



NOTES

SOCIAL SCIENCE

(POLITICAL SCIENCE)

DEMOCRACY AND DIVERSITY



**REVISION NOTES
CHAPTERWISE &
TOPICWISE**

Chapter 3: Democracy and Diversity

Concepts Covered:

1. **A Story from Mexico Olympics**
 2. **Differences, similarities, division**
 - **Origins of Social differences**
 - Accident of birth
 - Based on choices
 - **Overlapping and cross cutting differences**
 - Overlapping
 - Cross-cutting
 3. **Politics of Social divisions**
 - **Range of outcomes**
 - **Three Determinants**
 - How people perceive their identities
 - How political leaders raise demand of any community
 - How government reacts to demands of different groups
 4. **Mind Map**
(Colourful & Interactive/ Complete All Concept Covered)
- Practice Questions (All Topics Available)**

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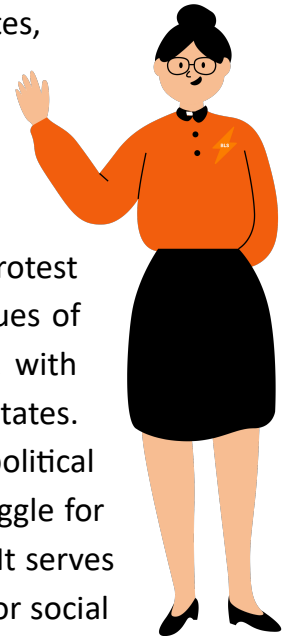
A STORY FROM MEXICO OLYMPICS

A Story from Mexico Olympics

One significant event from the Mexico Olympics that holds political and diversity-related importance is the iconic "Black Power Salute" during the 1968 Summer Olympics.

During the medal ceremony for the 200-meter race, two African American athletes, Tommie Smith, and John Carlos, who won gold and bronze respectively, raised their fists while the national anthem played. This gesture was a powerful symbol of protest against racial segregation and discrimination, particularly against African Americans, in the United States.

Their act was a bold statement in support of the Civil Rights Movement and a protest against racial inequality. It was a moment that brought international attention to issues of diversity, human rights, and social justice. However, their actions were met with backlash, and they faced severe consequences upon their return to the United States. This event from the Mexico Olympics is a powerful example of how sports and political activism can intersect, highlighting the significance of democracy and the struggle for equal rights and representation for all citizens, regardless of race or ethnicity. It serves as a reminder of the role that individuals and athletes can play in advocating for social and political change.



DIFFERENCES, SIMILARITIES, DIVISION

Origins of Social differences

Accident of birth

We don't choose to belong to our community. We belong to it simply because we were born into it. We experience social differences based on accident of birth in our everyday lives.

Based on choices

Some of the differences are based on our choices. Some people are atheists. They don't believe in God or any religion. Some people choose to follow a religion other than the one in which they were born. Most of us choose to study a subject of our interest and an occupation where we can excel. All these lead to formation of social groups that are based on our choices.



Overlapping and cross cutting differences

Overlapping:

Overlapping social differences create possibilities of deep social divisions and tensions. In overlapping, one kind of social difference becomes more important than the other and the people start feeling that they belong to a different community.

For example, in Northern Ireland, class and religion overlap each other. If you are Catholic, you are likely to be poor, suffering a history of discrimination. Catholics and Protestants have had conflicts in Northern Ireland.

Cross-cutting:

Cross-cutting social differences are easier to accommodate. In cross-cutting, groups that share a common interest on one issue, are sometimes on different sides on different issues.

For example, in Netherlands, class and religion tend to cut across each other. Catholics and Protestants are about equally likely to be poor or rich. There are no conflicts in the Netherlands.





Origins of Social differences

- By Accident of Birth
- By Choice

RACE & COLOUR

OCCUPATIONS

RICH & POOR

RELIGIONS & CASTES

GENDER

LANGUAGES



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POLITICS OF SOCIAL DIVISIONS

Range of outcomes

In Northern Ireland, the politics of social divisions have been in the limelight for many years. As per the examples cited in the chapter on Democracy and Diversity, Christians are predominant but are divided into Catholics (53%) and Protestants (44%). The Nationalist parties represented the Catholics. They demanded to unify Northern Ireland with the Republic of Ireland because it was predominantly Catholic.

On the other hand, Unionists started representing Protestants who wanted to stay in the country, predominantly Protestant. These divisions have led to violent and bitter ethnic conflicts. Following this, a dangerous battle happened where hundreds of people lost their lives.

example of Yugoslavia, which states that there was a political competition based on religion. This took a drastic turn. As a result, Yugoslavia was divided into six independent countries. However, it should be noted that social division in politics does not always have such results. But in some countries like India, it might affect the voting process.



Three Determinants

1. How people perceive their identities

If people see their identities in exclusive terms, it becomes difficult to accommodate. As long as people in Northern Ireland saw themselves as only Catholic or Protestant, their differences were difficult to reconcile. It is easier if identities are complimentary with national identity. This helps to stay together.

2. How political leaders raise demand of any community.

It is easier to accommodate demands that are within the constitutional framework and are not at the cost of another community. The demand for 'only Sinhala' was at the cost of the interest and identity of the Tamil community in Sri Lanka.

3. How government reacts to demands of different groups

If the rulers are willing to share power and accommodate the reasonable demands of minority community, as in Belgium, social divisions become less threatening for the country.



But if the demand is suppressed in the name of national unity, as in Sri Lanka, the end result is quite opposite. Such attempts at forced integration sow the seeds of disintegration.

3 Determinants



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DEMOCRACY AND DIVERSITY

MIND MAP

