. Egalitarianism

**Solution:** It is an achieved status. - **Class**

### Exercises | Q Q.1 (C) (2) | Page 57

Identify the appropriate term from the given option in the box and rewrite it against the given statement.

Promotes healthier relationships.

1. Totalitarianism
2. Class
3. **Egalitarianism**

**Solution:** Promotes healthier relationships. - **Egalitarianism**

### Exercises | Q Q.1 (D) (1) | Page 57

Correct the underlined words and complete the statement.

Conflict based on caste is called communalism.

**Solution:** Conflict based on caste is called casteism.

### Exercises | Q Q.1 (D) (2) | Page 57

Correct the underlined words and complete the statement.

Sarvadharmasmabhava denotes the Indian concept of unity amidst diversity.

**Solution:** Sarvadharmasmabhava denotes the Indian concept of secularism (i.e., respect and tolerance for people of all faiths).

### Exercises | Q Q.2 (1) | Page 57

Write short notes.

Gender Diversity

**Solution:**

1. Gender diversity is linked to the notion of 'gender' (a social construct), which in turn is related to concepts such as gender binary, gender expression, sexuality and sexual orientation.
2. Gender includes diversities that go beyond gender binaries offemale-male, feminine- masculine, her-his etc. Today, our understanding of gender diversity also includes the sexual orientation of people.
3. Gender includes diversities that go beyond gender binaries offemale-male, feminine- masculine, her-his etc. Today, our understanding of gender diversity also includes the sexual orientation of people.
4. The acronym 'LGBT', Lesbian: Female-Female relationship, Gay: Male-Male relationship Bisexual: People who are attracted to two sexes (namely, Female



and Male) Transgender: A person whose biological sex does not match one's psychological sense of self emphasize diversity of sexuality and gender identity.

5. There are individuals, groups and societies which have challenged the notion of a binary and thus are more inclusive of sexual and gender pluralities.
6. Most of us are coerced into conformity to follow the expectations of gender linked to one's sex known as gender expression linked to gender socialization also leads to diversity.
7. Today, societies are gradually opening up to understanding and accepting gender fluidity i.e. understanding that gender is not limited to binary and not necessarily tied to physical appearance or characteristics.
8. One's sexuality and helps us to understand the sexual orientation of a person, is not a preference.
9. Historic judgment of the Supreme Court of India on 6th September 2018 decriminalized homosexuality. The Government of India has also recognized transgender people and their rights.
10. Awareness about and sensitivity to diversities based on gender will help:
  - a. dispel ignorance and myths related to gender
  - b. restore dignity to people with different gender identities
  - c. eradicate hate, violence prejudice and discrimination towards gender non-conforming individuals
  - d. promote equality and justice as enshrined in the Indian Constitution.

### Exercises | Q Q.2 (2) | Page 57

#### Write short notes.

##### Importance of Unity in Diversity

**Solution:** According to D.P. Singhal, unity in diversity is a theme that runs through the entire course of Indian history. The concept of unity in diversity is important because it contributes:

1. To strengthen and enrich our cultural heritage.
2. To protect multiple diversities of Indian society.
3. To protect Human Rights of all citizens.
4. To boost workplace, organisational and community morale.

It is also essential to ensure unity in diversity:

1. For effective and inclusive communication.
2. For conflict resolution.
3. For peaceful coexistence.
4. For the welfare of all people irrespective of caste, creed, sex, gender, race, economic class, culture etc.
5. For prosperity of our land and its people.

