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Q3(c)

Explain the different forms of untouchability in India.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2022 · Sociology GS 2 · 15 marks · Caste System

Caste System: Perspectives (G.S. Ghurye, M.N. Srinivas, Louis Dumont, Andre Beteille); Features of caste system; Untouchability - forms and perspectives.

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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Ambedkar

Treated untouchability as a structural feature of caste, to be annihilated, not politely reformed.

Article 17

Constitutional abolition of untouchability, given teeth by later civil rights and atrocity laws.

Manual scavenging

A persisting occupational form despite prohibitory legislation.

Dumont and Ambedkar

Purity ideology versus a political reading of exclusion; both describe forms, different morals follow.

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