



# UPSC – IAS

Civil Services Examinations

Union Public Service Commission

**General Studies**

Paper 2 – Volume - 3

**SOCIETY, SOCIAL JUSTICE AND  
GOVERNANCE**

# G.S. PAPER – 2 VOLUME – 3

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# 1

## CHAPTER

# Indian Society



## Society



Peter L. Berger	Society is a <b>human product</b> that continuously acts upon its producers.
R.M. Maclver	Society is a <b>web of social relations</b> which is always changing and where an individual forms the basic unit of it.

- It consists of **groups of human beings** who are **linked together utilizing specific systems and customs, rites, and laws** and have a **collective social existence**.

### Features of a Traditional Society

- Individual's **status is determined by his birth** and not strive for social mobility
- **Behaviour is governed** by customs, traditions, **norms and values**
- **Social organisation** or linkages between individuals is **based on hierarchy**
- **Kinship** relations predominate in interactions
- **Individual is given more importance** than what he actually warrants
- **Conservative**
- **Subsistence economy**
- **Mythical thoughts** predominate

### Demographic Structure

**Demography:** Scientific study of a country's, region's, or community's population.

Demos (people) and graphein (graph) are two Greek words that make up the phrase (describe).



### Demography may be divided into two categories:

- **Formal Demography:** a statistical analysis of the population, including the total population, the number of males and females, the number of youth, the working population, and the population of rural and urban areas (quantitative data)
- **Social Demography:** The number of births, deaths, and migrations that occur in a given community.

### It is made up of four processes.

- **Demographic Structure:** Number of people in an area,
- **Demographic Processes:** Birth rate, death rate, migration,
- **Social structure:** Composition of an area,
- **Social processes:** Processes by which individuals learn to live together in peace and harmony in society
- **Eg:**Cooperation, accommodation, mediation etc.

## Evolution of Indian Society

**Ancient Times:** Indian society was a **stratified society**.

- Society was divided into **Aryans and non-Aryans** was mentioned in **Rig Veda**.
- **Aryan society further divided into 4 groups** based on pursuit of occupations:
  - Brahmana
  - Kashtriya
  - Vaishya
  - Shudra
- This **division of socio-economic activities became a norm**, & part of social devices.



## Mediaeval Times

- Indian culture went through a **transformation** influencing language, culture and religion.
- confrontation of Hindu & Muslim culture led to a **mixed culture**: Sufi writings, bhakti movement, Kabir Panth.

## Modern India

- advent of British marked **re-emergence of pan Indian culture and national and social awakening** through the process of modernization.
- after independence **amalgamated different caste groups religions, race tribes, linguistic groups**.
- **ideals of liberty, equality, fraternity** as its goals in a secular, socialistic framework.

## Themes

### Hierarchy

- **India is a socially hierarchical country**, Whether in north or south India, Hindu or Muslim, urban or rural, nearly everything, people, and social groupings are evaluated based on a variety of essential qualities.
- **Caste groupings, individuals, and family and kinship groups all exhibit societal hierarchy**.
- Although **castes are most closely linked with Hinduism**, caste-like groupings can **also be found among Muslims, Indians, Christians, and other religious groups**.
- **Everyone in most villages or towns is aware of the relative ranks** of each locally represented caste, and this information is continually shaping behaviour.
- **Within families and kinship groups, hierarchy plays a vital role**, with men outranking women of equal age and older relatives outranking junior relatives.



### Purity and Pollution

- **Social status inequalities:** Expressed in terms of ritual purity and pollution are concepts that range widely between castes, religious groups, and locations.
  - **Purity:** Generally, high status is linked to purity.
  - **Pollution:** Low status is linked to pollution.
- **Some types of purity are inherent**.
  - **Eg:** A member of the high-ranking Brahmin, or priestly, caste is born with more intrinsic cleanliness than a sweeper, or scavenger, caste.
- **Other kinds of purity are more transitory**.



