Self evaluation
Lecture 26: Social Stratification-IV: Stratification in India

Instructions: Please read the following instructions carefully before writing your answers:

1) Each Question carries 1 mark.
2) There are four alternatives - (A), (B), (C), (D) given against each question out of which only one is the most appropriate answer. If (A) is correct, round on the correct alternative like (A).
3) The discarded answer if any, must be crossed properly and supported by initial of the candidate.
4) If a question is answered wrongly or more than one answers are marked, 0.25 marks will be deducted for each such question.

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Q.1. The less developed countries of the world are relatively:
(A) Less rigidly stratified than the developed countries
(B) More rigidly stratified than the developed countries
(C) Equally stratified as the developed countries
(D) None of the above

Q.2. Those workers in the regular employment in the formal sector in India constitute:
(A) Less than 10 percent of the total labor force
(B) More than 50 percent of the total labor force
(C) 39.3 percent of the total labor force
(D) 46.8 percent of the total labor force

Q.3. With growth of education and expansion of service sector the middle class is expected to:
(A) Increase
(B) Decline slowly
(C) Decline fast
(D) Remain same

Q.4. According to Marxist model of capitalist society most people belong to the:
(A) Capitalist class
(B) Middle class
(C) Lower middle class
(D) Labor class

Q.5. Complexity of social stratification rather than two-class model in India:
(A) Facilitates revolution
(B) Reduces chance of revolution
(C) Leads to casteism
(D) Leads to communal riots

Q.6. The two most prosperous communities of India are:
(A) Dalits and tribals
(B) Dalits and Sikhs  
(C) Jains and tribals  
(D) Jains and Sikhs

Q.7. A stratified system continues because:  
(A) The upper class believes in this  
(B) The lower class believes in this  
(C) The intermediate class believes in this  
(D) All of the above

Q.8. Kingsley Davis says that it is necessary to have social stratification because:  
(A) It is a means of role allocation  
(B) It leads to elite rule  
(C) It leads to status quo  
(D) It is sanctioned by religion

Q.9. A functional sociologist who criticized Kingsley Davis’s theory of social stratification by talking about the dysfunctions of social stratification is:  
(A) Pierre Boudieu  
(B) P. Sorokin  
(C) M. M. Tumin  
(D) None of these

Q.10. The dysfunctions of social stratification include:  
(A) Limits on talent search  
(B) Distrust and disloyalty on the part of the lower classes  
(C) Conflicting claims and social conflict  
(D) All of the above
Subjective questions

Q.1. What is the relationship between development and social stratification?

Q.2. Who constitute the middle class of Indian society?

Q.3. Discuss the functional theory of social stratification.

Q.4. Does stratification based on caste has any dysfunctions? What are they? What can be done to minimize them?

Q.5. Are all the religious minorities of India poorer than Hindus? If yes, why?

Exercises

E.1. Identify two major studies of social stratification, one from the developed countries and one from the less developed countries. Do they conceptualize stratification in different ways?

E.2. Use a functional theory of social stratification to critique social stratification in rural India.

E.3. What are special problems of tribal communities in India? Why are they most poor? What special schemes need to be launched for the upliftment of the tribal people?

E.4. Is the caste system in India good for transition from capitalist system to socialist system?

E.5. What is the future of caste in India?