

TEST CODE 6 3 2 6 2

FIAS | ATS 2023 | Batch 2 | SOC #2

Time Allowed : Three Hours

समय : तीन घंटे

Forum IAS

Maximum Marks : 250

अधिकतम अंक : 250

SOCIOLOGY / समाज शास्त्र

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	ABHINAV ASHOK		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910099700	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	1900	Date/दिनांक	25.07.23

*Center Code : For Online - 1900 / Delhi : Karol bagh - 1901, ORN - 1902, Mukharji Nagar - 1903/ Patna : Boring Rd. - 2001 / Hyderabad : Jawahar Nagar - 2101

INDEX TABLE / अनुक्रमणिका			INSTRUCTION / अनुदेश		
Q. No. प्र.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्तांक	1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Roll No, Date). उत्तर पत्रक में उपयुक्त विवरण प्रस्तुत करें (अर्थात नाम, अनुक्रमांक, तिथि)।		
1			2. There are FIVE questions in the question paper. Section A contains 2 Questions and Section B contains 3 questions. प्रश्न पत्र में पांच प्रश्न हैं। खंड A में 2 प्रश्न हैं और खंड B में 3 प्रश्न हैं।		
2			3. All Questions are Compulsory. सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।		
3			4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. किसी प्रश्न/भाग द्वारा किए गए अंकों की संख्या उसके सामने दर्शाई गई है।		
4			5. 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. उत्तर प्रवेश प्रमाण पत्र में अधिकृत माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जो इस प्रश्न-सह उत्तर (QCA) पुस्तिका के कवर पर दिए गए स्थान में स्पष्ट रूप से बताए जाने चाहिए।		
5			6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, यदि निर्दिष्ट हो, का पालन किया जाना चाहिए।		
6			7. Content is more important than content length. विषय-सामग्री लंबाई की तुलना में विषय-सामग्री अधिक महत्वपूर्ण है।		
7			8. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off. प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा गया कोई भी पृष्ठ या पृष्ठ का भाग स्पष्ट रूप से काट दिया जाना चाहिए।		
8					
Total/कुल अंक	250		For Student Only / केवल परीक्षार्थी प्रयोग हेतु		
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			10:45 am	2:15 pm	
Total Marks/कुल अंक :			Mode Of Examination/ परीक्षा की विधि :	Online/ऑनलाइन <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline/ऑफलाइन <input type="checkbox"/>	
*Examiner's Discretion is the marks awarded at the discretion of the examiner based on your overall impression, on the basis of (but not limited to) your handwriting, presentation, use of diagrams, flowcharts, facts and figures or absolutely anything that he/she liked in your copy. मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक अंक, आपकी लिखावट, प्रस्तुति, आरेखों के उपयोग, फ्लोचार्ट, तथ्यों और आंकड़ों या समग्र रूप किसी अन्य विषय वस्तु, जो मूल्यांकन कर्ता को आपकी कॉपी में पसंद आयी के आधार पर (लेकिन इन्हीं तक सीमित नहीं) पर दिए गए अंक हैं।			For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु		
			ECN CODE/ ईसीएन कोड :	EG/ईजी :	Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि :
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Note: You can discuss your evaluated copy with the Mentor. Raise a ticket from your portal to schedule a mentor call or visit the offline centre to meet mentor (all 7 days, Timings - 11 AM to 6 PM). Further if you are unsatisfied with the evaluation, you can seek re-evaluation of the copy.

EXAMINER'S REMARKS

CRITERIA FOR THE FEEDBACK SECTION AT THE END OF EACH QUESTION

1. **AWIS = Answered What is Asked.** This means whether you have addressed the core demand of the question or not. Addressing the core demand of the question gets you an objectively fair score. It is examiner's perception if you have understood the question and if you know the answer in the first place. Creative answer writing, sometimes missing the core demand, may fetch very high or very low scores, and exposes your answer to the subjectivity of the examiner.
2. **CD & VA = Content Density & Value Addition.** Examiner will evaluate the quality and quantity of your content in the answer. In the same word limit and space limit have you (a) written what is asked (b) gone beyond what is asked (c) enriched answers through combination of (but not all!) suggestions, ideas, quotes, flowcharts, diagrams, facts and figures, data etc. This affects objective components of assessment.
3. **S & F = Structure & Flow =** Whether you have structured your answer properly or not. Whether the answer has been broken into parts and sub-parts and each part has been addressed appropriately or not. Whether the flow of the answer is maintained. Affects both subjective and objective components of assessment.
4. **P & R = How your answer performs on the criteria of presentation, ease of read, clarity and apparent effort in writing the answer.** This affects the subjective components of assessment.



