

CBSE Class-12 Sociology Test Paper-02

Social movements

General Instruction:

- Question 1-5 carries two marks each.
 - Question 6-8 carries four marks each.
 - Question 9-10 carries six marks each.
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1. Define 'counter movements'.
2. Social movements also develop distinct modes of protest. Give an example.
3. Give the argument given by Mancur Olson about social movements.
4. What is social movement organisations?
5. What were the 20th century social movements about?
6. How is social movement different from an isolated incident of protest?
7. Describe how innovative modes of protest were used during India's nationalist struggle.
8. Critically evaluate resource mobilisation theory of social movements.
9. How has social movements shaped the world that we live in?
10. What were the new social movements during the decades after the Second World War about?

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Social movements

1. Counter movements sometimes arise in defence of status quo. There are many instances of such counter movements. When Raja Ram Mohan Roy campaigned against sati and formed the Brahmo Samaj, defenders of sati formed Dharma Sabha and petitioned the British not to legislate against sati.
2. Social movements sometimes develop distinct modes of protest. For example, this could be candle and torch light processions, use of black cloth, street theatres, songs, poetry. Gandhi adopted novel ways such as ahimsa, satyagraha and his use of the charkha in the freedom movement.
3. Mancur Olson's book *The Logic of Collective Action* argues that a social movement is an aggregation of rational individual actors pursuing their self-interest. A person will join a social movement only if s/he will gain something from it. S/he will participate only if the risks are less than the gains. Olson's theory is based on the notion of the rational, utility-maximising individual.
4. A social movement may start from a phase of mass mobilisation and collective protest to become more institutionalised. Social scientists who study the life cycles of social movements call this a move towards 'social movement organisations'.
5. The twentieth century social movements were class based such as working class movements and peasant movements or anti-colonial movements. While anti-colonial movements united entire people into national liberation struggles, class-based movements united classes to fight for their rights.
6. Social movement is different from protest in the following ways:
Sometimes, people may damage a bus and attack its driver when the bus has run over a child. This is an isolated incident of protest.
Since it flares up and dies down it is not a social movement.
A social movement requires sustained collective action over time. Such action is often directed against the state and takes the form of demanding changes in state policy or practice.
Spontaneous, disorganised protest cannot be called a social movement either.
7. During India's nationalist struggle, distinctive modes of protest were used.
The fusion of foreign power and capital was the focus of social protest during India's

nationalist struggle.

Mahatma Gandhi wore khadi, hand-spun, hand-woven cloth, to support Indian cotton-growers, spinners and weavers whose livelihoods had been destroyed by the government policy of favouring mill-made cloth.

The legendary Dandi March to make salt was a protest against British taxation policies that placed a huge burden on consumers of basic commodities in order to benefit the empire.

Gandhi took items of everyday mass consumption like cloth and salt, and transformed them into symbols of resistance.

8. McCarthy and Zald's proposed resource mobilisation theory.

They argued that a social movement's success depends on its ability to mobilise resources or means of different sorts.

If a movement can muster resources such as leadership, organisational capacity, and communication facilities, and can use them within the available political opportunity structure, it is more likely to be effective.

Critics however, argued that a social movement is not limited by existing resources. It can create resources such as new symbols and identities.

As numerous poor people's movements show, scarcity of resources need not be a constraint. Even with an initial limited material resources and organisational base, a movement can generate resources through the process of struggle.

9. Social movements have shaped the world we live in.

We often assume that the rights such as work-day should not exceed eight hours, that men and women should be paid equally that we enjoy just happened to exist. These and many other rights were gained through social movements.

It is important to recall the struggles of the past, which made these rights possible. For instance, the 19th century social reform movements, of the struggles against caste and gender discrimination and of the nationalist movement in India that brought us independence from colonial rule in 1947.

The socialist movements world over, the civil rights movement in the United States in the 1950s and 1960s that fought for equal rights for Blacks, the anti apartheid struggle in South Africa have all changed the world in fundamental ways. Social movements not only change societies.

They also inspire other social movements. For instance, the Indian national movement

shaped the making of the Indian Constitution. And in turn, the Indian Constitution played a major role in bringing about social change.

10. The decades after the Second World War witnessed the end of empire and the formation of new nation-states as a result of nationalist movements in India, Egypt, Indonesia, and many other countries.

Since then, another wave of social movements occurred in the 1960s and early 1970s.

This was the time of the war in Vietnam where forces led by the United States of America were involved in a bloody conflict in the former French colony against Communist guerrillas.

In Europe, Paris was the nucleus of a vibrant students' movement that joined workers' parties in a series of strikes protesting against the war. Across the Atlantic, the United States of America was experiencing a surge of social protest.

The civil rights movement led by Martin Luther King had been followed by the Black Power movement led by Malcolm X. The anti-war movement was joined by tens of thousands of students who were being compulsorily drafted by the government to go and fight in Vietnam.

The women's movement and the environmental movement also gained strength during this time of social ferment.

It was difficult to classify the members of these so-called 'new social movements' as belonging to the same class or even nation. Rather than a shared class identity, participants felt that they shared identities as students, women, blacks, or environmentalists.