

Gender Religion and Caste Class 10

Notes Summary and MCQs

Meta Description: Get comprehensive Class 10 Civics notes for Gender Religion and Caste. Includes chapter summary, important questions, MCQs, and keywords for board exam preparation.

Introduction to Gender Religion and Caste

The chapter **Gender Religion and Caste** in Class 10 Political Science explores how social differences influence politics. It examines whether these differences are healthy for democracy or if they lead to division.

Students will learn how gender, religion, and caste are used in the political arena and how various movements have sought to create a more equitable society. Understanding **Gender Religion and Caste** is crucial for scoring well in Social Science board exams.

Short Notes: Gender Religion and Caste

- **Gender and Politics:** Gender division is a form of hierarchical social division seen everywhere but rarely recognized in politics.
 - **Public/Private Division:** Women are often confined to domestic work (Private), while men dominate the public sphere.
 - **Feminist Movements:** These movements aim at achieving equality for women in personal and public life.
 - **Communalism:** When religion is used as the basis of a nation or to create superiority over other religions, it becomes communalism.
 - **Secular State:** India is a secular state, meaning it has no official religion and provides freedom to practice any faith.
 - **Caste in Politics:** Politics can influence caste identities through "vote bank" politics and demands for reservations.
 - **Politics in Caste:** Caste groups try to become bigger by incorporating neighboring sub-castes to gain political power.
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Detailed Summary of Gender Religion and Caste

The chapter **Gender Religion and Caste** focuses on three types of social inequalities. First, it discusses **Gender**. Despite making up half of the population, women's role in politics is minimal. The "Sexual Division of Labour" keeps women indoors. However, feminist movements have improved women's status, leading to demands for seats in legislatures, like the 1/3rd reservation in Panchayati Raj institutions.

Secondly, it addresses **Religion**. Unlike gender, religious differences are often expressed in politics. While Gandhi ji believed religion and politics cannot be separated (in terms of moral

values), communalism poses a threat. It leads to the belief that followers of one religion are superior. The Indian Constitution counters this by establishing a Secular State.

Finally, the chapter covers **Caste**. Caste is a unique feature of Indian society. In politics, parties often choose candidates based on the caste composition of the electorate. While this gives marginalized groups a voice, it can also divert attention from core issues like poverty and corruption. The chapter concludes that while social divisions in politics can be dangerous, they also allow disadvantaged groups to demand their share of power.

Mind Map: Gender Religion and Caste

- **Gender**
 - Social Expectation: Private vs. Public
 - Solution: Women's Representation (Local Bodies)
- **Religion**
 - Challenge: Communalism & Riots
 - Solution: Secularism & Constitutional Rights
- **Caste**
 - Problem: Casteism & Exclusion
 - Solution: Universal Adult Franchise & Education

Important Keywords and Meanings

- **Sexual Division of Labour:** A system where all work inside the home is done by women or organized by them through domestic helpers.
- **Feminist:** A woman or a man who believes in equal rights and opportunities for women and men.
- **Patriarchy:** A system that values men more and gives them power over women.
- **Family Laws:** Laws that govern marriage, divorce, inheritance, and adoption.
- **Urbanization:** The shift of population from rural to urban areas.
- **Caste Hierarchy:** A ladder-like formation where all caste groups are placed from the 'highest' to the 'lowest'.

Important Questions and Answers

Short Answer Type Questions

Q1. What is the status of women's representation in India's legislative bodies?

Ans: In India, women's representation in the central and state legislatures is very low. However, in local government bodies (Panchayats and Municipalities), one-third of seats are reserved for women, which has helped empower them.

Q2. Define Communalism in the context of Gender Religion and Caste.

Ans: Communalism is a situation where one religious group is pitted against another. It involves using religious identity to claim superiority and gain political dominance.

Long Answer Type Questions

Q1. How does caste influence politics in India?

Ans: Caste influences politics in several ways:

1. **Candidate Selection:** Parties choose candidates from the dominant caste of a region to secure votes.
2. **Appeal to Sentiments:** Politicians use caste-based slogans to win support.
3. **Vote Banks:** Certain castes are seen as "vote banks" for specific parties.
4. **Inclusion:** It allows marginalized castes to negotiate for power.

20 MCQs on Gender Religion and Caste

1. A person who believes in equal rights for men and women is called:
(a) Patriarch (b) Communist (c) Feminist (d) Communalist
2. Which act provides for equal wages for equal work?
(a) Equal Remuneration Act (b) Wage Act (c) Gender Act (d) Factory Act
3. In which of these systems is the state religion absent?
(a) Theocratic (b) Secular (c) Communal (d) Monarchy
4. What is the literacy rate among women in India (as per textbook)?
(a) 54% (b) 76% (c) 40% (d) 90%
5. Which of the following is a form of communalism?
(a) Religious prejudice (b) Belief in one's religion's superiority (c) Political mobilization on religious lines (d) All of the above
6. The shift of people from villages to towns is called:
(a) Migration (b) Urbanization (c) Globalization (d) Localization
7. The "Sexual Division of Labour" is based on:
(a) Ability (b) Social expectations (c) Education (d) Biology
8. Which country has a high participation of women in public life?
(a) India (b) Pakistan (c) Sweden (d) Sri Lanka
9. Caste hierarchy is a feature of:
(a) USA (b) India (c) China (d) UK
10. The 1/3rd reservation for women is implemented in:
(a) Lok Sabha (b) Rajya Sabha (c) Panchayati Raj (d) All of these
11. Occupational mobility means shifting from one _____ to another.
(a) Caste (b) Occupation (c) Religion (d) State
12. Who said that religion can never be separated from politics?
(a) Nehru (b) Mahatma Gandhi (c) Ambedkar (d) Bose
13. Secularism means:
(a) Respecting only the majority religion (b) Freedom to practice any religion (c) Oppressing minorities (d) State-sponsored religion
14. Which leader worked for the elimination of caste system?
(a) Jyotiba Phule (b) B.R. Ambedkar (c) Periyar Ramaswami (d) All of the above

15. Communal politics is based on the idea that:
(a) Religion is unimportant (b) Religion is the principal basis of social community (c) All religions are equal (d) Politics is for all
16. Child Sex Ratio in India is roughly:
(a) 940 (b) 919 (c) 800 (d) 990
17. Discrimination against women includes:
(a) Low literacy (b) Unpaid work (c) Sex-selective abortion (d) All of the above
18. Casteism is the belief that:
(a) All people are equal (b) Caste is the sole basis of social community (c) Religion is superior (d) Work is worship
19. Which state has the best sex ratio in India?
(a) Haryana (b) Kerala (c) Bihar (d) UP
20. Democracy means:
(a) Rule of one caste (b) Equal rights for all social groups (c) Majority rule without minorities (d) None of these
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Exam Tips & Value-Based Questions

- **Tip:** Always distinguish between "Caste in Politics" and "Politics in Caste" for 5-mark questions.
 - **Tip:** Use data (like literacy rates or reservation percentages) to make your answers more authentic.
 - **Value-Based Question:** How does a secular mindset contribute to the unity of a diverse country like India? (Hint: Focus on tolerance and constitutional equality).
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Conclusion

The chapter **Gender Religion and Caste** teaches us that while social divisions are inevitable, their expression in politics can be both positive and negative. By promoting secularism and gender equality, India can strengthen its democratic fabric. These **Gender Religion and Caste notes** are designed to help you master the concepts for your Class 10 Social Science exams.

Would you like me to generate a practice worksheet based on these Class 10 Gender Religion and Caste notes?