Section- A

Q.1) Answer the following questions in about 150 words each

a) Analyse the distinction between the two forms of solidarity discussed by Durkheim. (10 Marks)

Emile Durkheim, one of the most prominent sociologists analysed the concept of solidarity. He defined solidarity as the beliefs and emotions that give a perception of shared commonalities among the members.

He divided solidarity into - Mechanical and Organic.

Mechanical Solidarity

This kind of solidarity is mostly seen in primitive simple societies where differentiation has not taken place. In this society, the cohesive force could be seen as likeness between similar members. In this, each unit of consideration is detachable from the main group and can still exist freely. This kind of group sees similarity in the thoughts, actions, beliefs of people.

Organic Solidarity

In this kind of solidarity, the society has seen differentiation and hence existence as a completely isolated entity is not possible. Hence the people have different ways of thinking, doing the same thing thus showing the differences. This is clearly visible in the modern societies wherein a unit cannot live in complete isolation as they units are interdependent on each other.

Complimentarities between the line

Durkheim however points out that even though differentiation increases, egoism does not which means that the parts are dependent on each other and hence the society despite becoming more autonomous seems to be more dependent on each other. Hence it reflects the cooperation between the parts for the maintenance of whole.

Feedback

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TOTAL MARKS			



b) Explain with reference to Robert K. Merton's theory, how does the social structure produce strain and lead to anomie and deviant behaviour? (10 Marks)

Robert K. Merton, a prominent sociologist reflected upon the sociology of deviance and anomie in the society which clearly shows the variation observed in the society in terms of means and ends chosen by individuals.

Merton uses two polar extremes to analyse this which are institutionalised means and socially approved goals.

The institutionalised means are the cultural aspects of what a society considers a just means to an end while socially approved goals shows the acceptance of goals seen to be beneficial for society.

	Institutionalised means	Socially approved goals	
1) Conformity	✓	✓	
2) Innovation	X	✓	} Deviance
3) Ritualism	✓	X	
4) Retreatism	X	X	
5) Rebellion	X/✓	X/✓	

Rebel	New means
New goals	✓

In conformity, a person accepts the goals and means approved by the society

But in the other case of innovation, ritualism, retreatism and rebellion the approved goals & means are not in consonance hence showing deviance.

anomie is a part of deviance wherein there is a complete polarity between the goals and the ends which is reflected in innovation and ritualism.

Conformists - Regular people

Innovation - Scientists, entrepreneurs

Ritualism - a bureaucrat with high regard for work than money.

Retreatism - vagabonds, drug addicts

Rebellion - breaking & replacing the social order

Feedback

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c) What do you understand by the term 'Relative Deprivation' and 'Inter-generational mobility'? Illustrate with examples. (10 Marks)

All Mead analysed the concept of reference group. He uses the term membership group and non-membership group to signify in and out group.

He claims reference group to be that group which the individual looks up to while analysing his behaviour whether it was acceptable by them or not. This shows the anticipatory socialisation.

And in this context, he uses the term Relative Deprivation.

Relative Deprivation

He uses the example of members of military to explain relative deprivation where 3 kinds of soldiers can be seen -

- 1) soldiers at border
- 2) soldiers at home
- 3) soldiers at overseas postings

Each group of soldier while comparing themselves to the other feels deprived or in a better position as a soldier at border may feel his life is at a greater danger than the soldier at home. This shows the relative deprivation of soldier. Further he compares himself to his civilian friends and thinks that the kind of sacrifice expected from him is not expected from civilians showing relative deprivation between membership & non membership group.

Inter generational mobility

This could be understood by anticipatory socialisation which was shown by his disciple Helen Ross. Even MN Srinivas comes close to this wherein a group tries to act and imitate values of the reference group in order to settle smoothly amongst the desired of membership group. This is seen in caste in India.

Feedback

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d) Delve into the conceptualization and nature of social facts according to Emile Durkheim, within the context of sociological analysis. (10 Marks)

Emile Durkheim, a positivist who believed that it is crucial to find social laws akin to that of natural laws refused to see social occurrences from psychological, individual perspective.

He believed that social laws are 'social' and hence cannot be narrowed down to individual. Hence, to find these social laws, Durkheim introduced the concept of social fact.

