1. **‘The situation of women in India is getting from bad to worse in the time of COVID-19 pandemic.’ Suggest adequate measures to address their issues.  (10 Marks, 150 words)**

**Answer:**

**Decoding the Question:**

* **In the Introduction, try to briefly write about the COVID-19 pandemic and the condition of women.**
* **In the Body,**
* **You can discuss the negative impact of the pandemic on women.**
* **You can also suggest adequate measures to address their issues.**
* **In the Conclusion, try to write about the importance of the safety of women.**

The COVID-19 pandemic has destroyed millions of livelihoods and led to a sudden and large increase in poverty and a massive disruption of the labour market in India. Women have borne a disproportionate burden in both the social and economic spheres. **Even prior to the pandemic, the gender employment gap was large. Only 18% of working-age women were employed as compared to 75% of men due to lack of good jobs, restrictive social norms, and the burden of household work. The** ‘**State of Working India 2021: One Year of Covid-19’ report shows that the pandemic has worsened the situation.**

**Impact of Pandemic on Women:**

* **Economic impact:** The nationwide lockdown hit women much harder than men**. Data from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy Pvt. Ltd. show that 61% of male workers were unaffected during the lockdown while only 19% of women experienced this kind of security**.
* Around **47% of employed women who had lost jobs during the lockdown had not returned to work after it.**
* **Women faced a lack of opportunities**; only 4% and 3% of formal salaried women moved into self-employment and daily wage work, respectively.
* **Nearly half of the women workers, irrespective of whether they were salaried, casual, or self-employed, withdrew from the workforce,** as compared to only 11% of men.
* In the informal sector, women fared even worse; it accounted for [80 per cent](https://www.financialexpress.com/economy/will-indias-second-wave-shatter-hopes-of-a-v-shaped-economic-recovery/2249674/) of job losses.
* **Wage inequality and the burden of unpaid care** has pushed more women out of employment and into poverty.
* **Growth of domestic work:** Due to the closure of educational institutions and work from home culture, all members of the family are confined to their homes, increasing the burden of care on women. This resulted in the fewer number of Married women and women from larger households returning to work.
* **The India Working Survey 2020 found that the number of hours spent by women in domestic work increased manifold.**
* The increase in hours came without any accompanying relief in the hours spent on paid work, which led to stress, anxiety, and other health issues among them.
* **Health:** Women **were at higher risk of COVID19 infection** because they are poorer and lack information and resources or because they are at the front line as caregivers and workers in the health and service sectors.
* Women make up a significant proportion of all healthcare workers and **more than 80 per cent of nurses and midwives.**
* They have less access to the internet or smartphones, and due to patriarchal norms, they may not be able to register for vaccination. Therefore, the number of women partially or fully vaccinated is less than males.
* **Education:** **UN Women data shows that more girls than boys were left out of school during the pandemic and 65 per cent** of parents surveyed were reluctant to continue the education of girls and resorting to child marriages to save costs.
* This can create an entire generation of young women without education and employment opportunities.
* **Violence:** Lockdowns trapped women at home with their abusers, domestic violence rates spiked throughout the world. In India, reports of domestic violence, child marriage, cyber violence and trafficking of women and girls increased within the first few months of the pandemic.
* **According to the National Commission of Women (NCW) data, India recorded a**[**2.5 times increase**](https://nhrc.nic.in/sites/default/files/Advisory%20on%20Rights%20of%20Women_0.pdf)**in domestic violence between February and May 2020.**

**Measures to Address Their Issues:**

* Government should **provide food, personal protective equipment for women, and cash assistance to women.**
* **Education and vocational training** should be available for women through digital and distance learning, which will help them to find pathways for employment and small businesses.
* There should be **shelter, financial and legal assistance and medical help** to survivors of gender-based violence.
* Both the government and private sector **should invest in the formal and informal care economies** to create sustainable jobs and boost women’s empowerment and income.
* With the help of communication campaigns, women should be **given verified information** about disease prevention and vaccination and **create public awareness about gender-based violence.**
* **Expansion of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)** and the introduction of an urban employment guarantee targeted to women.
* The **National Employment Policy can systematically address the constraints around the participation of the women’s workforce**, both concerning the availability of work and household responsibilities.
* The pandemic has shown the **necessity of adequate public investment in social infrastructure and universal basic services programmes** that will fill not only existing vacancies in the social sector but also expands public investments in health, education, child and elderly care and prepare for future shocks.

Women account for nearly half of the population of the country; their safety both at home and workplace is key for the overall development of the country. With greater participation of women in the social, economic, and political sphere will in achieving the goal of Sustainable development and New India.

1. **The present form of caste as a social institution has been shaped very strongly by both the colonial period as well as the rapid changes that have come about in independent India. Comment (10 Marks, 150 words)**

**Answer:**

**Decoding the Question:**

* **In the Introduction, try to briefly write about the caste system in India.**
* **In the Body,**
* **You can discuss how it has been shaped very strongly by both the colonial period as well as independent India.**
* **In the Conclusion, try to mention the present status of the caste system and link it with various government steps.**

**Caste is an institution, which is uniquely associated with the Indian sub-continent. The word ‘caste’ is borrowed from the Portuguese ‘casta’, meaning pure breed.** It refers to a broad hierarchical institutional arrangement along which basic social factors like birth, food-sharing, marriage, etc. It is considered a closed system of stratification, which means a person’s social status is obligated to which caste they were born into.

**Factors Shaped the Present Caste System:**

* **Compared to the ancient past (900-500 BC),** where the caste system was based on the varna system and consisted of four major divisions, which were not very elaborate or very rigid, and was not determined by birth. The post-Vedic and present caste system became a rigid institution.
* **Colonial period:** Scholars have agreed that all major social institutions and especially the institution of caste, underwent major changes during the colonial period. And some of them even said that caste is more a product of colonialism than of ancient Indian tradition.
* **The British administration had both intentionally and unintentionally influenced the caste system in India.**
* British officials collected information on caste through the census and surveys and collected information on the social hierarchy of caste to understand the complexities of the caste system in India.
* **It had a huge impact on social perceptions of caste; surveys and official records of the caste status changed the institution itself.**; hundreds of petitions were filed by members of different castes claiming a higher position in the social scale and offering historical and scriptural evidence for their claims.
* The **land revenue settlements and related arrangements and laws gave legal recognition** to the customary (caste-based) rights of the upper castes.
* The British administration also took an interest in the **welfare of downtrodden castes, referred to as the ‘depressed classes’ at that time.**
* **The Government of India Act of 1935** gave legal recognition to the lists of castes and tribes marked out for special treatment by the State.
* Caste considerations had played an important role in the **mass mobilizations of the nationalist movement. Caste progressive reformers like Mahatma Jotiba Phule, Mahatma Gandhi,** **Babasaheb Ambedkar etc.,** organized people against the existing caste rigidities.
* **Post-independence period:** Relationships between different castes of people have become a lot less rigid today. There were many steps taken by the Government to curb the unjust acts prevalent in society due to the caste system.
* **The Indian Constitution** has several provisions to bring equality amongst the citizens of the country. **For example, Article 14 (Ensures equality before law), Article 17 (Abolition of untouchability) etc.**
* The lower castes were granted reservations (For SCs, STs and OBCs) to bring an end to the discrimination going on for centuries. But only a small section of their population benefited from these, and there is growing protest among people of the dominant class to get reservations like **Jat reservation, Maratha reservation etc.**
* The process of **industrialization and the process of urbanization** had weakened the rigid nature of the Caste System. However, ideas of equality and abolishing of caste are limited to public places; in the private sphere, the caste system is seen as a prevalent practice during marriages and other such functions.
* The emergence of **caste-based political parties** (Bahujan Samaj Party etc.), acted as a decisive factor in Indian politics and increased the representation in the administration.
* The Government has started **several special programs** (such as health care, legal assistance etc.). But these welfare schemes benefitted only a limited number of people due to **lack of awareness, discrimination, the influence of dominant caste etc.**
* Despite the criminalization of untouchability, **caste-based violence and discrimination** are still prevalent in India. **According to NCRB data (2019), Crimes against members of Scheduled Caste communities grew by 7.3% and against Scheduled Tribes by 26.5%.** Certain menial jobs are only done by lower caste people **like Manual scavenging etc.**

The present society is moving from its closed systems towards a state of change and progression marked by the assertion of the human spirit irrespective of castes and creeds. However, the **Government should take steps like sub-categorization in the reservation, increasing employment opportunities, education and skill development, sensitization of people etc., to eradicate caste-based discriminations from each corner of the country forever towards the more inclusive New India.**

1. **SHGs emerged as the vehicle of change in rural areas, especially for women and marginalized sections. Critically evaluate. (10 Marks, 150 words)**

**Answer:**

**Decoding the Question:**

* **In the Introduction, try to briefly write about SHGs.**
* **In the Body,**
* **You can write how SHGs act as a vehicle of change in rural areas, especially for women and marginalized sections.**
* **You can also mention various limitations of SHGs.**
* **In the Conclusion, try to suggest measures to strengthen SHGs and link them with various government steps.**

Self-Help Groups (SHGs) is a small, autonomous, economically homogeneous and affinity group consisting of 10 to 20 persons. It is a non-political group of people who share common concerns, who come together voluntarily to work jointly for their personal, social, and economic development. SHGs have become the vehicle of change in rural areas, transforming the lives of the marginalized section of society.