- Eg: A Brahmin recently bathed is more ritually pure than one who has not bathed in a day.
- **Purity is linked to ritual cleanliness:** Includes
  - Daily bathing in running water,
  - Dressing in freshly laundered garments,
  - Eating only foods suited for one's caste,
  - Avoiding direct contact with persons of lower rank or unclean things.
  - **Eg:** Another adult's body waste.
- It is **ritually polluting to be involved with violence.**

## Social Interdependence

- **People** are born **into** families, clans, subcastes, **castes**, and **religious communities**, and they feel inextricably linked to them.
- Family has a **high level of emotional dependency** from a psychological standpoint.
- **Economic activities** depend greatly on **social web**.
- **Each person** is connected to **kin through** a variety of **kinship relationships**.
- **Social relationships may assist a person** in any activity
- **Theologically, there is an awareness of interconnection.**
  - A kid learns from birth that his "fate" has been "written" by divine forces and his existence is shaped by strong deities with whom he must have a continuous interaction.



## Features of Indian society

- **Multi ethnic society:** Due to the coexistence of a vast range of racial groupings in India, Indian society is multi-ethnic in character.
  - Types of Groups:
    - **Ethno-linguistic:** Shared language and dialect. **Eg:** French Canadians.
    - **Ethno-national:** Shared polity or sense of national identity. **Eg:** Austrians.
    - **Ethno-racial:** Shared physical appearance based on genetic origins. **Eg:** African Americans
    - **Ethno-regional:** A distinct local sense of belonging stemming from relative geographic isolation. **Eg:** South Islanders of New Zealand.
    - **Ethno-religious:** Shared affiliation with a particular religion, denomination or sect. **Eg:** Jews.
- **Multilingual society:** >1600 languages spoken in India.
- **Multi-class society:** divided into several classes, on the basis of one's date of birth, as well as one's financial and social achievements during the course of one's life.
- **Patriarchal society:** males having a higher social position than women.
- **Unity in diversity:** In India, diversity exists on many levels and in numerous forms, yet there remains a basic unity in social institutions and practises.
- **Traditionalism and modernity coexist:**
  - **Traditionalism:** sustaining or preservation of essential beliefs.
  - **Modernity:** a move toward rational thinking, social, scientific, and technical advancement.
- **Achieving a balance between spiritualism and materialism:** Spiritualism's fundamental goal is to help people have a better relationship with God.
  - **Materialism** is a predisposition to emphasise material belongings and bodily comfort over spiritual ideals.



- **Individualism and collectivism are in balance:** Individualism is a moral, political, or social attitude that emphasises personal independence, self-reliance, and liberty.
  - **Collectivism** is the practice of prioritising a group over each person within it. In Indian society, there is a delicate balance between them.
- **Blood and kinship ties:** have a significant advantage over other social interactions and impact political and economic areas of life.



# 2

## CHAPTER

# Family and Kinship



### Family

- **According to Burgess and Lock:** A family is a group of people who are linked by marriage, blood, or adoption and form a single home, engaging in their social roles as husband and wife, mother and father, brother and sister, and forming a shared culture.



### Characteristics of Family

- **Universality:** There is no human community where family doesn't exist in some form.
  - Malinowski believes that **normal family, which consists of a mother, father, and their offspring, may be found in all cultures**, including primitive, barbarian, and civilised ones.
  - **universality is due to** need to reproduce, & economic demands.
- **Emotional basis:** The family is **built on feelings and emotions**.
  - Our instincts for mating, reproduction, maternal devotion, fraternal affection, and parental care are all part of it.
  - It is **based on love, affection, compassion, collaboration, and friendship feelings**.
- **Limited size :**The family has a **limited number of members**.It's the tiniest social unit. Its size as a major group is restricted by necessity.
- **Formative influence:** creates an atmosphere in which **kids are trained and educated** and shapes the personalities and characters of its members. It affects the **child's emotional well-being**.
- **Core of social structure:** Family units make whole social system.
- **Responsibility of the members:** **Each family member has particular responsibilities, tasks, and obligations**.
  - **According to Maclver:** Men may labour, fight, and die for their country in times of crisis, but they toil for their families their whole lives.
- **Social regulation:** Both **social taboos and legislative rules protect the family**. The society takes precautions to prevent the organisation from collapsing.



