



GENERAL STUDIES

ESSAY

Name of Candidate

Test Code

Schedule

Registration No.

Place Time

Module

Classroom

Distance Learning

Classroom & Distance Learning

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, ID Number and Test Code)
The Candidate should fill the index table, especially for him/her.
2. In the left margin, she/he should write only question number and in the right margin, nothing should be written.
3. The page number should be coded by the candidate himself and the range of page number related to the answer of the question should be used to complete the index table.
4. All Parts of the questions should be written at one place.
5. No Supplementary sheet shall be provided by the management. So the candidate is advised to accommodate required information within the space provided.
6. The candidate need not write anything in his/her answer that derogates the dignity of an individual or an organization.
7. The candidate should respect the instructions, given by the invigilator.
8. The Examinee has to submit the answer sheet to the invigilator after completion of examination.
9. However, he/she is allowed to take away the question paper.

INDEX TABLE

Q.No.	Page No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			

Total Marks Obtained

Remarks:

Signature of Examiner

Essay:

1) Indian society provides a paradox of unity in diversity along with intolerance and prejudice.

At the midnight of August 14th 15th, 1947, in the landmark 'Trust with Destiny' speech, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru said:

"When the world shall go to sleep,
India shall awake to life and freedom"

There was an element of both excitement as well as anxiety in this speech. It was symptomatic of the path ahead for this great ancient civilization, which in time had picked up many infirmities in the form of caste, class, communal, regional, and linguistic prejudices.

Nehru, was the same man who with immense belief in the depthness of Indian civilization had composed 'The Discovery of India'. India had always been a land of diverse culture, view-points,

exchange of diverse ideologies. But sitting at the threshold of independence, Nehru could see a vast challenge in re-shaping new India, which unfortunately was infested by all sorts of social evils.

It is in this context, it may be noted that when America was celebrating itself as a 'Great Melting Pot' of civilizations, the architects of modern India took a conscious decision of moulding it as a 'Giant Plate of Salad'. In this Salad Plate of India, different stuffs like cucumbers, spinnachs, Tomato etc will exist without losing their unique identity; giving a unique taste of India in an Integrated manner.

India has always been a land of contradictions. At one extreme

- it is a birth place of several major world religions
- is home to 4 races of the world
- it comprise of 2nd largest muslim population
- its PM, Army Chief and till recently its Chief Justice (Ahamas Kalie) were from minority community.

- it has 22 officially recognized languages with thousands of dialects.
- all major climatic seasons are present
- is the world's largest democracy

thus in a nutshell it acts as a cosmos of humanity in all its shades and forms. However, simultaneously, atrocities against women, Dalit, tribals and minorities are still common, even after 60 years of independence.

This in part is because as the project of nation building is still an ongoing task, India continues to get affected by the virus of intolerance and prejudice. No doubt, it is paradoxical and even baffling to any normal outsider than an ancient civilization which has given the knowledge of Astronomy, Mathematics, Surgery, etc. to the world has succumbed to the pathological elements like intolerance based on primordial identities.

This land of both Bhabli and Sufi movement has parallelly seen conflicts on the basis of parochial and provincial identities.

Eg. the heated political rally - rousing of the 'Sons of the Soil' campaign in Mumbai has only further widened the cleavage of regionalism, which after the linguistic formation of states ~~was~~ very much contained.

The developed western parts of India as against an impoverished central-eastern India creates a sense of alienation. This creates intolerance among the frustrated tribal youths, leading to the menace of left wing Extremism.

The subtle discrimination meted out to women at the workplace is not something uncommon. The govt. had tried to arrest the problem by creating laws like Equal Compensation Act, Prevention of Sexual Harassment at workplace Act etc. But it has a much larger social prejudice inbuilt in the psyche of the people, which law alone cannot rectify.

Even after 60 years of Independence, the Salits are mostly languishing at class-II jobs. At present there is only one Salit at the level of Secretary to the Govt. of India.

Sachar Committee has clearly pointed out that social prejudice has a lot to explain about the marginalization of the Muslims in the organized sector of employment.

In order to fully understand that how both Diversity and prejudices exist side by side in India, it is important to understand ~~the~~ its genesis in the historical perspective.

Historically, prior to Independence, ~~the~~ India was basically a geographical expression. Unlike west, there was no centralized ruler, ruling over whole of India. Thus several territorial sovereignties coexisted in India. This also meant that it provided a fertile ground for diversity to germinate in those territories, independent of the other.

Also, unlike west, a triumphant ruler mostly never annexed the kingdom of the defeated ruler. Eg. Lord Rama did not annex Lanka to Ayodhya after defeating Ravana. This ensured that & irrespective of defeat or victory the unique culture ~~and~~ of a ~~the~~ kingdom was allowed to flourish.