**Role of SHGs in Rural Areas- women and Marginalized section:**

* SHGs can also become a suitable vehicle for the distribution of rural products and helps in the **faster diffusion of innovation in the rural market.**
* It **empowers women** by inculcating leadership skills among them and helps in increasing their participation in social, political, and economic spheres.
* There are various pieces of evidence that the formation of Self-Help Groups has a multiplier effect in **improving women’s status in society as well as in the family**, which leads to improvement in their socio-economic condition and enhances self-esteem.
* Most of the **members of SHGs are from marginalized sections** of society and beneficiaries of welfare schemes of the Government. It increases their participation in developmental activities to ensure social justice.
* SHGs also helps in the **financial inclusion** of people by providing micro finances, developing the habit of saving etc. and making access to credit easier and reducing the dependence on traditional money lenders and other non-institutional sources.
* These groups also **provide employment opportunities** in rural areas by **providing an alternate source of employment** and reduce the dependency on agriculture and provide support in setting up micro-enterprises like personalized business ventures like tailoring, grocery, etc.
* It also plays an **instrumental role in rural poverty alleviation** by income and employment generation.
* Self-help groups have facilitated the **formation of social capital,** where people learn to work together for a common purpose in a group or organization.
* It also acts as a pressure group and encourages collective efforts for **combating social evils and practices like dowry, alcoholism etc.**
* **It also helps in changing consumption patterns and** enables the participants to spend more on education, food, health etc.
* It also helps in reducing child mortality, improved maternal health etc., among women and children, by generating awareness.

**Limitations of SHGs:**

* **Lack of knowledge, finances, and proper orientation & training** among members limits SHGs for generating suitable and profitable livelihood options.
* The **patriarchal nature of Indian society, primitive thinking and social obligations** limit the participation of women and limit their economic avenues.
* There is a **lack of banking facilities in rural areas;** along with this, many public sector banks and micro-finance institutions are unwilling to provide loans to these institutions due to the high cost of service.
* These groups have limited impact as the members of a group do not come necessarily from the poorest and marginalized families.
* The SHGs works on the principle of mutual trust and confidence of members; it doesn’t have safety and security, which results in the **success of only a few Self-Help Groups**, which raise themselves from a level of micro-finance to micro-entrepreneurship.

The development of rural areas and marginalized sections is a pre-condition for balanced economic development. SHGs play a crucial role in both rural development and the empowerment of marginalized and vulnerable sections. The **Government can act as a facilitator and promoter by creating a supportive environment for the growth and development of the SHG movement.** **The SHG Bank Linkage Project, Self-Employed Women’s Association (SEWA) etc., are the right steps to empower the Self-Help Groups.**

1. **India is a nation of great cultural diversity. Evaluate its impact on building a national identity.  (10 Marks, 150 words)**

**Answer:**

**Decoding the Question:**

* **In the Introduction, try to briefly write about the rich cultural diversity in India.**
* **In the Body,**
* **You can write how cultural diversity impacts building national identity.**
* **You can also mention some challenges posed by it.**
* **In the Conclusion, try to suggest measures to address the challenges and mention the overall significance of cultural diversity in India.**

**Indian culture is an amalgamation of several cultures,** which is socially and culturally one of the most diverse countries of the world, with many languages, religions, music, dance, etc., which differ from region to region. People speak about 1,632 different languages and dialects which belong to different religions, races, and ethnicities. Indian society is successfully harbouring these diverse and distinct identities, ethnicities, languages, religions, and culinary preferences to form a composite culture.

**Contribution of Cultural Diversity in Building a National Identity:**

* The **linguistic diversity** of India forms a distinct national identity that isn't found in any other country in the world. **According to the People's Linguistic Survey of India, there are around 780 languages, and officially there are 122 languages, of which 22 languages are added in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution** to celebrate the country’s rich heritage.
* **According to the Census 2011**, there are around Hindu 96.63 crores (79.8%), Muslim 17.22 crores (14.2%), Christian 2.78 crores (2.3%), Sikh 2.08 crores (1.7%), Buddhist 0.84 crores (0.7%), Jain 0.45 crores (0.4%) are dispersed all over the nation forming cultural pockets. This **religious diversity** contributes to the development of a unique national identity where festivals of one community are celebrated by people all over India.
* According to various anthropological studies, **the Indian population is an admixture of several racial groups,** which are contributing to making a unique genetic and racial diversity.
* India is also called an ethnological museum due to its ethnic diversity, which attracts researchers from all over the world for studies. According to the 1901 Census, the Indian population is a mixture of around eight different ethnic groups.
* Thus, the above diversity in terms of race, ethnicity, language, and so on help India in building a unique national identity that celebrates its unity in diversity all over the world and showcases its traditional philosophy of ‘Sarva Dharma Sambhava’.

**Challenges for National Identity Due to Cultural Diversity:**

* Since independence, there is rising demand for the **formation of a separate state based on language,** which threatens the national identity by favouring linguistic identity over it. **Example: formation of Haryana, Punjab, division of Madras etc.**
* There is also **Anti-Hindi agitation** in several southern states (Tamil Nadu etc.) due to its imposition in the form of official language and three language formula for education.
* The incidents of **racial discrimination and violence** can be witnessed in several parts of the country. **For example, discrimination and violence against people from the northeast region etc.**
* The **separatist tendencies** can also be witnessed among people of a different culture, which threatens the unity of India. **For example, Demand for Khalistan, greater Nagalim etc.**
* The incidents of **communal riots and caste-based discrimination** are also common in India; these put a serious threat on the secular fabric of India. **Example: Delhi riots (2020), Muzaffarnagar riots (2013) etc.**
* The force of **globalization and westernization has promoted a global and homogenous culture,** due to which several small cultural traditions are getting extinct.

India is a land of diversity, which forms its unique composite culture. Tolerance, secularism, the welfare of all etc., are the essence of the traditional Indian philosophy. The Government should take steps to ensure opportunity and equal representation of all, generate awareness, promote interaction among various communities etc., to secure the diversity and unique national identity of India. Initiatives like **Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat** are playing a crucial role in celebrating and protecting the diversity of India.

1. **Discuss the factors responsible for the fall of the Soviet Union (USSR). Also, mention its impact on the world. (10 Marks, 150 words)**

**Answer:**

**Decoding the Question:**

* **In the Introduction, try to briefly write about the Soviet Union and its fall.**
* **In the Body,**
* **You can write various factors responsible for the fall of the Soviet Union (USSR).**
* **You can also mention the impact of the fall of the Soviet Union on the world.**
* **In the Conclusion, you can write the overall impact of the fall of the Soviet Union.**

**The Russian civil war resulted in the formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) in 1922,** Which was a loose confederation of 15 republics with Russia as the leader. It was a strong bloc with great control over global politics from 1922 to 1991; **it collapsed and disintegrated into smaller units in 1991 due to the sequence of events.**



**Factors Responsible for the Fall of the Soviet Union (USSR):**

* **Economic factor:** Socialist model of the economy functioned well up to the 1960s, but after that, it stagnated due to the expansion of the capitalist world in the USSR.
* The **Russian economy was under the heavy burden of the cold war** due to the arms race against the USA and economic support to many third world nations.
* The countries of the **USSR lagged behind the USA, both technologically and economically**.
* Industrializationin the countries of the USSR was based on the **foundation of the basic and heavy industries,** where there was a **dearth of consumer goods industries** which created wider discontentment among the people.
* **Political factors:** After the Bolshevik revolution, Lenin **established the dictatorship of the party, and the Government became autocratic.**
* Even in the later periods also there was **not any substantial change in the system, and the basic freedom of Russian people continued to be suppressed.**
* The division **of races** within Russia continued to be a major reason for conflict. **Gorbachev relaxed the system,** and different racial groups raised their heads, which led to the collapse of the system.
* He introduced various liberal **policies like ‘Perestroika'** (economic restructuring) and **‘Glasnost’** (openness of ideas), which **played a role in the demise of the USSR**.
* **Cultural Factors:** The socialist system failed to maintain a **high standard of living** for their people continuously.
* There was a clear-cut difference with other European countries, especially between **West Germany and East Germany, which created a huge discontentment.**
* There was the rise of nationalism among various countries **such as Russia, the Baltic republics, etc.,** which was the most **important and immediate cause** of the disintegration.
* **External factors:** **The encouragement by the capitalist power** and its allies continuously influenced change in the region and provided economic and technological support to the new Government.