### Types of Family

Types of Family					
Based on Marriage	Based on residence	Based on ancestry or descent	Based on nature of relation	Based on authority	Based on size or structure
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Monogamous</li> <li>● Polygynous</li> <li>● Polyandrous</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Matrilocal</li> <li>● Patrilocal</li> <li>● Changing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Matrilineal</li> <li>● Patrilineal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Conjugal</li> <li>● Consanguine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Matriarchal</li> <li>● Patriarchal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nuclear</li> <li>● Joint</li> <li>● Extended</li> </ul>

## Basis of Marriage

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- **Monogamous Family:** there is just one partner at a time, rather than several.
- **Polygamous Family:** one of the partners (man or woman) has many spouses.
- **Polyandrous Family:** woman marries more than one guy at the same time.

## Basis of nature of the residence

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- **Family of matrilocality:** After achieving adulthood, a lady returns to her mother's home and takes her husband to live with her family.
- **Family of Patrilocal residence:** After attaining adulthood, a guy returns to his father's home and brings his wife to live with his family.
- **Family of changing residence:** A family of moving residency is one that lives at the husband's house for a while and then goes to wife's house, stays there for a while, and then moves back to husband's parents or starts living somewhere else.

## Basis of ancestry or descent

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- **Matrilineal Family:** family ties that may be traced back to a woman.
- **Patrilineal Family:** Family ties that can be traced back to a man.

## Basis of the nature of authority

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- **Matriarchal Family:** A matriarchal society, family, or institution has female rulers and authority or property is passed down from mother to daughter.
- **Patriarchal Family:** A kind of social structure in which the father is the family's, clan's, or tribe's ultimate authority, and succession is traced through the male line, with offspring belonging to the father's clan or tribe.

## Basis of size or structure and generations

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- **Single or Nuclear Family:** a family unit made up of parents and their children. It differs from a family with only 1 parent, a huge extended family, or a family with >2 parents.
- **Joint or undivided Family:** An extended family structure that is typical throughout the Indian subcontinent, consists of several generations living in the same home, all of whom are linked by a common relationship.

## Basis of nature of relations among the family members

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- **Consanguine Family:** family that consists of members not related to each other.
  - This family includes grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins, all of whom live in the same house as the married couple and their children.
  - includes blood relatives as well as immediate family members.
  - Extended family is frequently referred to as a consanguine family.
- **Conjugal Family:** made up of a husband and wife and their children.
  - consists of two adult spouses and their minor children who are not married.
  - may only consist of the married couple if the couple does not have children or if the children are married and have their own families.

## Changing nature of Indian Families

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### Evolving family

- **nuclear family form has gained popularity.**
- Increase in the number of divorce has risen the **share of single parents** in the society.
  - There are **5.4% more single-mother households than single-father households.**



### Decision Making

- In a **traditional household, the wife had no say** in family decisions.
- In today's household, the **woman increasingly sees herself as an equal** in power when it comes to budgeting family expenses, disciplining children, purchasing things, and providing presents.

### Equal work participation

- Women are **no longer confined to household work** and have gained more economic, legal, and educational authority.
- As both husband and wife participate actively in work has **resulted into rise in middle class families**

### Change in authority

- **Power has transferred from the patriarch to the parents**, who consult their children on all major choices before making them.

### Increased freedom of children

- **Relationships** between children and parents have **become more open**
- Children have become **aware of their rights** as a result of **several legislative changes.**

## Factors responsible for change in Indian family structure

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- **Industrialisation:**
  - Caused **rural people to migrate to cities** in search of work and a higher quality of life, severing their ties with their extended families.
  - **undermined** the basic foundations of the **joint family system.**
- **Urbanisation:**
  - resulted in the formation of **nuclear families.**
  - **Individuality and privacy** have been **emphasised**
- **Education:**
  - **Influenced People's attitudes, beliefs, values, and ideologies**
  - Developed a **culture of questioning**
  - **Individualistic attitude** developed
  - **Promoted nuclear family culture** and discouraged joint family setup
- **Women's Enlightenment**
  - **increased awareness** about their **rights and equality**
  - **Women** are becoming **increasingly self-sufficient** with increasing employment
  - resulted in more equality but **negatively impacted joint family arrangement.**
- **Changes in the Marriage Structure**
  - **Changes in marriage age, flexibility in mate choosing, and individual attitudes about marriage** have all had an **impact on the joint family system.**
  - **Patriarchal power over the family is weakened**



