

## CHAPTER-3 | Gender, Religion and Caste

QUIZ  
PART-03

1. Which of the following was a key feature of the traditional caste system in India?
- Inter-caste marriages were encouraged
  - Occupations were hereditary
  - All castes shared common dining practices
  - No discrimination among caste groups (B)

**Explanation:** In the caste system, occupations were hereditary and sanctioned by rituals, with strict rules of endogamy and dining segregation.

2. Who among the following leaders strongly fought against caste-based discrimination?

- Subhas Chandra Bose and Tilak
- Jyotiba Phule and Periyar Ramaswami Naicker
- Sardar Patel and Rajendra Prasad
- Vallabhbhai Patel and Dadabhai Naoroji (B)

**Explanation:** Reformers like Jyotiba Phule, Periyar, Gandhiji, and B.R. Ambedkar dedicated their lives to fighting caste oppression and untouchability.

3. Which social group constitutes about 16.6% of India's population?

- Scheduled Tribes
- Other Backward Classes
- Scheduled Castes
- Hindu Upper Castes (C)

**Explanation:** Scheduled Castes (Dalits) form about 16.6% of India's population and have historically faced untouchability and exclusion.

4. What proportion of India's population is estimated to belong to OBCs?

- Around 20%
- Around 41%
- Around 8.6%
- Around 60% (B)

**Explanation:** OBCs do not have an official census count but are estimated to be around 41% of the population.

5. Which factor has contributed to weakening the caste system in modern India?

- Reinforcement of hereditary occupations
- Urbanisation and literacy growth
- Strict endogamy in marriage
- Economic isolation of caste groups (B)

**Explanation:** Urbanisation, literacy, economic development, occupational mobility, and constitutional safeguards have reduced caste rigidity.

6. Despite constitutional prohibition, which practice still persists in parts of India?

- Universal franchise
- Untouchability
- Political coalition-building
- Inter-caste cooperation (B)

**Explanation:** Untouchability, though banned by the Constitution, sadly still exists in some regions.

7. How do political parties often use caste in elections?

- By avoiding caste considerations completely
- By nominating candidates from different castes to secure support
- By selecting only candidates from upper castes
- By banning caste-based mobilisation (B)

**Explanation:** Parties often consider caste composition and field candidates accordingly to muster support from multiple caste groups.

8. What does the term "vote bank" imply in Indian politics?

- All voters cast votes based on development issues
- Caste groups are equally divided among parties
- A caste votes unanimously for one candidate
- A large proportion of voters from a caste support a particular party (D)

**Explanation:** "Vote bank" means that a large section of a caste or community consistently supports one political party.

9. Which is a positive aspect of caste in politics?

- It helps strengthen communalism
- It improves representation for disadvantaged communities
- It diverts focus from development
- It creates permanent divisions in society (B)

**Explanation:** Caste politics has enabled Dalits and OBCs to demand representation and better access to decision-making.

10. Which of the following is a negative impact of caste politics?

- Ensures inclusion of minorities
- Helps in ending discrimination
- Diverts attention from issues like poverty and development
- Strengthens democracy (C)

**Explanation:** Excessive caste-based politics can distract from pressing issues such as poverty, development, and corruption.