

UPSC: Previous Years' Questions

Paper I

4. Sociological Thinkers: Talcott Parsons

Q. What are the 'basic and irreducible' functions of the family as proposed by Talcott Parsons? Explain. (2024/10)

Q. Critically analyse Parsons' views on society as a social system. (2022/20)

Q. Do you think Talcott Parsons gave an adequate theory of social change? Justify your answer. (2021/10)

Q. Analyse the relevance of 'Pattern variables' in the study of social change. (2020/10)

Q. How can Parsons' AGIL framework be used to analyse key problems in a society? Discuss. (2018/20)

Q. Critically analyse Talcott Parsons' conception of 'Pattern Variables'. (2017/10)

Q. Describe the functional prerequisites of social system as given by Talcott Parsons. Examine in the context of a university as a social system. (2016/20)

Q. How is social equilibrium maintained in Parsonian framework? (2015/10)

Q. Examine the relevance of Parsonian Social System in the present society. (2013/10)

Q. Write short note on the following, keeping sociological perspective in view: Universalism vs. Particularism. (2012/12)

Q. Give conceptual meaning of social system. What is cognitive consonance between 'pattern variables' and 'paradigm'? (2011/30)

Q. Write short note on Cybernetic Hierarchy of Control. (2010/15)

Q. Write short note Talcott Parsons' idea of 'moving equilibrium'. (2009/20)

Q. Write short note: Relevance of pattern variables in the study of social change. (2008/20)

Q. Write short note: Talcott Parsons' concept of social system. (2007/20)

Q. Bring out a comparative analysis of Marxian and Parsonian views of social change and examine the relevance of each view for social development in the contemporary India. (2004/60)

Q. 'Socialization and social control are complementary to each other in maintaining social order.' – Elucidate your answer with appropriate illustrations. (2004/60)

- Q. Write short note: Social system and the Pattern Variables. (2003/20)
- Q. Write short note: Functional problems of the social system. (1999/20)
- Q. Discuss Talcott Parsons' contribution to the analysis of social system. (1997/60)
- Q. Discuss Talcott Parsons' contribution to the analysis of social change. (1996/60)
- Q. Write short note: The idea of functional indispensability. (1996/20)
- Q. State Talcott Parsons' contribution to theory of social action. What are the limitations of this theory? (1994/60)
- Q. Critically examine AGIL model of Talcott Parsons. How far is this model capable of explaining social changes in society? (1993/60)
- Q. Write short note: Concept of functional alternatives. (1993/20)
- Q. Write short note: Social determinants of economic development. (1993/20)
- Q. Write short note: Parsons' idea of equilibrium. (1992/20)
- Q. How does Parsons defend the nuclear family in promoting industrialization? Is his thesis universally valid? (1991/60)
- Q. Talcott Parsons' theory of social system has been criticized as a veiled status quoist ideology. Critically examine how valid and justified is this criticism. (1990/60)
- Q. Do you think that in T. Parsons there has been a 'transition from the analysis of the structure of social action as such to the structural-functional analysis of social systems'? Discuss in detail. (1987/60)
- Q. What is 'social action'? What is its place in the analytical frameworks of Max Weber and Talcott Parsons? (1986/60)

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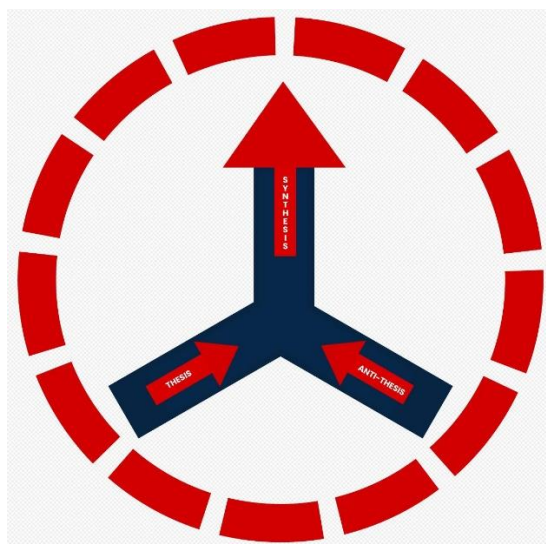
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