

UP Board Class 12 Sociology 2026 (Set 340 DQ) Question Paper with Solutions



General Instructions

- (i) This booklet contains 29 questions, each provided with a complete, step-by-step solution.
- (ii) It comprises 10 single-correct multiple-choice questions.
- (iii) Attempt each question on your own before reviewing the given solution.

1. Who imagined the establishment of a classless society?

- (A) Gide and Rist
- (B) Marx
- (C) Henney
- (D) Engels

Correct Answer: (B) Marx

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the question:

The question asks which thinker envisioned a society with no class divisions at all.

Step 2: Why option B is correct:

Karl Marx, founder of the conflict theory of stratification, argued that after the proletariat revolution abolishes private ownership of the means of production, society would pass through socialism into communism, a classless society with no exploitative class distinctions.

Step 3: Why the other options are wrong:

Gide and Rist were historians of economic doctrine, not theorists of a classless society; Henney is not a recognised sociological theorist on this theme; Engels was Marx's close collaborator but the idea of the classless society is credited primarily to Marx himself.

Final Answer:

Marx (option ii).

Quick Tip: Recall the theorist associated with the vision of a classless (communist) society.

2. In which year was the celebration of International Women's Day started?

- (A) 8th March, 1995
- (B) 8th March, 1998
- (C) 8th March, 1996
- (D) 8th March, 1997

Correct Answer: (C) 8th March, 1996

Solution:

Step 1: Recall the fact:

8 March is observed as International Women's Day, and the United Nations adopted its first official annual theme for the day in 1996 ('Celebrating the Past, Planning for the Future').

Step 2: Match with the options:

Of the years given, 1996 is the one that marks the start of this themed observance, so it is the correct choice.

Final Answer:

8th March, 1996

Quick Tip: Think of the year the UN adopted the first official annual theme for the day.



3. 'Untouchability Offences Act' was passed in which year?

- (A) 1947
- (B) 1957
- (C) 1950
- (D) 1955

Correct Answer: (D) 1955

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the question:

The question asks for the year India's Parliament enacted the law criminalising the practice of untouchability.

Step 2: Key fact:

The Untouchability (Offences) Act was passed in 1955, making the practice of untouchability in any form a punishable offence; it was later renamed and strengthened as the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 (amended in 1976).

Step 3: Why other options are wrong:

1947 is India's Independence year, not the year of this specific law;
1950 is when the Constitution (which itself abolished untouchability under Article 17) came into force, a related but distinct milestone;
1957 does not correspond to this Act.

Final Answer:

1955 (option iv).

Quick Tip: Recall the year the Untouchability (Offences) Act was enacted.

4. The vision of Indian Nationalism is:

- (A) Exclusive
- (B) Pluralism
- (C) Inclusive
- (D) Inclusive and democratic

Correct Answer: (D) Inclusive and democratic

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the question:

The question asks how the freedom movement's vision of Indian nationhood is characterised in the course material.

Step 2: Key concept:

Unlike an 'exclusive' nationalism built around one religion, language or ethnicity, India's nationalist vision (as articulated by leaders like Gandhi and Nehru, later embedded in the Constitution) was

deliberately built to accommodate immense religious, linguistic, caste and regional diversity within one democratic political community.

Step 3: Why the fuller option is preferred:

'Inclusive' alone captures accommodation of diversity, but the vision also rested on democratic participation and equal citizenship, so the more complete descriptor combines both qualities.

Final Answer:

Inclusive and democratic (option iv).

Quick Tip: Recall how the course material describes the character of Indian nationalism.

5. According to your textbook, the word Sanskritisation was coined by whom?

- (A) S. C. Dubey
- (B) D. N. Majumdar
- (C) M. N. Srinivas
- (D) None of these

Correct Answer: (C) M. N. Srinivas

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the question:

The question asks which sociologist introduced the term 'Sanskritisation' into Indian sociology.

