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Name : AARUSHI SHARMA

Test code : 711303

Mode : Online

Start/End : 3 p.m to 6 p.m.
Time

Centre code : 1900

Medium : English

Roll No : 1910122609

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Forum IAS

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Q1-

Hoysala Temple Architecture evolved in its plenitude under the Hoysala empire (11-14th CE) in Karnataka. It represents an exquisite amalgamation of the Dravida, Nagara and Vesara styles of temple architecture.

Hoysala Style: A Testament of artistic brilliance and distinctiveness

1.) The temple are built on a star shaped (stellate plan) along with raised platforms (Jagati) and an open pradakshina-patha.

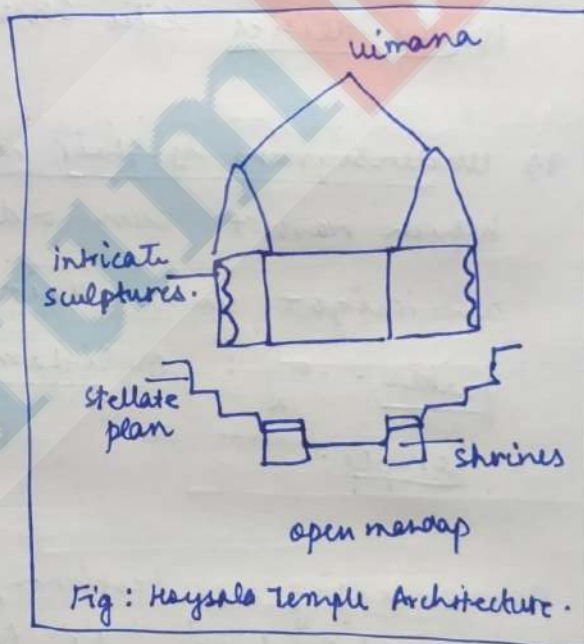


Fig: Hoysala Temple Architecture.

2.) Influenced by Bhumija style.

3.) Presence of multiple shrines with circular pillars. Eg: Hoysaleswara Temple

4.) Predominant use of soapstone

5.) Intricate and detailed sculptures across the temple complex - Eg - Shalabhanjika

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- 6.) Depiction of mythological scenes, Eg - scenes from Ramayana and Malabharata in Hoysaleswara.
- 7.) lathe turned polished pillars - eg: Chennakesava temple.
- 8.) use of jali work and depiction of Hindu deities like Shiva and Vishnu.
- 9.) Undersigning of their works by artisans which wasn't seen ordinarily, gave an insight into their lines and quills. Eg: Malikama of Keshava Temple.

Acknowledging the testimony of Hoysala art and architecture, the Chennakesava, Hoysaleswara and Keshava temples were declared a part of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

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Q2:

British colonial rule reduced India from a golden bird to a mere pauperised economy - a one way trade phenomenon.

Alteration of traditional agrarian economy

- 1) Exploitative land revenue systems (Zamindari, Mahalwari) reduced peasants to the status of tenants → 'triple burden case'
- 2) Absentee landlordism:- a vicious cycle of debt trap and lack of improvement in agriculture.
- 3) Commercialisation of agriculture - India as a supplier of agro raw material and a market for Britain's finished goods.
- 4) Ruralisation due to deindustrialization and an overburdened agricultural sector.
- 5) Rampant famines due to foodgrain scarcity.

Eruption of peasant resistance as a result

- 1) Impoverishment of planters of Indigo due to pressure and fraudulent contracts led to Indigo Revolt.

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2) Patna Agrarian Leagues in Bengal due to oppression by zamindars.

3) Deccan Riots due to heavy taxation under Ryotwari system.

4) Mappila Revolt due to antagonism between Hindu zamindars and Muslim peasants.

5) Kisan Sabha Movement due to high rents and summary evictions. (Awadh)

Long term impacts

- Rise in rural indebtedness and fragmentation of land
- Cotton crisis of 1860s.
- disguised unemployment in agriculture.

This story of dispossession, displacement and defeat (Shanki Thasoor) led to the furthering of National struggle with All India Kisan Sabha, Bardoli Satyagraha etc.



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Q3:

The recently inaugurated Statue of Valour in the pride of Ahom leader Lachit Barphukan is a testament to the significant contributions of North-east region in the Indian Freedom struggle.

Contributions in various phases



- (1) Ahom kingdom (Assam) resisted the British due to non fulfillment of promises after Anglo - Burma war.
- (2) The Khasi Revolt by Tirat Sing and Jaintias rebellion asserted their rights and tribal way of living.
- (3) In the revolt of 1857 - instances of Mani Ram Dewan's role in the North east.

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(4) Post 1857 periods - Resistances to the British trying to affect the tribal land, resources and culture (eg - Forest Rights Act) - Anglo Manipur war, Kuki's Revolt.

(5) In the National movements

- Gopinath Bordoloi in Non Co-operation Movement
- Rani Gaidinliu in Civil Disobedience Movement
- Tilashovani Barua got martyred in Quit India movement

(6) Assam Kesari by Anshikagiri Chakrabarti's poetry - inspired Assamese to arouse nationalist spirit.

(7) Cunningham Circular and student's involvement

The multi faceted nature of north east resistance gave an indigenuous, diverse touch to the national movement.

These unsung heroes are a pinnacle of sacrifice - A testament in 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'.

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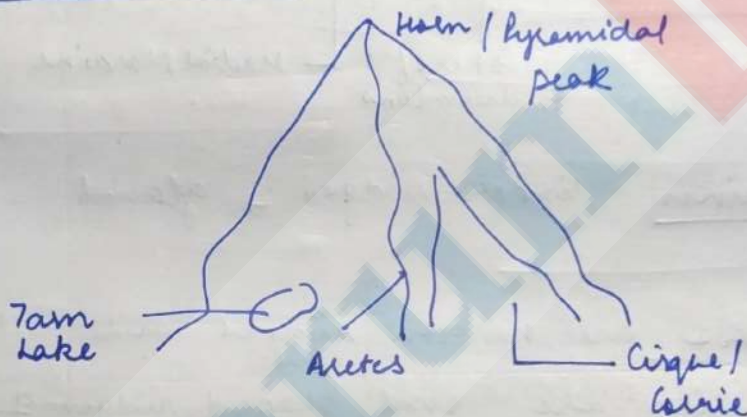
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Q4.