**Impact of Fall of Soviet Union on the World:**

* The Disintegration of the Soviet Union **ended the Cold War confrontations** and ideological disputes between two superpowers.
* Many **new countries emerged** after the disintegration of the USSR. **For example, Baltic countries aligned with NATO etc.**
* **The power equation in the world changed** after the disintegration of the USSR,the bipolar world became unipolar, and the USA emerged as a superpower.
* The **capitalist economy became dominant** in the world, various international organizations like WTO, IMF etc., worked on this principle and provided economic support to newly formed and developing countries.
* **Various military alliances were abolished** after the disintegration of the USSR to ensure world peace and security.
* **The multipolar world started emerging in the later period, where** no single power could dominate, and a group of countries could play a crucial role in world politics. Example: **NAM Countries, BRICS, G7, G20 etc**.

There were various long term and short-term causes that led to the disintegration of the USSR. It has impacted world politics in all social, economic, and political terms. It gave rise to a new order of the multipolar world and led to the integration of countries that were divided due to two blocs.

1. **The League of Nations failed to resolve international disputes and ensure world peace. Critically evaluate (10 Marks, 150 words)**

**Answer:**

**Decoding the Question:**

* **In the Introduction, try to briefly write about the League of Nations.**
* **In the Body,**
* **You can write how it has failed to resolve international disputes and ensure world peace.**
* **You can also mention its success in resolving disputes.**
* **In the Conclusion, try to mention its overall importance and consequences.**

**The League of Nations** was established in **1920** as an organization for international cooperationat the initiative of the victorious **Allied powers** at the end of **World War I.** Inthe **Paris Peace Conference (1919)**, countries unanimously agreed and reached on the text of the **Covenant of the League of Nations.**



**Failure of League of Nations in Resolving International Disputes and Ensuring World Peace:**

* The Covenant of the League was not kept separate; it was **made part and parcel of the peace settlement.** The countries which opposed the **Treaty of Versailles were** not ratified by the League.
* **The countries like Japan, Germany etc., left the League, which weakened it due to the absence of the Great Powers.** It was rejected by the USA, which gave it a serious blow.
* It was **dominated by few countries like England and France,** which resulted in the loss of faith of various other countries in the organization.
* The League had **no military force of its own and a lack of teeth,** which made it difficult to uphold the idea of security. It was given an effective weapon in the form of economic sanctions, which did not result in ineffectiveness.
* With the **onset of the economic crisis of the Great Depression**, various right-wing governments came into power which refused to keep to the rules and reflected the weakness of the League.
* The prevalence of **narrow nationalism** in the world was also responsible for the failure of the League. They were not prepared to sacrifice their national interests for the sake of the League or world interests.
* The **Disarmament Commission** made no progress in the near-impossible task of persuading member states to reduce armaments, even though they had all promised to do so when they agreed to the Covenant.

**The success of the League of Nations:**

* **Economic and Social work: International Commission of Labour (ILO)** regulated the international labour market and helped secure the interests of labourers, such as fixing the minimum wage, regulating working conditions, etc.
* **The Refugee Organization** helped the prisoners of war and victims of mass crimes**. For Example, Refugees of Prisoners of War in Russia helped Jewish people etc.**
* It also **provided funds for various health organizations and helped in humanitarian works during epidemics like Typhus in Russia etc.**
* **The Mandates Commission** had the **responsibility of monitoring the governance of territories given to member nations as Mandates. For example, SAAR in Germany etc.**
* **Resolution of International disputes:** The **League achieved partial success** in settling minor disputes among various countries.
* **When Greece invaded Bulgaria**, it forced Greece to pay compensation to Bulgaria.
* **It also solved the territorial disputes between Peru and Columbia.**
* It resolved the **quarrel between Finland and Sweden** over the Aaland Islands.

The League of Nations **failed to implement its decisions in disputes** and ensure world peace due to its internal weakness and structure. But it has successfully implemented various socio-economic and welfare programs across the world.

1. **The pursuit for colonies and colonial rivalries resulting from the economic system in the last quarter of the nineteenth century was responsible for the growth of Imperialism.  Comment (10 Marks, 150 words)**

**Answer:**

**Decoding the Question:**

* **In the Introduction, try to briefly write about Imperialism.**
* **In the Body,**
* **You can write various factors which lead to the growth of Imperialism.**
* **In the Conclusion, try to mention its consequences.**

**The term imperialism means the practice of extending the power, control, or rule by a country over the political and economic life of areas outside its borders. It may be done through the military or other means and particularly through colonialism.** The rivalry between countries and competition for capturing more colonies was one of the most important factors for the growth of Imperialism.

**Factors that Lead to the Growth of Imperialism:**

* **Industrial revolution:** The industrial revolution in European countries resulted in an increase in production largely, which is followed by introducing great progress in the means of transport and communication such as the telegraph system, railways etc., facilitated the growth of Imperialism by speeding up the movement of goods and raw material between colonies and the mother country.
* **National security:** The feeling of National Security and self-sufficiency among the European political groups largely influenced colonial Imperialism.
* **Nationalism:** The later part of the nineteenth century saw extreme nationalistic ideals in Europe. Various nations developed pride over their race, culture, and language etc. and started feeling superior to other countries. They linked Imperialism with the fashion of the age and pride.
* The Europeans believed in the 'white man's burden' theory, which gives them the responsibility to civilize the backward and uncivilized native people of Africa and Asia.
* **Balance of Power:** It was one of the driving factors for the growth of Imperialism. Nations were forced to acquire a greater number of colonies to achieve a balance with their neighbours and competitors.
* **Discovery of new routes:** The discovery of new routes by the travellers to African and Asian continents promoted the spirit of Imperialism. It paved the way for the traders and soldiers to exploit the abundant wealth of the countries and increased their profits.
* **Growth of population:** It resulted in unemployment at a very large scale and forced the Europeans to emigrate in search of new lands and careers abroad.
* **State of Anarchy:**  There was not any international organization to enact, regulate and enforce laws for nations to maintain peace and security among countries before the First World War. It supported the colonial race and facilitated Imperialism.

By 1914, almost all parts of the world came under the indirect control of Imperialism, which had a huge social, political, and economic impact on the countries. The consequences of Imperialism were economic backwardness and the destruction of local industries in the regions, which impoverished the people of colonies. It also breeds racial arrogance and discrimination by postulating the idea of the superiority of race and white man’s burden theory. These consequences, along with other factors, led to anti-imperialist struggle in the countries.

1. **Critically analyze the causes and the result of the Chinese Revolution of 1949. (10 Marks, 150 words)**

**Answer:**

**Decoding the Question:**

* **In the introduction, try to write about the Chinese Revolution of 1949 briefly.**
* **In the body,**
* **You can write various causes of the Chinese revolution.**
* **You can also discuss the impact of the revolution.**
* **In the conclusion, try to mention overall causes and link them with the present situation.**

**Chinese Revolution or Chinese Civil War**, (1945–49), the military struggle for control of China waged between the [Nationalists](https://www.britannica.com/topic/Nationalist-Party-Chinese-political-party) under [Chiang Kai-shek](https://www.britannica.com/biography/Chiang-Kai-shek) and the [Communists](https://www.britannica.com/topic/Chinese-Communist-Party) under Mao Zedong. Millions of peasants and workers rose to overthrow the landlords and capitalists**.** It was the culmination of the Chinese Communist Party’s drive to power since its founding in 1921 and the Chinese Civil war.

**Causes of the Chinese Revolution:**

* There was **large-scale discontent and the bankruptcy** of rural society, which created an inexhaustible supply of potential revolutionaries, and the Chinese Communist Party that gave this blind force purpose and direction.
* **There were not any** steps taken to satisfy the **peasants’** most basic needs and protect them against excessive violence of the military.
* No steps were taken to reform and expand the system of agriculture or to reduce the despair caused by land tax and land rent. This **leads to China’s rural social conflict,** which contributed the most to the Chinese Revolution.
* There were **two opposing sides of the peasant masses, and the landed upper class in the society.** In which peasants suffered dire poverty and exploitation.
* **The KMT administration was inefficient and corrupt;** a large share of the money goes into the pockets of officials.
* Its economic and administrative policies resulted in galloping inflation, which caused hardship for the masses and ruined many of the middle class.
* The **leaders of the Chinese Communist Party,** like Mao Zedong and Zhou En-lai, were shrewd enough to take advantage of KMT weaknesses and strengthen their position by gaining the support of people and quickly established control over the whole of China.
* The **external influence** in the form of decades of unequal treaties with Western nations and rising Japanese power in which China had lost control of key ports, cities, and spheres of influence.
* There were frequent invasions by Japan which was one of the main reasons for the revolution.