● **Social Legislations**

- **Acts have changed interpersonal relationships and family** composition, and stability of joint families.
- **Hindu Succession Act of 1956 made significant changes to the Hindu joint family structure** by granting women equal inheritance rights.
- Without the agreement of the parents, the **Special Marriage Act of 1954** allows for the freedom of match choosing and marriage in any caste and religion. This has had a significant impact on the marital system.

● **Decline in Agriculture and village industries**

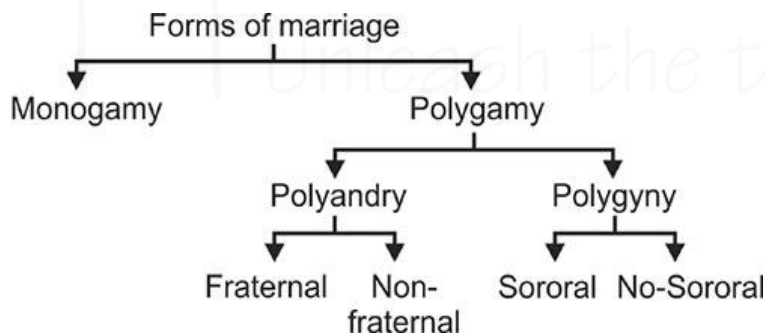
- **Products made by village artisans and craftsmen are less competent with** the price and quality of goods made in factories.
- **Overcrowding** has also put an undue strain on agricultural and residential land.
- The destitute and jobless leave their homes in pursuit of work elsewhere, separating themselves from their family.

## Marriage

- **Marriage is a global social institution strongly related with the institution of family,** and it was formed to manage and regulate humanity's life.
- The two institutions are mutually beneficial. It is a culturally diverse institution with a variety of ramifications.
- Its aims, functions, and forms may vary from society to society, yet it exists as an institution everywhere.



## Types of Marriages



**1. Monogamy**

- **Marriage in which the woman is married to just one man.**
- It is the **most common** type of marriage seen in communities all across the world.
- It **promotes love and affection between husband and wife.** It contributes to family harmony, unity, and joy.
- Monogamy is a **steady and long-lasting relationship.** It is **devoid of the disputes** that are frequent in polyandrous and polygamous households.
- Monogamous couples pay more attention to their children's socialisation



● **Types**

<p><b>Straight Monogamy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Individuals are not permitted to remarry in straight monogamy.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Serial Monogamy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Individuals in many civilizations are allowed to marry again after the death of their first spouse or after divorce.</li> <li>● But they are not allowed to have more than one spouse at the same time.</li> </ul>
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**2. Polygamy**

**a. Polygyny**

- Marriage in which a **single guy marries more than women at the same time.**
- Polygyny is **more common than polyandry**, although it is still **not as widespread as monogamy**. In ancient cultures, this was a widespread practice.
- It is now **found among primitive Indian tribes such as the Crow Indians, Baigas, and Gonds.**
- **Types**

<p><b><u>Sororal Polygyny</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The wives are typically sisters in a marriage. It's also known as sororate.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Non-Sororal Polygyny</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It's a sort of marriage when the women aren't sisters.</li> </ul>
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**b. Polyandry**

- Polyandry is the union of a **single woman with many men.**
- practised by **Polynesians** in the Marquesas Islands, Africans on the Bahama Islands, and Samoan tribes.
- **Indian tribes:** Tiyan, Toda, Kota, Khasa, and Ladakhi Bota tribes.
- **Types**

