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Q3(a)

Contextualize Louis Dumont's concept of 'binary opposition' with reference to caste system in India

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2023 · Sociology GS 2 · 20 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.

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/sociology-gs-2/2023/contextualize-louis-dumonts-concept-of-binary-opposition-with-reference-to-caste-system-in-india/>

Homo Hierarchicus

Dumont's 1966 account of caste as ideology organised by purity and pollution.

Homo hierarchicus / aequalis

Contrast of hierarchical man with the equal individual of modern ideology.

Marriott

Interactional transactions as the empirical face of rank.

Srinivas dominant caste

Local power can outrank priestly purity in village politics.

Beteille

Caste, class and power are related but distinct; equality is also an Indian value.

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