



IAS SOCIOLOGY (MAINS)

PAPER I - FUNDAMENTALS OF SOCIOLOGY

TOPICS

Reference Books

1. Sociology - The Discipline:

- (a) Modernity and social changes in Europe and emergence of sociology. – ESO – 13 (IGNOU, B.A)
- (b) Scope of the subject and comparison with other social sciences. – Sociology : T B Bottomore
- (c) Sociology and common sense. – Sociology : Anthony Giddens

2. Sociology as Science:

- (a) Science, scientific method and critique. - Sociology : Anthony Giddens
- (b) Major theoretical strands of research methodology. - Sociology : Anthony Giddens
- (c) Positivism and its critique. - Sociology by Haralambos and Holborn
- (d) Fact value and objectivity. – MSO – 002 (IGNOU , MA)
- (e) Non- positivist methodologies. - Sociology by Haralambos and Holborn

3. Research Methods and Analysis:

– MSO – 002 (IGNOU , MA)

- (a) Qualitative and quantitative methods.
- (b) Techniques of data collection.
- (c) Variables, sampling, hypothesis, reliability and validity.

4. Sociological Thinkers:

– ESO – 13 (IGNOU, B.A) , Sociological Thinkers : R K Mukherjee

- (a) Karl Marx- Historical materialism, mode of production, alienation, class struggle.
- (b) Emile Durkheim- Division of labour, social fact, suicide, religion and society.
- (c) Max Weber- Social action, ideal types, authority, bureaucracy, protestant ethic and the spirit of capitalism.
- (d) Talcott Parsons- Social system, pattern variables.
- (e) Robert K. Merton- Latent and manifest functions, conformity and deviance, reference groups
- (f) Mead - Self and identity.

5. Stratification and Mobility:

- (a) Concepts- equality, inequality, hierarchy, exclusion, poverty and deprivation
- (b) Theories of social stratification- Structural functionalist theory, Marxist theory, Weberian theory.
- (c) Dimensions – Social stratification of class, status groups, gender, ethnicity and race.
- (d) Social mobility- open and closed systems, types of mobility, sources and causes of mobility.

- Sociology by
Haralambos and
Holborn (a , b , c)

– ESO: 14 (IGNOU)

6. Works and Economic Life:

- Sociology by Haralambos and Holborn

- (a) Social organization of work in different types of society- slave society, feudal society, industrial /capitalist society.
- (b) Formal and informal organization of work
- (c) Labour and society.

7. Politics and Society:

- Sociology by Haralambos and Holborn

- (a) Sociological theories of power
- (b) Power elite, bureaucracy, pressure groups, and political parties.
- (c) Nation, state, citizenship, democracy, civil society, ideology.
- (d) Protest, agitation, social movements, collective action, revolution.

Political Theory – O P Gauba
(c , d)

8. Religion and Society:

-- Sociology by Haralambos and Holborn

- (a) Sociological theories of religion.
- (b) Types of religious practices: animism, monism, pluralism, sects, cults.
- (c) Religion in modern society: religion and science, secularization, religious revivalism, fundamentalism.

9. Systems of Kinship:

- Sociology by Haralambos and Holborn

- (a) Family, household, marriage.
- (b) Types and forms of family.
- (c) Lineage and descent
- (d) Patriarchy and sexual division of labour
- (e) Contemporary trends.

10. Social Change in Modern Society:

- Sociology by Haralambos and Holborn

- (a) Sociological theories of social change.
- (b) Development and dependency.

- (c) Agents of social change.
- (d) Education and social change.
- (e) Science, technology and social change.

PAPER - II

INDIAN SOCIETY: STRUCTURE AND CHANGE

A. Introducing Indian Society:

- (i) **Perspectives on the study of Indian society :** [Indian Sociological Thought. from B. K. Nagla](#)
- (a) Indology (GS. Ghurye).
- (b) Structural functionalism (M N Srinivas).
- (c) Marxist sociology (A R Desai).
- (ii) **Impact of colonial rule on Indian society :**
- (a) Social background of Indian nationalism. [Social Background of Indian Nationalism : A R Desai](#)
- (b) Modernization of Indian tradition. [Modernization of Indian tradition - Yogendra Singh](#)
- (c) Protests and movements during the colonial period. [Protests and movements during the colonial period – A R Desai](#)
- (d) Social reforms [Modern History – B L Grover](#)

B. Social Structure:

- (i) **Rural and Agrarian Social Structure:**
- (a) The idea of Indian village and village studies- [IGNOU , MSO – 004](#)
- (b) Agrarian social structure - evolution of land tenure system, land reforms. [Rural Sociology – Doshi & Jain](#)
- (ii) **Caste System:**
- (a) Perspectives on the study of caste systems: GS Ghurye, M N Srinivas, Louis Dumont, Andre Beteille. – [Indian Sociological Thought. from B. K. Nagla](#)
- (b) Features of caste system.

Indian Social System – Ram Ahuja
- (c) Untouchability - forms and perspectives
- (iii) **Tribal communities in India:** [Indian Society & Culture – Nadeem Husnain](#)
- (a) Definitional problems.

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

(iv) Social Classes in India: - IGNOU , MSO – 004

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

(v) Systems of Kinship in India: - IGNOU , MSO – 004 , Family , Marriage and Kinship in India by Patricia Oberoi

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

(vi) Religion and Society: Indian Society & Culture – Nadeem Husnain

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

Social Changes in India:

(i) Visions of Social Change in India:

- (a) Idea of development planning and mixed economy. - Contemporary India – Neera Chandhoke
- (b) Constitution, law and social change. - Social Change in India – Yogendra Singh
- (c) Education and social change. - IGNOU , ESO – 14

(ii) Rural and Agrarian transformation in India:

- (a) Programmes of rural development, Community Development Programme, cooperatives, poverty alleviation schemes. Rural Sociology – Doshi & Jain
- (b) Green revolution and social change.

Social inequalities in India – K L Sharma
- (c) Changing modes of production in Indian agriculture .
- (d) Problems of rural labour, bondage, migration. IGNOU , MSO – 14

(iii) Industrialization and Urbanisation in India:

IGNOU , MSO – 14

- (a) Evolution of modern industry in India.
- (b) Growth of urban settlements in India.
- (c) Working class: structure, growth, class mobilization.
- (d) Informal sector, child labour
- (e) Slums and deprivation in urban areas.

Child Labour – Beena Das
IGNOU – Urban Sociology

(iv) Politics and Society:

Politics in India - Paul R Brass

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

(v) Social Movements in Modern India:

Social Movements In India by Ghanshyam Shah

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

(vi) Population Dynamics:

Social Demography : Asha Bhede & Kanitkar

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

: IGNOU (ESO – 16)

(vii) Challenges of Social Transformation:

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

Contemporary India
- Neera Chandhoke

Women in India – Neera Desai
Politics in India : Sudipta Kaviraj
IGNOU (ESO – 16)
IGNOU (ESO – 16)

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