

WRAP Exams · wrapexams.com

Prelims PYQ, Mains model answers, and copy evaluation. Write to the desk for this paper, a doubt, or the AI waitlist.

ask@wrapexams.com · +91 85951 84903 · wrapexams.com

Q8

Do you think marriage as a sacrament in loosing its value in Modern India?

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2023 · GS I · 10 marks · Indian Society and Diversity

Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India.

Core demand of the question

- Do you think marriage as a sacrament in loosing its value in Modern India?
- Keep the official wording of the paper; answer the idea of whether sacramental marriage is losing value
- Take a reasoned yes-and-no position

Revision summary

Hindu custom treated marriage as a samskara; modern statutes treat it as a civil bond that can end in divorce.

Registration, later marriage, and some love and inter-caste unions weaken a purely sacred monopoly.

Most unions remain ritualised and endogamous, and divorce is still socially costly.

The fair view is loss of exclusive value, not disappearance.

Rights inside marriage matter more than declaring the sacrament dead.

Flow diagram

Samskara ritual -> Modern Indian marriage

HMA 1955 SMA 1954 divorce -> Modern Indian marriage

Modern Indian marriage -> Sacrament loses monopoly

Modern Indian marriage -> Endogamy ritual still hold

Conclusion

- Register every marriage, enforce the **Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006**, and the Protection of Women from **Domestic Violence Act, 2005**, without mocking ritual that couples still want.
- **Expand the Special Marriage Act** as a real option so sacrament and contract can coexist without coercion.

Sacramental marriage is losing exclusive authority because law, divorce, and choice now share the field. It still organises most Indian weddings through ritual and endogamy, so the task is equal rights inside marriage, not a forced funeral of ritual.

Facts & figures

Hindu Marriage Act, 1955

Codified Hindu marriage and listed grounds of divorce, moving status toward civil law.

Special Marriage Act, 1954

Civil marriage across religion without customary rites as a legal requirement.

Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006

Statute against child marriage, which undercuts forced early sacrament.

PWDVA, 2005

Protection of Women from **Domestic Violence Act**, which treats the household as a rights space.

NFHS marriage age

Successive NFHS rounds show a rise in age at marriage, especially in towns, without ending arranged marriage.

WRAP Exams · Write. Read. Analyse. Practice. · <https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/gs-1/2023/do-you-think-marriage-as-a-sacrament-in-losing-its-value-in-modern-india/> · ask@wrapexams.com · wrapexams.com