**The Impact of the Chinese Revolution:**

* The revolution culminated in 1949, **leading to the founding of the People’s Republic of China, which fundamentally transformed class relations in China.**
* Itresulted in **promoting the social status** of children of the peasant, worker, and revolutionary cadre classes and disadvantaged those who were from privileged classes at the time of the revolution.
* The Chinese Government had **implemented a series of class-based policies** to promote the interests of the targeted people and class.
* It **broke the barriers between the elite class and poor people and the** **order of social classes** and freed knowledge to everyone.
* It also **promoted scientific knowledge by suppressing religion**.
* The **farmers were empowered** and were given more control of the affairs of production to increase production.
* After the Cultural Revolution, things began to stabilize, and the **situation of the Chinese economy vastly improved.**
* **The Government** tried tobring some order to the [country](https://www.britannica.com/topic/nation-state) through a series of reforms and appealed to workers’ interests by reinstating wage bonuses and increasing wages.
* The leaders became **infused with large amounts of capital** to speed up the country’s modernization, a change in attitude.
* It **promoted industrialization in the rural areas** of China and narrowed the economic gap between the urban and rural people.
* **Modernizations as the country’s highest priority,** and all other tasks are to be subordinated to that of economic development.
* China became a more powerful country in the region and became a global actor. It took a sharp turn toward **participation in the international economy and politics.**

**The Chinese revolution was a transformative event in world history. Its outcomes continue to shape our modern world.** It was caused due to various factors like foreign Imperialism in China, privilege and inequality, exploitation and corruption, national disunity, China’s military and economic weakness etc. It had an enormous impact not only on the people of China but on world politics too.

1. **Globalization leads to cultural homogeneity in India. Do you agree? Justify your answer (10 Marks, 150 words)**

**Answer:**

**Decoding the Question:**

* **In the Introduction, try to write about Globalisation.**
* **In the Body,**
* **You can write how Globalisation leads to cultural homogeneity in India.**
* **You can also mention the unique cultural identity (heterogeneity) of India.**
* **In the Conclusion, try to mention the overall impact of globalization.**

**Globalization is a multidimensional concept that has political, economic, and cultural manifestations.** It promotes rapid integration of countries and flows of ideas, capital, commodities, and people across different parts of the world. **It helped in the emergence of the Global culture and Global village due to intermixing of culture and traditions.**

**Globalization leads to cultural homogeneity in India:**

* **Cultures are not static**; it is always in the process of development at every point in time. It gets influenced by the outer forces and modifies itself accordingly.
* Indian **political thoughts and Constitution are influenced** by different political thinkers and practices in the world. The concept of Liberty is taken From French Revolution, Fundamental rights from the American Bill of rights etc.
* **Global MNCs and companies** have a very strong hold in India which created a new corporate culture and town. It also modified the employment generation pattern and work culture, which is different from the traditional agrarian economy.
* **The food and clothing pattern in India also represents different global food patterns. Example: Pizza, Burgers etc., are popular among Indians.**
* The **global fashion influence** can be seen in the urban areas, movies, fashion industries etc.
* **Jeans, Tshirt, shirts, dresses etc.,** became an integral part of the daily lifestyle of people.
* **Western movies and music** are also popular among people in India. Several global celebrities like Ketty Perry, Justin Bieber, Beyonce, Tom Cruise, Jacky chain etc., have huge Indian fan following.
* Various **western languages** like French, Mandarin, Russian etc., are taught in various Indian educational institutions. Above all, English is an official language in India. It also led to the extinction of various local languages.
* The **economic homogeneity** is visible in the policies, popularisation of Capitalism, Socialism and Communism in India. The Indian market is also vulnerable to various global shocks.

**Unique Cultural Identity of India:**

* India is the largest democracy in the world, which has its own **unique political system,** modified on the basis of local environment and conditions. **For example, the Largest written constitution, provision of the 5th and 6th schedule, PESA etc.**
* **Indian crafts, handlooms, tribal goods etc.,** have a huge overseas market, which forms a significant part of Indian exports.
* **Food items like Dosa, Samosa, idli, chaat etc.,** are popular among people in different countries of the world.
* **Traditional medicine and healing practices** like Ayurveda etc., are famous all over the world, and some of them are even recognized by WHO in curing several diseases.
* **Yoga and meditation** are popular in several countries. International Yoga Day is celebrated all over the world.
* Indian cultural practices like dance, festivals (Holi, Diwali etc.) are popular in the world. **Kumbha Mela and several dances, dramas** are recognized by UNESCO as a part of the global intangible cultural list.
* **Buddhism,** which originated in India, is a popular religion among people of Southeast Asia.
* **Bollywood movies** have a huge market and demand in the global market.

**Globalization has intermixed cultures all over the world and formed a global and homogenized culture all over the world. India is not immune from these effects, but it created its own unique culture by adapting and modifying it.**

1. **Evaluate the impact of the changing role of the State in developing countries in the light of globalization. (10 Marks, 150 words)**

**Answer:**

**Decoding the Question:**

* **In the Introduction, try to write about the role of the State in developing countries and the impact of globalization.**
* **In the Body,**
* **You can write how globalization has changed the role of the State in India.**
* **You can also mention the challenges for states in developing countries.**
* **In the Conclusion, try to link it with the stand of India.**

**In developing countries, the State works on the principle of the welfare state,** but with the advent of globalization, it is now working as a minimal State that performs functions like maintenance of law and order, security of citizens etc. Now the market determines the social and economic priorities.

**Changed Role of State due to Globalization:**

* Globalization **has reduced the state capacity,** i.e., the ability of governments to do what they do. The market forces, global influence etc., impacts the socio-economic condition in developing countries.
* The **market plays an important role** in deciding social and economic priorities in the countries.
* Various **international bodies and MNCs impact the working of the Government** in terms of policy formulation, implementation etc. For example, UN, Ramsar Convention, Paris Climate deal etc.
* The old welfare state, which was also involved in the production and distribution of goods and services through PSUs, is now giving more **focus to maintaining the law and order and security of citizens.**
* The State is now **facilitating the growth of business** and industries rather than involving it. For example, Ease of doing business by the Government etc.
* It has now withdrawn from various welfare functions which it used to take at the level of economic and social well-being.

**Challenges for State in Developing Countries:**

* **The developing countries are facing high and unequal competition with the developed countries.** It is difficult for the State to maintain the growth in that scenario.
* The developed countries use **unequal trade agreements, protectionism etc.,** which creates difficulties for the small business setups of developing countries. For example: USA- H1B Visa rule and removal of Indians from the developing country list etc.
* Globalization also led to the **dumping of cheap goods in the local market,** which negatively impacts the local goods and producers. For example, Chinese goods in the Indian market etc.
* Several international organizations like the UN, WHO, WTO etc are dominated by the developed countries and promote their interest, which sometimes imposes negative sanctions, obligations, laws etc. on the developing countries.
* The global **companies and business giants manipulate and pressurize the State** to make policies and laws to secure theirs based on interests.
* They sometimes even defy the domestic rules of the country. For example, **The recent Twitter issue over the internet regulation, the Vodafone case etc.**

The forces of Globalization influence both positively and negatively the role of the State in developing countries. To tackle the challenges, developing countries like India are raising their voice in global forums for reforms in international organizations to secure their national interests and promote rule-based order.

1. **Social media is a rapidly evolving world. In this context, discuss the impact of social media on Indian society. (15 Marks, 250 words)**

**Answer:**

**Decoding the Question:**

* **In the Introduction, try to briefly write about the growth of social media in recent times.**
* **In the Body,**
* **You can write both positive and negative impacts of social media on society.**
* **You can suggest some measures to address the negative impact.**
* **In the Conclusion, you can write about the importance of social media for the development of society.**

**In 2019, India had 574 million users accessing the internet; it is the second-largest online market, behind China.** There has been a phenomenal increase in online social media (OSM) services in India, including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc. In addition to these services, one-to-one messaging services like WhatsApp have 200 million users, the highest in the world. It has changed the way people communicate and played a pivotal role in knitting the fabric of Indian society.

**Positive Impact of Social Media on Society:**

* Social media platforms **provided underprivileged and marginal people with a platform** to raise their voices against injustice and inequality and helps in creating awareness about several issues. **For example, LGBTQ rights etc.**
* It is an important **source of real-time information and provides valuable situational and region-specific information.** It helps in disaster management, policy formulation, etc. Example: Twitter
* Social media created **new opportunities for employment like online streaming on various platforms such as YouTube etc.**
* It is a cheap way of starting a business without creating any brick-and-mortar system.
* It also increased interaction between businesses and consumers. Such interactions and feedback by businesses to their customers can understand the market quickly, adopt new strategies, and conform to the dynamic customer's tastes and demands.
* It also **created a sense of belongingness** among people, where they can understand other's concerns and help them. **Example:** During **COVID 19 pandemic**, people used social media for posting humanitarian assistance and help, the MeToo campaign, etc.
* It also brought together people by **removing various geographical boundaries and developed relations among different diverse communities** harmoniously. **Example:** **Through Facebook, people can make friends online in different countries, regions, communities; friends and families are now connected over WhatsApp, Google Duo, and other similar Apps, etc.**
* Social media is also emerging as a **new platform for government and people interaction**, which helps in creating awareness, grievance redressal, etc. **Example: People used Twitter for raising their complaints to the Railways Minister etc.**
* It has aided during times of disaster in disseminating information quickly as well as in several rescue efforts.

