

Dialectics IAS

For One-To-One Mentorship

UPSC: Previous Years' Questions

Paper I	Topic 5. Gender
Paper I	Topic 9. Systems of Kinship
Paper II	B. (v) Systems of Kinship in India.
	C. (v). (b) Women's movement
	C. (vii). (c) Violence against women

Q. What is kinship? Briefly explain G. P. Murdock's contribution to the study of the kinship system. (2025/10)

Q. In what way does queer kinship challenge the traditional kinship system? Substantiate by giving illustrations. (2025/10)

Q. What do you understand by gender-based domestic division of labour? Is it undergoing a change in the wake of increasing participation of women in formal employment? Clarify your answer with illustrations. (2025/20)

Q. Give an account of the recent trends of marriage in the Indian context. How are these different from traditional practices? (2025/20)

Q. To what extent have the legal provisions been effective in curbing violence against women in India? Give your argument. (2024/20)

Q. Why is the study of marriage important in Sociology? Analyse the implications of changing marriage patterns for Indian society. (2024/20)

Q. Is patriarchy a key to understanding different forms of inequalities in Indian society? Elaborate. (2024/10)

Q. Do you think that family bondings are being affected by the changing kinship patterns in India? Comment. (2024/10)

Q. Modern families have not just become nuclear and neo-local, but also filiocentric. How do you explain this trend? (2024/20)

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

Q. Marriage as an institution has undergone a radical transformation from 'ritual' to 'commercial' in its outlook. Explain the factors behind this change. (2024/10)

- Q. Explain the thematic linkages between 'Patriarchy' and 'Honour killing' in India, citing some recent cases. (2023/20)
- Q. Discuss the nature of regional variations in sex-ratio in India, stating reasons thereof. (2023/10)
- Q. Define the concepts of 'Descent' and 'Alliance'. Differentiate between North Indian and South Indian Kinship systems with examples. (2023/20)
- Q. Analyse the role of market and modern forces in understanding the changing trends in marriage systems in India. (2023/10)
- Q. How do you assess the changing patterns in kinship relations in societies today? (2023/20)
- Q. Analyze critically David Morgan's views on family practices. (2023/10)
- Q. Does women's education help to eradicate patriarchal discriminations? Reflect with illustrations (2023/10)
- Q. Discuss law as an important instrument for women's empowerment. (2022/10)
- Q. Discuss the material basis of patriarchy as an ideological system. (2022/20)
- Q. Explain Leela Dube's concept of "Seed and Earth". (2022/10)
- Q. How do you understand the relationship between patriarchy and social development? (2022/10)
- Q. Discuss various theoretical perspectives on the family. (2022/10)
- Q. How do sociologists construct gender in their analysis on social inequality? (2022/10)
- Q. Urban settlements in India tend to replicate its caste-kinship imprints. Discuss the main reasons. (2021/20)
- Q. Does "economic empowerment" automatically bring about "substantive empowerment" for women? Briefly describe the main issues in women empowerment in India? (2021/10)
- Q. Discuss the changing dimensions of family structure in urban India. (2021/10)
- Q. Discuss different forms of kinship system in India. (2021/10)
- Q. Discuss the changing nature of kinship relations in the contemporary world. (2021/20)
- Q. Explain how the pattern of patriarchy is being altered in a family and at the workplace in the present context. (2021/20)
- Q. Analyze household dimensions of family in India. (2020/20)
- Q. Discuss the conceptual issues about lineage and descent in India. Give suitable illustrations. (2020/20)

