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Q2(b)**Differentiate between social hierarchy and social exclusion and substantiate your answer with reference to the caste system**

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2026 · Sociology GS 1 · 20 marks · Sociological Thinkers: Karl Marx

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Sociological Thinkers: Karl Marx - Historical materialism, mode of production, alienation, class struggle; Emile Durkheim - Division of labour, social fact, suicide, religion and society; Max Weber - Social action, ideal types, authority, bureaucracy, protestant ethic and the spirit of capitalism; Talcott Parsons - Social system, pattern variables; Robert K. Merton - Latent and manifest functions, conformity and deviance, reference groups; Mead - Self and identity.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round.

Constitution of India, Article 17

Abolishes 'untouchability' and forbids its practice in any form, providing the primary legal instrument against caste-based social exclusion.

Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955

Penalizes the enforcement of any disability arising from untouchability, converting traditional hierarchical exclusion into a cognizable offense.

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