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Q7(b)

Discuss the theories on the origin of caste system and its criticism in India. Differentiate between caste, class, and race.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2024 · Anthropology GS 2 · 15 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.

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-2/2024/discuss-the-theories-on-the-origin-of-caste-system-and-its-criticism-in-india-differentiate-between-caste-class-and-race/>

Risley

Colonial anthropometry; caste as racial barrier. Method and policy both discredited.

Dumont

Homo Hierarchicus: purity-pollution and status encompassing power as the ideology of caste.

Ambedkar

Caste as graded inequality maintained by endogamy and Brahmanical domination; annihilation, not reform of rank, as the political goal.

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