Geomorphic agents are exogenic forces like water, wind, ice etc. capable of transporting earth's material and creating newer landforms.

Glaciers or masses of ice sheets serve as agents of glacial erosion and depositional activities.

Erosional landforms



- (1) Cirques / Corries : narrow steep troughs found at heads of glacial valleys -
Chandra Taal
- (2) Arêtes - serrated ridges forming a narrow divide.
- (3) Horns are formed due to headward erosion of cirque walls - eg -
Matterhorn in Alps.

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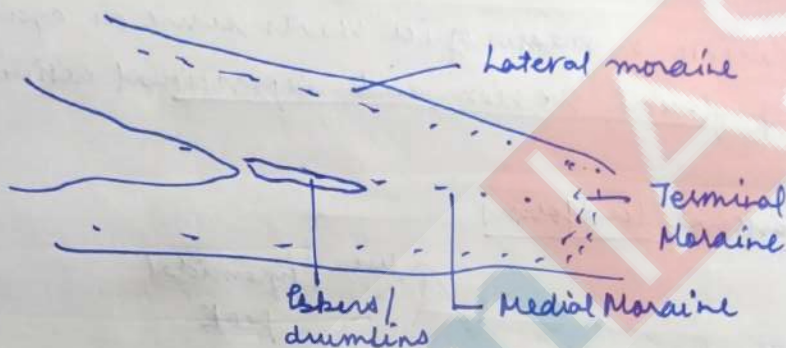
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- (4) Hanging valley, which filled with water form fjords (Norway).

Depositional landforms



- (1) Moraines - linear ridges of glacial hills
- (2) Eskers are narrow ridges and dumplings are oval shaped ridges of glacial hills indicate direction of movement of glacier.
- (3) Outwash plains are formed of the glacial deposits of gravel, sand, silt and clay.

The glacier geomorphology is slower than water flow however form tremendous landforms with picturesque fjords.

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Q5.

India's monsoonal variability has been noticed in the decrease from 89 cm in average to 82 cm in 2023, with a witness of extremities - cloudbursts in Himalail to heatwaves in east.

Factors contributing to variability of Indian monsoon

- 1) Internal factors: Latitudinal spread, Maritime influence, altitude difference, influence of local winds / Loos.
- 2) El Nino Southern Oscillation - Positive ENSO leads to lower than average rainfall.
- 3) Indian Ocean Dipole in the Indian Ocean - Positive IOD leads to enhanced monsoon rainfall, negative IOD suppresses it.
- 4) La Nina: The reversal of ENSO - La Nina leads to enhanced rainfall in India (Currently it is triple dip La Nina).
- 5) Madden Julian Oscillation - An eastward moving disturbance enhances monsoon rainfall in strong phase.
- 6) Cyclonic activity - Eg cyclone Biparjoy delayed onset of monsoon
- 7) Climate change - Shifting of ITCZ, movement of westerly jet stream

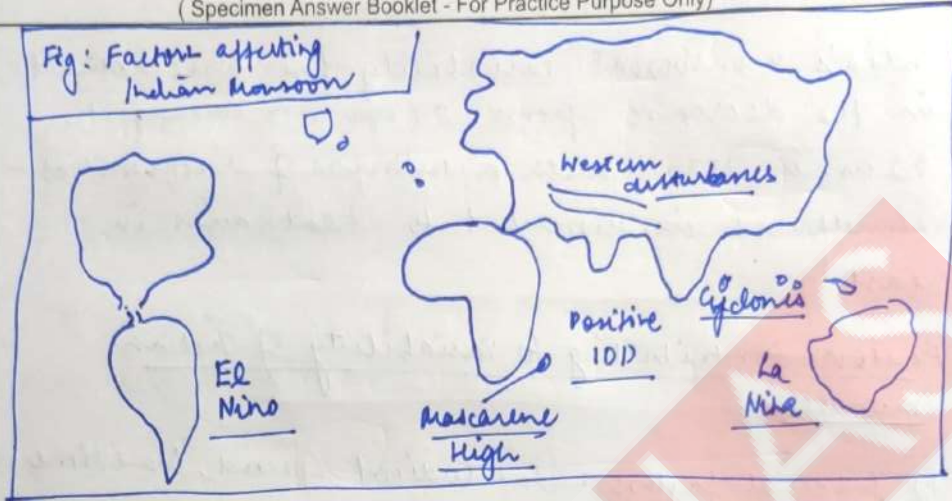
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Multidimensional impact

- Fluctuation in crop yields, rise in prices of food grains, impact agricultural productivity
eg: ₹ 200 tomatoes in July 2023.
 - Hydroelectric energy issue due to fluctuating water levels.
 - affecting water security - interstate river water disputes (Karnataka - Tamil Nadu over Cauvery)
 - Alter ecosystem & habitats - cyclones push saline water into freshwater bodies - eutrophication.
 - Extreme events of landslides (Wayanad), droughts, floods & cloudbursts
 - governance challenges, waterlogging & death hazards (Delhi).
 - cultural impact - Baseluh & Onam festivals.
- Thus, the increasing variability in monsoon requires international stakeholder participation and resilient forecasting and infrastructure.

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Q6:

Palm oil, derived from the palm tree is a raw material as well as consumer good as food, pharmaceuticals, biofuels etc.

Distribution of palm oil countries

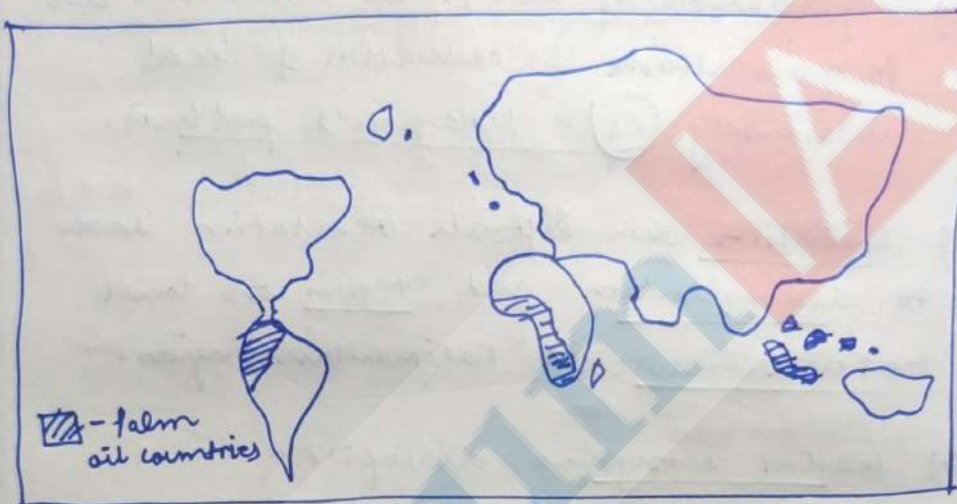


Fig: Major Palm oil producing regions

Ideal conditions : Tropical climate - $21-32^{\circ}\text{C}$,
200 cm approx rainfall, 75-100% humidity.

