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Q5(d)**How do Louis Dumont and André Beteille differ in their approaches in understanding caste system in India? Explain.**

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2026 · Sociology GS 2 · 10 marks · Caste System

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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.

Homo Hierarchicus (Louis Dumont)

A seminal 1966 work by Louis Dumont that argues caste is a system of ideas and values, fundamentally based on the hierarchy of purity and pollution.

Caste, Class and Power (André Beteille)

A 1965 empirical study by André Beteille of a Tanjore village (Sripuram) demonstrating the changing patterns of stratification in rural India.

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