### Exercises | Q Q.3 (1) | Page 57

#### Write differences.

##### Regionalism and Linguism



**Solution:**

Regionalism	Linguism
1. Regionalism refers to loyalty to one's own State or region before one's nation. This leads to Inter-State rivalries.	Linguism is a form of excess loyalty towards one's own language. This leads to conflict between people based on language.
2. Regionalism emerges due to the desire of people speaking one language to have one State. There is also a strong urge to give priority to the economic development of one's own region.	In every state there is one dominant language and other regional languages, linguism emerges if the minorities begin to feel that their interests are being disregarded and their welfare ignored.
3. When people of any state feel there regional imbalance and lack of socio-economic development this has led to demand for separate states.	Linguistic minorities feel that they are disregarded, such narrow outlook results in ill-treatment of the other linguistic group.
4. Regionalism is divisive force which create disrespect for people from other regions of the same country. It interferes with national integration to a great extent when the history of a particular region is glorified.	Linguism divides people based on language. It has led to a definite form of linguistic nationalism which can provide enough fuel for separatism in India.
5. Regionalism has led to regional movements for State rights and militant movements for separatism. <b>For example</b> , the Jammu and Kashmir issue, the Punjab problem, Assam issue etc.	Linguism has led to unacceptance of Hindi as an official language of the Union across the country. <b>For example</b> , the atrocities committed on linguistic minorities.

**Exercises | Q Q.3 (2) | Page 57****Write differences.**

Casteism and Communalism

**Solution:**

Casteism	Communalism
1. Casteism refers to loyalty to one's own caste before loyalty to the nation.	Communalism refers mainly to loyalty to one's own religion before the nation.



<p><b>2.</b> In case of casteism, caste members protect their own caste group through social services, and other welfare schemes. There is a feeling of social neglect among scheduled castes due to suppression by upper castes.</p>	<p>In case of communalism, people belonging to different religions feel that their religion is superior. Religious fundamentalists try to impose their religious practices on others. Political manipulation, large scale illiteracy and superstitions also lead to communal violence</p>
<p><b>3.</b> When caste loyalty takes political overtones, caste members take their biases &amp; prejudices into politics. People vote for their own caste members. Those castes which have numerical strength rise up. Those who win the elections then favour their caste groups.</p>	<p>Politically speaking, communal conflict weakens democracy. It allows politicians to use religion for satisfying their vested interests. On international front, it adversely affects India's image.</p>
<p><b>4.</b> Regionalism is divisive force which create disrespect for people from other regions of the same country. It interferes with national integration to a great extent when the history of a particular region is glorified.</p>	<p>Linguism divides people based on language. It has led to a definite form of linguistic nationalism which can provide enough fuel for separatism in India.</p>
<p><b>5.</b> It is also associated with:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Restricted interactions in society.</li> <li>2. Caste becoming a means of competing for access to resources and power.</li> <li>3. Creating mistrust among people.</li> <li>4. Caste atrocities and Caste prejudices.</li> <li>5. Hurdles for national integration</li> </ol>	<p>It is also associated with:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Communal conflict and communal violence</li> <li>2. Feelings of deep hatred, bitterness and antagonism between different religions</li> <li>3. Retarding economic growth &amp; development</li> <li>4. Communal riots, mutual distrust and disintegration</li> <li>5. Acts of terrorism</li> <li>6. Serious challenge to national reputation and integration</li> </ol>

### Exercises | Q Q.4 (1) | Page 57

**Explain the following concept with examples**

Heteronormativity

**Solution:**



1. The belief that people fall into distinct and complimentary genders (man and women) with natural roles in life.
2. It assumes the heterosexuality is the only sexual orientation or only norm and states that sexual and marital relations are most fining between people of opposite sex.
3. Heteronormativity is an assumption that all people are straight and only normal and natural expression of sexuality.
4. What constitutes appropriate behaviour for girls/women and boys/men is a result of social conditioning, indoctrination, and cultural definitions. Hence, there is variability between societies, as well as within groups in a specific society. This leads us to understand the dominance of 'heteronormativity' (that is the norm that reinforces and 'normalises' the gender binary) in society and in all its institutions such as family, marriage, polity, economy, religion etc.

**Example :** Marriage between men and women gives them social recognition and support for an intimate relationship i.e., socially and legally approved in our society.