Social facts are collective ways of thinking, doing, which though seems to come from an individual but cannot be reduced to an individual's actions. Hence this depicts a sui generis reality.

According to him social facts are to be seen as things which have an existence of their own. And the sociologists

need to find social facts which can explain the causal connectivity of an action and its consequence which is evident in his comparative method.

Durkheim states that social facts are to be found in society itself and a social fact can be explained by using another social fact.

He urges sociologists to explain the happenings using the social facts. He uses them too and considers religion, suicide, division of labour to be social facts in themselves.

These social facts are to be considered as reality and fact in themselves which has no scope of subjectivity after it is found though he did not specifically specify a way of selecting these social facts.

social facts hence remained central to Durkheimian sociology.

Feedback

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e) How does Max Weber define and characterize the concept of an "ideal type". What is the purpose and significance of employing this concept in social science research?

(10 Marks)

Ideal type according to Max Weber is the standard that is set for comparative analysis.

He uses the concept of ideal type to understand the most common subjective meaning that is attributed to an action on the basis of which another action can be evaluated.

For example, if a person talks about university, it is important to know what people think are the most important aspects of university.

Since the 'ideal' type has nothing to do with the literary meaning of the word and does not have to do with value judgement of an action but only to understand the most important aspects related to it.

Purpose & Significance of Ideal Type in Research

- 1) Ideal type helps set the standard of what ideas are attributed to an action or object.
- 2) It hence helps evaluate other things using this ideal type.
- 3) It helps in making the research value neutral as it is not possible to have a completely value free sociology. It thus helps keep the pre-conceived notions at bay and understand the ascribed meaning or expected outcome of an action.

The concept of ideal type was extensively used by Weber in his analysis of bureaucracy, protestant ethics and spirit of capitalism to know the most important and general ideas that is associated with an act.

Feedback

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Q.2) a) How does Emile Durkheim's sociological analysis prioritize a specific aspect or area of study. Provide an illustration of this emphasis by giving reference to one of Durkheim's notable contributions? (20 Marks)

Emile Durkheim in his Rules of Sociological Method 1895 tries to delineate the scope of sociology as well as the way to analyse it in a positivistic manner.

To do so, he uses 3 ^{aspects} ~~indicators~~ that are external, constraint and generality. He says that to begin the analysis of any aspect, it is important to use the three.

Externality

It helps a person dispose the pre-conceived notion and look at things from a distant neutral perspective to look at things.

Constraint

It means the phenomenon to be studied needs to know the bounds as in how is organic solidarity different from mechanical and so on. This constraint is not to be seen as unfortunate ^{event}, rather to be seen

as such the fencing of the scope.

Generality

With this he focussed on normal and pathological states. He uses the analogy of usual for healthy and unusual for pathological. He states that though pathological behaviour can be seen, it should be tried to correct.

He also uses 3 indicators which are historical, ethnographic and social statistical

He uses of the concept of social fact to further analyse and understand the occurrences

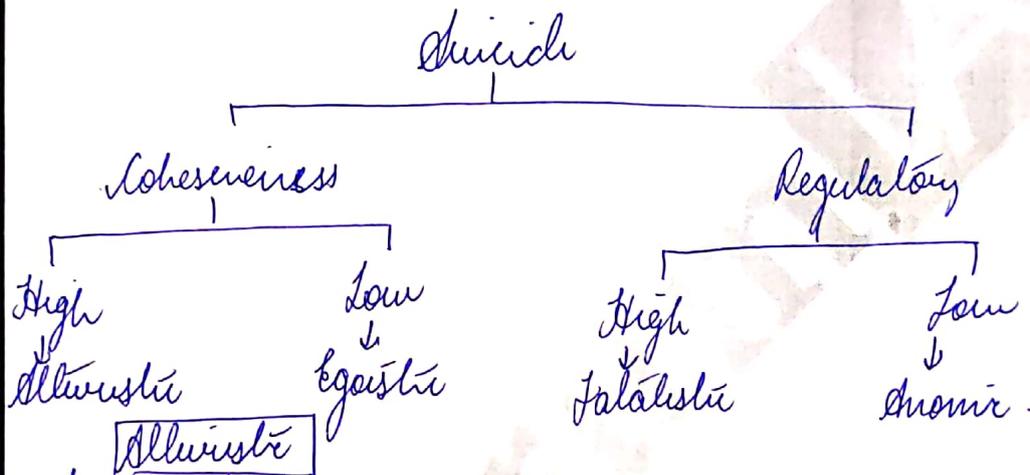
One such important area of analysis was suicide.