**Negative Impact of Social Media:**

* Due to its vast reach, it is **spreading hate speech and rumours** in India, which are responsible for acts of violence and deaths in many cases. **Example: Mob Lynching incident of Gadchinchale village in Palghar, Maharashtra etc.**
* It can also **spread fake news among people** in the form of edited images, manipulated videos, and fake text messages, and it is tough to distinguish between misinformation and credible facts. **According to a study by Microsoft (2019), it was found that over 64% of Indians encounter fake news online, which was the highest reported amongst the 22 countries surveyed.**
* There are also several incidents of **Online trolling** on various social media portals. People start trolling those who disagree with their views and ideas.
* There are **a growing number of various cyber crimes** like pornography, cyber rape, bullying, threats, etc., which affect vulnerable groups like children, old age people, women, etc., and hurt their dignity severely and mental health. The victims fall into depression and, in more radical cases, have cost them their lives.
* Social media is also playing a **massive role in the political sphere**. Various political parties use social media platforms to influence vote banks, which could change the election result.
* **Privacy is an emerging concern** these days due to the growing use of social media. Leakages of data, breaches of privacy, etc., are the cause of concern that can negatively affect people's lives.
* These **platforms are addictive**, and this has drastically reduced productivity at workplaces. It impacts negatively on companies as they incur losses. **Recently WHO classified it as a type of disorder.**
* It **alienates people;** it has made some people, especially introverts, rely too much on the virtual world instead of the real world.

Social media is a powerful revolution that has changed our lives; it has changed how we socialize, conduct our businesses, engage in political affairs, build professions, and set job recruitments. But its unregulated and untapped use can create severe issues. **With the help of Artificial Intelligence, government regulations, legal measures, and generating awareness, we can use technology to ease our lives, not to destroy.**

1. **‘In India, the challenges of sanitation workers are not just occupational; they have been exploited and forced to do manual scavenging for ages.’ Discuss various measures taken by the Government to uplift the status of sanitation workers. (15 Marks, 250 words)**

**Answer:**

**Decoding the Question:**

* **In the Introduction, try to briefly write about the sanitation workers and their exploitation.**
* **In the Body,**
* **You can discuss various challenges faced by sanitation workers in India.**
* **You can also write various measures taken by the Government to uplift the status of sanitation workers.**
* **In the Conclusion, try to suggest measures to uplift the conditions of sanitation workers.**

The social structure in India is based on the caste system; since ancient times, menial jobs were assigned to lower caste people, and they were not given equal status in society. After independence, despite several steps taken by the Government, the sanitation workers face several health and safety risks, financial challenges, and stigma due to the nature of their work and caste-based discrimination.**There are around five million people employed in some sort of sanitation work in India, and about two million of them are working in ‘high risk’ conditions.**

**Challenges Faced by Sanitation Workers in India:**

* Sanitation workers in India **do not have protective gear, safety equipment and tools** during cleaning, which makes them exposed to many hazardous conditions and results in frequent deaths.
* **Around 92.5% of them do not have the tools needed to do the cleaning work, and nearly 89.9% of workers do not get uniforms for work.** As per a survey, around 90% of workers said they do not have any kind of health insurance or healthcare facility during the pandemic.
* There are **around one million uncounted deaths of sanitation workers** estimated in India over the last fifty years.
* Many people died during the peak of the COVID 19 pandemic, who handled dead bodies in semi-urban and rural areas and on the banks of the Ganga.
* **More than ten thousand people face multiple chronic conditions** emanating from manual scavenging and cleaning insanitary latrines.
* As per various independent surveys, there is **reluctance on the part of governments** to invest in technology and the rehabilitation of workers despite frequent news of death; there have been no reports of people being convicted for employing manual scavengers.
* There is also a **lack of support of the State** to the people/agencies who are working for their rehabilitation.
* There is a **lack of research and surveys** on the conditions of sanitation workers.
* There is a **social stigma** attached to the people who are indulging in sanitation works; their families face discrimination in their day-to-day lives.
* These workers **do not receive any institutional training, health assistance, or instructions**, which makes them unaware of the precautionary measures during work.
* They also face issues like **delays in payments, low wages, etc., which makes them financially weak.**
* Most sanitation workers are hired on a contractual basis by both the Government and private contractors. Thus, they **do not have social and job security, and they work in harsh environments without any security measures.**

**Measures Taken by Government for Sanitation Workers:**

* **Article 14, 17 and 21 of the Constitution** ensure fundamental rights, provides equal status, and protects the dignity of these workers.
* **Protection of Civil Rights Act (1955)** talked about the eradication of scavenging or sweeping as a profession organized based on untouchability.
* Around 1980, the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of **Low-Cost Sanitation for Liberation of Scavengers (ILCS**) sought the conversion of dry latrines into pit latrines through a low-cost integrated sanitation scheme to remove manual scavenging.
* **The Government has passed an Act barring the construction of unhygienic dry latrines and employing manual scavengers in1993.**  It defined ‘manual scavenger’ and dry latrine for better identification.
* **National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers (NYSLRS, 1992) and SRMS, 2001** lays emphasis on skill development procedures and providing jobs.
* **The Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013:** It prohibits the employment of manual scavengers, the manual cleaning of sewers and septic tanks without protective equipment, and the construction of insanitary latrines.
* It also seeks to rehabilitate manual scavengers and provide for their alternative employment.
* The offences under the Bill shall be cognizable and non-bailable and may be tried summarily.
* **Prevention of Atrocities Act, 1989:** It prevents the commission of offences of atrocities against the members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and provides for 'Special Courts and the Exclusive Special Courts for the trial of such offences.
* It also provides for the relief and rehabilitation of the victims of such offences.
* **National Safai Karamchari Commission (NSKM):** It is a statutory body that investigates the conditions of Safai Karamcharis (waste collectors) in India and makes recommendations to the Government.
* The commissions such as **National Safai Karmchari Development and Finance Corporation (NSKFDC) and SC/ST Development Corporation (SDC) at the national level and Maha Dalit Vikas Missions at the state level are constituted for the development of sanitation workers and provide financial help to them.**
* **Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation (Amendment) Bill, 2020:** It is based on the Action Plan emphasized on the eradication of manual scavenging in India through complete mechanization of sewer cleaning.
* It not only includes stricter measures for the [**protection of manual scavengers**](https://indianexpress.com/article/india/govt-to-introduce-bill-to-make-law-banning-manual-scavenging-more-stringent-6593233/) in terms of provision of safety gears but also stricter enforcement of compensation regulations in cases of sewer deaths.

The Government can consider recommendations of various commissions such **a**s the **Kaka Kalelkar Commission (1956**), which underline the need for mechanization for the cleaning of latrines, **Barve Commission**, **Malkani Committee (1957) and Pandya Committee (1968)** to regulate the service conditions of the manual scavengers in India. There should be a proper mechanism for easy legal help in both cases of death and legal redressal and consultation to ensure the faster and more inclusive growth and development of the country.

1. **'Unless the states in India have the autonomy to create jobs, they will only resort to reserving existing jobs for locals.’ In this context, discuss various factors for growing regionalism. Also, suggest measures to address the issue.  (15 Marks, 250 words)**

**Answer:**

**Decoding the Question:**

* **In the Introduction, try to briefly write about the concept of regionalism.**
* **In the Body,**
* **You can discuss various factors for growing regionalism in India.**
* **You can also suggest some measures to address the issue.**
* **In the Conclusion, try to suggest a way forward.**

Regionalism is a sense of identity and belongingness among the people within a specific geographical region, united by its unique language, language, culture, etc. It encourages people to develop a sense of brotherhood and oneness and seeks to protect the interests of a particular region, and promotes welfare and development. But in a negative sense, it sometimes implies excessive attachment to one’s region, which is a great threat to the unity and integrity of the country.

**Factors for Growing Regionalism in India:**

* **According to the data compiled by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), t**he **unemployment rate** in India rose to **7.2 per cent** (2019), which has reached an all-time high rate. Thus, many States governments like Haryana etc., have reserved employment for the local people.
* As the creation of new jobs is not entirely in the control of the State governments but, It is a complex interplay of a multitude of factors. It is an outcome of the performance of the larger economy.
* **After the introduction of the Goods and Services Tax (GST),** state governments in India have lost their fiscal autonomy and have no power to provide any tax concessions to businesses.
* High-quality local infrastructure, availability of skilled local labour etc., **to attract new businesses, is a function of many decades of social progress of the State and cannot be retooled immediately.**
* There is **unequal competition among the States** to attract business and MNCs.
* A state with a well-established network of suppliers, schools, etc., are at a greater advantage to attract even more businesses than the States that are left behind.
* The States where a large company is already established provides the **agglomeration effect**, which eases the business in the region and attracts other companies.
* It leads to a cycle of the more prosperous States growing even faster at the expense of the lagging States.
* There is a **‘3-3-3’ effect among Indian states**, which is that the three richest large States (Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka) are three times richer than the three poorest large States (Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh), in per-capita income, compared to 1.4 times in 1970.
* This gap between the richer and poorer States in India is only widening rapidly and not narrowing due to the agglomeration impact of modern economic development paradigms.



