

28 March 2018 - Minor 2 Exam
HUL272: Sociology of India
Course Coordinator: Dr Vibha Arora, IIT Delhi

Duration: 1 hour

Max. Marks: 25

Your name: VAIBHAV BHAGEE Entry No: 2014CS50297

Section A

Attempt any Three of the following as Short Notes (75-100 words; 3x5=15 Marks)

- 1 Explain why Brahmins were the filters through which westernization reached others at Mysore (Srinivas).
- 2 Hyper-visibility of low caste identity in contemporary India.
- 3 Caste associations in India's Urban Setting (Shah).
- 4 Impact of missionary activity and western values on Shudras and Outcastes.
- 5 Sanskritic and non-Sanskritic Hinduism.
6. Expansion of the Indian Middle Class and Shrinking of the General category.

Section B

6. Indicate whether the statement is true or false (on this sheet) (1x10= 10 Marks)
(1 Mark if correct; -0.5 if Incorrect; 0 for no response)

- I. The possibility of mobility in both caste and class can be upward or downward one, and its not as fixed as projected. *True* ✓
- II. Sanyasi and sadhus were part of the Hindu caste system. *False* ✓
- III. Eminent historian K.M. Pannikar argues that every know Royal family since Mahapadma Nanda has come from a non- Kshatriya caste. *True* ✓
- IV. The population Census at Indian sub-continent level documenting caste data was first conducted in 1881. *False* ✓
- V. Documentation on caste by Colonial ethnographers (H.H. Risley, Ibbetson) documented endogamy as a norm and hypergamy was not found to be a normal marriage practice. *False* ✓
- VI. Political fluidity in pre-modern India enabled many jati and tribes to sanskritize and change their relative position in the social stratification system. *True* ✓
- VII. The Poona pact of 1933 agreed to give significant political representation for the depressed castes. *False* ✓
- VIII. Adoption of vegetarianism by the Shudra varna reflects their desire for Sanskritization while continued consumption of meat (chicken, beef and pork) reflects their disregard for caste, and simultaneously westernization. *True* ✓
- IX. The 1921 Census had a 'no caste' category. *True* ✓
- X. Population of a particular group (caste, jati, religion) influences possibilities of becoming a socio-economically dominant group in the area, and regional political influence. *True* ✓

(8.5)