Suicide

For its analysis, Durkheim picks up ethnographic statistical indicators. Durkheim agrees that it is a very individual act but tries to analyse it from a social

perspective and not from an individual point of view owing to the constraint of his own methodology of social facts.

He picks up regulation and cohesiveness in the analysis



In highly cohesive societies, usually feudal ones, the sense of belongingness is sometimes so high that a person ends his life as the demands of the society.

eg) people committing suicide because of inability to live by family honour.

Egoistic

This type of suicide happens due to lack of integration with the larger society

eg) this suicide is seen more in protestant societies, ~~and~~ child less couples etc.

Fatalistic

This occurs due to very high regulatory pressure that gives a person a feeling of no room for freedom and malleability
eg) slaves in slave society.

Anomic

This occurs due to the lack of regulation. It also occurs when a person's expectations and realities are not in sync hence not content with the received lot
eg) suicide during socio economic crisis.

Durkheim considered all the concept of suicide as a social fact where he exhibited externality and generality and also showed pathological state and analysed it using statistical indicators.

Feedback

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b) What did Robert K. Merton mean by Manifest and Latent functions? Elaborate on the manifest and latent functions of the Indian competitive examinations in which a significant percentage of the young population participates. (20 Marks)

RK Merton, a functionalist enriched the concept by further addition of new concepts such as manifest, latent, dysfunction and functional alternative.

He claimed that though functionalism was the most prominent and promising theory, it had given in patches and not in depth. Hence, he initiates a new dimension to it of manifest and latent function.

Manifest function could be defined as the intended actions the consequences of which are known by the actor.

For example when a person dies and the family gather, the manifest function is gathering and mourning.

Latent function could be defined as the unexpected functions and consequences of an act which may or may

not be realised by the actors.

For example, the Hopi Indians gathered to perform a rain dance to please the gods but this also led to an unintended consequence of strengthening the solidarity and entertainment.

He also focussed on the subjectivity or frame of reference of observation. It is possible for an action to be latent for some but manifest for others.

For instance, the opening of a university in a town, the manifest function is providing good education but the latent function is boosting the local economy. This latent function may become manifest function for businesses who recognize the opportunity.

Further the time also determines the manifest and latent function and dysfunction.

For example, the opening of a bar in an

area may lead to cheerfulness, happiness and opening of other businesses but with time due to the latent functions like domestic violence, juvenile delinquencies, it may become dysfunctional.

Manifest and latent functions of competitive exams

Manifest functions -

The manifest function of Indian competitive exams is to clear the exam, get a good rank, acquire knowledge, do well in life and earn money or social ~~prestige~~

Latent functions -

Highly educated and aware citizens, ^{even} if not cleared the exam, boost to the local economy in terms of book stores, printing shops, coaching centres. Further

Sometimes unanticipated prestige may come along with the association with preparing for the exam as well as by clearing the exam.

However, this manifest function becomes a dysfunction when students under pressure commit suicide showing the problems in their lives. This has been seen to a great extent in quota Kota.

Hence manifest and latent functions enrich the paradigm of functionalism and provide an insight into the intended and unintended consequences of actions.

Feedback

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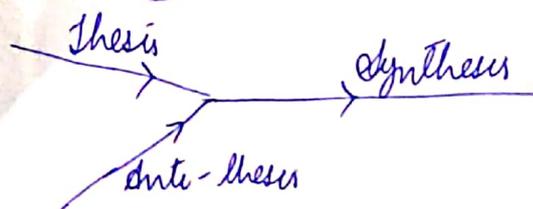


c) What is Karl Marx's theoretical framework concerning the concept of class-antagonism, and how have the proponents of functionalist perspective responded to his perspectives? (10 Marks)

Karl Marx, a political theorist, a thinker and a social theorist propounded the theory of class antagonism where one class is pitted against the other.

According to Marx, society has hitherto been a result of class antagonism. ancient slave society saw slaves against masters, feudal society saw lords against serfs and the present capitalist society would witness bourgeoisie against proletariat.

He uses Hegel's dialectics to analyse that every society contains the seeds of its own negation and thus its anti-thesis



He claims that due to the inherent contradictions arising due to commodification

of labour, alienation the proletariat would gain class consciousness and become class for itself and would overthrow the relations of production to inaugurate socialism and finally a classless society as communism.