- Q. What is the impact of gender division of labour on the development of society? (2020/20)
- Q. Does the institution of marriage continue to be sacred in Indian society? Comment. (2020/10)
- Q. Discuss the consequences of Across Region marriage on kinship system in modern Indian society. (2020/10)
- Q. In the light of judicial intervention on 'Live-in relationships', discuss the future of marriage and family in India. (2019/20)
- Q. Why is gender a dimension of social stratification? How does gender intersect other dimensions of inequality based on caste, class, race and ethnicity? (2019/20)
- Q. Feminist scholars argue that 'New media' is masculine and hence reinforces structural hierarchies rather than reconfiguring them. Comment. (2019/20)
- Q. What, according to Irawati Karve, are the major difference between North Indian and South Indian Kinship system? (2019/10)
- Q. What is 'reserve army of labour'? Present the position of feminist scholars on this. (2019/10)
- Q. What is POSH Act? "Identification of tormentor by women at workplace does not come easily even today". Examine the statement with substantive examples from India. (2019/20)
- Q. What do you understand by LGBTQ? Comment on the issues concerning their marriage rights. (2019/10)
- Q. Define patriarchy. Does it have bearings on women's entitlement in Indian family system? Explain. (2019/20)
- Q. Define patriarchy. How does patriarchy manifest in interpersonal relations? (2018/20)
- Q. Distinguish between family and household with reference to the concept of development of the household. (2018/20)
- Q. What are the new forms of families in developed societies? Discuss. (2018/10)
- Q. Write a note on the changing roles of middle-class women in India. (2018/10)
- Q. Assess the impact of ban on 'Triple Talak' on marriage and divorce among the Muslim community in India. (2018/10)
- Q. Western patriarchy which surrenders feminine principles is the development project in India. Do you agree with this view? Why? (2018/20)
- Q. Elaborate the 'Me Too' Movement and its impact in India. (2018/10)
- Q. Construct a sociological narrative on the increasing trend of child abuse in India. (2018/10)
- Q. Discuss the issues relating to the entitlement of transgender in Indian society. (2018/10)

- Q. Illustrate the importance of 'Kanyadan' and 'Kulabadhu' in changing institution of marriage and family. (2018/10)
- Q. Examine the 'patriarchal bargain' as gendered division of work in contemporary India. (2017/10)
- Q. Clarify the distinction between 'household' and 'family' and evaluate whether joint families have completely disintegrated. (2017/20)
- Q. Compare the North Indian Kinship System with the South Indian Kinship System. (2017/10)
- Q. What are the reasons for the escalation of violence against women in the public domain? (2017/10)
- Q. Examine the relationship between the contemporary trends in marriage and changing forms of family. (2017/20)
- Q. Discuss the regional variations of kinship system in Indian society. (2017/20)
- Q. Despite gains from the women's movement and state policy of women empowerment, gender equality is far from achieved. Identify two major challenges that prevent this goal from being reached. (2017/20)
- Q. To what extent is patriarchy a cause for the problems of women? Discuss. (2016/10)
- Q. Discuss the contemporary trends in family as a response to social change in modern society. (2016/20)
- Q. Distinguish between family and household as sociological concepts. (2016/10)
- Q. Patriarchy as a form of dominance. (2016/10)
- Q. Bring out the significance of the difference between family and household. (2016/20)
- Q. Comment on the factors behind the changing status of women in urban India? (2016/20)
- Q. Examine the impact of industrialization and urbanization on family structure. (2016/20)
- Q. Differential sex-ratio and its implications (2016/10)
- Q. How serious is the problem of trafficking against women and children in India? (2015/10)
- Q. Why is it necessary to implement PCPNDT Act in India? (2015/10)
- Q. What is patriarchy? How does it affect the child socialization pattern in India? (2015/20)
- Q. Broadly compare the kinship system of North and South India. (2015/10)
- Q. Write short note with a sociological perspective (in about 150 words):
Feminization of poverty (2015/10)