In fact, even after ~~the~~ the Mughals came, they did not interfere too much in the local customs of the people.

On the contrary, the great Islamic tradition was allowed to have a ~~synergic~~ synergistic relation with the local tradition. Eg. the classical Hindustani music is inspired by both Islamic and indigenous traditions. It beautifully exists along with Carnatic music, which is an undiluted indigenous music.

The Bhakti movement allowed the Shudra Saints to attain supra-Brahminic status. Sufism added to the diversity.

However, the British, in order to entrench their position in India, tried to widen the cleavage present in India. They

sharpened the already present fault-lines in the Indian society. The phenomenon of Communalism is a gift of British in India. The problem of intolerance of Ethnic identities (e.g. North East tribes in general and Nagas in particular) also has some genesis in the policies of British. The agrarian India, which was self sufficient and tolerant, was so manipulated due to the economic greed of British that there were sharp features in the agrarian society. Suspicion ~~ago~~ and intolerance against different agrarian classes became a common feature. A large number of peasants revolts was an outcome of this fault line in the society.

However, while putting blame on British for major social ills, we cannot be oblivious of the systemic discrimination in-built in our indigenous culture. In the post-vedic society, Smritis, Purans etc. started emerging. It legitimized several social disabilities inflicted on the Shudras, Untouchables, Women etc.

This has since been institutionalized - The problem of manual scavenger, domestic violence, domestication of women is only a reflection of that harsh reality. The increasing incidence of rape, child trafficking, prejudices against minorities etc. are nothing but a symptom of intolerance and deep rooted prejudice for the 'others' or 'dissimilar' people.

It is unfortunate that what Manu smriti did to consolidate the position of Brahmins at the cost of others is in the contemporary times done by a section of myopic political elites.

It is pertinent to note that prejudice is multidimensional and it can act at several planes. E.g.

- prejudice against Tribals
- persons with Disability
- Linguistic minorities
- Religious minorities
- Dalits
- women in general
- women at workplace regarding their competence
- against migrant population in search of employment

In fact, post globalization, there has been an increasing trend of looking down upon native indigenous culture by a small segment of new found riches.

At the heart of such prejudices, lies some fundamental reasons. Few of the causes are:

- mis-interpretation of the religious texts for self centered benefits
- Patriarchy
- Political motive for polarization of votes

This ancient land, which had believed in the concept of Purushartha i.e. Dharma, Artha, Kama, Moksha, and which was open to both Varna and Avarna, maintained its social stability on the basis of common value consensus. Thus the Jajmani Relation was meant to have economic interdependence, in which each caste held respect for the occupation of the other. This way diversity of the occupation of the people were respected.

India never turned away any civilization, which came to its shores.

either as invader or for seeking protection
Eg. when the whole world had persecuted
Jews for their religious belief, India
accepted them wholeheartedly and
without prejudice.

The Kushans, Hunas etc. came to
India and India included them into
the fold of Kshatriyas.

No doubt India has a strong philosophical
base in its civilization to respect diversity.
But in order to rectify the anomalies that
had crept into its life, with time, the
progressive constitution of India was
so created as to celebrate ~~#~~ Unity in
Diversity: Our constitution

- abolishes untouchability
- " child labouring
- gives special protection to minorities
- affirmative action to SC/ST/OBCs
(and women in P.R.I.s)
- Schedule 5 and Schedule 6 gives
greater say to Tribal people for
administering their area.

We have seen that in case of Pakistan, where linguistic and cultural diversities were not only disrespected, but were also crushed. This led to the breakup of the country in 1971.

Similarly in Sri Lanka, the aspirations and unique cultural identity of the ethnic Tamils, when not recognized, led to a prolonged bloody civil war.

But India was mature enough to foresee the problems associated with not recognizing the legitimate demands of linguistic minorities. Thus India created states based on linguistic identities.

India in the 21st c is standing at the cross roads, where fissiparous and centrifugal tendencies are getting encouragement from external actors, who are fuelling the real and imagined grievances of different segments of societies. In this regard following are some Recommendations:

- 1) National Integration Council should meet more frequently and its recommendations should ordinarily not be rejected

- 2) Sachar committee report should be implemented in both the letter and spirit
- 3) Use Perception Management and strong communication with all segments of society, so that feeling of alienation and prejudices may be contained.
- 4) Empower the citizens at the grass root level. Only then feeling of marginalization and intolerance will be arrested.

However, it must be remembered that every great nation of the world in its history has faced the social evils of war, prejudice, alienation and intolerance. Eg. Only a ~~few~~ 2 century back, America was facing a problem of slavery. It is still facing the problem of Racism. The 1963 speech of Martin Luther King "I have a dream", beautifully portrays the pain of racial discrimination.