Step 2: Key fact:

M. N. Srinivas coined the term Sanskritisation in his study of the Coorgs of South India, to describe the process by which a lower or middle caste (or tribal group) takes over the customs, rituals, beliefs and lifestyle of an upper/'twice-born' caste in an attempt to claim a higher position in the caste hierarchy.

Step 3: Why other options are wrong:

S. C. Dubey and D. N. Majumdar are notable Indian sociologists/anthropologists but are not credited with coining this specific term.

Final Answer:

M. N. Srinivas (option iii).

Quick Tip: Recall the sociologist who coined 'Sanskritisation' from his Coorg study.

6. The meaning of the word 'dwija' is:

- (A) Twice defeated caste
- (B) Twice born caste
- (C) O.B.C.s
- (D) Dalits (S.Cs)

Correct Answer: (B) Twice born caste

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the question:

The question asks for the literal/traditional meaning of the term 'dwija' used in the varna system.

Step 2: Key concept:

'Dwija' literally means 'twice-born.' In traditional Hindu social classification, the upper three varnas, Brahmin, Kshatriya and Vaishya, are called dwija because male members undergo the upanayana (sacred thread) ceremony, treated as a symbolic 'second birth' into full ritual and social status.

Step 3: Why other options are wrong:

It has nothing to do with defeat; O.B.C.s and Dalits/S.Cs are modern administrative/reservation categories, not the traditional referent of 'dwija', which specifically denotes the upper, ritually 'twice-born' varnas.

Final Answer:

Twice born caste (option ii).

Quick Tip: Recall the literal meaning of the term 'dwija' in the varna system.

7. Who was the constitutional advisor to the Constituent Assembly?

- (A) Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar
- (B) Dr. Rajendra Prasad
- (C) Jawahar Lal Nehru
- (D) B. N. Rao

Correct Answer: (D) B. N. Rao

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the question:

The question asks about the specific role of 'constitutional advisor' to India's Constituent Assembly, distinct from the Drafting Committee's chairman or the Assembly's president.

Step 2: Key fact:

Sir B. N. Rau (B. N. Rao) served as the Constitutional Advisor to the Constituent Assembly. He prepared the original draft of the Constitution based on Assembly debates and comparative constitutional research, which the Drafting Committee then refined.

Step 3: Why other options are wrong:

Dr. B. R. Ambedkar chaired the Drafting Committee; Dr. Rajendra Prasad was the President of the Constituent Assembly; Jawaharlal Nehru was the political leader who moved the Objectives Resolution, none of these three held the specific title 'Constitutional Advisor.'

Final Answer:

B. N. Rao (option iv).

Quick Tip: Recall who held the specific title 'Constitutional Advisor' to the Constituent Assembly.

8. Which of the following is not a method of data collection?

- (A) Interview
- (B) Observation
- (C) Objectivity
- (D) Survey

Correct Answer: (C) Objectivity

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the question:

The question asks to identify the item that is NOT a technique for collecting data, among options that mix actual techniques with a methodological principle.

Step 2: Classify the options:

Interview, Observation and Survey are all concrete techniques sociologists use to gather primary data directly from respondents or settings.

Step 3: Identify the odd one out:

Objectivity, by contrast, is a methodological value/principle, the requirement that research be conducted without personal bias, not a technique for collecting data itself.

Final Answer:

Objectivity (option iii) is not a method of data collection.

Quick Tip: Distinguish data-collection techniques from methodological principles.

9. The New Economic Policy was adopted by India in:

- (A) 1991
- (B) 1995
- (C) 1998
- (D) 1999

Correct Answer: (A) 1991

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the question:

The question asks for the year India adopted its New Economic Policy of liberalisation, privatisation and globalisation (LPG reforms).

Step 2: Key fact:

Facing a severe balance-of-payments crisis, India adopted the New Economic Policy in July 1991 under Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao's government, with Dr. Manmohan Singh as Finance Minister, opening the economy to greater market competition and foreign investment.