- Q. Give some of the important studies relating to the structural changes in the Indian family system. (2015/20)
- Q. How do the rules of descent and alliance in kinship differ from each other? Illustrate. (2015/10)
- Q. Define Patriarchy. How does it impact the overall entitlement of a girl child in India? (2015/10)
- Q. Is male authority absent in matrilineal society? Discuss. (2015/10)
- Q. To what extent the Muslim Personal Law Board is in agreement with Islamic feminist agenda? (2015/10)
- Q. Discuss the impact of post-1970 feminist movement on Indian middle class. (2015/20)
- Q. How did the emergence of industrial society change the family life in Western Europe? (2014/10)
- Q. What are the main features of the second wave of Women's movement in the Indian context? (2014/20)
- Q. According to Marx, capitalism transforms even the personal relationships between men and women. Critically examine with illustrations from the contemporary Indian context. (2014/10)
- Q. Critically examine the functionalist views on the institution of family. How do those help us in understanding family in the present times? (2014/20)
- Q. What do you understand by institutionalization of 'live-in-relationship'? (2014/10)
- Q. How is the increasing use of technology changing the status of women in Indian society? (2014/20)
- Q. Write short note with a sociological perspective (in about 150 words):
Types of kinship systems in India (2014/10)
- Q. Discuss the status of women among the emerging urban middle class. (2014/20)
- Q. Write short note with a sociological perspective (in about 150 words):
Trends of Infant Mortality Rate among females (2014/10)
- Q. Write short note with a sociological perspective (in about 150 words):
Domestic Violence Act, 2005 (2014/10)
- Q. What are the possible underlying causes of the spurt of increased violence against women in public spaces in the last decade? (2014/10)
- Q. What do you understand by gender? How does it shape 'male' 'identity'? (2014/20)
- Q. Analyse the gender bias in the present society with examples. (2013/10)
- Q. Is patriarchy a universal phenomenon? Critically examine how does patriarchy affects sexual division of labour in societies. (2013/20)
- Q. Analyse the contemporary trends in family with examples. (2013/10)

- Q. Examine the emerging trends in marriage and family as a response to the changes in economic and social order. (2013/20)
- Q. What are the main causes of female mortality in India? (2013/15)
- Q. Discuss the problems of working women in India. (2013/20)
- Q. Describe the importance of lineage and descent in kinship and family. (2012/20)
- Q. Show how family is distinct from household. (2012/30)
- Q. Describe those social changes which have contributed to increase of violence against women. What are the emerging forms of violence against women? Suggest suitable measures to contain this problem. (2012/30)
- Q. Write short note: The problem of Gender (2011/12)
- Q. Write short note on Lineage and Descent from a sociological perspective (in about 150 words). (2011/12)
- Q. What you mean be marriage and family? Discuss the structural and functional changes in family in modern society. (2011/20)
- Q. Write short note on: Structural factors behind violence against women (2011/15)
- Q. Write short note with a sociological perspective on: Women in the I.T. sector. (2010/20)
- Q. Write short note on Kinship and Social Capital (2010/15)
- Q. Discuss the emerging forms of marriage and family with examples from the West and the East. Can there be family without marriage? Examine. (2009/60)
- Q. Write short note on Industrialization and changes in the family's functions. (2009/20)
- Q. Write short note on: New trends in the types and forms of family in contemporary India. (2008/20)
- Q. Write short note on: Changing structure of family (2007/20)
- Q. Write short note: Problem of dowry (2007/20)
- Q. Write short note: Discrimination against women (2006/20)
- Q. Write short note on: Nuclear family and industrial society (2006/20)
- Q. Elucidate changing structure of family marriage in modern society. (2005/60)
- Q. Write short note on: Role of Family in Social Control (2005/20)
- Q. Write short note on: Gender Roles in Changing Structure of Family (2004/20)
- Q. Discuss the meanings and significance of culture In Human Society. Critically bring out the role of Culture in the Development of personality. (2004/20)

