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SOCIOLOGY (TEST CODE : 815)

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INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained	1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code). 2. There are FIVE questions printed in ENGLISH. 3. All questions are compulsory. 4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. 5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one. 6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. 7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
1 (a)	12.5		
(b)	12.5		
(c)	12.5		
(d)	12.5		
2 (a)	20		
(b)	15		
(c)	15		
3 (a)	20		
(b)	15		
(c)	15		
4 (a)	20		
(b)	30		
5 (a)	20		
(b)	15		
(c)	15		
Total Marks Obtained:			
Remarks:			
Signature of Examiner			

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Q1)a) Weber's comparative studies on Religion. (10)

Ans. Max Weber's work 'Protestant Ethics and Spirit of Capitalism' tries to make an understanding of how religious values affect the growth of Capitalism in different societies.

- 1) Weber's analysis reveals that capitalist requirements of rationality, accumulation of wealth, work as worship, interdependence, etc. found strongest support from values in Protestant ethics like material asceticism, calling, predestination, denouncing religious rituals, etc.
- 2) Weber found a weak link between Judaism, Catholicism and Islam with Capitalism → while values of rationality, work ethics may be present, these religions suffer from weaknesses like religious authority, fasting, etc.
- 3) Weber's analysis revealed a non-existent relationship between Hinduism, Jainism,

Confucianism, Buddhism, Jainism with capitalism. Values of material detachment (Buddhism & Jainism), escapist tendencies of 'maya and moksha' (Hinduism), Mysticism (Taoism) and other worldly orientation hampered growth of capitalism in these societies.

Thus, Weber attempts to contradict Marx's theory of economic determinism through his analysis of world religions.

Q1) b) Herbert Blumer's perspective on social movement (10)

Ans. Social movement ~~can be defined as a kind of~~ according to Herbert Blumer is a kind of collective action that attempts to bring change or ~~resist~~ resist it.

Social movements are characterised by spontaneity and sustained action.

Their genesis may lie in:

- 1) an objective & identifiable problem: such as tribal exploitation, violence against women, etc.

2) Leadership : Such as Anna Hazare spearheading the ~~the~~ India Against Corruption Campaign

3) Ideology : more often than not, it is difficult to sustain a movement without faith in a particular ideology
eg: communism, nationalism.

Albert Blumer identifies 5 stages in the course of a social movement:

1) State of unrest : when the problem gets consolidated

2) Collective excitement : process of mobilising support

3) Institutionalisation : giving a concrete shape

4) Consolidation

5) Dispersion

Social movements have changed the courses of history and exemplify people's mobilization to bring about social change - from Medha Patkar's Narmada Bachao Campaign, to movement for stronger anti rape laws (following Nishkanya rape and murder case), to Naxal's fight for ending tribal exploitation. Social movements address various environmental, women's, and other socially important issues.

Q1) i) Pluralistic conception of power.
Ans - Pluralistic theory of power propounded by scholars like ~~Leah~~ Robert Dahl, Glass, CW Mills, asserts that in modern society, power is not concentrated in a single entity (Government), rather it is diffused among various entities like pressure groups, civil society, etc providing scope for articulation of individual or collective interests.

Pluralist scholars thus challenge Marxist scholars and conflict theorists like Gramsci, Althusser, Schudson who talk about hegemony of ~~dominant~~ ^{dominant} class controlling ideological and repressive state apparatus who rule ^{exercising power} over people through coercion and consent. This school of thought calls for mobilisation to exercise counter hegemony.

Pluralistic conception of power is exemplified through existence of pressure groups both protective (trade unions)

and promotional (like Greenpeace) to that exercise considerable influence over policy making, etc. The existence of civil society ^{political parties} further contradicts elite theory (Clareto, Miesco), establishing a balance between parliamentary and participative democracy. Eg: legislations like RTI Act, Biodiversity Act (2002), Forest Rights Act (2006) were ^{not} greatly under influence of civil society.

Q1)d) Secularization of societies in modern world. (10)

Ans. Casanova defines secularization as declining influence of religion, restriction of religion to private sphere and non religious institutions becoming independent of religion.

Luckman advocates how Renaissance began the process of secularization which further strengthened with French Revolution and democratic movements. This was taken forward by the industrial and technological revolutions and thus on

as Peter Berger states → science led to the secularization of cosmes.

He ~~has~~ and further suggests how the emergence of sects & cults also denotes secularization in modern times.

With urbanisation, migration, industrialisation, societies have become multi religious, multi-cultural which has weakened religious beliefs. Marx and Weber too, had predicted an end to religion in rationality driven society.