Step 3: Why other options are wrong:

1995, 1998 and 1999 are later years unconnected with the initial adoption of these reforms.

Final Answer:

1991 (option i).

Quick Tip: Recall the year of India's 1991 economic liberalisation reforms.

10. Financial Capital of India is:

- (A) New Delhi
- (B) Mumbai
- (C) Kolkata
- (D) Chennai

Correct Answer: (B) Mumbai

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the question:

The question asks which Indian city is known as the country's financial capital.

Step 2: Key fact:

Mumbai hosts India's principal financial institutions, the Reserve Bank of India, the Bombay Stock Exchange and the National Stock Exchange, and the headquarters of most major banks and corporations, earning it the title 'financial capital of India.'

Step 3: Why other options are wrong:

New Delhi is the political/administrative capital; Kolkata and Chennai are major regional/commercial hubs but do not hold the 'financial capital' designation.

Final Answer:

Mumbai (option ii).

Quick Tip: Recall which city hosts India's major financial institutions.

11. What is class system?

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Definition:

A class system is a form of social stratification in which people are ranked mainly on economic criteria such as wealth, income and occupation, rather than on birth.

Step 2: Key feature:

Unlike caste, class boundaries are relatively open: membership is achieved rather than purely ascribed, so individuals can move between class positions through education, occupation or economic success.

Final Answer:

Class system: stratification based on wealth/occupation, with open, achievement-based, and mobile membership, unlike birth-based systems such as caste.

Quick Tip: Define class as an economic, achievement-based form of stratification.

12. Define Nation.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Definition:

A nation is a large group of people who see themselves as a single political community, sharing a common territory, history and culture.

Step 2: Key feature:

It is held together above all by a shared political consciousness and the aspiration to (or possession of) a sovereign state, rather than by any one objective marker like language or religion alone.

Final Answer:

A nation is a self-conscious political community bound by shared identity, territory and the will to have (or maintain) its own sovereign state.

Quick Tip: Define a nation as a self-conscious political community.

**13. How did planters live?**

Correct Answer: —

Solution:**Step 1: Setting:**

European planters on colonial-era plantations (indigo, tea, coffee) formed a small, privileged and powerful class within the colonial economy.

Step 2: Description:

They lived in isolated, self-sufficient estates in bungalows with servants, wielding near-total, often extra-legal authority over the

largely indentured or bonded labourers who worked under harsh conditions on their plantations.

Final Answer:

Planters lived as an isolated, privileged elite exercising extensive, often coercive control over their estates and labourers.

Quick Tip: Describe the privileged, authoritative lifestyle of colonial plantation owners.



14. Identify two negative social effects of Green Revolution.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Effect 1:

It widened inequality: only large, capital-owning farmers could afford the new high-yielding seeds, fertilisers and irrigation, while small and marginal farmers fell further behind, sharpening regional and class disparities.

Step 2: Effect 2:

It deepened exploitation and indebtedness among poorer cultivators and agricultural labourers, as dependence on costly inputs pushed many small farmers into debt, and demand shifted unevenly across regions and crops.

Final Answer:

Two negative effects: (1) widened inequality between large and small

farmers/regions, and (2) increased indebtedness and exploitation of poorer cultivators and labourers.

Quick Tip: State two ways the Green Revolution worsened rural inequality and indebtedness.

15. What is rural society?

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Definition:

Rural society refers to communities based mainly in villages, whose members are primarily engaged in agriculture and allied occupations.

Step 2: Key feature:

It is marked by close-knit primary relationships, strong kinship and community ties, a relatively simple division of labour, and lower population density compared with urban society.

Final Answer:

Rural society is a village-based, agriculture-centred community marked by close primary relationships and simple social organisation.

Quick Tip: Define rural society as village-based, agrarian, and close-knit.