- Q. Write short note: Socio-cultural factors related to foeticide. (2004/20)
- Q. Discuss in detail atrocities on women and suggest annihilative measures for them. (2004/60)
- Q. Elaborate on the concepts of Family and Lineage. Discuss the relationship between Rules of descent and inheritance of property. (2003/60)
- Q. Distinguish between Sex and Gender issues with suitable examples. (2002/60)
- Q. In what way is the process of socialization helpful in the development of personality? Explain with suitable examples. (2002/60)
- Q. Write short note: Nature of atrocities on married women (2002/20)
- Q. Write short note: Incest taboo (2001/20)
- Q. Critically evaluate the existing welfare programmes for women in India. Have they benefited all sections of women in India? (2001/60)
- Q. Discuss the factors responsible for the changing structure of family in modern societies. (2000/60)
- Q. Write short note: Social correlates of prostitution (2000/20)
- Q. Write short note: Dowry as a social problem (1999/20)
- Q. Social control is more a matter of conviction than that of coercion, discuss the role of ideology in social control. (1999/60)
- Q. 'Socialization is a process by which all of us acquire the culture that we transmit to the next generation'. Elaborate the statement and discuss its various stages. (1998/60)
- Q. "Political and economic empowerment of women is necessary but not a sufficient condition for improving social status of women in India". Comment. (1998/60)
- Q. How far has education of women led to an improvement in their social status in the modern Indian society/ which other factors are related to the status of women in India? (1996/60)
- Q. Compare the role of custom as an agency of social control in primitive and modern industrial societies. (1996/60)
- Q. Write short note: Impact of changes in sex-role on family (1996/20)
- Q. What has been the impact of industrialisation on family and kinship organization? Illustrate the significance of kinship organization in the industrial societies. (1995/60)
- Q. Write short note: Primary group (1995/20)
- Q. Write short note: Role of culture (1995/20)

- Q. Explain the view that the nuclear family “fits” the needs of industrial society. Is it that the structure of nuclear family is the same in all industrial societies? (1994/60)
- Q. Give a brief account of the traditional sociological analysis of change in traditional family and kinship systems in the face of industrialisation. (1993/60)
- Q. Write short note: Muslim women and divorce (1993/20)
- Q. Bring out the relationship between culture and personality. Discuss with examples the differences in personalities in the same culture. (1993/60)
- Q. Write short note: Social consequences of increase in the rate of divorce (1992/20)
- Q. Write short note: Educational problem of rural women (1992/20)
- Q. Write short note: Common Civil Code and status of women (1991/20)
- Q. Write short note: Social control (1991/20)
- Q. Write short note: Socialization and personality (1990/60)
- Q. Analyse the socio-economic factors that continue to depress the position of women in Indian society. What steps have been taken to remedy the situation in recent years? (1989/60)
- Q. How do changes in the age and sex roles in the family affect the social structure itself? (1989/60)
- Q. Write short note: Structural principles of kinship (1988/20)
- Q. Write short note: Crimes against women (1987/20)
- Q. Discuss the changing value-orientations of women in the Indian middle class families. (1986/60)
- Q. Write short note: Divorce among the Muslims (1985/20)
- Q. How does culture influence personality? Can personality influence culture? How? (1985/60)
- Q. What are the agencies of social control? Which is the most effective one in a democratic society? (1985/60)
- Q. Analyse scientific theory of culture. Will the crisis in culture in the contemporary society facilitate the emergence of new man? (1984/60)
- Q. Discuss family as a basic and fundamental social institution. Do you think changing sex roles necessitate the replacement of family by another institution? (1984/60)
- Q. Write short note: Change in sex roles and the socialisation of children of children. (1984/20)
- Q. Write short note: The changing status of women (1984/20)

Under New UPSC Regulations

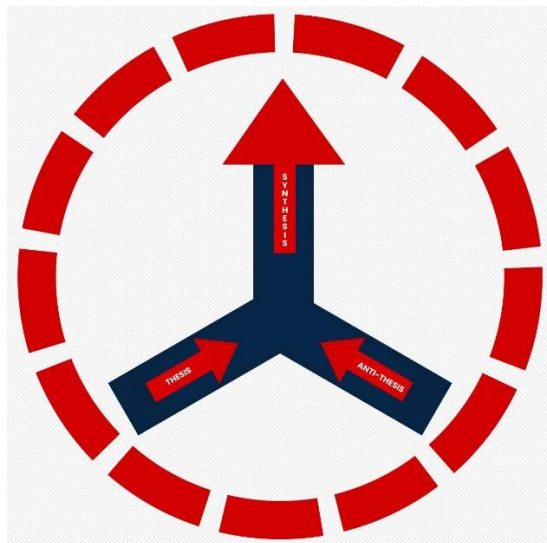
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