However, Greeky argues how proliferation of sects and cults indicates the return of religiosity. Bain According to Bainbridge science has led to increase in religious revivalism as seen by use of ICT by fundamentalist organisations including ISIS to promote war in the world.

Moreover, moral vacuum created due to increased reflexivity (Giddens), loss of solidarity / integration, individualism has led to man turning back to religion. Burkheim's ~~had~~ too assertion of how religion ~~couldn't~~ ^{science} couldn't replace religion indeed seems true today!

Q2) a) Explain difference between social ~~sets~~ inequality & social stratification. How do nature and forms of the social stratification system influence social mobility (20)

Ans. Social inequality implies the inequality between human that is legitimised by the society. Social stratification implies a system where people are divided into different strata ranked one above another.

Social stratification, however, provides scope to bridge social inequality through the process of social mobility.

However, the scope for mobility differs from 1 society to another depending on the nature of stratification. For instance, stratification in a very strict rigid and inflexible form becomes a hierarchical system with ~~no~~ limited/no social mobility.

According to Louis Dumont, caste society of India produces hierarchy while European societies

produce mobile stratificational systems. ^{He suggested that} while former driven by orthodoxy, cultural prescriptions couldn't produce mobility, western societies driven by rationality offered scope for people to change their class of origin and destination.

This is contradicted by Ghurye who states that that cultural values are not static. Moreover, Sinivas' study of 'sanskritization' has revealed how caste mobility has been persistent in India.

Goldthorpe & Erikson in Oxford Mobility Study made a cross cultural comparison and found how among European countries ~~values~~ ^{factors} like population, status of women, level of industrialization, etc affected mobility such that more open societies in UK, France saw greater mobility.

The United States, considered an epitome of modern rationality driven society was thought to give equal opportunity for mobility - however,

Duncan & Blau, Gunnar Myrdal, Frank Parkin suggest how Blacks, ethnic minorities, women experience less scope for mobility and are victims of 'internal colonialism' (Blau). Blauman too suggests how ~~Blacks~~ ^{middle class} and women are more prone to downward mobility. Thus, nature of social stratification is crossed by elements of ethnicity, gender, race, caste, etc greatly influences the degree of social mobility witnessed.

Q2) b) Gender roles in domestic sphere in modern industrial soc are more or less reflection of patriarchal values. Critically evaluate (15).

Ans "A woman is not born, rather, she becomes a woman," commented Simone de Beauvoir. This vividly describes how socio-cultural constructs define gender roles and deny a woman the autonomy she is born with! Frederick Engels has asserted that as civilisations develop ~~from~~ ^{from} through sexual transformations (promiscuity to monogamy), women lose their domestic and economic independence.

Shula Smith Friestone, however, asserts that ~~was~~ patriarchy is as persistent in the ~~for~~ present as it was in the past.

Thus, gender roles in domestic sphere in modern industrial society too reflect patriarchy.

For instance, ^{progress from} a Green Revolution led to ~~do~~ greater domestication of women.

Moreover, even as women today are stepping outside their homes, they still have a 'second shift' to at home.

Lynna Walby too states how relations with household (and influence of religion, state, culture) continue to endorse domestic duties of women.

The recently passed Maternity Benefits Amendment Bill 2016 makes provision of maternity benefits ^{and} to work from home for women ONLY thus perpetuating the sex role stereotyping of how child care is only a woman's responsibility.

However, with changing paradigms, especially with onset of third wave feminism, changing cultural values & greater economic

independence of women, patriarchy in household seems to be diluted with men sharing household burden with their female partners. emerging trends like paternity leave, shift from marriage & family to civil in relationships, conjugal relationships, single parent/women headed households have, ~~too~~ sensitization of men, etc. have greatly changed domestic roles in household.

Barack Obama's statement of him being a feminist ~~reflects~~ and responsible for domestic burden sharing truly reflects onset of greater gender equality!

Q2)c)

↳ Max Weber's understanding of social stratification is closer to empirical reality. Comment.

Ans. Max Weber tries to present a multi dimensional and more diversified ~~model~~ understanding to stratification, contradicting Marx's mono causal, deterministic approach.

^{To} Marx, ~~capitalism~~ stratification is due to emergence of classes in capitalism and to him there are 2 ^(bourgeoisie) conflicting classes - the ruling class and the worker class, who are antagonistic (proletariat).

to each other. He asserts how rise of true class consciousness and social revolution will result in a classless, egalitarian, communist order.