But today America has come a long way. Similarly, South Africa was facing the problem of Apartheid. In 1965, Nelson Mandela was thrown into jail. But he never bowed down in front of this bias and discrimination. Finally in 1993, when he became the President of South Africa, he made it a point to Celebrate Diversity by making South Africa 'a Rainbow Nation'. This was in contrast to Zimbabwe, where President Robert Mugabe confiscated the lands of white, ~~the~~ which led to the ruining of his country.

Thus, it is not that great nations do not suffer from social prejudices and other evils; but the only difference is that great nations do not widen such social cleavage. They go for Integration and Conciliation - They take everyone on board. Everyone's opinion is counted. Those in minority, are given special protection.

As an ancient civilization, India too is very much capable to doing this. It has already done remarkable on so many fronts. It is hoped that it will complete this task.

fully in the same way.

→ x →

VISION IAS™

Don't write
anything in this
margin

VISION IAS™

Don't write
anything in this
margin

Call us : 9650617807, 9968029039
Blog : www.visionias.wordpress.com

Visit us : www.visionias.in
Email : ajay.visionias@gmail.com

VISION IAS™

Don't write
anything in this
margin

Call us : 9650617807, 9968029039
Blog : www.visionias.wordpress.com

Visit us : www.visionias.in
Email : ajay.visionias@gmail.com

VISION IAS™

Don't write
anything in this
margin

Call us : 9650617807, 9968029039
Blog : www.visionias.wordpress.com

Visit us : www.visionias.in
Email : ajay.visionias@gmail.com

VISION IAS™

Don't write
anything in this
margin

Call us : 9650617807, 9968029039
Blog : www.visionias.wordpress.com

Visit us : www.visionias.in
Email : ajay.visionias@gmail.com

VISION IAS™

Don't write
anything in this
margin

Call us : 9650617807, 9968029039
Blog : www.visionias.wordpress.com

Visit us : www.visionias.in
Email : ajay.visionias@gmail.com

VISION IAS™

Don't write
anything in this
margin

Call us : 9650617807, 9968029039
Blog : www.visionias.wordpress.com

Visit us : www.visionias.in
Email : ajay.visionias@gmail.com

VISION IAS™

Don't write
anything in this
margin

Call us : 9650617807, 9968029039
Blog : www.visionias.wordpress.com

Visit us : www.visionias.in
Email : ajay.visionias@gmail.com

VISION IAS™

Don't write
anything in this
margin

Call us : 9650617807, 9968029039
Blog : www.visionias.wordpress.com

Visit us : www.visionias.in
Email : ajay.visionias@gmail.com

VISION IAS™

Don't write
anything in this
margin

Call us : 9650617807, 9968029039
Blog : www.visionias.wordpress.com

Visit us : www.visionias.in
Email : ajay.visionias@gmail.com

VISION IAS™

6
Eg: The ^{heated political satire} 'Sons of Soil' in ^{monumental} Bihar, has developed a cleavage.

Eg: The underdeveloped Telangana vs developed coastal Andhra.

Eg: The developed West India, as the mining companies dominated eastern tribal areas.

The subtle ~~the~~ discrimination inlaid out to Dalits and women in work place and in society at large.

12
We have seen in the case of Pakistan and Sri Lanka, that when diversity is not respected then country may either be broken up or may end up in a bloody civil war.

This is what India prevented by creating linguistic states.

In order to preserve the diversity of the 3rd world countries, India championed the cause of NAM.

Boogh

① At the ^{target with policy} midnight of August 14th-15th, 1947 the landmark ^{speech} of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru - "when the world ^{shall} ~~that~~ ^{life and} ~~awake~~ ^{freedom} ~~are~~"

This speech was symptomatic about the path ahead of this great ancient civilization, which was afflicted by all sorts of infirmities in the form of caste, class, communal, linguistic, regional prejudices and intolerance.

Nehru was the same man, who had written the 'Discovery of India', wherein he had shown with an in-depth analysis the deepest depths of Indian civilization in hiding diverse view points, traditions, cultures etc. But at the stroke of independence, he could see the vast challenge of re-shaping a new India, which was afflicted by all sorts of ~~the~~ social ills.

② When America was celebrating itself as a ^{the epitome of} 'Great Melting Pot' of civilization, India took a conscious decision of ~~calling on~~ moulding itself as a ^{giant} 'Plate of Salad'. In this ~~salad~~ ^{salad Plate of India} different ~~things~~ ^{stuffs} like cucumber, tomatoes, spinach etc, ~~are~~ without losing their unique identity, gives a a unique taste of India in an integrated manner.