<p><b><u>Non Fraternal</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Prior to marriage, husbands do not need to establish a close friendship.</li> <li>● The woman visits each spouse for a short period of time.</li> <li>● The others have no rights over a lady who lives with one of her husbands.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Fraternal polyandry</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The practice of numerous brothers sharing the same bride.</li> <li>● Levirate refers to the practice of becoming a real or possible mate to one's husband's brothers.</li> <li>● In India, it is common among the <b>Todas</b>.</li> </ul>
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**Rules of Marriage**

**Endogamy**

- A marital regulation in which **life partners are chosen from inside the group.**
- It is a marriage **between members of the same caste, class, tribe, race, village, or religious group.**
- **Types:**
  - **Caste Endogamy:** Marriage must take place inside the caste. **Eg:** A Brahmin must marry another Brahmin.
  - **Sub caste Endogamy:** It is confined to sub caste groups.
  - **Class Endogamy:** marriages in the same class
  - **Race Endogamy:** marriage in the same race



- **Tribe Endogamy:** marriage in the same tribe

### Exogamy

- A Marital regulation that **requires a person to marry outside of his or her own group.**
- It **forbids members of the group from marrying each other.**
- **blood relatives are not allowed to marry** or have sexual relations with one another.
- **Types**
  - **Gotra Exogamy:** Hindu tradition of marrying different gotra than one's own.
  - **Pravara Exogamy:** Members of the same pravara are not permitted to marry.

#### Pravara:

- In Hindu culture, a Pravara is a system of identity, particularly a family line.
- a particular Brahmin's descent from a rishi (sage) who belonged to their gotra (clan).

- **Village Exogamy:** Many Indian tribes, such as the Naga, Garo, and Munda, practise marrying outside their village.
- **Pinda Exogamy:** Those who share the same panda or sapinda (same parentage) are unable to marry within themselves.
- **Isogamy:** A marriage between two people who are on the same level (status).
- **Anisogamy:** An asymmetric marital connection between two persons of different socioeconomic positions.
- **Types:**
  - **Hypergamy:** A woman marries a guy from a higher Varna/superior caste/family.
  - **Hypogamy:** Union of a man from a higher caste with a woman from a lower caste.
- **Orthogamy:** Marriage of two or more people from selected groups.
- **Karyogamy:** Two or more males marry two or more women.
- **Anuloma marriage:** A marriage in which a man can marry from his own caste or from lower castes, while a woman can only marry from her own caste or higher castes.
- **Pratiloma marriage:** A forbidden union between a lady and a man from a lower caste.

### Kinship

- A relationship **formed by a blood tie, marriage, & presence of kindred relatives.**
- It is one of the **most fundamental social institutions.**
- **Kinship is ubiquitous and plays an important role in the socialisation** of individuals and the preservation of group cohesiveness in most communities.
- It is extremely **essential in primitive communities and has a significant impact on nearly all of their activities.**
- **As Per A.R Radcliffe Brown:** It is a system of dynamic relationships between people in a society, with the conduct of any two people in any of these relationships being regulated in some manner and to a greater or lesser amount by social use.



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## Types of kinship

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### 1. Affinal Kinship

- **Marriage-based kinship.**
- When a **couple marries, new relationships are formed.**
- **Not only does the guy form a bond with the girl and her family, but both the man and the woman's families become connected.**
- **Eg:** Agnates (sapindas, sogetras);
  - Cognates (from the mother's side);
  - Bandhus (atma bandhu, pitru bandhus, and matrubandhus).



### 2. Consanguineous Kinship

- **A blood link based Kinship.**
- **Eg:** Between parents and their offspring or between children of the same parents.
- **Consanguineous kin** are sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, paternal uncles, and so on.

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## Degree of Kinship

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### 1. Primary kins

- Individual's closest relatives
- Every member of a nuclear family has his or her primary kin inside the family.
- **Eight Primary Kins:**
  - Husband-wife, father-son, mother-son, father-daughter, mother-daughter, younger brother-elder brother, younger sister-elder sister, and brother-sister.



### 2. Secondary kins

- Relatives of primary kin
- A person can have 33 different sorts of secondary kins
- **Eg:** in-laws, cousins, aunts, nieces etc.