- (1) South east belt - Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand.
- (2) Africa : Nigeria, Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire.
- (3) Latin America : Colombia, Ecuador, Brazil.

Palm oil being an importance source of food, employment and economic development poses many environmental challenges -

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- 1.) Deforestation, loss of Carbon Sinks
- 2.) Decline in critical habitats for endangered species, human wildlife conflicts (eg) Orangutan
- 3.) Degradation of ecosystem resilience due to monoculture & reduction of local biodiversity, (eg) - Malaysia's peatland.
- 4.) Wildfires over loss of vegetation leads to air pollution and strain on local water resources - Kalimantan region.
- 5.) Coastal ecosystem disruption
- 6.) Disruption of traditional agroforestry
- 7.) Displacement of indigenous communities.

Way Forward

- Encouraging multi-stakeholder collaborations for best practices
- utilize new technologies - biotechnology, precision agriculture.
- Address traditional systems.

India, as a visionary for palm oil self-reliance through National Mission on edible oil palm needs to adapt to these climate & environmental issues.

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Q7.

India had its tryst with destiny on 15th August 1947, but it had a long road to pave way through darkening challenges.

Challenges at the time of independence

- 1) Partition challenges - displacement & resettlement, violence.
- 2) Integration of princely states and internal reorganisation on linguistic lines
- 3) Envisioning of a constitution to strengthen India as a democracy
- 4) Beseiging social challenges
↳ illiteracy, health issues, oppression of marginalised, tribal aspirations.
- 5) External challenges - cold war, aggressive neighbourhood (Indo Pak War - 1947-48).
- 6) Agriculture reliance and industrial issues.

Rising India: A tale of transformations

- (1) Successful adoption of a constitution, laying roots of a secular democratic republic
- (2) Integration of 550 princely states and internal reorganisation to honour diversity
- (3) Accommodating marginalised communities - Schedule 5 and 6.

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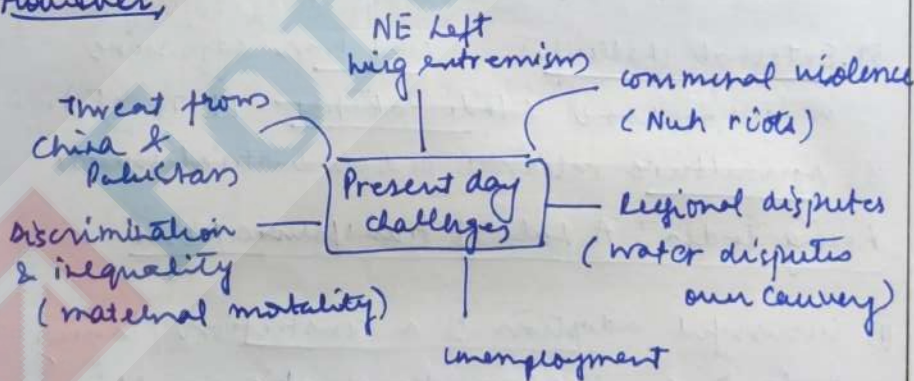
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- 4) Federal system of representation and resolving disputes - Inter state Council
- 5) Agricultural 'green' revolution and industrial policies to engage in self-reliance -
- 6) Solving internal security issues - abrogation of Art 370, borderland peace accords.
- 7) Lured millions out of poverty - Multidimensional poverty index - decline to 11%.
- 8) Non aligned foreign policy, acquiring a place in global high tables - G 20, global south etc.

However,



Way Forward

There is thus a need for a comprehensive inclusive growth approach for a

New welfare Model of India - Viksit

Bharat @ 2047.

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Q.8.

The Meiji Restoration of 1868 marked an end to the Tokugawa shogunate and restoration of rule under Emperor Meiji - with a solid political, economic and social transformation.

Impact of Japan

- 1) Dismantling of old feudal regime and rise of a nation state
- 2) A strong national army, with a European style banking system.
- 3) Establishment of a cabinet system
- 4) Development of education on western lines (gokurui)
- 5) Adoption of western production methods - strategic industries
- 6) Strong system of transportation and communication - telegraph lines.
- 7) Rise of financial cliques
- 8) Promotion of western culture and decline of traditional Japanese culture under the banner of enlightenment.

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Impact on the world

- (1) marked an end to the Japanese isolation after an alliance with the British to revise unequal treaties.
- (2) breast the myth of European invincibility which inspired the colonies of South Asia & Africa.
- (3) Expansionism and aggressive foreign policy against China & Korea.
- (4) A participant to the World War under Axis powers.
- (5) Japan arose as a major industrial power - contributing to global trade and economic globalisation.

Thus, the Meiji Restoration enabled Japan to come out of its dusk and rise as a significant global power - creating a legacy in its technological prowess today.

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Q9.

Substance abuse - a lingering menace - is prevalent in 24 crore people from 10-75 years of age - alarming the clock.

