

Worksheet – 5

Subject: - Social Science

Class: - VII

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Name: _____ Class & Sec: _____ Roll No. _____ Date: 22.04.2020

Social and Political Life Chapter 1: On Equality**Q1: In a democracy why is universal adult franchise important?**

Ans1: In a democracy, universal adult franchise is important because of the following reasons:

1. Democracy is the government of the people, by the people and for the people.
2. Every adult irrespective of caste, creed, religion, region, sex, rich or poor people are allowed to vote.
3. This is called universal adult franchise.
4. Concept of universal adult franchise is based on equality.
5. In democracy every citizen is equal.

Q2: Re-read the box on Article 15 and state two ways in which this Article addresses inequality?

Ans2: Article 15 in democracy of the constitution prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth. Two ways in which this Article addresses inequality:

1. It suggests States not to discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them.
2. No citizen shall be subject to any disability, liability and restriction on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, and place of birth or any of them.

Q3: In what ways was Omprakash Valmiki's experience similar to that of the Ansaris?

Ans3: By picking on him and making him sweep the school, because of his caste, Omprakash Valmiki's schoolmates and teachers hurt his dignity badly and made him feel as if he was less equal to all other students in the school. Omprakash Valmiki was not allowed to sit with other students on the desks or mats but at the end of the worn-out mat. Being a child, Omprakash Valmiki could do very little in this situation. The Ansaris dignity was also hurt when persons refused to lease their apartments to them. However, when the property dealer suggested that they change their name, it was their dignity or self-respect that made them refuse his suggestion. Omprakash Valmiki's experience was similar to that of the Ansari's because both were treated unequally based on caste and religion, their dignity was violated. They both deserved the same equality, respect, and dignity as anyone else.

Q4: What do you understand by the term "all persons are equal before the law"? Why do you think it is important in a democracy?

Ans4: The Indian Constitution recognizes every person equal before the law. By the term, "all persons are equal before the law," we understand equality. Universal Adult Franchise is a concept based on equality. Equality is important in a democracy because democracy is the government of the people, by the people and for the people. Equality is the essence of democracy. If people are discriminated based on caste, creed, religion, sex, prosperity, etc. the democracy will not survive. Every person irrespective of his caste, religion, economic status, educational status etc. has the same right to be treated with dignity as others.

Questions/Answers

1. Mention some of the Provisions provided by the constitution of India?

Provision in the Indian Constitution

Every person is equal before the law this means that every person, from the president of the country to Kanta, a domestic worker, has to obey the same laws.

No person can be discriminated against on the basis of their religion, race caste, place of birth or whether they are female or male.

Every person has access to all public places including playgrounds, hotels, shops and markets. All persons can use publicly available wells, roads and bathing ghats.

Untouchability has been abolished.

2. Mention any two ways in which the government has tried to implement the equality that is guaranteed in the constitution?

Two ways in which the government has tried to implement the equality that is guaranteed in the constitution:-

α. Through Laws

β. Through government programmes or schemes to help disadvantaged communities.

3. Is the mid-day meal schemes?

➤ Mid day meal refers to the programme introduced in all government elementary schools to provide children with cooked lunch.

4. Mention few merits of mid day meal schemes?

➤ The programme has had many positive effects. These include the fact that more poor children have begun enrolling and regularly attending school.

- Their attendance has improved.
- This programme has also helped reduce caste prejudices because both lower and upper caste children in the school eat this meal together.
- The mid day meal programme also helps reduce the hunger of poor children who often come to school and cannot concentrate because of their empty stomachs.

5. What was civil right movement? What was the aim of the movement?

➤ A movement that began in USA in 1950s in which African-American people demanded equal rights and an end to racial discrimination.

- The Civil Rights Act of 1964 Prohibited discrimination on the basis of race, caste, religion or national origin.
- It also stated that all schools would be open to African-American children and that they would no longer have to attend separate schools specially set up for them