

PAPER - I
FUNDAMENTALS OF SOCIOLOGY

1. Sociology - The Discipline:

- Modernity and social changes in Europe and emergence of sociology.
- Scope of the subject and comparison with other social sciences.
- Sociology and common sense.

2. Sociology as Science:

- Science, scientific method and critique.
- Major theoretical strands of research methodology.
- Positivism and its critique.
- Fact value and objectivity.
- Non- positivist methodologies.

3. Research Methods and Analysis:

- Qualitative and quantitative methods.
- Techniques of data collection.
- Variables, sampling, hypothesis, reliability and validity.

4. Sociological Thinkers:

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

5. Stratification and Mobility:

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

6. Works and Economic Life:

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

7. Politics and Society:

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

8. Religion and Society:

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

9. Systems of Kinship:

- Family, household, marriage.
- Types and forms of family.
- Lineage and descent.
- Patriarchy and sexual division of labour.
- Contemporary trends.

10. Social Change in Modern Society:

- Sociological theories of social change.
- Development and dependency.
- Agents of social change.
- Education and social change.
- Science, technology and social change.

PAPER - II

INDIAN SOCIETY: STRUCTURE AND CHANGE

11. Introducing Indian Society:

- **Perspectives on the study of Indian society:**
 - Indology (GS. Ghurye).
 - Structural functionalism (M N Srinivas).
 - Marxist sociology (A R Desai).
- **Impact of colonial rule on Indian society:**
 - Social background of Indian nationalism.
 - Modernization of Indian tradition.
 - Protests and movements during the colonial period.
 - Social reforms.

12. Social Structure:

- **Rural and Agrarian Social Structure:**
 - The idea of Indian village and village studies.
 - Agrarian social structure - evolution of land tenure system, land reforms.
- **Caste System:**
 - Perspectives on the study of caste systems: GS Ghurye, M N Srinivas, Louis Dumont, Andre Beteille.
 - Features of caste system.
 - Untouchability - forms and perspectives.
- **Tribal communities in India:**
 - Definitional problems.
 - Geographical spread.
 - Colonial policies and tribes.
 - Issues of integration and autonomy.
- **Social Classes in India:**
 - Agrarian class structure.
 - Industrial class structure.
 - Middle classes in India.
- **Systems of Kinship in India:**
 - Lineage and descent in India.
 - Types of kinship systems.
 - Family and marriage in India.
 - Household dimensions of the family.

- Patriarchy, entitlements and sexual division of labour.
- Religion and Society:
 - Religious communities in India.
 - Problems of religious minorities.

13. Social Changes in India:

- **Visions of Social Change in India:**
 - Idea of development planning and mixed economy.
 - Constitution, law and social change.
 - Education and social change.
- **Rural and Agrarian transformation in India:**
 - Programmes of rural development, Community Development Programme, cooperatives, poverty alleviation schemes.
 - Green revolution and social change.
 - Changing modes of production in Indian agriculture.
 - Problems of rural labour, bondage, migration.
- **Industrialization and Urbanisation in India:**
 - Evolution of modern industry in India.
 - Growth of urban settlements in India.
 - Working class: structure, growth, class mobilization.
 - Informal sector, child labour.
 - Slums and deprivation in urban areas.
- **Politics and Society:**
 - Nation, democracy and citizenship.
 - Political parties, pressure groups, social and political elite.
 - Regionalism and decentralization of power.
 - Secularization.
- **Social Movements in Modern India:**
 - Peasants and farmers movements.
 - Women's movement.
 - Backward classes & Dalit movement.
 - Environmental movements.
 - Ethnicity and Identity movements.
- **Population Dynamics:**
 - Population size, growth, composition and distribution.
 - Components of population growth: birth, death, migration.
 - Population policy and family planning.
 - Emerging issues: ageing, sex ratios, child and infant mortality, reproductive health.
- **Challenges of Social Transformation:**
 - Crisis of development: displacement, environmental problems and sustainability.
 - Poverty, deprivation and inequalities.
 - Violence against women.
 - Caste conflicts.
 - Ethnic conflicts, communalism, religious revivalism.
 - Illiteracy and disparities in education.