**Measures to Address the Problem of Regionalism in India:**

* ‘Unity in Diversity’ needs to be preserved by the **accommodation of multiple aspirations of a diverse population** is necessary for the pluralistic character of the Indian nation-state.
* Government should **enhance cooperative federalism** by fostering the involvement of the State Governments of India in the economic policy-making process using a bottom-up approach.
* Along with the various centrally sponsored schemes, the **Government should provide incentives to private players** for development in backward states for inclusive development.
* There is also a need for **effective implementation of policies** for the upliftment of the people in the backward region.
* The **developing states should be provided with greater autonomy and finances** to increase the level of social expenditure by the states on education, health, and sanitation which are the core of human resource development.
* The **institutions like National Integration Council, Niti Ayog etc., should be utilized more effectively** to develop unity in the country.

The potent combination of widening inter-State inequality, a ‘rich States get richer’ economic development model, an impending demographic disaster, and shrinking fiscal autonomy for elected State governments in a politically and culturally diverse democracy will inevitably propagate nativistic sub-nationalism, tribalism among the various states of India. The economic playing fields for the various States are levelled, and much greater fiscal freedom provided to the States can ensure unity, inclusive growth among various States and contribute to the making of New India.

1. **‘The catalogue of religious violence and incitement in several parts of the country remains an unsettling fact in both pre and post-independent India.’ In this context, discuss various causes of Communalism. (15 Marks, 250 words)**

**Answer:**

**Decoding the Question:**

* **In the Introduction, try to briefly define communalism.**
* **In the Body,**
* **You can discuss various incidents of religious violence in both pre and post-independent India.**
* **You can also write various causes of communalism in India.**
* **In the Conclusion, you can suggest some measures and link them with various government steps.**

**The word ‘communalism’ refers to aggressive chauvinism based on religious identity.** It is an attitude that sees one’s group as the only legitimate or worthy group, with other groups being seen as inferior, illegitimate, and opposed. It is an aggressive political ideology linked to religion that seeks to unify one community around a religious identity in hostile opposition to another community.



**Religious Violence in both Pre and Post-independent India:**

* India is a land of diversity where multiple faiths and religions coexist, which often leads to clashes among the people.
* **Ancient India:** It was mostly united, and there were no feelings of communalism; people used to live peacefully together with acceptance and tolerance for each other’s culture and tradition. **Example: Ashoka’s Dhamma policy.** However, we did see a clash between Hinduism and Buddhism at times.
* **Medieval India:** With the advent of Islam in India, communal tensions rose among people in the form of religious conversions, demolition of infrastructure and policies etc. **For example, Aurangzeb** imposed taxes on religious practices of other communities, destructing temples, forced conversions, killing of Sikh gurus, etc., which deepened the communal feelings in India.
* But there were various instances of tolerance, also like **Akbar,** who was the epitome of secular practices, believed in its propagating through **abolishing the Jizya tax and starting of Din-I-ilahi and Ibadat Khana**.
* **Colonial Period:** Around the end of the nineteenth century, With the rise of nationalism, communalism too made its appearance and posed the biggest threat to the unity of the Indian people and the national movement.
* **Example:** Hindu revivalist movements like the Shuddhi movement of Arya Samaj, Cow protection riots (1892), **Faraizi movement, formation of All India Muslim League** and **All India Hindu Mahasabha, Wahabi Movement, Tanzeem and Tabligh movements (among Muslims), etc**.
* The British Government also gave momentum to the **communalist divide through their administrative policies** like the **division of Bengal, Morley- Minto reforms (1909), Communal Award (1932), etc.**
* With the continued fear, violence and hatred, there was rising demand for a separate nation, which ultimately led to the **partition of India.**
* **Post-Independent India:** Even after independence and partition of the nation, communalism persisted and has been the biggest threat to the secular fabric of our nation.
* There are several incidents of communal violence like p**artition violence**, **Ahmedabad riots in 1969**, **Anti-Sikh riots, 1984, Operation Blue Star, Issue of Kashmiri Hindu pandits (1989), Bhagalpur riots in 1989, Babri masjid demolition in Ayodhya, 1992, Godhra Riots 2002 etc.**
* **In the present time, despite the growth and development of India, communal tensions are very frequent. For example, Hadiya case 2017, Ghar Wapsi programs, Delhi riot 2020 or Northeast Delhi riots, cow vigilantism, Muzaffarnagar Riots (2013) etc.**

**Causes of Communalism in India:**

* **Historical factors:** The wrong projection **of Medieval India and policies of the colonial Government,** the communal feelings are deeply rooted among people. Also, revivalist movements strengthened communal feelings among people.
* **Political Factors:** The influence of both Hindus and Muslims, communal leaders for the interest of their communities, has played a strong role in the growth and spread of communalism.
* The **politics of opportunism and vote bank politics is the biggest cause** of communalism in India.
* There is a **rise of communal and fundamentalist parties** in India which mobilize people to achieve their interests against other communities.
* **Economic Factor:** There is a large gap among various communities in India, which creates a feeling of being exploited and left out and enhances the feeling of communalism multi-folds.
* **Non-expansion of the economy, lack of absorption of workers, competitive market etc.,** are contributing factors.
* There is **educational backwardness, low representation in government jobs, lack of enough economic opportunities, inequalities in socio-economic indicators etc.** creates the problem of Ghettoization, raise communal tensions etc.
* **Social Factors: There is a difference between the religious and cultural practices of various communities in India.**
* The Customs, social institutions, and practices of communities are so divergent, which further aids communalism in India. **For example, beef consumption, Hindi and Urdu language, conversion efforts by religious groups, etc.**
* **There is also a lack of interpersonal trust and mutual understanding between communities,** which often results in the perception of threat, fear, harassment, and danger in one community against the members of the other community, and **leads to fighting, hatred, and anger-phobia.**
* **Role of Media: Media often sensationalize and disseminates rumours as news which sometimes resulted in growing tensions and riots between two rival religious groups.**
* With the growth of social media, which has a wide reach and is largely unregulated, the spread of fake news, propaganda etc., are spreading with the speed of fire. For Example, Whatsapp, Twitter, Facebook etc., are used to spread fake news, which resulted in Mob lynchings, communal riots etc., in several parts of the country.

In secular and diverse countries like India, communalism is a huge hurdle in the development and growth of the country. Government should **reform the criminal justice system, increase the representation of minority communities and weaker sections in all wings of administration, emphasize value-oriented education, encourage and support civil society and NGOs for communal awareness etc.,** to address the issue of communalism effectively. The Government has launched **Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Campaign** to protect the rich diversity and build communal harmony in India.

1. **Discuss various factors responsible for migration in India and mention their implications. Do you think Besides addressing the immediate distress conditions of migrants, the State needs to think of long-term solutions? (15 Marks, 250 words)**

**Answer:**

**Decoding the Question:**

* **In the Introduction, try to briefly write about the status of migration in India.**
* **In the Body,**
* **You can discuss various factors responsible for migration in India and mention their implications.**
* **You can also write about the need for both long term and short-term solutions for the problem of migration.**
* **In the Conclusion, try to suggest a way forward.**

As per the **census of 2011,** the number of**internal migrants** in India was around **450 million**, which is an **increase of 45%** over the **309 million** recorded **in 2001**. The internal migrants have increased from **30% in 2001** to **37% in 2011**. **According to the Economic Survey of India (2017),** the estimated magnitude of inter-state migration in India was close to 9 million annually between 2011 and 2016.

**Factors Responsible for Migration:**



**Consequences of Migration:**

* **Economic Consequences:** The **amount of remittances** sent by the internal migrants plays an important role in the growth of the economy of the source area.
* The unregulated migration to the metropolitan cities has **caused overcrowding and the development of slums** in industrially developed states such as Maharashtra, Gujarat, etc.
* **Demographic Consequences:** Itleads to the redistribution of the population within a country and contributing to the population growth of cities.
* **The high out-migration** in the states like Uttarakhand, Rajasthan etc., have brought serious **imbalances in age and sex composition.**
* **Social Consequences:** Migrants act as **agents of social change**, new ideas related to technologies, family planning, etc., get diffused from urban to rural areas through them.
* Itleads to **intermixing of people from diverse cultures** and has positive contributions such as the evolution of composite culture.
* It also has serious **negative consequences such as anonymity and feelings of dejection,** which may motivate people to fall into the **trap of anti-social activities like crime and drug abuse.**
* **Environmental Consequences:** Overcrowding of people has **put pressure on the existing social and physical infrastructure**, which ultimately leads to unplanned growth of the urban settlement.
* There are some other issues also like **over-exploitation of natural resources, air pollution, disposal of sewage and management of solid wastes etc.**

**Need for Long-term and Short-term Solutions for Migration:**

* **Seasonal migration** is one of the most critical issues of our time; there are new narratives of mass exodus caused by demonetization, violence against migrants, lockdown imposed during COVID-19 etc.
* The return of migrants brings to the **source states an** **economic shock** as there are no compensatory sources of livelihood. The poor states may find it difficult to sustain themselves without the remittances.
* It will not only **cause demand-side setbacks** but also **impact nutrition, health, education, and the well-being of the older population.**
* India’s economy, particularly of the **growth centres, depends on the services of migrant** workers. **For example,** construction, garment manufacturing, mining etc.
* Migration also creates **apprehensions about the spread of the disease;** the daily wage earners cannot stay at a destination without work.
* **The working and living conditions of migrants** defy the very idea of decent work and general security. Slums and slum-like colonies are breeding grounds for communicable diseases due to lack of sanitization, social security etc.