Reasons for prevalence of substance abuse in India

- 1) Proximity to the golden crescent and golden triangle - North East states and Myanmar's porous borders.
- 2) Linkages between terrorism and organised crime - Narco terrorism eg - Sandhu Bichon gang.
- 3) political nexus
- 4) Newer models of proliferation - darknets and lack of traceability
- 5) newer modes of financing - cryptocurrency.
- 6) Socio economic changes
 - ↳ decline in traditional family structure
 - ↳ peer pressure & social comparison
 - ↳ relative deprivation and economic disparity
 - ↳ mental health issues - frustration, depression
 - ↳ glamorisation of drug culture in media
 - ↳ cultural influence from the West
7. Poor enforcement of NDPS Act, 1988
Impact on family and society

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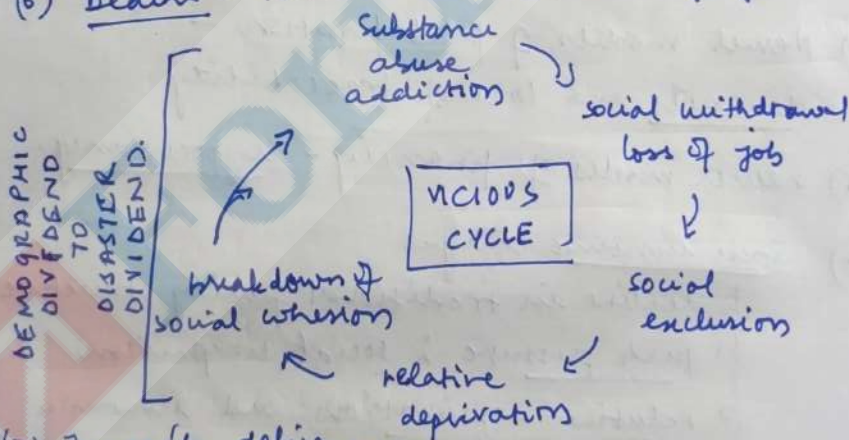
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- (1) Psychosocial distress - strain on family relationships - social withdrawal
↳ domestic violence perpetration
- (2) Strain on family finances, loss of productivity and loss of job & family member (covid & drive cases).
- (3) Health externalities and pressure on de-addiction centres.
- (4) Increase in crime rates (NCRB)
- (5) Undermines safety of women in public areas
- (6) Deaths - Tamil Nadu Kooch Tragedy.



- (7) Juvenile delinquency
Way Forward

- community engagement (Alcoholic anonymous)
- Access to rehabilitation & employment
- enforcement of law & international cooperation

A multi pronged approach is imperative to create a 'Nasha Mukh Bharat'.

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Q.10.

A Uniform Civil Code envisages a common civil code for all religious communities in matters of marriage, inheritance, adoption etc.
Recently, Uttarakhand became the first state to implement a Uniform Civil Code (UCC).

Essentiality of UCC

- (i) Implementation of Right to equality (Art 14) and consonance with principles of secularism
- (ii) Constitutional provisions of Art 44 (DPSPs).
- (iii) Focus on national unity and integration while respecting cultural diversity (Ambedkar)
- (iv) Curb communal tensions and discipline politics
- (v) safeguard the liberty and dignity of women (eg- equal rights of inheritance).
- (vi) Simplification of legal systems and make citizens its approach rights sidelined in personal laws - eg- divorce rights of women.
- (vii) Reiteration of UCC need in various Supreme Court Judgments
 - ↳ Shayara Bano case, Carle Mendgal case.

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Inhibition of enactment of UCC

- (i) Lack of consensus in the society
- (ii) Law commission's report on reforms in family law (2018) - UCC neither necessary nor desirable at this stage.
- (iii) Conflict between right to equality (Art 14) & right to Freedom of Religion (Art 25-28).
- (iv) One way for majoritarianism and alienation of minorities.
- (v) Social change needs to come from society itself - awareness & persuasion while focusing on multiculturalism.
- (vi) Even the constituent assembly was in a split on question over UCC

Way Forward

- multi stakeholder discussion
- adoption of a piecemeal approach
- Ensuring respect of constitutional ethos & pluralistic culture.

In Pannalal Bansilal Pitaji Case, UCC was regarded as highly desirable, but immediate enactment in a pluralistic society has been as counterproductive - this need of a thoughtful consideration.

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Q.11.

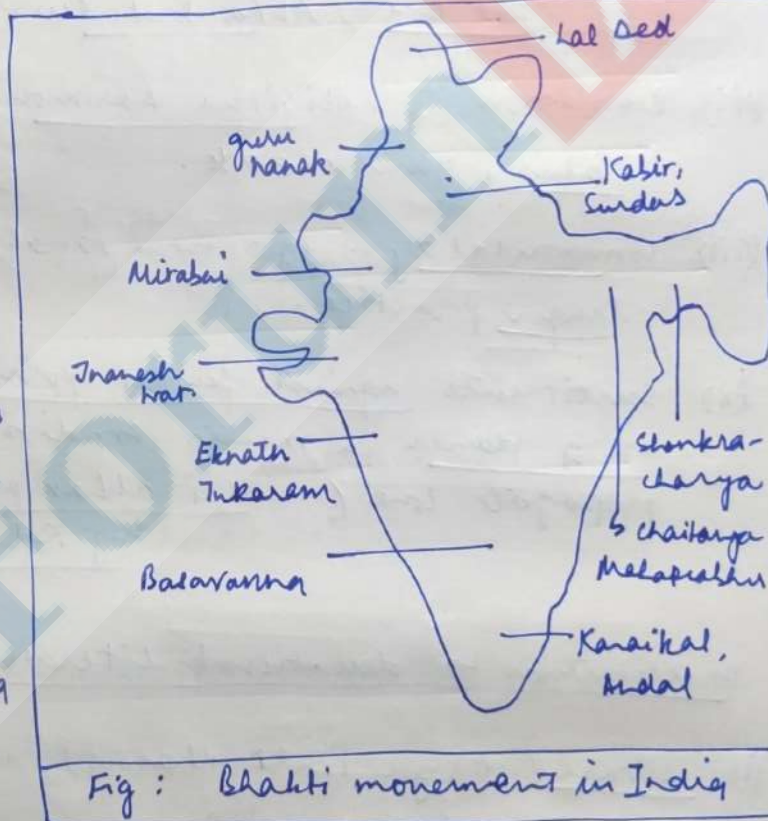
"Bula jo dekhani main chalega, bula na milega koi, dil jo kheja apna, myhse kura na koi."

The above doha of Kabir cradles the legacy of the Bhakti movement - a socio religious movement which spread its wings by 12-13th CE in various parts of the country.

Questioning of social order

(i) Rejection of social hierarchies and caste based discrimination

(Eg) Ramarender Surasagar.



(ii) Preaching of equality and brotherhood -
(Eg) Chaitanya Malaprabhu

(iii) Emotion and love for god as a personal experience - eg - Mirabai argued against religious orthodoxy

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- (iv) Challenge to brahmanical dominance and role of priestly class
- (v) Wrestled for purity of character and conduct (Nanak) - 'nirbhan, nirvai'
- (vi) Upliftment of women
 - ↳ Women saints like Andal, Lal Ded, Akka Mahadevi
- (vii) Promotion of religious harmony -
Kabir, guru nanak.
- (viii) Communitarity - eg: guru nanak's langar practice.
- (ix) Sentiments against feudal oppression, use of dance & music traditions to propagate love (ekai akhar prem ke.)
by Kabir.