④ Since ~~the~~ the project of nation building is still an ongoing task, India continues to get affected by the virus of intolerance and prejudice, both within the society and in the unity of nation.

- ③
- birth place of several major religions
 - 4 races
 - 2nd largest muslim population
 - PM, Army Chief, ~~and~~ recently, the Chief Justice of India (Altamas Kabir), hailing from minority community.
 - 22 recognised languages with 1000s of dialects
 - all major climatic seasons
- India is a cosmos of humanity in all its shades and forms.

For this to understand better, the genesis of both diversity and the pathologic elements must be analyzed, not the historical perspective.

Unlike west India had lacked a centralized ruler. It was a collectivity of a large no. of sovereign territories with their own set of diversities. But it was the common value consensus, which had held it together.

Unlike west, there was no annexation of the kingdom of the defeated ruler. Like in case of Ramayana, when Lord Ram defeated Ravana of Lanka, then he did not annex it. Instead he conferred the title of king upon Ravana's brother. This ensured that ~~the~~ the ~~the~~ unique culture of even the defeated kingdoms remained intact.

~~After~~ when the Mughals came, they allowed the local traditions to continue as it, although the new Islamic tradition parallelly flourished and enriched India e.g. the Hindustani Classical music. Bhakti & Sufism

However, British, in order to entrench their position, tried to widen the cleaves present in India. They sharpened the already present fault lines in India. The phenomenon of Communalism is a gift of British. The problem of intolerance of ethnic identities (e.g. in North Eastern tribes) also has some genesis in the British policies. The condition of peasant became extremely marginal vis-a-vis the zamindar.

8 At the same time, we cannot be oblivious to ~~our~~ systemic discrimination in-born in our culture. ~~The~~ In the post-vedic society, Smritis, Puranas etc started emerging. It only inflicted several disabilities on Shudras, Untouchables & women. This has since been institutionalized. The problems of Manual scavengers, domestication of women, domestic violence, increase in rape incidence, child trafficking, prejudices against minorities etc had a genesis in the ~~institutionalization~~ Brahminic domination of the society.

9 It is paradoxical that an ancient civilization, which has given the knowledge of Astronomy, mathematics, surgery etc to the world has been sacrosanct to the pathological elements like intolerance based on primordial identities.

10 This ancient land which believed in the concept of Kurushastha i.e. Dharma, Artha, Kama, Moksha had never turned away any civilization which came to its shores.

Eg. Jews were persecuted all over the world, but only in India they could get a safe home. Infact many invaders, who later settled into India, got themselves into the fold of Hindu caste system. Eg - the Kushans, Huns got into Kshatriya fold.

- what Mam Swati did to consolidate the position of Brahmins, subjugating diverse cultures is in the contemporary times done by few sectarian mythic political elites.

(14) Conclusion

But then every great nation in some point in their history are bound to get affected by social evils. Eg. America was suffering from Slavery, Russia (1963 speak of Marxism) South Africa, Nelson Mandela had initiated a campaign and was arrested in 1965. In 1990 he was released and became the president in 1993. He created S. Africa as Rainbow nation with 5 official languages, promoted English (mostly played by whites).

Thus, ~~these are~~ ^{it is} not great nations ~~which~~ ^{that} are not affected by infirmities of intolerance & prejudices, but that great nations do not widen the cleavage of fault lines. They go for integration and conciliation. They take everyone on board. Everyone's opinion is counted. Those in minorities are given special protection.

(13)
Recomm :

- 1) Natⁿ Dev Council, should meet frequently and its recomm must be taken with more seriousness.
- 2) Sachar committee report be implemented in full earnest.
- 3) Investment in Human capital & social capital is the best form of investment.
- 4) A empowered citizenry, when itself demands their democratic rights, then problems of exclusion and marginalisation are ~~quickly~~ and effectively tackled.

9

Prejudices may occur against

- tribals
- PWD
- Minorities linguistic
- religious minorities.
- Dalits
- women in general
- women in work place (regarding their competence)
- on movement and settlement of people from one part of country to another (e.g. Muzrai)
- Rural vs urban.

causes of such prejudices

- misinterpretation of religious texts for self centered benefit
- patriarchy
- political motive for polarization of votes

After globalisation
new middle class
in Bangalore, Hyderabad
work done upon jobs.

11

No doubt, we have strong philosophical base of our civilization as well as a progressive constitution which celebrates unity in diversity.

Our constitution abolishes

- untouchability
- child trafficking
- gives special protection to religious and linguistic minorities.
- ~~positive~~ affirmative action in the form of reservation
- Schedule 5 & Schedule 6 areas for greater say of Tribals in admin of their areas.