Despite various government steps, migration is still a huge cause of concern for policymakers. **The disaster has provided an opportunity to correct structural wrongs.** The State can work out a strategy of addressing immediate distress conditions and simultaneously initiating long-term measures to bring structural changes in the policy towards migrants and the informal sector.

1. **What were the social and economic conditions which led to the October Revolution? Also, mention its consequences. (15 Marks, 250 words)**

**Answer:**

**Decoding the Question:**

* **In the Introduction, try to briefly write about the October Revolution.**
* **In the Body,**
* **You can write various social and economic factors behind the revolution.**
* **You can also mention the consequence of the revolution.**
* **In the Conclusion, try to sum up by summarizing factors and impact of the October revolution.**

The **October Revolution, which is also known as the Bolshevik Revolution, was the second and the last major part of the Russian Revolution of 1917.** It was led by the Bolsheviks, who occupied the government buildings and seat of the Provisional Government after overthrowing the rule of Tsar Nicholas II. At the end of the revolution, the Bolsheviks led by Lenin inaugurated the Soviet regime in Russia.

**Social and Economic Factors Behind the Revolution:**

* The Russian revolutionary movement **represented the democratic aspirations** of the new social and economic forces that emerged in Russian society.
* In the 19th century, there was **widespread discontent among the people,** especially peasants, against the Tsars.
* There was **no improvement in the situation of peasants** even after the abolition of serfdom. They had miserably small holdings of land with no capital to develop. They were also forced to **pay heavy redemption dues for decades.**
* In the later part of the nineteenth century, **Russia experienced massive population** growth and put more **pressure on agriculture.**
* The **risk of starvation** has increased due to poor administration and organization in a vast famine-prone region.
* The **other countries in Europe were witnessing social, economic, and political transformation**, but in Russia, the **old regime was continued** **without any reforms**.
* The **preservation of absolutism** was considered the prime duty of the Government. The only nobility and the upper layers of the clergy supported the ruler.
* The **bureaucracy** was built by the Government **top-heavy, inflexible and inefficient;** the members being recruited from amongst the privileged classes rather than merit.
* The vast empire of Russia consisted of diverse nationalities, the **imposition of the Russian language on the people increased the discontent.**
* **Industrialization** began very late in Russia, in the second half of the nineteenth century, with the help of foreign investment.
* The **condition of workers was very poor;** they had no political rights and received very low wages.
* The Government had **not provided any protection to the workers** and was reluctant to implement the regulations.

**The consequence of the revolution:**

* The concept of private property was opposed by the Bolsheviks. Thus, **most of the industries and banks were nationalized after the revolution;** the Government took over ownership and management.
* The **land was declared as social property,** and the peasants were allowed to seize lands of the nobility.
* They also **enforced the partition of large houses** based on the families and **banned the use of old Nobel titles.**
* The **army and administration were reorganized,** and elections were conducted to reform the existing system. To assert the change, new uniforms were designed for the army and officials.
* The **one-party rule emerged** in Russia, and the trade unions were kept under them.
* The **secret police** were established (called the Cheka first, and later OGPU and NKVD) to punish those who criticized the Bolsheviks.

The **October revolution was started due to the social, economic, and political issues of the Government** and established a new regime to reform the system for gaining equal rights of the people. But later, it also had its limitations and issues. However, the revolution has overthrown the autocratic regime and popularised socialism which inspired other countries also in different parts of the world.

1. **Compare and contrast the main features of Fascist and Nazi movements. Discuss how the victory of Nazism was a calamity not only for Europe but for other parts of the world as well. (15 Marks, 250 words)**

**Answer:**

**Decoding the Question:**

* **In the Introduction, try to briefly write about both Fascism and Nazism.**
* **In the Body,**
* **You can write similarities and differences between both Fascism and Nazism.**
* **You can also discuss how the victory of Nazism was a calamity for both Europe and the world.**
* **In the Conclusion, try to mention its consequences.**

Fascism is a political ideology characterized by strong nationalism, an extreme level of authoritarianism, corporatism, militarization, and hostility towards both liberalism and Marxism, which was developed after World War I in Italy. On the other hand, Nazism is the ideology and set of practices associated with the twentieth-century German Nazi Party. It was based on intense nationalism, mass appeal, and dictatorial rule etc. both shared various commonalities and differences.

**Similarities Between Nazism and Fascism:**

* Both movements were intensely **anti-communist** and drew a solid basis of support from all classes in their respective countries.
* They were **attempted to create a totalitarian state** and were **against democracy** and traditional left and right-wing parties, oppose freedom of speech and are strongly against communism and capitalism, feminism, and homosexuality.
* Both leaders tried to make their countries **self-sufficient and promoted national growth.**
* Both movements were **based on the feeling of extreme nationalism**, the **cult of hero/mass leader and emphasized the supremacy of the State.**
* Both **pursued collectivism** (ownership of the land and the means of production by the State) as a part of an economy led by the State.
* They **aimed for the establishment of a dictatorship** led by a leader who has all power and glorifies violence, Imperialism, and militarism.
* Both are **totalitarian ideologies**, which seek to **control all aspects of public and private life.** And **neither believed in class conflicts and conflicts of interest** as a result of their idea of class collaboration instead of class struggle.

**Differences Between Nazism and Fascism:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Fascism** | **Nazism** |
| **The word ‘Fascism’ is derived from ‘fascio‘, which means a bundle of sticks.** | The word **Nazism is derived from the German language**, based on the name of the National Socialist German Workers’ Party |
| Fascism **originated in Italy around 1919 by Benito Mussolini and Oswald Mosley** to restore order in Italy. | It emerged under the **leadership of**  **Adolf Hitler, his ideology was influenced by Fascism.** |
| It believes in the **corporatization of all elements** to form an ‘Organic State’. For it, the State was a less important element of their beliefs | It was **based on racism**. The doctrine believed in the superiority of a particular race (Aryan race). |
| It **believed in the class system** and aimed to preserve it. | It considered **a class-based society a hindrance** in racial unity and aimed to eliminate it. |
| It considered the **State as a means of advancing the goal of nationalism.** | It considered the **State as a tool for the preservation and advancement of the superior race.** |
| The **Italian system could not reach self-sufficiency** and eliminated unemployment. | The **German System was more efficient** than the Italian system in terms of efficiency and effectiveness. |
| It was **less brutal,** and there were no mass atrocities. | It was totally **brutal, ruthless and there was a large scale of atrocity** against Jewish people. |

**The Victory of Nazism as a Calamity for both Europe and the world:**

* Nazi Germany not only destroyed the German nation but affected the whole world, especially Europe, by unleashing WWII and instigating the Holocaust. So, it was called the most destructive political regime of the 20th century.
* There were nearly fifty million casualties among six million Jews who became a direct target of Hitler’s hatred. **Nazis killed more than 33 percent of 15 million Jews of the world during the early period of the Second World War.**
* The War made millions of people homeless; more than half the population was in the form of displaced persons, refugees, expellees, prisoners of war and evacuees.
* It also caused the **collapsed economy and destroyed the European industrial infrastructure.**
* Russia suffered a lot due to mass shootings, forced labour, diseases, poor conditions of Nazi concentration camps and famine.
* The end of Nazism and the end of WWII gave **rise to the bipolar world with two blocks.** The Cold war started between Russian and American blocks.
* After this mass genocide, **a Genocide Convention of UNO** in December 1948 was organized to formulate laws to consider genocide as a crime. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was also included in International Law.
* As a result of WWII caused by Nazism, **more than 2 million women and girls were raped.** The severe effects on the social psychology of women and girls as the result of rape crimes could be felt long after the end of Nazism.
* After the war ended, **millions of people were displaced, and Europe was faced with mass deportations.** Tidal waves of **refugees** were forcibly expelled or transferred because the borders were shifted.

The Nazi’s vision was a Europe dominated by Germany, which could only be achieved by war. But the brutality and atrocities caused by it not only affected Europe but the entire world in all aspects - social, political, and economic.