Contribution to devotional literature

- (i) Alvars (Nirya Prabandhans) and Nayanmars (Tevarams) composed hymns & poems - foundation of Tamil devotional literature.
- (ii) Bassavanna's Virashiva traditions -
vachanas in Kannada as devotion to Shiva.

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(iii) Development of devotional literature in regional languages -

- Mirabai
- Kabir - Brajbhasha, Khadinoli.
- guru Nanak (Gurmukhi) - Punjabi literature.

(iv) Vaishnava Padavali literature -
Jagadisa in Bengali and carukitt.

(v) Chandradasa's contributions to barquts (devotional songs) and Ankia nat (Theatre) - Assamese literature

(vi) Chaitanya Malaprasada and the evolution of sankirtana as a mark of devotion

(vii) Lal Ded's shakti mysticism in 'I, Lal' and contributions to Kashmiri literature.

Thus, Bhakti movement contributed immensely to the contemporary philosophical ethos of Indian culture - fostering 'unity in diversity' and 'peaceful existence'.

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Q12.

The Maratha empire was established by Chhatrapati Shrivaji Maharaj in 1674; strengthening into a formidable force in Indian history.

Maratha as a formidable challenge to the British :

- 1) Strategic military tactics & strong guerrilla warfare

Eg - scorched earth policy in battle of Wadgaon



- (2) Defensive fortification : Eg - Raigad & Chindurag fort

- (3) Controlled key trade routes and had significant economic resources

- (4) Strong naval tactics, eg - Battle of Khanderi

- (5) Diplomatic tactics of Nana Fadnavis & Mahadji Shinde

Eg: Diplomatic maneuvering with Nizam of Hyderabad.

- (6) Well developed political system - Ashtapradhan.

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(7) Well developed enemy administration machinery - Chauth & Sardeshmukhi

(8) The British had to fight three full fledged wars to subdue the Marathas to establish British paramountcy.

However, Marathas couldn't consolidate their power into a centralised authority
due to -

(i) Defect leadership - despotism and selfish leaders - eg: Bajirao II, Jaswantrao Holkar.

(ii) Defective nature of Maratha state - accidental cohesion, no well thought reforms against communalism or unification.

(iii) Loose political setup under the Peshwa - Lack of cooperative spirit among Maratha chiefs

(iv) Inferior military system : Inferior to British organised forces, in weapons and in disciplined actions
↳ treachery in ranks
↳ failure of Poona's artillery department

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- (v) Unstable economic policy
- no industry or foreign openings
- (vi) superior British Diplomacy and Espionage
↳ well knit spy system enabled quick offensive against target
- (vii) Progressive English Outlook
- rejuvenating force of Renaissance
- scientific inventions & naval voyages
- (viii) Continuous warfare drained Maratha treasury - (1) Battle of Panipat
- (ix) Loss of key territories, trading routes & ports.
- (x) Absence of strategic foresight, aggressive expansionism and heavy taxation.

Nonetheless, the Marathas inspired further National struggle, with India establishing 1st Shivaji to recognise their prowess.

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Q.13.

The post independent India has continuously been addressing regional aspirations in terms of internal reorganisation and border adjustments.

Ongoing process of political reorganisation

(i) Integration of princely states between 1947-49 (Hyderabad, Junagadh, Kashmir).

(ii) Creation of Andhra Pradesh as Telugu speaking state (linguistic reorganisation after Potti Sramamulu's death)



Fig: Major reorganisations

(iii) States Reorganisation Act, 1956 on linguistic basis. Ex: Mysore (Karnataka).

(iv) Post 1960

- Goa from Portuguese
- creation of north eastern states
- Uttarakhand & Himachal Pradesh on cultural & socio-economic lines

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- (v) Post 2000 - Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh etc. on socio-economic disparities
- (vi) Telangana in 2014 to curb regional deprivation
- (vii) Ladakh as a Union Territory of J&K in 2019.
- (ix) Administrative convenience. Eg: Daman & Diu.

Success in accommodation of regional aspirations

- (i) Respecting cultural & linguistic diversities. [Eg] Gujarat & Maharashtra
- (ii) Mitigating inter ethnic community tensions. (Eg) creation of Autonomous District Councils, 5th & 6th schedule.
- (iii) Promotion of federal spirit - Inter state Council (A 263).
- (iv) Focused governance and administration
Eg: Uttarakhand
- (v) Economic growth & development
Eg: Telangana's GDP rise after reorganisation.
- (vi) Prevention of Balkanisation of India

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However, challenges persist -

(i) Communalism & demands of separate ethnic groupings - Persisting regionalism
Eg: Bodoland, Gorkhaland.

(ii) Issues of economic deprivation & developmental issues. Eg: Tharland, Vidharbha.

(iii) Ongoing inter-state disputes
- Water disputes : Karnataka & Tamil Nadu over Cauvery
- border disputes - Gujarat & Maharashtra

(iv) Secessionist ideologies Eg: Kelistan Issue

(v) Marginalisation of minority language groups Eg - Tulu in Karnataka.

(vi) Violent outbreaks due to ethnic differences Eg: Manipur - Kuki - Meitei

(vii) Issue of soil movement in Maharashtra.

Way Forward

- ↳ cooperative federalism - Aspirational districts programme
- ↳ Inter state council utilization
- ↳ Decentralised planning & development (Sarkaria Commission)
- ↳ community programmes - Kashi Tamil Sangam.

Nation building over time will help fulfill vision of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat'.

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Q14.

'They may kill me, but they can't kill my ideas. They can crush my body, but they will not be able to crush my spirit.'
- Bhagat Singh.