However, Marx has also been criticised for this theory. Acton calls it illusion of the epoch. Raymond Aron calls it opium to the masses. Even Wallerstein does not agree with the historical approach chosen to give a universal theory of societies throughout the time. Even symbolic interactionists do not agree with the dichotomous approach of Marx and thus W.H. Rieu criticizes him of applying a straight jacket approach and oversimplifying the history.

Despite this Marx remains to be giant which has developed into a dogma now.

Feedback

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Section- B

Q.3) Answer the following questions in about 150 words each:

- a) Elaborate on Melvin Tumin's critique of structural-functionalist theory of social stratification. Examine his perspectives and arguments challenging the prevailing understanding of social hierarchy. (10 Marks)



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Ⓟ = Poor

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b) Analyse the sociological concept of the sacred and the profane. Critically examine the implications of this dichotomy on various cultural and religious beliefs.

(10 Marks)

Durkheim used the concept of sacred and profane in his analysis of religion.

Sacred was seen as something par excellence which was kept away from the normal mundane life which the profane must not touch.

Profane was analysed as the mundane day to day activities of a person that were sub par and kept away from some sacred.

The rituals based on sacred and profane along with church helped in the formulation of religion.

The implication of sacred and profane could be seen in Indian society with purity and pollution.

The 'purity' aspect is kept away from normal every day life. For instance, people

wear different clothes, take a bath, remove footwear before going to sacred places.

While ~~fecality~~ pollution can be seen as deity work or normal work like going to office, eating non vegetarian food.

This idea of sacred and profane culturally in Indian scenario could be seen in the caste system where Brahmins were seen as reflection of gods and created from the mouth of Vishnu while the Shudras were discriminated upon as untouchables being seen as created from the feet of Vishnu signifying pollution.

Further the work divided was also in accordance where Brahmins were teachers, priests while the Shudras were leather workers, butchers, sanitation workers.

Thus the idea of purity and pollution has impact on religious and cultural beliefs all over the world.

Feedback

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c) What is the role of Talcott Parsons' pattern variables in shaping social behaviour within a society? (10 Marks)

The pattern variables of Talcott Parsons present a dichotomy between two aspects that help shape the social behaviour in many ways.

i) Ascription vs Achievement

In ascription, a pre-associated identity is promoted while in achievement a person gets something on the basis of merit.

This helps in choosing the social standing of the people in society which now favours the achievements more.

ii) Specific vs Generality

A doctor for instance has a specific relation with patients to cure them while has a general relation with family members.

iii)

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d) How do the concepts of "class-in-itself" and "class-for-itself" in sociological theory highlight the transformation of social classes from objective economic categories to subjective collective identities? (10 Marks)

Karl Marx popularly used the phrases 'class for itself' and 'class in itself' in the analysis of social antagonism.

Initially the workers do not have a solidarity or a fixed identity and are loosely bound to each other. They are merely associated due to the relations of production.

But due to the inherent nature of capitalist society, the workers would be exploited, alienated and their labour commodified.

A worker gets alienated from his family, his creation, himself thus leading to seeds of discomfort.

Further the theory of surplus value where the commodity gains its own existence and the law of diminishing returns, the exploitation of workers and poor

ling condition makes the workers rise up against the social order from a lumpen proletariat of class in itself to class for itself.

This phase would entail the division of society into 2 hostile camps wherein the proletariat would overthrow the bourgeoisie and lead to a socialist society where each according to need, each according to work principle would be followed. This would be followed by a classless society which would lead to communism.

The transition of proletariat from objective economic category to subjective economic category is due to the class consciousness that arises in the evolution of the capitalist society opposing the status quo.

Feedback

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e) How does the nature of the social stratification system, whether it is based on ascribed characteristics or achieved positions, affect the patterns of social mobility within a society? (10 Marks)

Social stratification refers to the division of society into different strata and the hierarchical arrangement which puts one on top of the other.

This social stratification is similar to the concept of Marx's various classes however a revolutionary act of annihilating the setup may not be followed.

A social system could be open or close which shows the amount of social mobility possible.

Social mobility refers to the upward or downward movement of people of a strata.

In the case of a system with ascribed characteristics favorability, a person is born in a class and cannot be changed. This is rigid and reflects the concept of

caste in India. Though theorists like Mead and MN Srinivas analysed mobility with respect to reference group, this mobility is not high and depends on the acceptability of people in higher class. MN Srinivas calls it Sanskritization and Mead calls it anticipatory socialization.

In achievement dominated society, the society is arranged in a hierarchy but it is not as strict as the ascribed ones. The free movement of people takes place and is typical of the American society where irrespective of ~~sex~~ race, gender, sex, a person could move up or down the hierarchy.