16. What is alienation?

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Definition:

Alienation, a concept developed by Karl Marx, refers to workers' estrangement under capitalist industrial production.

Step 2: Key feature:

Workers are alienated from the product of their labour, from the process of work itself, from their own creative human potential, and from fellow workers, because they neither own nor control what they produce.

Final Answer:

Alienation is the Marxist concept of workers' estrangement from their product, work process, own potential, and co-workers under capitalism.

Quick Tip: Define alienation as workers' estrangement from their labour under capitalism.

17. Differentiate between a strike and a lockout.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Strike:

A strike is a collective, organised stoppage of work undertaken by employees/workers to press their demands upon the employer.

Step 2: Lockout:

A lockout is the reverse action: a temporary closure of the workplace, or the employer's refusal to allow employees to work, used as a pressure tactic against the workers.

Final Answer:

A strike is workers refusing to work to press demands; a lockout is the employer shutting the workplace/denying work to pressure the workers.

Quick Tip: Distinguish a worker-led strike from an employer-led lockout.



18. Write down the characteristics of Indian society.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:**Step 1: Diversity:**

Indian society shows unity in diversity, the coexistence of multiple religions, languages, castes, tribes and regional cultures within one nation.

Step 2: Other traits:

It combines tradition and modernity together, is historically structured by caste and joint-family systems, remains predominantly rural/agrarian though rapidly urbanising, and is continuously undergoing social change.

Final Answer:

Indian society is diverse yet unified, blends tradition with modernity, is structured by caste/family institutions, and is changing from rural-agrarian towards urban-industrial forms.

Quick Tip: List the key defining features of Indian society: diversity, tradition-modernity, and change.

19. When All India Radio was established?

Correct Answer: —

Solution:**Step 1: Background:**

Radio broadcasting in India began earlier through the privately-run Indian Broadcasting Company/Service from 1927.

Step 2: Key fact:

This was taken over and reorganised by the government, and the service was formally established as All India Radio (Akashvani) in 1936, becoming India's state-run public radio broadcaster.

Final Answer:

All India Radio was established in 1936.

Quick Tip: Recall the year All India Radio (Akashvani) was formally established.

20. What is meant by 'small screen'?

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Definition:

'Small screen' is a common term for the television medium, as distinguished from the 'big screen' of cinema.

Step 2: Significance:

As an audio-visual mass medium reaching directly into people's homes, television has become a powerful vehicle for entertainment, information, advertising, and the transmission of culture and values.

Final Answer:

'Small screen' refers to television, a home-based audio-visual mass medium distinct from cinema's 'big screen.'

Quick Tip: Identify 'small screen' as the television medium, contrasted with cinema.

21. What are the reasons of higher birth rate in India?

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Socio-cultural reasons:

Early and near-universal marriage, strong son-preference and social/religious sanction for large families push couples towards more children.

Step 2: Economic reasons:

In a largely agrarian, poor economy, children are seen as economic assets (extra hands for farm labour) and as old-age security for parents, encouraging larger families.

Step 3: Health and awareness reasons:

High infant and child mortality historically encouraged 'compensatory' births, while low literacy, especially female literacy, and inadequate spread of family-planning/contraceptive awareness keep fertility high.

Final Answer:

India's higher birth rate stems from early/universal marriage and son-preference, the economic value of children as labour and old-age security, high infant mortality inducing compensatory births, and low awareness/access to family planning.

Quick Tip: List social, economic and awareness-related causes of India's high birth rate.

22. Discuss the impact of liberalization on Indian society.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:**Step 1: Positive impacts:**

Post-1991 liberalisation opened India's economy to global markets, spurring growth of the private sector, multinational companies and

IT/service industries, expanding job opportunities, consumer choice and an urban middle class.

Step 2: Negative impacts:

It also deepened regional and class inequality, weakened public-sector job security, hurt small-scale industry and some farmers unable to compete, and intensified consumerism and the influence of global/Western culture.