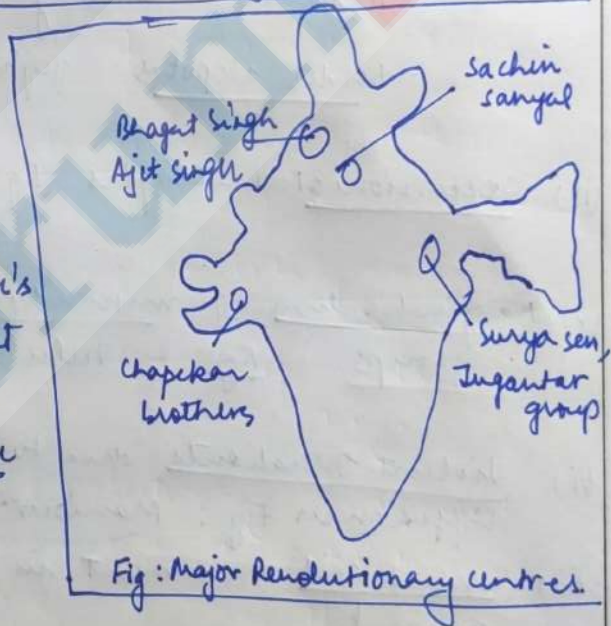
India's freedom has a collective journey, with the revolutionaries playing a substantive role.

Contributions of Revolutionary movement

1) Alternative method to moderates & extremists

(Eg): VD Savarkar's
Ashwar Bhatat

2) Inspired hope to utilize individual action



3) Assassination of unpopular European officials. (Eg) - Bhudiwan Bose

4) Establishment of a movement by institutionalizing Hindustan Republic Association (HRA).

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- (5) Religious equality and involvement
(Eg) Ghadar party
- (6) Envisioning a federal state on lines of USA. (Eg): Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- (7) Use of literature to instill patriotism
(Eg): Tagore, Bankimchandra Chattopadhyay.
- (8) Creation of support outside India
(Eg): Shyamji Krishna Verma and India House in London
Bhikaji Cama from Paris.
- (9) Provided inspiration for movement
(Eg): Prithvi Narayan Waterwalla
- (10) Promoting socialist ideals. (Eg): Creation of HSRA
- (11) Involvement and recognition of youth - (Eg) Bal Gangadhar Tilak's Young Men's Sabha.

Factors responsible for limited effects

- (1) Limited appeal to the masses due to ideological contradiction with Gandhi's non-violence
- (2) Limited storm centres - Bengal, Punjab etc.

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- (3) Urban, educated base eg - Anushilan Samiti
- (4) Lack of cohesive organisation (Jugantar)
- (5) Limited financial resources posed challenges in arming revolutionaries
- (6) Harsh British suppression, eg - Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev & Rajguru's execution
- (7) Resting of international support
eg - Failure of Zimmerman plan.
- (8) Banning of literature limited their reach
- (9) Inability to match military prowess of British
Eg: Failure of Ghadar mutiny.

However, the Revolutionary movement posed an emotion of patriotism and sacrifice, lighting the lamp of 'Azaadi'.

'If the deaf are to hear,
the sound is to be very loud'
- Bhagat Singh

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Q.15.

The Indian National Movement was a tripartite of political freedom, social justice and economic regeneration — an idea of self rule 'swaraj'.

Goal of political freedom

Political freedom is the lifeblood of the nation — Sri Ambedkar

- 1) Demand for indianisation of civil service and open competition for civil servants selection by Moderates
- 2) Representation in legislature
- 3) Empowering local self governance (democratic decentralization)
- 4) Swaraj as the goal under Calcutta session, 1906
- 5) Home Rule League (1916) idea of self government in Nehru Report (1928) dominion status.
- 6) Lahore Session (1929) — Purna Swaraj
- 7) Civil Disobedience & Quit India reiterated goal of freedom
- 8) Cabinet Mission (1946) announced setup of Constituent Assembly.

Goal of social justice

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

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(1) Exadication of caste evils.

Eg : Gandhi ji's Harijan Sewak Sangh
Ambekar's Mahad Caturagula
Temple entry movement (SRDP)
Poona Pact for resurrection of
marginalised.

(2) Empowerization of women

- Fight against social evils (Ramnidhar Baf against sati)
- Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar - female education & widow remarriage
- inclusion of women in National movement

Eg : Usha Mehta.

(3) Resolution on fundamental rights (Lahore Session 1930)

- (free speech & free press)
- socialism & secularism

(4) Worker's rights

Eg : Formation of AITUC (1918)

(5) Gandhi ji's concept of Samudaya through Antodaya (welfare of the weakest).

(6) Cursading against alcohol consumption, voicing atma sakti

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Goal of economic regeneration

- (1) Self reliance in economic sector
Eg: use of darkha & khedi
- (2) Land reforms & revitalization of cottage industries
Eg: Bardoli Satyagraha, Champaran
- (3) Swadeshi or indigenous enterprises
Eg: Swadeshi Steam Navigation Company by Chedambaram Pillai
- (4) National Economic programme (Lahore Session 1930)
 - ↳ reduction in rent & revenue in case of peasants
 - ↳ living wage concept
 - ↳ right to form unions.
- (5) National Planning Commission under Jawaharlal Nehru for economic regeneration
- (6) Farmer's rights - Faizpur session, 1938.

Thus, India fostered a construction of a welfare state - social, economic, political & culture with Sakka sauth, sakka nikaas, sakka nichwala and Sakka Prayaas.

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Q16.

Africa's colonialisation began in the 16th century through commercial tension and slave trade. European powers expanded their control over Africa by late 19th century.

However, 'the paper partition' led to a different experience of colonialization for Africa.

- (1) Rise of Germany as an imperial power and its economic industrialization
eg. Berlin conference.
- (2) Conflict among Imperial powers would have led to mass death & destruction.
Thus, paper partition seemed feasible.
- (3) It was seen as an instrument to pool resources and check the influence of Russia and Japan.
- (4) Lack of leadership & lack of outside influence & help.
- (5) The scramble of Africa led to division of territories before their actual control.

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Factors leading to prolonged de-colonisation of Africa

- (1) Sup seated dependence of colonizers, lack of political, social, economic objectives
- (2) Lack of effective national leadership.
- (3) Lack of dissemination of ideas of democracy and self rule.
- (4) Interest of Colonizers to safeguard hold on Africa after loss in Asia.
- (5) Absence of Arab assault in Africa led colonizer allies retain stronghold in Africa.
- (6) Lack of a Pan African feeling as Pan Asian feeling.

Similarities

- (1) Arbitrary division of Africa despite diversity of culture, language, geography etc. like in India.

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- (2) Social backwardness - poor health, education, poverty.
- (3) Economic backwardness due to colonised trade & impoverishment of industry like India.
- (4) The common colonial ideology of white man's burden & racist superiority.
Eg: Apartheid in South Africa.
- (5) Ethnic conflicts - Tutsis and Hutus sow seeds for future conflicts (India Pakistan partition issues).

