

HUL 272: Introduction to the Sociology of India
Minor 2
Maximum Marks: 25

Please do not answer extra questions. Additional questions will NOT be marked.

Q1. Write short notes on any THREE (0.5 side of the answer booklet, max.) (5)

- 5/12 *
- a. Provide any four characteristics of a 'new social movement'. What is 'new' about them?
• New & NSW → new. (theology) city.
- b. What is the *democratic paradox* mentioned by Gopal Guru and Anuradha Chakravarty? Why is it a 'paradox'? In their view, why did the Dalit Panthers fail but not the Bahujan Samaj Party?
- c. According to Louis Dumont, what key principle forms the ideological justification for the internal logic of the caste system? How do restrictions on food and marriage enable the maintenance of the system?
- d. According to MN Srinivas, the concept of *Varna* gives a "wrong and distorted image of caste" (p. 31). Give reasons for why he believes the *varna* scheme "distorts" the reality of the *caste* system paying special attention to the operation of hierarchy in each.
- e. According to BR Ambedkar, poverty in India could not be understood as an **economic problem alone**. In his view, formulating capitalist/economic development alone to address poverty would be like "building a palace on a dung heap". In this view, what aspect should policies to alleviate poverty also take into account? Explain using examples from **at least one** of the texts you have read for this course.

Q2. Write an essay on any ONE (1-1.5 sides of the answer booklet, max.) (10)

- (4 x 15)
- a. Using the example of any one present-day caste movement or mobilization in India, explain how the operation of the caste system has changed in modern India, moving from 'structure' to 'substance'.
- b. According to DR Nagaraj, the Mahad struggle of 1927 provides a key to understanding the "world of difference" between Gandhi and Ambedkar's thought processes on dalit emancipation. Explain what the author means by this statement and why was the Mahad struggle crucial to understand the difference between Gandhi and Ambedkar?
- c. What did Ambedkar mean by constitutional morality? Why did the electoral process hold the most favour with him for dalit emancipation? To this extent, does the dalit movement fit into other models of social movements we have studied? Why/why not?
- CM → ...