### 3. Tertiary kins:

- Primary relatives of the secondary relatives of an individual
- There are 151 different kinds of tertiary kin.
- **Eg:** The son of the wife's brother, the brother of the sister's spouse, and so on.

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## Laws of Kinship

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- kinship gives **standards for interaction** b/w people in various social groups.
- It **establishes** proper and acceptable **relationships and regulates social life.**
- Kinship ties are governed by kinship laws.
- **Types:**
  - **Avoidance**
    - avoidance **norms stipulate** that men and women in mixed company must maintain a particular **level of modesty** in their speech, attire, and gestures.
    - **Eg:** Purdah system
  - **Teknonymy**
    - A kin is **not directly referred to** in this form **instead through another kin.**
    - **Eg:** In a traditional Hindu household, the wife does not explicitly address her husband by his name, instead referring to him as the father of so and so.



- **Avunculate**
  - **seen in a matriarchal society** where the **maternal uncle is given significance** in the lives of his nephews and nieces.
- **Amitate**
  - **provides the father's sister a specific position.**
  - **In Todas, right to name the child** is given to father's sister
- **Couvade**
  - **common among the Khasi and Todas tribes, husbands refrain from living with his wife** whenever she delivers a child.
  - **He avoids physical employment, follows a strict diet, and adheres to various taboos** that his wife observes.

### Changing nature of Indian Families Descent

- a group whose members have a common ancestor.
- helps to trace an individual's ancestry.



#### Types of Descent

##### 1. Unilineal descent

- method of **tracing kinship** through only a **single line of ancestors.**
- **Types:**
  - **Patrilineal descent:** tracing of kinship through the male line
  - **Matrilineal descent:** tracing of kinship through the female line.

##### 2. Cognatic descent

- method of **tracing kinship** through **both mother's and father's ancestors to some degree.**
- **Types:**
  - **Bilateral descent:** relatives from both mother's and father's side are equally important. children are considered to be equally descended through both parents.
  - **Ambilineal descent:** the children choose either the mother or father's side of the family to be considered relatives, usually upon reaching adulthood.



#### Difference between Kinship and Descent

Kinship	Descent
Kinship is a system of social relationships between people based on blood or marriage	Descent is the socially existing recognized biological relationships between people in the society.
Considers both biological relationship and non biological relationships	Considers only biological relationships
Two main types as consanguineous kinship and affinal kinship	Two main types as unilineal descent and cognatic descent.

# 3

## CHAPTER

# Culture identity of India



- A broad and diversified range of primarily **intangible components of social life**.
- the values, beliefs, systems of language, communication, and behaviours that people share and that **may be used to characterise them as a group**.
- **Material things shared by a group or community** are also considered part of culture.

### Characteristic features of Culture

- **Culture is learned:** Culture is not inherited biologically, but rather is **taught socially**.
  - It is **not an inborn inclination**, but is acquired by connection of others
- **Culture is a social phenomenon:** It is not an individual phenomenon, but rather a product of society. It emerges in society as a result of social interaction.
- **Culture is shared:** Culture is something that is shared. It is nothing that a single person may transmit but is shared by the common population of an area.
  - In a social environment, man shares conventions, traditions, values, and beliefs. These ideas and practises are shared by everybody.
- **Culture can be passed down from generation to generation:** Language is a mode of communication that transmits cultural qualities from one generation to the next.
- **Culture is a Continual Process:** It's like a stream that flows from generation to generation over ages. "Culture is the human race's memories."
- **Culture is integrated:** All parts of culture are interconnected with one another. Culture develops via the combination of its diverse components. The values system is intertwined with morals, norms, beliefs, and religion.
- **Culture is evolving:** It is not stagnant, but it is changing. Changes occur in the cultural process. However, the rates vary from civilization to society and generation to generation.



### Culture in India

- Due to the existence of many groups that contribute a distinct blend to India's variety, it is regarded as a **mega culturally varied country**.
- Many culturally varied elements have given India a heterogeneous character in comparison to other major countries.



