

UPSC Mains Sociology Optional Paper-II Syllabus

INDIAN SOCIETY: STRUCTURE AND CHANGE

A. Introducing Indian Society:

(i) Perspectives on the Study of Indian Society:

- (a) Indology (GS. Ghure).
- (b) Structural functionalism (M. N. Srinivas).
- (c) Marxist sociology (A. R. Desai).

(ii) Impact of colonial rule on Indian society:

- (a) Social background of Indian nationalism.
- (b) Modernization of Indian tradition.
- (c) Protests and movements during the colonial period.
- (d) Social reforms.

B. Social Structure:

(i) Rural and Agrarian Social Structure:

- (a) The idea of Indian village and village studies.
- (b) Agrarian social structure- evolution of land tenure system, land reforms.

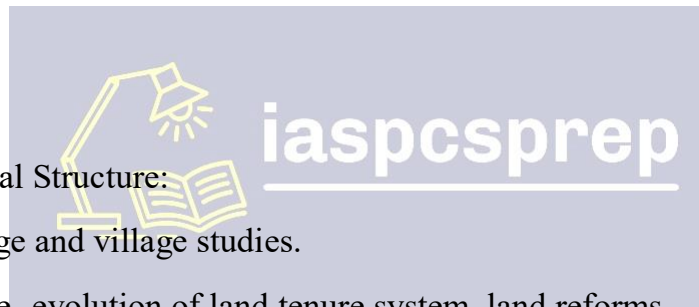
(ii) Caste System:

- (a) Perspectives on the study of caste systems: G S. Ghurye, M. N. Srinivas, Louis Dumont, Andre Beteille.
- (b) Features of caste system.
- (c) Untouchability-forms and perspectives

(ii) Tribal Communities in India:

- (a) Definitional problems.
- (b) Geographical spread.
- (c) Colonial policies and tribes.
- (d) Issues of integration and autonomy.

(iv) Social Classes in India:



- (a) Agrarian class structure.
- (b) Industrial class structure.
- (c) Middle classes in India.

(v) Systems of Kinship in India:

- (a) Lineage and descent in India.
- (b) Types of kinship systems.
- (c) Family and marriage in India.
- (d) Household dimensions of the family.
- (e) Patriarchy, entitlements and sexual division of labour.

(vi) Religion and Society:

- (a) Religious communities in India.
- (b) Problems of religious minorities.

C. Social Changes in India:

(i) Visions of Social Change in India:

- (a) Idea of development planning and mixed economy.
- (b) Constitution, law and social change.
- (c) Education and social change.

(ii) Rural and Agrarian Transformation in India:

- (a) Programmes of rural development, Community Development Programme, cooperatives, poverty alleviation schemes.
- (b) Green revolution and social change.
- (c) Changing modes of production in Indian agriculture.
- (d) Problems of rural labour, bondage, migration.

(iii) Industrialization and Urbanisation in India:

- (a) Evolution of modern industry in India.
- (b) Growth of urban settlements in India.
- (c) Working class: structure, growth, class mobilization.



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- (d) Informal sector, child labour.
- (e) Slums and deprivation in urban areas.

(iv) Politics and Society:

- (a) Nation, democracy and citizenship.
- (b) Political parties, pressure groups, social and political elite.
- (c) Regionalism and decentralization of power.
- (d) Secularization.

(v) Social Movements in Modern India:

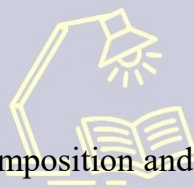
- (a) Peasants and farmers movements.
- (b) Women's movement.
- (c) Backward classes & Dalit movements.
- (d) Environmental movements.
- (e) Ethnicity and Identity movements.

(vi) Population Dynamics:

- (a) Population size, growth, composition and distribution.
- (b) Components of population growth: birth, death, migration.
- (c) Population Policy and family planning.
- (d) Emerging issues: ageing, sex ratios, child and infant mortality, reproductive health.

(vii) Challenges of Social Transformation:

- (a) Crisis of development: displacement, environmental problems and sustainability.
- (b) Poverty, deprivation and inequalities.
- (c) Violence against women.
- (d) Caste conflicts.
- (e) Ethnic conflicts, communalism, religious revivalism.
- (f) Illiteracy and disparities in education.



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