Step 3: Social/cultural shift:

Liberalization accelerated a shift towards individualism, changing family/work patterns and lifestyle aspirations, especially among the urban educated youth, while rural and less-skilled sections often felt left behind.

Final Answer:

Liberalization brought economic growth, new jobs and expanded consumer choice, but simultaneously widened inequality, disrupted traditional livelihoods, and intensified consumerism and cultural change in Indian society.

Quick Tip: Discuss both the positive economic gains and negative social costs of liberalization.

23. What is meant by prejudices?

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Definition:

Prejudice means a preconceived, usually negative, opinion or attitude held about a person or group, commonly based on their caste, religion, gender, region or ethnicity.

Step 2: Key feature:

It is formed without adequate knowledge, direct experience, or reasoning about the specific individual, and is typically rigid, resistant to change even when contrary evidence is presented.

Step 3: Consequence:

Because it pre-judges people based on group stereotypes rather than their actual qualities, prejudice frequently underlies discriminatory behaviour towards members of the targeted group.

Final Answer:

Prejudice is a rigid, unfounded, usually negative pre-judgment about people based on their group identity, which often leads to discrimination.

Quick Tip: Define prejudice as a rigid, stereotype-based, often negative pre-judgment.

24. Why is it difficult to define a nation?

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: No single objective criterion:

A nation cannot be defined by any one objective marker; common language, religion or ethnicity is neither necessary nor sufficient, since many nations (like India) are multi-lingual and multi-religious, while some linguistic/religious groups span several different nations.

Step 2: Subjective, contested nature:

A nation is ultimately a subjectively 'imagined' political community, people who feel they belong together, so its membership and boundaries are shaped by shared consciousness and history rather than by a fixed, measurable rule.

Step 3: Political and historical construction:

Because national identity is historically and politically constructed, and can change over time or be contested by different groups within the same territory, arriving at one universal definition remains difficult.

Final Answer:

Defining a nation is difficult because no single objective feature (language, religion, ethnicity) reliably marks its boundary; it is instead a subjectively felt, historically constructed political community, always open to contestation.

Quick Tip: Explain why no single objective criterion can define a nation.

25. Give two characteristics of modernization.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Characteristic 1: Structural differentiation:

Modernization involves a shift from simple, undifferentiated traditional institutions to specialised, complex modern ones, where economic, political, educational and religious functions become separate spheres instead of being fused together.

Step 2: Characteristic 2: Rationalization:

Modernization also involves rationalization, decisions and social organisation increasingly guided by scientific reasoning, efficiency and achievement-based criteria, rather than by tradition, custom, or ascribed status.

Final Answer:

Two characteristics of modernization: (1) structural differentiation of institutions, and (2) rationalization of thought, decision-making and social organisation.

Quick Tip: State structural differentiation and rationalization as two hallmarks of modernization.

26. State the main features of Panchayati Raj System.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Constitutional basis:

The Panchayati Raj System was given constitutional status by the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1993, making it a uniform,

mandatory structure of rural local self-government across states.

Step 2: Three-tier structure:

It has a three-tier structure: the Gram Panchayat at the village level, the Panchayat Samiti at the block/intermediate level, and the Zila Parishad at the district level.

Step 3: Elections and reservation:

It mandates regular elections every five years and reserves seats for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and women (at least one-third, now often half, of seats), ensuring representation of marginalised groups.

Step 4: Devolution of powers:

It devolves powers over local planning, development schemes, and implementation of welfare programmes to these elected local bodies, promoting grassroots democratic participation.

Final Answer:

Panchayati Raj is a constitutionally mandated, three-tier (village-block-district) system of rural local self-government, with regular elections, reserved seats for SCs/STs/women, and devolved powers for local planning and development.

Quick Tip: List the constitutional basis, three-tier structure, reservation, and devolved powers of Panchayati Raj.