However, Weber ^{acts as} gives a multi causal probabilistic and gives the following dimensions to stratification:

- 1) CLASS: To Weber, class is determined by wealth or standing in market. There may be various classes in capitalism, thus, he creates an ideal type: petty bourgeoisie, white collar workers, sub proletarian, etc.
- 2) STATUS: Status results from unequal distribution of social honour. Weber believes that despite social economic equality, communism would have status inequality due to ^{powerful} members of polit bureau and bureaucracy constituting status group.
- 3) POWER: Weber described 'party' as associative relationship among people intending to capture power. To him, class and power are independent (unlike Marx's base superstructure theory), though they may influence each other.

Thus, Weber's understanding of social stratification is closer to empirical reality which he studies using Ideal Type / verstehen methods.

He believed that stratification was undesirable but inevitable in rational modern society.

However, Weber ignores other dimensions to stratification like gender, ethnicity, etc. ~~and fails~~ and fails to account for dysfunctions of stratification.

Q3) a) Religion & science have in course of history helped man to cope w/ uncertainties & hazards of life in their own way. Comment.

Ans - Religion and science have co-existed throughout human history to help man cope with hazards of life.

~~But~~ Early sociologists like Comte believed that with evolution of society, science would eventually replace religion.
(Theological → Metaphysical → scientific society)
in modern industrial society.

Durkheim, however, asserted how religion was functional (social integration, social control) to both primitive (Totemic) and modern societies and could never replace religion.

Marx is considered religion as 'opium of masses' and Weber as 'cause of disenchantment' and both predicted its end.

However, religion stays as relevant today as ever is. While technological inventions have indeed helped man with day to day functionalities and coping with hazards (disaster management, medical innovations, etc), religion has made its resurgence to fill the moral vacuum created by greater reflexivity ~~of~~ in modern man (as propounded by Giddens).

The Modern society, marked by + 'simulacra' or hyper reality (Post Modern ^{like Foucault} ~~is~~), indiv dualism, social fragmentation, migration leading to multi cultural societies,

contraction of life, alienation among white collar workers (CW Mills), 'one dimensional' ^(Marcuse) man' burdened with personality commodification, and other dysfunctions of science.

This has led to people reverting to religion to seek emotional stability, community affiliation (Mary Douglas). It is also manifested in proliferation of sects and cults as propounded by Greeley. Moreover, science itself has promoted religiosity through use of ICT as asserted by Bainbridge.

However, such religious revivalism too has its dysfunctions like rise of fundamentalism (9/11 attack, rise of IS in Syria, etc) religious intolerance, etc which is fed through instruments of science (ICT, weapons, etc).

Religion and Science, ~~however, are~~ ^{nevertheless} however both social necessities, that mutually reinforcing others, and essential for helping man to cope with hazards of life.

Q3)b) Work in industrial and post industrial societies can be alienating for workforce. Comment
Ans. Marx's concept of Alienation stands as true for ~~20th~~ modern capitalism as it was for 20th century capitalism.

Alienation implies disengagement of individuals from each other as from work process.

In modern ^{industrial} society, alienation takes in among workers in 4 ways:

- 1) Alienation from product: no decision making powers, etc
- 2) Alienation from production process: monotony, routinization, etc
- 3) Alienation from production environment: no limited scope for emotional ^{informal} exchanges, etc.
- 4) Alienation from self & society: anonymity, over-work, etc.

Moreover, Alienation has become more acute in post industrial societies.

Herbert Ritzer's 'McDonaldisation' study reveals how rational modern society based on specialisation, etc is 'dehumanising'.

Herbert Marcuse in 'One Dimensional man' suggests how ~~commodification~~ ^{perpetuation} of false consciousness prevents workers from grasping reality.

Similarly, CW Mills while studying alienation among white collar workers asserts how 'commodification of personalities' has perpetuated alienation among them.

Elton Mayo's Hawthorne studies revealed how absence of informal relations in Taylorism & Fordism has declined worker morale and productivity.

Goldthorpe advocates how ~~cap~~ ^{cap} importance of instrumental action, control over work process is more important to workers but neglected.

However, modern day Capitalism ^{has} also made attempts to reduce alienation among workers by moving towards Post Fordism (collective work groups, etc), workers participation in management, compulsory job rotation (Japan), etc to induce ~~to~~ ^{humanism} in industrial society.

Q3(c) Critically discuss the role of social inequality in ensuring that important positions are filled by the most qualified persons.

Ans. P. Sorokin considers that a primary factor of social mobility is the faulty distribution of individuals in social positions.

Functionalists like Davis & Moore, T. Parsons too advocate how stratificational societies ensure placement based on merit/skill and ensure rewards based on functionality of different positions.

For instance: 1) 'education' allows individuals to harness skills based on ability & ensures placement in appropriate roles across different sectors and industries. Also, 'caste' system has ensured representation of backward sections in policy, etc.