Thus, the scramble of Africa was a pivotal chapter in continents history.
The scars of colonialism still continues to pose challenges - military coups, deprivation, political instability & fight for sustainable development.

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Q17.

According to various reports under the NITI Aayog's Composite Water Management Index, India is facing a severe water crisis, putting its liabilities under SDG 4 under threat.

Factors for a grave water crises

(1) Soaring demand

- India's 18% population relies on just 4% of world's water resources
- Urbanisation and industrialization
- Inefficiency of agriculture (growing water guzzling crops like paddy in Punjab)
- Reduction in groundwater table (48% urban supply from groundwater)
- Focus on water intensive industries - semiconductors, thermal power plants
- Poor water supply infrastructure like distribution networks & treatment plants
- Increasing water export (eg - Basmati rice).

(2) Pollution

- Domestic waste discharge (untreated sewage and landfill leakage)

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- Harmful industrial effluent discharge
Eg: Yamuna detergent water issue
- Pollution of water bodies Eg: Bellandur Lake in Bengaluru
- Groundwater contamination due to over extraction
Eg: Fluoride & uranium in Punjab pollution.

(3) Climate change

- monsoon variability
↳ increased frequency of droughts
- Retreating Himalayan glaciers due to global warming have affected the flow of rivers.
- Rising sea levels & increased salinity of water in coastal areas
(sea water ingress)
- Flooding affects water quality & availability due to disturbed hydrological cycle.
- Eutrophication of water bodies due to silting of rivers.

Other issues include lack of water issues governance and inter state river disputes, lack of storage systems etc.

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Impact → water stress exacerbation
→ impact on women (↑ water stress increases violence against women
Es - 2023-24)
→ spread of water borne diseases
eg- dengue, malaria.

Ensuring Water security

- (1) Water conservation initiatives - eg Atal Bujal Yojana
- (2) Traditional water harvesting practices - Baolis & integrated water management
- (3) Building green-blue infrastructure & sponge cities
- (4) Invest in desalination technologies & efficient wastewater treatment
- (5) Tal Shakti Abhiyan (Catch the Rain)
- (6) Tal Simoli : Women for water, Water for women
- (7) Community based solutions - eg - Orange city in California's recycle water education campaign
- (8) Crop diversification (Incentives model of Punjab) & microirrigation.
- (9) Mission Life for behavioural change, WASH
- (10) Water governance - LOTUS-HR (Netherlands & Delhi)
- (11) Utilise debt for nature swaps & water trading.

UN Water highlights the importance of water as - Prosperity & Peace insurer.

(Please do not write anything except the question number in this space)

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Q18.

Volcano is an eruption of the earth's crust from which lava, ash, gases escape to the surface.

Most volcanoes occur around the Pacific Ring of Fire

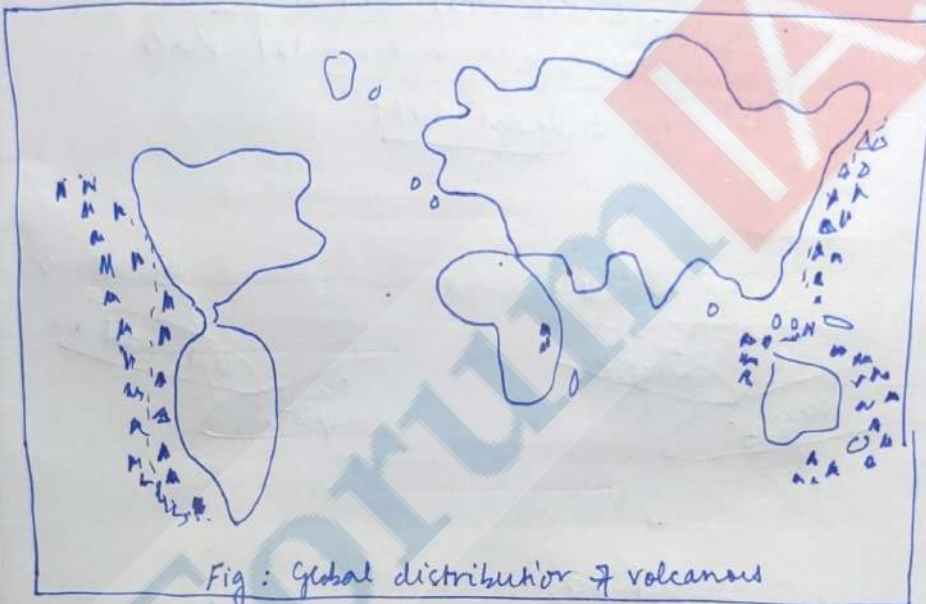
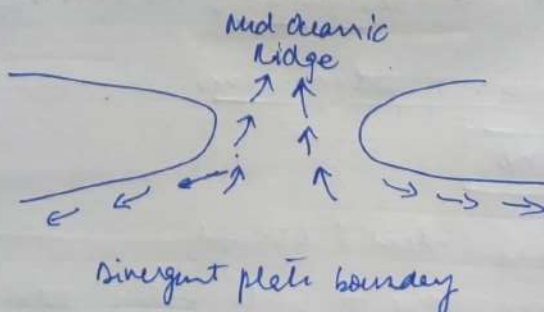


Fig : Global distribution of volcanoes

Reasons for global distribution of volcanoes

(1) Divergent plate boundaries

- rising of convection currents, plates move away and magma is pushed up. eg- Mid Atlantic Ridge.



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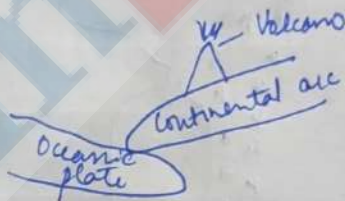
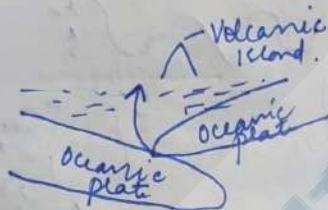
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(2) Convergent plate boundaries

→ Oceanic - Oceanic convergence leads to subducting convection currents - forms volcanic arcs. Eg : Alutian Islands.

→ Oceanic - continental convergence - eruption on continental plate
Eg : Andean belt



(3) Volcanic Hotspots

- It is the area where mantle plumes rise upward, forming volcanoes on overlying crust. Eg : Hawaii Islands.