### Cultural Elements of diversity in India

- **Religious Diversity**
  - India is **home to and practises all of the world's major religions**.
  - **Foreign religions have mixed with local culture to create a unique combination** that cannot be found anywhere else.
  - **Eg:** Fusion of Parsi and local cultures in Maharashtra.

- **Language**
  - India is **the 4th most linguistically diverse** country in the world
  - These **languages have evolved over hundreds of years**, this linguistic variety has **resulted in a vibrant mix in India**.
  - **thoughts and issues have a fundamental coherence**.
- **Festivals**
  - Every **area and group in India has its unique festivals** that celebrate their cultural heritage.
  - These **festivals represent the lifeblood of their culture**, and they are carefully preserved and observed.
  - These **celebrations allow communities' identities to be passed down through the generations**.
  - **Eg:** Lohri in Punjab, Pongal in Kerala, and Bihu in the Northeast.
- **Races**
  - India is **host to several of the world's major races**.
  - Over hundreds of years, these **races have mingled to produce the current races resulting in the emergence of several races in India**.
  - **Eg:** Indo-Aryan races, Dravidian races, and so on.

### Significance of cultural elements in building national identity

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- **Tolerance**
  - **India has become a model of tolerance due to the presence of varied cultures**.
  - **India's appreciation of cultural diversity is a beacon of hope in a world** where people are battling over colour and language.
- **Unity in diversity**
  - **India has been viewed as a country that respects all traditions and beliefs** as a result of its many cultural aspects.
  - This has **reaffirmed India's commitment to the mantra of unity in diversity**.

### Intangible Cultural Heritage

- **Intangible cultural heritage:** Culture inherited from our ancestors and passed down to our descendants, **it includes:**
  - Oral traditions,
  - Performing arts,
  - Social practises,
  - Rituals,
  - Festive events,
  - Knowledge and practises concerning nature and the universe,
  - knowledge and skills to produce traditional crafts.
- Intangible cultural heritage is a **critical component in preserving cultural variety in the face of globalisation**.
- **According to UNESCO** “cultural heritage does not end at **monuments and collections of objects**. It also includes **traditions or living expressions inherited** from our ancestors and passed on to our descendants, such as oral traditions, performing arts, social practices, rituals, festive events,



knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe or the knowledge and skills to produce traditional crafts”.

- A total of **14 Intangible cultural heritage (ICH)** elements from India have been inscribed on the UNESCO’s Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

	Custom/ Culture Expression	Year included
1.	Tradition of Vedic Chanting	2008
2.	Ramlila, the traditional performance of Ramayana	2008
3.	Kutiyattam, Sanskrit Theatre	2008
4.	Ramman, religious festival and ritual theatre of the Garhwal Himalayas, India	2009
5.	Navroj*	2009
6.	Mudiyettu, ritual theatre and dance drama of Kerala	2010
7.	Kalbelia folk songs and dances of Rajasthan	2010
8.	Chhau dance	2010
9.	Buddhist chanting of Ladakh	2012
10.	Sankirtana, ritual singing, drumming and dancing of Manipur	2013
11.	Traditional brass and copper craft utensil making among the Thateras of Jandiala Guru, Punjab	2014
12.	Yoga	2016
13.	Kumbh Mela	2017
14.	Durga Puja	2021

### Cultural World Heritage Sites in India

S.No.	Name of cultural world Heritage site	State	Year of Notification
1.	Agra Fort	Uttar Pradesh	1983
2.	Ajanta Caves	Maharashtra	1983
3.	Buddhist Monuments of Sanchi	Madhya Pradesh	1989
4.	Champaner-Pavagadh Archeological park	Gujarat	2004
5.	Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (Formerly Victoria Terminus)	Maharashtra	2004
6.	Churches and Convents of Goa	Goa	1986
7.	Elephanta Caves	Maharashtra	1987
8.	Ellora Caves	Maharashtra	1983
9.	Fatehpur Sikri	Uttar Pradesh	1986
10.	Great Living Chola Temples	Tamil Nadu	1987