This analysis find an important place in Parsons' categorical imperatives and hence clearly differentiates between the two

Feedback

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Q.4) a) Conduct a comprehensive and critical analysis of Max Weber's theory expounded in "The Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism", focusing on the intricate interplay between religious beliefs, cultural values, and the emergence of capitalist economic systems: (20 Marks)

Max Weber curious about the origin and thriving nature of capitalism in certain societies, initiated a deep analysis to understand the sociological basis of the phenomenon.

Max treats 'Protestant Ethic' and 'Spirit of Capitalism' as two ideal types.

He wanted to know the reason behind these not having developed in any other society.

Protestant Ethic

The protest. way of life was different from the other sects and religions existent at that time. It rejected the hierarchy of bishops, priests to act as intermediary between a person and God. And in this Calvinism played an important role where they believed in the

Theory of pre destination wherein all of us have either been subjected to success in life or be damned. But this created a lot of uncertainty in the minds of people about who was the chosen one.

Thus to solve this dissonance and confusion, it was believed that a person should work hard and produce more so that this could provide psychological security and make a person give hope that they could be the chosen one.

Aspect of Capitalism

Theorists like Benjamin Franklin focussed on monetary aspects and said that earning money was the ultimate goal of life. However he did not support a lavish or exotic life but did support the accumulation of wealth from the sweat and blood.

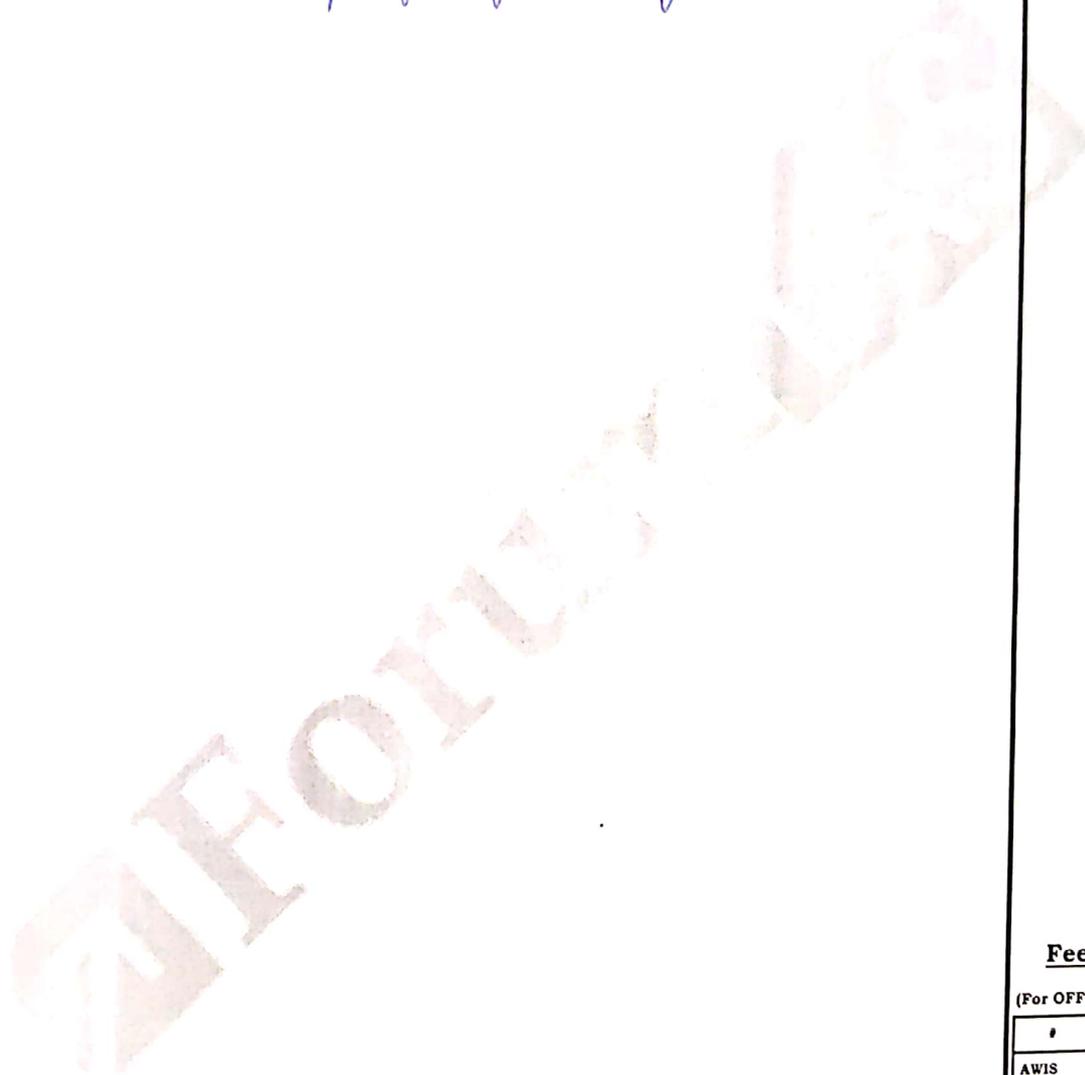
Hence, the intricate interplay between the religious and cultural beliefs of protestants and specifically 'Calvinism' along with the capitalist economic systems played a crucial role and provided a suitable base of mutually consistent ideologies reinforcing each other to save a person from uncertainties of not being the chosen one by God.