(4) Mediterranean volcanism in alpine folds - Vesuvius, Stromboli

Consequences of vulcanism

Destructive

- (i) Showers of cinders & bombs
- (ii) Tsunamis due to underwater eruption
eg Karakatao eruption

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- (3) Phenomenon of global dimming - lowering temperature at a global scale
↳ volcanic winter leads to famines & crop failure
- (4) Increased atmospheric pollution.
- (5) Acid rain, ozone destruction due to release of greenhouse gases - aerosols
- (6) Destruction & loss of life - Mt. Pellée eruption of 1902.
- (7) Economic loss - transportation blocked
↳ livelihood shut.

Positive effects

- (1) Formation of new fertile landforms
eg. beach traps.
- (2) Fertile soil due to metamorphism of minerals - black soil.
- (3) Mineral resources brought to surface -
Diamond from Kimberlite in South Africa
- (4) generation of geothermal energy - Puga Valley in Ladakh.
- (5) Scenic beauty & tourist guides
- Yellowstone National Park.

Volcanoes as a geophysical phenomena continue to shape the Earth.

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Q19.

Sociologist Satish Deshpande in their article 'Caste and Castelessness : Towards Biography of a general category' discusses the widely growing juxtaposition of caste in the contemporary times.

Seemingly casteless upper caste

- (1) Socio economic development based on merit than on caste identities
- (2) Occupation of positions of power and privilege
- (3) Better access to education and employment allows social integration in the society
- (4) Upholding modern professional identities of 'choice'
↳ love marriage
- (5) Monopolisation of general category by seeming casteless as castelessness only an upper caste privilege - Justice DY Chandrachud.

Apparently caste defined lower caste

- (1) Visibility & persistent discrimination on the basis of caste.

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- (2) Process of othering and social exclusion due to historical injustices
- (3) Apprimative actions make caste identity visible.
- (4) Relative deprivation & marginalisation in terms of education, health, employment makes caste salient
- (5) Identity politics and vote bank - Oalit movements, political parties like BSP.
- (6) Intersectionality makes caste more prominent
eg: caste & women, LGBTQIA+, persons with disabilities
- (7) Prominence of local evils like honour killing when upper caste married to lower caste.

Contemporary evolution and transformations in caste perspective

- (1) Sanskritisation & urbanisation led to dilution of caste hierarchies
- (2) Subtle forms in urban spaces (caste ghettoization)

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(3) rise of intersectionality paving way for need of sub-categorisation of caste (Dalit Christians)

(4) while visible caste identities would foster solidarity, it leads to illusion of passing by as casteless and increase fragmentation of social fabric.

↳ Cases of Hathras rape highlights the persistence of caste.
(5) Shift from caste to class based society way forward

(1) subcategorisation of caste (SC judgement of July 2024, Justice Kokini Commission)

(2) multistakeholder involvement in policy making - balance affirmative action & merit

(3) Behavioural change through best practices
↳ Salit in Ayodhya temple committee
↳ value based education to promote inclusivity
↳ Capability approach (Amartya Sen)

sustained efforts were imperative to walk the vision of 'Annihilation of Caste' as envisioned by BR Ambedkar.

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Q20.

'where the world has not been broken by narrow domestic walls' let my country awake'.

The above stanza from Rabindranath Tagore's 'where the mind is without fear' highlight the cradle of tolerance and harmony in a humanity.

Societal ethos of India meaning tolerance & harmony

- (1) Religious teachings - Ahimsa paramo dharma of Hinduism, Tawhid in Islam
- (2) Philosophical conceptualizations
↳ Sarva dharma sambhava and
vasudhaiva kutumbakam
- (3) Ideal of love and compassion - Ohai okhar prem ke by Kabir
- (4) Religious tolerance by ancient & medieval Indian rulers
↳ Ashoka's dhamma & Akbar's
Din-i-illahi
- (5) Cultural syncretism
↳ Religion - Om & Swastik both in Hinduism & Jainism
↳ Language - use of Hindi
↳ Art - Ajanta - Ellora caves
↳ Social customs - respect for elders.

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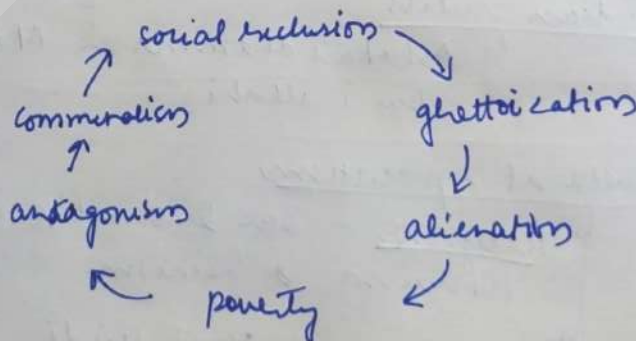
- (6) Traditional journey
- ↳ festivals like Diwali
 - ↳ community participation (longer in India)
 - ↳ interfaith marriages

- (7) Help in distress
- Hindu temple offered help to Muslims while derailment of Dada train.

- (8) Constitutional ethos of secularism, fraternity & Freedom of religion (A 25-28), Article 51

Communal Discord: Threat to pluralism

- (1) Historical grievances & past violence
- (2) past mistrust & breakdown of communities
eg- Kashmiri Pandits exodus
- (3) Vicious cycle of relative deprivation



- (4) Political ramifications & vote banks leads to polarisation of communities

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and manipulate them. Eg: Delhi, Bhopal riots.

(5) Weak law enforcement & delayed justice

(6) Media & proliferation of hate speech & misinformation. Eg: Muzaffarnagar riots.

(7) Terrorist forces exploit internal cracks
eg: 151 Mumbai riots after Babri demolition

(8) Secessionist tendencies based on religion: Khalistan issue.

(9) Intersectionality of caste, religion, gender etc leads to a cycle of perpetual discrimination & communal discord.

WAY FORWARD

(1) Check on political misuse of communalist ideas (use of RPA, 1951)

(2) development of marginalised (Sachar committee)

(3) democratic decentralisation & planning for inclusive growth (PM Devine)

(4) Saled band model of integration & samudaya through antodaya

(5) Equal opportunities commission in college

(6) emerge best practices - Kerala class 3 textbooks inclusive of homosexuality, caste, religion.

A multi pronged approach is essential for a 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat'!