Thus, it ensures that important positions are filled by the most qualified persons through process of social mobility.

However, critics of functional theory like T. Parson, R.K. Merton advocate

that social mobility is engaged in dialectics with multiple hierarchies in society. For eg: Fernandes Xaxá ~~advocates~~ study reveals how poverty, absence of schools prevents tribals from rising in society.

Similarly, Anand Chakravarti, Kumkum Langari study effects of poverty and gender respectively in hampering scope for mobility.

Similarly, Gunnar Myrdal, F. Parkin, Burkhan & Blau suggest how blacks, ~~and~~ ethnic minorities, women are still marginalised in US, and subjects of 'internal colonialism' (Blanner) thereby restricting their mobility and preventing deserving people from occupying important ~~and~~ positions.

Blattmann further argues how women and middle class are ~~so~~ more prone to downward mobility than being able to rise in the socio-economic scale and occupying important positions.

Thus, social inequality may not always imply that most deserving people get placed in important positions.

Q4)a) 'Religion prevents social change by disguising exploitation and inequality.' Critically evaluate with Marx and Weber's theory of religion.

Ans. According to Marx religion is an instrument of the bourgeois class to perpetuate false class consciousness among the proletariat class.

He believes, that ~~in this way~~, it keeps the religion acts as 'opium' to masses, such that, seeking comfort in religion, working class suffers from and willingly accepts the exploitation, pauperization and alienation at the hands of the ruling class. Thus, ~~it prevents~~

It thus prevents, development of true class consciousness and ~~it prevents rise~~ of 'class for itself', thereby preventing polarisation among classes and hence the possibility of social revolution and

social change. He believes that with rise of the class consciousness and social revolution leading to a communist state, religion will be dismantled.

Weber, on the other hand, rejected the possibility of a social revolution that would destroy capitalism. (Contradicting Marx's Historical Materialism theory).

His approach is interpretive (Verstehen method) and not prescriptive.

He believes that with rise of a rational modern society religion would lose its relevance (as opposed to Durkheim's claim of religion being universal). In his 'disenchantment' thesis, he agreed on religion disguising exploitation and ~~but and~~ in his study of 'Protestant Ethics & Spirit of Capitalism', he tried to co-relate religious values with rise/growth of

Capitalism (how ^{value} Protestantism
favours capitalism but those in
Buddhism/Taoism etc did not)
He rejected Marx's teleological
inevitability of social evolu-
tion but believed that in
modern, scientific industrial
society, religion (which perpetuated
mysticism, orthodoxy, etc) would
lose its relevance.

Q4) b) i) Types of Social Mobility

Mobility refers to movement
from one position to another
within a stratification
system ~~from one stratum to~~
~~another~~.

i) Social Mobility may be
Vertical or Horizontal →

A. Giddens describes vertical
mobility as change in socio
economic status, which
Sorokin calls 'social sinking'
or 'social climbing'.

Giddens calls horizontal mobility
lateral mobility → movement ~~at~~
within same stratum.

- 1) 'sanctification' (rise in secular hierarchy) would be vertical mobility while shift in occupations in same industry would be horizontal mobility.
- 2) Intra generational mobility refers to mobility in one's own career.
Inter generational mobility refers to mobility across generations.
- According to Duncan & Blau, intergenerational mobility in US is determined by i) education level ii) nature of first job iii) father's occupation.

Mobility also depends on other variables like ^{degree of} openness, change in social structure (Lipset), social hierarchies like ~~caste~~ caste (Dumont), race (Dubois), gender (Hartmann), and etc.

Thus, ~~no~~

ii) Human Relations theory

Elton Mayo's study of Hawthorne Works in G.E., Chicago revealed was a criticism to classical theory which under emphasized on role of social relations in determining human behavior in organisations.

Elton Mayo's study based on various experiments (Illumination, Relay ^{Assembly} test room, ~~Assembly~~ interviews) revealed that informal work relations and social factors like team work, nature of ^{relationship with} supervisor had more impact on worker productivity than physiological ~~or work~~ factors.

His study paved a way for moving from Taylorism and Fordism to Post Fordism

which is based on mass customisation, collective work groups, etc.

Human relations theory has helped modern capitalism induce humanism ^{in work process} and reduce alienation through emphasis on employee engagement, team work, worker participation in management, etc.

iii) Pressure Groups and Democracy

Pressure groups exemplify the pluralist conception of power (Dahl, Altschuler) which advocates how power in modern day democracy is diffused among various groups.

Pressure groups are formal or informal groups which try to influence and persuade government for protecting group interests and never intend to capture power.

