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Q6(a)

Is annihilation of caste possible? Discuss the future of caste system in the light of various proactive measures taken by the Indian State.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2023 · Anthropology GS 2 · 20 marks · Caste system in India

3.2 Caste system in India-Structure and characteristics, Varna and caste, Theories of origin of caste system, Dominant caste, Caste mobility, Future of caste system, Jajmani system. Tribe-caste continuum.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

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Annihilation of Caste

Ambedkar's 1936 text arguing that caste cannot be ended by reforming Hindu custom alone.

Article 17

Abolishes untouchability and forbids its practice in any form.

PoA Act 1989

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, strengthened in 2015, as the main criminal tool against caste violence.

Indra Sawhney 1992

Structured OBC reservation, creamy layer, and the ordinary 50 percent ceiling.

73rd Amendment

Reserved panchayat seats for SC, ST, and women, creating a local official class from below.

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