We have also analysed the reason behind non-development of this spirit in other religions like Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism etc.

According to him the paternal structure in China along with absolutism did not allow for such development.

Further, in Hinduism, the concept of 'Karma', 'rebirth' and 'caste system' hindered the growth of similar ideas.

Hence when using his ideal types revealed to the world the reason for origin for capitalism specifically among the Protestants.



Feedback

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b) To what extent does the concept of anomie, as formulated by R.K. Merton, provide a comprehensive framework for understanding the theoretical relationship between the nature of anomie and the various types of social deviations? (20 Marks)

RK Merton initiated the analysis of social deviation and anomie to study the society and find the underlying reasons behind the existence of the same.

He used institutionalised means (culturally accepted) and socially approved goals to determine the consistency between the two and the results of misemploy of both

	Acceptance of institutionalised means	Rejection of institutionalised means
Acceptance of socially approved goals	Conformity	Innovation - anomie
Rejection of socially approved goals	Ritualism	Retreatism

	New goals
New means	Rebellion

Deviation includes innovation, ritualism, retreatism and rebellion.

Extent to which anomie provides a comprehensive framework for connecting anomie & deviation.

Anomie refers to the polarity between the means and goals adopted by the persons.

- 1) Anomie is seen is innovation whenever a person adopts the socially approved goals but not the institutionalised means. This could be seen as theft, burglary, murder wherein specially in the case of American society, as stated by Merton, the dream has been shown but not the means to achieve it.

And since not everyone has the same amount of resources, motivation to reach the desired end, indulgence into unparliamentary methods could be seen which shows deviance.

2) In the case of ritualism the person elevated elevates the institutionalised means so high with no regard to the appeared goals that it becomes an anomie. A bureaucrat for example could reject the loft goals of coming a lot of money in life and instead focus only on his work. This would lead to the rejection of the goal set by society showing anomalous behaviour.

3) Other types of social deviations include
i) Rebriecation - whenever the person rejects both goals and means thus they live in the society but not

for the society. Examples include drug addicts, vagabonds.

Thus they do not believe in the social standards.

ii) Rebellion - They completely overthrow the current structure and replace it with another system showing the deviance from norm.

RK Merton explains anomie and deviance in complementarity where anomie is a part of deviance.

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c) How does Emile Durkheim's theory of the relationship between religion and society contribute to our understanding of the contemporary religious landscape and social dynamics in Asia? (10 Marks)

Durkheim with his analysis of religion explained the underlying basis of religion. He explained religion to be the personification of the society itself. He considered religion to be real.

He claimed that religion is a collective phenomenon where the group comes together to give the collective standards and power to an entity often as a totem - animal, natural things, deities and presumes it to be coming from a sui generis source.

In the contemporary scenario, in the case of India which has many religions, it could easily be analysed.

In the case of Hinduism which originated in India, the society was deeply ingrained with purity and pollution which found

its way as caste system in the religion. Furthermore the idea of not doing anything wrong for fear of repercussions as in Karma also found a stand.

West Asia

In the case of West Asia, where Islam originated, the women were usually seen to not have much power around GOD which is still reflected by the inferior status of women in terms of divorce, maintenance in the religion.

Jainism - India

Another reflection of reaction against killing of animals, ritual complexity of vedic religion, these ideas form the core of jainism where Digambaras do not originally wear clothes while they also do not consume non vegetarian food.

Thus it is clear that religion has deep influence of the conditions prevalent in the society which is given a social force for followers.