27. Discuss the problems of tribal communities in India.

Solution:

Step 1: Land alienation:

Tribal land has historically been taken over by non-tribal settlers, moneylenders, industries and state projects, pushing many tribal families into landlessness, indebtedness and even bonded labour despite legal protections meant to prevent land transfer to non-tribals.

Step 2: Displacement without rehabilitation:

Large development and conservation projects, mines, dams, industries and protected forests/parks, have displaced millions of tribal people from their ancestral land, frequently without adequate compensation or resettlement, uprooting entire communities from their forest-based livelihoods.

Step 3: Loss of forest access:

Restrictive forest laws and commercial exploitation of forests have undermined the traditional tribal economy, which depends heavily on forest produce, shifting cultivation and hunting-gathering, cutting off a vital economic and cultural resource.

Step 4: Poverty, illiteracy and poor health:

Geographic isolation, poor infrastructure and administrative neglect leave many tribal areas with low literacy, weak healthcare and high poverty, keeping tribal communities among the most socio-economically disadvantaged groups in India.

Step 5: Cultural erosion and exploitation:

Increasing outside contact, tourism and mainstream schooling dilute tribal languages, customs and identity, while contractors, moneylenders and officials continue to exploit tribal communities despite constitutional safeguards such as the Fifth and Sixth Schedules and reservation.

Final Answer:

Tribal communities in India face interlinked problems of land alienation, displacement without rehabilitation, loss of forest-based livelihoods, poverty and poor health/education, and cultural erosion, despite constitutional protections, due to weak implementation and continued exploitation.

Quick Tip: Cover land alienation, displacement, loss of forest access, poverty/illiteracy, and cultural erosion as the main tribal problems.

OR

Describe the different degrees of kinship relationship.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Primary kin:

Primary kin are those with a direct, first-order relationship to a person, such as parents and children, husband and wife, and siblings; this is the closest degree of kinship.

Step 2: Secondary kin:

Secondary kin are the primary kin of one's primary kin, for example a father's brother, a mother's sister, or a spouse's sibling, a relationship

one step removed from primary kin.

Step 3: Tertiary kin:

Tertiary kin are the primary kin of one's secondary kin, for example a father's brother's wife or a mother's sister's husband, a further step removed in the kinship network.

Step 4: Consanguineal and affinal kin:

Kinship is also classified by how the tie is formed: consanguineal kin are related by blood/birth (e.g. parent-child, siblings), while affinal kin are related through marriage (e.g. spouse, in-laws).

Final Answer:

Kinship relationships range through primary (closest, direct), secondary (one step removed) and tertiary (two steps removed) degrees, and are further classified as consanguineal (by blood) or affinal (by marriage), together mapping how closely any two people in a kin network are related.

Quick Tip: Explain primary, secondary and tertiary kin, and the consanguineal/affinal distinction.

28. Define historical method of research and explain its importance in sociological research.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Definition:

The historical method of research studies social phenomena by systematically examining evidence from the past, documents, archives, inscriptions, travelogues, official records and personal diaries, to reconstruct how present-day social institutions and practices evolved over time.

Step 2: Importance 1: Explaining origins:

It helps explain the origin and development of institutions such as caste, family, or the state, showing how they were shaped by specific historical events and processes rather than appearing suddenly or naturally.

Step 3: Importance 2: Revealing change and continuity:

It allows comparison of social arrangements across different periods, revealing what has changed and what has persisted, which is essential for understanding long-term processes like modernisation, colonialism's impact, or nation-formation.

Step 4: Importance 3: Grounding sociological explanation:

By providing evidence-based rather than speculative accounts, the historical method corrects the tendency to treat current social arrangements as natural or eternal, giving sociological theorising a factual, rigorous foundation.

Final Answer:

The historical method reconstructs social institutions' evolution from past records, and is important because it explains origins, reveals continuity/change over time, and grounds sociological explanation in evidence rather than assumption.