Maurice Duverger classifies pressure groups into two types
1) promotional (like Greenpeace)
2) protective (like trade union).

Pressure groups help transform a parliamentary democracy into a participative democracy. They perform empower citizens, check state's tyranny, promote democratic values, ensure accountability of state, its transparency and exercise critical influence in policy making. For eg: various legislations like FRA, 2006, RTI, 2005 enacted under influence of pressure groups & civil society.

However, sometimes pressure groups and democracy may seem antithetical to each other. Eg: the Foreign Contribution Regulations Act subjects NGOs to excessive government discretion. Gramsci calls pressure groups as ^{bourgeois} ideology. A healthy exchange between the two spheres can help make democracy more inclusive, etc.

Q5) a) Compare & contrast role of religion in various aspects of social life in pluralistic societies like India & US.

Ans Durkheim had rightly predicted how religion stands to be universal and could never disappear from society.

The notion of 'secularism' being different in India & US, influence & role of religion vary between the two societies.

India being a multi religious society where separation of state from religion is not absolute. Religion in India ensures social solidarity, social collectivity and checks the hazards of modernity like alienation, individualism, etc.

Rise of ~~religions~~ ^{sects, cults and} new religious movements like Ai of living reveals how individuals are turning

inward and also moving from religiosity to spiritualism. Religious ceremonies, festivals, however, continue to ensure social connect and emotional stability among people.

Yet, a multi religious society like ours witnesses a lot of religious conflicts. Recent repercussions of 'beef ban' and communal conflicts that followed are a testimony to the same. *

In the US, there is complete separation between state and religion which promotes secularism but also induces a moral vacuum which has led to ~~etc~~ as stated by A. Giddens. This has led to proliferation of cults and sects which reinforces religiosity according to Greeley.

How^{the} the US representing a 'melting pot' culture has witnessed forced assimilation of

communities to some extent
and thus rise in fundamen-
talist tendencies.

Q5) b) Examine impact of social
networking sites on the mode
of mobilization and form of
protest in the era of globali-
zation.

Ans. Wallerstein, in his
World System Theory has
propounded how technology,
modern ~~as~~ markets, etc would
unify the world in the era
of globalisation, bridging the
gulf ~~between~~ created by
hierarchies like caste, class,
gender, ethnicity, etc.

Social networking sites too on ~~which~~ the internet have too unified the world.

Social networking sites have introduced a new form of mobilization and protest in the 21st century.

The recent clashes in Kashmir valley over death of ^{militant} Burhan Wani (who used these social networking sites extensively for militant propaganda) reveals the impact of social media in initiating protests.

The most deadly terror group ~~HSR~~ today, i.e., ISIS extensively resorts to social media for propagation of its fundamentalist ideology and also for recruitment of ~~very~~ vulnerable youth and ^{their} mobilization to ~~social media~~ has continue to wreak havoc in the name of religion.

~~It is~~ However, social media has also empowered civil society in mobilising support across the globe for

both local problems and those concerning the world (like environment change, ^{climate change, etc.}). It has also become an innovative platform for fund raising, to support genuine ~~for~~ ^{social} movements / protests, etc.

~~On the~~ However, in an era of 'simulacra' or hyper reality (Post Modernists), it is necessary to ensure wise / regulated use of social media to ensure it does more good than harm.

(b) c) The civil society is playing an increasingly important role due to developmental policies and actions of the state in the present times.
Evaluate.

Ans Civil society and democracy share a symbiotic relationship, such that both strengthen each other.

Civil society constitute non government organisations and all those other organisations that are engaged in advocating collective interests.

Hegel had first given the concept of civil society as a sphere separate from but parallel to the state.

Civil society ~~to~~ plays important roles of -

- political education/socialization
- policy advocacy
- protection of human rights, etc
- ensuring ^{government} public accountability, transparency & legitimacy.
- leadership generating agency
- mediating between citizens and government, etc.

In recent times, role of civil society has become more important due to development policies and actions of the state.

The paradox ~~of~~ between growth & development, manifested as ~~governments'~~ development projects and policies at the cost of ~~the~~ citizens' rights, resources, livelihood, well-being (eg: Narmada Bachao Andolan, recent controversies around Nano Plant in Singur, Posco in Niyamgiri Hills, ~~etc~~ etc) have led to

civil society gaining ownership of causes like environment protection, women's safety, tribal rights, etc. It was due to the efforts and influence of civil society that historic legislations like RTI Act, 2005, PRA Act, 2006, stronger anti rape laws, etc have been enacted.

The use of instruments like PIL, social media, etc have further empowered civil society to continue to check adverse policy making.