### Exercises | Q Q.4 (2) | Page 57

**Explain the following concept with examples**

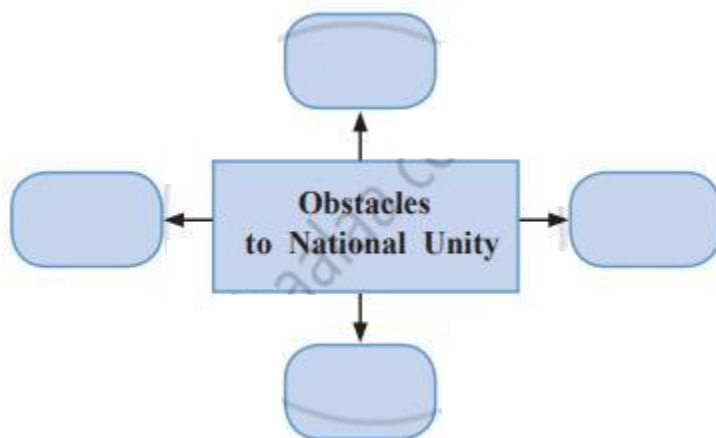
Communalism

**Solution:** Communalism refers mainly to loyalty to one's own religion before the nation.

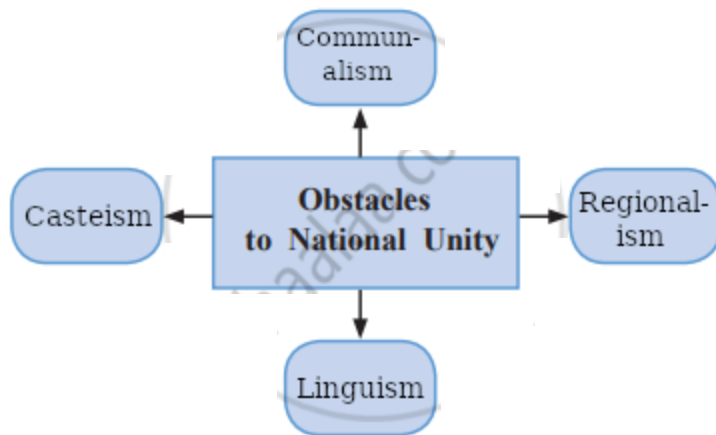
**Example:** People belonging to Islamic countries are very loyal to their own religion.

### Exercises | Q Q.5 (A) | Page 58

**Complete the concept map.**



**Solution:**



### Exercises | Q Q.5 (B) (1) | Page 58

**State whether the following statement is True or False with reasons.**

Economic inequality has no effect on society.

1. True
2. **False**

**Solution: This Statement is False.**

**Reason:** Unequal distribution of income and wealth has widened the gap between rich and poor. It affects social cohesion and solidarity. So, economic inequality leads to tension and conflict in society.

### Exercises | Q Q.5 (B) (2) | Page 58

**State whether the following statement is True or False with reasons.**

Constitutional and legal provisions provide hope to weaker sections in Indian society.

1. **True**
2. False

**Solution: This Statement is True.**

**Reason:** Our Indian constitution has laid down certain provisions for protection and welfare of the weaker sections. Article 14 to 18 of the constitution provide the right to equality in the interest of people belonging to the minority groups. Representation and reservation of seats for minorities in the state and central services Abolition of practice untouchability, banning human trafficking and force labour, provision of various welfare schemes etc. All these constitutional measures aim at upliftment of weaker sections in Indian society. The Constitution of India has established the "rule of law" throughout the country. All citizens are equal and subject to the same authority. Religion, language, region, caste, gender, or community is no longer the basis of special social status, powers, and privileges. The weaker sections of society - the Scheduled Castes, the



Scheduled Tribes, Denotified Tribes, other Backward Classes, Religious, Linguistic and Sexual Minorities have been given special concessions for their development.

### Exercises | Q Q.6 (1) | Page 58

**Give your personal response.**

How can participation in sports foster national integration?

**Solution:**

1. I feel that participation in sports give rise to 'we feeling' among the members of a nation, which unifies them.
2. In other words, it enables the development of sense of belonging. It also evokes a sense of love, concern as well as pride.
3. So, participation in sports acts as a factor that bonds people together irrespective of their gender, caste, language, religion, region and economic status.

### Exercises | Q Q.6 (2) | Page 58

**Give your personal response.**

What is the significance of school uniforms in Indian schools, with regard to the value of unity?