1. **The causes of the French Revolution included both long-term and structural factors as well as immediate events. Comment (15 Marks, 250 words)**

**Answer:**

**Decoding the Question:**

* **In the Introduction, try to write about the French Revolution briefly.**
* **In the Body,**
* **You can write various long-term, structural and immediate causes of the French revolution.**
* **In the Conclusion, try to mention its impact.**

**The French Revolution (1789- 1799) was also called a total revolution.** It was a series of revolutions and a period of social and political upheaval in France, resulting in the overthrow of the Monarchy and the establishment of the Republic. It resulted from several factors, both long term, structural factors, and immediate events, to bring fundamental change and a structural shift in the social system.

**Several Causes behind French Revolution:**

* **Political Causes:** The revolution aimed to destroy the feudal social system of Europe and the establishment in its place of a capitalist or bourgeois social system.
* In the **eighteenth century, there was** the autocratic rule of **Louis XIV, who had centralized power and was head of the judiciary.**
* There was a **long-standing discontent among French people who found an outlet in this revolution,** and their revolutionary spirit found expression in the **writings of the intelligentsia**.
* There were various **special privileges for the aristocracy, who** even challenged **the king's power to introduce reforms.**
* **Social Cause:** The French society was **divided into three estates**; the **privileged ones occupied the top two Estates.**
* The **laws did not apply to them, and they were exempted from paying tax,** leading to discontentment among the non-privileged classes.
* The clergy people, who formed around **1% of the population, had control of 10% of the total land**.
* There was **rampant corruption** in the system of the Church.
* The **majority of the population in France belonged to the Third Estate, which has** socio-economic division and disparity among them.

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* **Economic Cause: There was a huge disparity in the tax system and large-scale exploitation of farmers by feudal lords,** which provided intensity to revolution.
* Some **historians** showed that **four-fifths of a farmer’s income was** spent on paying state tax.
* The **economic reforms undertaken failed due to** opposition from the aristocracy.
* The events like crop failure, economic depression etc., intensified the dissatisfaction among people.
* **Immediate cause: Economic bankruptcy was one of the main reasons for the revolution.**
* The **King's economic advisers, like Turgot, Necker, etc., took reforms that** were mainly obstinacy of the aristocratic class.
* The **revolutionary enlightened thinkers** made the French Revolution more than just an outbreak of violence.

The French revolution resulted from several socio-economic and political factors, which impact not only French society but the rest of the world too. It changed the monarchical system into a republic system, which abolished privileged classes and brought the idea of separation of the public and private realm. It ushered the new economic system of Capitalism as against the prevalent Feudalism. It inspired movements against colonialism in colonies around the world, while movements

for democracy and self-rule rose in the whole of Europe.

1. **Discuss the changing socio-cultural trends in India after the advent of Globalisation. (15 Marks, 250 words)**

**Answer:**

**Decoding the Question:**

* **In the Introduction, try to write about Globalisation in India.**
* **In the Body,**
* **You can write various socio-cultural changes due to globalization in India.**
* **In the Conclusion, try to mention the overall impact of globalization.**

**Globalization is a process of rapid integration of countries through the flows of ideas, capital, commodities, and people across different parts of the world.** It is a multidimensional concept that has political, economic, and cultural manifestations. Global interactions have existed since the time of human history. **In 1991 the Government officially opened the doors for globalization which influenced the social, cultural, political, and economic system in the society.**

**Socio-cultural Changes due to Globalisation in India:**

* **Political changes:** It results in an **erosion of state capacity and gives way to a more minimalist state** that performs certain core functions such as the maintenance of law and order and the security of its citizens. **Example: Emergence of UN etc.**
* **It also leads to the transformation of new political and administrative practices from one country to another country. For example, the Indian Constitution borrowed several features from different countries etc.**
* **Economic changes:** After the emergence of globalization, **several international organizations emerged like IMF, WTO etc.,** to regulate trade and resolve disputes.
* It **promoted greater economic flows** among different countries of the world by both voluntary and mandatory means.
* It **facilitates trade by removing economic and trade barriers** among countries.
* It also **improved the mobility of the capital** from one part of the world to another and promoted growth and development.
* It also leads to **a rise in the MNCs in** several countries and generates employment, and promotes the growth of the region.
* It generates **greater economic growth and well-being** for larger sections of the population and promotes development.
* But some economists argue that it widens the inequality among people and only benefits some sections of people.
* **Cultural changes:**
* Globalization also impacts cultural aspects among countries through the flow of ideas, language, traditions, food etc. **For example, English is an official language in India, Indian foods like Dosa, idli etc. are famous all over the world etc.**
* It also poses a threat to local traditions and culture (homogenization) because of the rise in uniform culture all over the world.
* **In India, due to the forces of westernization and globalization, the traditional culture, craft language etc., are getting extinct.**
* In music, one can see the growth of **popularity of ‘Bhangra pop’, ‘Indi pop’, fusion music and even remixes.**
* **Social changes:** Society is also experiencing changes due to globalization. It affects the food, lifestyle, communication, entertainment, alliance etc., of the people.
* Various new technologies transformed communication, modified the jobs and traditional employment, the culture of BPOs, online shopping etc., is growing.
* Bollywood movies have a huge overseas market; Yoga Day is celebrated internationally etc.
* Television channels such as Star, MTV, Channel V and Cartoon Network use Indian languages. Even McDonald's sells only vegetarian and chicken products in India and not their beef products.
* Global fashion outfits and icons are also popular in India.
* It has diminished the traditional social values of the family (from joint family to nuclear family), Marriage (influence of self-interest, ego etc.), socializations, relations, festivals (popularity of Valentine’s Day etc.) etc.

Globalization has a huge impact on the lives of people in every aspect; India witnessed both the positive and negative impacts in socio-cultural, political, and economic systems. But even after the impact of Globalisation, India has maintained its unique cultural and national identity in the world forum.

1. **Global interconnection is not a new phenomenon. What are the various dimensions of globalization in India? (15 Marks, 250 words)**

**Answer:**

**Decoding the Question:**

* **In the Introduction, try to write about the global interactions in India.**
* **In the Body,**
* **You can write various dimensions of globalization in India.**
* **In the Conclusion, try to mention the overall impact of globalization.**

India has not remained isolated from the world even several thousand years ago. The historical data, artefacts, records etc., found the traces of trade of India with different parts of the world at the time of **Indus Valley Civilization** culture. The famous silk route connected several countries in which India was an important part. In modern history also Colonialism and Imperialism have connected the world and exchanged political, social, economic, and cultural spheres.

**Globalization and its dimensions in India:**

* **Globalization is a multidimensional concept,** which promotes the process of rapid integration of countries through the flows of ideas, capital, commodities, and people across different parts of the world. It **involves a stretching of social and economic relationships throughout the world.** It has several different dimensions in India.
* **Economic dimension:** In India, the State brought some changes in its **Economic policy in 1991** and liberalized policies and opened up the Indian economy to the world market.
* It **steadily removed the rules that regulated** Indian trade and finance regulations and witnessed a series of reforms in all major sectors of the economy (agriculture, industry, trade, etc.).
* It also involved the taking of **loans** from international institutions such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) etc., on certain conditions.
* Various **multinational companies** like coca-cola, General Motors, Colgate-Palmolive, etc., have established their business in India.
* **The weightless/knowledge economy** is also spreading rapidly. Example: technology, marketing, sales etc.
* The **financial system** has also become globally interacted with the advent of the stock market, FDI etc.
* **Division of labour:** A new international division of labour has emerged, which moved to a system of flexible production at dispersed locations. Various routine manufacturing production and employment are done in Third World cities.
* The emergence of international organizations like ILO now safeguards the interests of the working class.
* **Communication:** The world’s telecommunications infrastructure has led to revolutionary changes in global communication. Telephones, fax machines, digital and cable television, electronic mail etc., have liked businesses, individuals, and governments all over the world.
* **Employment: Globalization has an uneven impact on employment; for** the middle-class youth from urban centres, globalization and the IT revolution has opened up new career opportunities.
* **It shifted the importance of degree to the learning of skills;** young persons are learning computer languages etc. and taking up jobs at call centres or Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) companies, working as salespersons etc.
* **Political change:** The growth of international and regional mechanisms for political collaboration. The European Union (EU), the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), etc., indicate the greater role of regional associations.
* The concept of inclusive globalization includes all sections of society.
* The rise of the International Governmental Organisation, which ensured participation in governments and given responsibility for regulating or overseeing a particular domain of activity that is transnational in scope.
* **Culture: The force of globalization has modified culture through the intermingling of various cultures, traditions and practices and formed a homogenous global culture.**

**Globalization has a large number of dimensions; apart from the above, there is a change in consumption pattern, the role of women etc.** These dimensions have both positive as well as negative impacts on the countries. The diverse and complex ways that globalization is affecting our daily lives. Developing countries like India can take measures to protect national interests by raising their voices for rule-based order and democratization of international organizations.