

UPSC: Previous Years' Questions

Paper I

4. Sociological Thinkers: Karl Marx

- Q. How do theories of Marx, Weber and Durkheim differ in understanding religion? Explain. (2025/20)
- Q. Highlight the main features of historical materialism as propounded by Marx. How far is this theory relevant in understanding contemporary societies? Explain. (2025/20)
- Q. Critically explain the salient features of 'alienation' as propounded by Karl Marx. (2024/10)
- Q. What is historical materialism? Examine its relevance in understanding contemporary societies. (2023/20)
- Q. What characterizes degradation of work in capitalist society according to Marx? (2022/20)
- Q. Critically examine the dialectics involved in each mode of production propounded by Karl Marx. (2021/20)
- Q. How does Marx view social conflict as an essential element in social change? (2020/20)
- Q. Critically assess the Marxian theory of 'Alienation'? (2020/10)
- Q. What is the Marxist concept of 'fetishism of commodities'? (2019/10)
- Q. What is 'reserve army of labour'? Present the position of feminist scholars on this. (2019/10)
- Q. Compare and Contrast the contributions of Marx and Weber on social stratification in capitalist society. (2019/20)
- Q. Does collapse of functionalism and bankruptcy of Marxism coincide with the rupture of modernity? Discuss. (2018/20)
- Q. According to Marx, how are human beings alienated from their human potential and what does he suggest to change this? (2018/20)
- Q. Analyse Marxian conception of historical materialism as a critique of Hegelian dialectics. (2017/20)
- Q. Evaluate Marx's ideas on mode of production. (2016/10)
- Q. Distinguish between the social organization of work in feudal society and in capitalist society. (2015/10)
- Q. Differentiate between Marxian and Weberian theories of Social Stratification. (2015/20)
- Q. For Marx, class divisions are outcomes of 'exploitation'. Discuss. (2014/10)

Q. What are the distinctive features of social organization of work in slave society? How is it different from feudal society? (2014/10)

Q. Identify the similarities and differences between Marx's theory of 'alienation' and Durkheim's theory of 'anomie'. (2014/20)

Q. Compare Karl Marx with Emile Durkheim with reference to the framework of 'division of labour'. (2013/20)

Q. Analyse the salient features of historical materialism. (2013/10)

Q. Some workers do not feel attachment for their work. Marx formed a theory for this situation, discuss that theory. (2012/20)

Q. In Marxian classification of society, feudal and slave societies are very important. How are they different from each other? (2012/20)

Q. Examine Karl Marx's views on 'class-in-itself' and 'class-for-itself' with reference to proletarians. (2010/30)

Q. Comment on the responses of the functionalist-school to Karl Marx's views on social change. (2009/30)

Q. Explain Karl Marx's analysis of capitalistic mode of production and class-struggle. What are the intellectual reactions to his views? (2007/60)

Q. Explain Karl Marx's 'theory of social change'. What are the reactions of functionalists to his views? (2006/60)

Q. Write short note: Class struggle as conceived by Karl Marx (2005/20)

Q. Write short note: Class-in-itself and Class-for-itself (2003/20)

Q. Explain Karl Marx's conception of class-antagonism. How have the functionalists reacted to his views? (2001/60)

Q. Write short note: Alienation (2000/20)

Q. "It is not the consciousness of men that determines their being, but on the contrary, it is their social being that determines their consciousness." Examine Karl Marx's notion of mode of production in the light of this statement. (1998/60)

Q. Explain the concept of social change. Critically examine the contribution of Karl Marx's theory of social change. (1997/60)

Q. Write short note: Mode of production (1996/20)

Q. "Subjective perception of the objective reality prepares the context for the articulation of class antagonism." Evaluate this statement with reference to Karl Marx's contribution. (1995/60)

Q. Critically examine Karl Marx's theory of alienation. (1994/60)

Q. Explain Karl Marx's theory of social stratification. On what grounds functionalists refute it? (1993/60)

Q. Critically bring out the differences in the approaches of Karl Marx and Max Weber to the study of class structure in industrial capitalist society. (1992/60)

Q. 'The history of the hitherto existing societies is the history of class struggle.' Critically comment on this Marxian thesis. (1991/60)

Q. How does Marx's treatment of alienation differ from that of other sociologists? (1990/60)

Q. Write short note: Alienation (1989/20)

Q. Attempt a comparative analysis of the Weberian and Marxian theories of social change. Which do you think is more relevant to the Indian society at present? Give reasons for your answer. (1988/60)

Q. Do you accept that Marxism offers a prefabricated theory of social change? Discuss critically. (1987/60)

Q. Write short note: Alienation (1987/20)

Q. Write short note: Historical materialism (1986/20)

Q. How is Marxism relevant to developing nations? Will it be able to establish classless societies? (1985/60)

Q. Write short note: Alienation in developing societies (1984/20)

Q. Discuss Marx's concept of class. Is class struggle inevitable for the elimination of inequalities and exploitation in the third world societies? (1984/60)

Q. Write short note: Alienation in modern society (1981/20)

Q. Analyse Marxian theory of social change. Is it useful to comprehend the changes in the developing societies? (1982/60)

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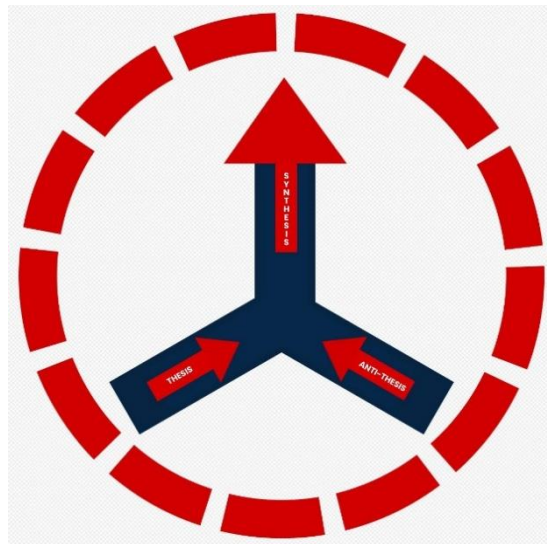
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