**Solution: School is not just temple of knowledge but school gives a platform to nature our emotions in early stages of life.**

1. School uniforms are essential in Indian society, wearing the same dress brings a sense of oneness among students.
2. In every school student come from different backgrounds, to promote sense of togetherness and harmony school uniforms are must.
3. Students come from different walks of life some can afford expensive clothes whereas others cannot afford. This leads superior and inferior mind set. To avoid this situation school uniforms are made compulsory and develop equality among students.
4. Importance of school uniform is related to uniformity and gives an identity that they are the representatives of the same school.
5. School uniforms play an important role in the maintenance of discipline in the students and make them safe by keeping an eye on everyone.
6. Hence school uniform builds a sense of teamwork and community spirit from early life. So when students come together from different environment with many



differences, but when they stand together in the same uniforms, the phrase unity in diversity becomes reality.

### Exercises | Q Q.7 | Page 58

#### Answer the following question in detail. (About 150 words)

What does unity mean to you? Discuss any three factors which hinder unity. Describe two ways in which tribal and urban people can benefit each other to promote unity. Give examples to illustrate your points.

#### Solution: Meaning of unity

- Unity means oneness or state of togetherness. Unity is being in harmony or one in spirit feeling of unity brings the nation together.
- In India we see unity in diversity, there are so many differences with respect to region language race, religion, caste etc. Through all these differences there is solidarity and integrity.
- After independence, India faced several challenges that obstruct the national unity.

#### These obstacles of national integration as follows:

##### Casteism

Casteism refers to loyalty to one own caste before the loyalty nation : Discrimination based on caste is major hurdle for national integration., In India everything can change except 'caste', everything is organised on the line of caste.

- Caste loyalty are looming large, different caste look to the benefit of their own caste, in present times power of caste is concentrated in the hands of dominant caste who develop the feeling of superiority or the low caste who faces exploitation.
- Politicisation of caste, various caste carry their vote banks with typical caste prejudice in politics and political party select candidate on the basis of caste more over elected members use their privilege position for achieving interest in their own caste, in this way casteism is responsible for breaking the bonds of the unity among citizens.

##### Communalism

- Communalism refers to extreme loyalty to one's own religion. Religious fundamentalism and communal fanaticism has created an atmosphere of hatred and violence. Communal conflicts create a sense of insecurity and loosens the bond of unity among the members of different religious groups.
- Examples of communal violence has strong motivation based on religious identity, 1947 partition of India, 1990 Babari Masjid demolition, 1992 Mumbai riots, 2002 Godhra riot and Gujarat violence etc. Communal conflicts weaken democracy and on international front communal conflicts affects India's image



## Regionalism

- Regionalism is showing more loyalty to ones on state or region before one's nation. In India the most important factors responsible for the growth of regionalism has been regional imbalance and regional disparity.
- On many occasions people promote regional interest even at the cost of national priorities, despite over decades of plan development all regions in our country have not been developed in a desired manner.
- Socio-economic development results in demand of new state e.g., separation of Telangana. Andhra Pradesh disputes over distribution of water e.g., Tamil Nadu and Karnataka having dispute over Kaveri river. Other issues like construction of dams and supply of electricity.
- Aggressive regionalism leads to separatism e.g., issue at Jammu and Kashmir. These challenges are threat to national unity and hampers peace.

### **The two ways in which tribal and urban people can benefited each other in recent times are:**

- Tribal people live in isolation away from modern world, in recent times due to industrialisation new modes of transport and communication have emerged. Due to urbanisation we see mobility of tribal population in urban setting.
- Apart from employment opportunities, tribal exhibitions, tribal fairs or bazaar has given them the chance to improve their livelihood without any mediators.
- Tribal art and handicraft are most valuable today especially across 100 smart cities, these handicraft items, paintings (Warli) are purchased by urban consumers. Tribal organic products like medicinal herbs, honey, flowers, fruits, pulses are in great demand in urban market.
- On the other side industrialisation has transformed tribal society for instance industrial development has taken place in tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh , Bihar, Orissa, e.g., iron and steel plants, this has brought drastic changes in socio-economic lives of tribal people.
- Here, we see both the community are advancing towards integration of population.
- Integration of tribals in the mainstream of national life has removed their backwardness and an identity that they are one among us.
- From the above statement tribal and urban people are interdependent on each other for their survival and this brings unity among them.