Quick Tip: Explain how examining historical records explains institutional origins and grounds sociological theory.

OR

Describe the planning of project work.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Topic selection and objectives:

Planning begins with selecting a specific, feasible topic relevant to sociological concepts, followed by clearly formulating the project's objectives or hypotheses, what it sets out to find or test.

Step 2: Method and sampling:

A suitable method, observation, interview, questionnaire or case study, is then chosen, along with deciding the universe and sample of the study, whom or what will actually be studied.

Step 3: Tools and fieldwork:

Data-collection tools such as interview schedules or questionnaires are prepared and, where possible, pre-tested, after which fieldwork is conducted to systematically gather primary data, supplemented by relevant secondary sources.

Step 4: Analysis and report writing:

The collected data is then classified, tabulated and analysed, and the findings are organised into a written report with an introduction, methodology, analysis/findings and conclusion.

Final Answer:

Planning a project moves through defined stages: choosing a feasible topic and objectives, selecting method and sample, preparing and using data-collection tools in fieldwork, and finally analysing data and writing up the findings in a structured report.

Quick Tip: List the sequential stages of planning a sociological project, from topic selection to report writing.



29. Why were socio-reform movements started in India?

Correct Answer: —

Solution:**Step 1: Caste-based oppression:**

Deep-rooted caste practices, untouchability, rigid hierarchy, and exclusion of lower castes and Dalits from public life, temples, schools and wells, were seen by reformers as unjust obstacles to a fair, modern society.

Step 2: Oppression of women:

Degrading practices against women, sati, child marriage, denial of widow remarriage, purdah, and lack of access to education and property rights, drove reformers to demand change in the status of women.

Step 3: Influence of new ideas:

Exposure to Western liberal/rationalist thought and missionary critique of Indian customs prompted Indian reformers to reassess

their own traditions, using reason and scripture reinterpretation to argue that reform was consistent with, not a betrayal of, Indian culture.

Step 4: Key reformers and goals:

Figures like Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Jyotiba Phule, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar and Dr. B. R. Ambedkar led movements for education (including women's and Dalit education), the removal of superstition, and greater human dignity and equality.

Final Answer:

Socio-reform movements began to combat caste oppression and untouchability, the degraded status of women, and outdated superstitious practices, driven by reformers who combined rational critique with reinterpretation of tradition to pursue greater social equality and dignity.

Quick Tip: Explain caste oppression, women's oppression, and reformist ideas as drivers of socio-reform movements.

OR

What is meant by Social Movement? Explain its different types.

Correct Answer: —

Solution:

Step 1: Definition:

A social movement is an organised, sustained collective effort by a group of people to bring about, or resist, social, political or cultural change, involving shared ideology, some leadership and a degree of

formal organisation over time, unlike a spontaneous, unorganised crowd action.

Step 2: Reformative movements:

Reformative movements seek partial change within the existing social system rather than overturning it entirely, for example the Bhoodan movement, which sought voluntary land redistribution to landless peasants.

Step 3: Revolutionary/transformational movements:

Revolutionary movements seek fundamental, total change of the existing social order, aiming to replace the entire political-economic system rather than reform parts of it.

Step 4: Redemptive/expressive movements:

Redemptive or expressive movements focus on transforming individuals themselves, often through religious or spiritual means, rather than aiming directly at changing the wider social structure.

Step 5: Issue-based movements:

Movements are also commonly classified by their specific focus, such as peasant movements, tribal movements, women's movements, environmental movements, and identity-based caste, ethnic or regional movements, each organised around the particular grievances of the group involved.

Final Answer:

A social movement is an organised, sustained collective effort for (or against) change; its main types are reformative (partial change), revolutionary (total change), redemptive (individual transformation),

and various issue-based movements such as peasant, tribal, women's and environmental movements.

Quick Tip: Define social movement and explain reformatory, revolutionary, redemptive, and issue-based types.