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Q.5) a) How does the conflict perspective on social stratification inform our analysis of social inequality in India? Explore the interplay between the rigid social stratification system based on caste and the mechanisms through which it perpetuates and reinforces social inequality? (20 Marks)

The conflict perspective of social stratification based on the idea of Marx are found in India's rigid social stratification of caste system

Conflict Perspective on social inequality in India

- 1) The existence of caste system for an immemorial has hardened the strict segregation of caste in India which can be seen by many instances of violence on Dalit members like in Hathras or the suicide of Rohit Verma.
- 2) This conflict perspective was initiated by many social reformers like Mahata Phule who advocated for equality but met by the violent revolutionary means.

- 3) B.R. Ambedkar initially before Poona Pact too, due to the discrimination faced by him accepted separate electorate to break away from the shackles of mistreatment.
- 4) In the present scenario, the identities have become stronger where the lower castes often challenge the upper castes specially in politics with the rise of parties like BSP etc.

Interplay between rigid caste system, social stratification and mechanism of perpetuation.

- 1) The stratification provides for a hierarchy where one strata is placed on top of the other.
- 2) The caste system does not allow the mobility between the different strata.
- 3) Hence the movement or upliftment of people despite improved socio-economic

conditions does not reflect owing to the fixed attribution of caste identity.

4) These 3 interact with each other and lead to further deepening of division and rise to caste consciousness owing to relative deprivation and thus it remains intact.

The Indian system of stratification is not mobile due to the ascriptive features of the system and hence the presence of such a system does not allow a person to easily break away from the system though in some cases by adopting the actions of higher strata a person could move up the ladder known as 'transmigration' or 'Relative Anticipatory Securitization' to gain membership of the group easily.

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b) Compare and contrast the Marxian and Parsonian perspectives on social change, highlighting their respective conceptual frameworks and underlying assumptions. Furthermore, evaluate the relevance of each perspective in understanding and addressing social development in contemporary India. (20 Marks)

Marx & Parsons both highlighted the concept of social change however they viewed it differently in this analysis

Marxian perspective

1) Man brings social change as he actively participates by his actions

2) Revolutionary ideas of change, hence conflict perspective

3) Class conflict required for exploitation of one class

Parsonian perspective

1) He replaced social action for social change.

2) The system is changed to restore the balance, hence functionalist perspective

3) Provides a way of reducing the stress in social system by means of ADJ. (Adaptation, Development, Integration, Latency)

Marxian perspective in India -

The social change in India has been gradual and has not seen any violent revolution as compared to China that did see a revolutionary upheaval. Though, in India, the class conflict arose due to the discrimination meted out by the upper castes on the lower which led to passage of legislation for protection of lower castes. Still, skirmishes do appear on the basis of these identities.

Further in the case of Naxalbari which saw communist upheaval is based on this Marxist idea because of lack of development where they hit the public representatives by protesting peoples can be inaugurate a communist society

Parsonian Perspective.

The Indian society has been stable and has managed the strains in social structure using the AGIL techniques.

Though many demonstrations, strains arise in the society the latency function helps manage the stress and allows for the continuity of the society.

All the aspects of adaptation, goal attainment and integrative functions could also be viewed from legal, motivational and nationalistic perspectives respectively.

Here the adaptation like acquiring of resources like food is done by legislation like NFSA.

The goal attainment function & orientation is based on personal motivation.

The integrative function is done by the concept of nationalism, citizenship as well as the caste system.

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c) How does George Herbert Mead's concept of self contribute to our understanding of the social construction of individual identity and the role of social interaction in shaping the development of selfhood? (10 Marks)

GM Mead in his famous work of 'Mind, self and society' used the concept of symbolic interactionism to understand the basis of social.

self a combination of Me & I plays a central role where Me is the part that takes into consideration the rules, expectations of the society to act in a conformist way. I on the other hand is individualistic and does not necessarily conform to social standards.

This idea of Me help in the understanding of generalised others that is taking into consideration of perspective of others and expectations from ^{others} ~~him~~, making himself the object thus showing referentiality

This is usually done by the Play stage and game stage.

Another important aspect of development of self is interaction as Mead said that humans are social only as long as they interact in a social setup. This means all our ideas and actions are subject to the social system which depends on communication and gestures. It is through this that we anticipate the expectations of others from us and orient and respond in a manner that is understood and anticipated by both.

Hence the combination of reflexivity and interactions in the society helps in the development of social individual and thus shaping the idea of 'self'.

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