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Q5(b)

Critically examine the relevance of Vilfredo Pareto's theory of Circulation of Elites in the present scenario

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2021 · Sociology GS 1 · 10 marks · Sociology

Sociology - The Discipline: Modernity and social changes in Europe and emergence of sociology; Scope of the subject and comparison with other social sciences; Sociology and common sense.

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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Circulation of elites

Pareto: governing minorities replace one another; the mass does not become the government.

Lions and foxes

Types of elite rule by force and by cunning, cycling as residues decay.

Residues

Relatively stable sentiments; derivations are the justifications elites offer.

Mills

Power elite: interlocking command of state, corporation, and military in a later industrial order.

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