

Class X

Politics – Chapter – 3

DEMOCRACY AND DIVERSITY

1. What problem was raised by Tomy smith & John Carlos?

Receiving their gold & bronze medals these Americans wore black socks and no shoes to represent the black poverty. Black gloves and raised clenched fist meant to symbolize black power. With these gestures they tried to draw international attention to the prevailing racial discrimination in U.S.

2. On what basis social differences are created?

1. **Based on Accident of Birth:** Normally we don't choose to belong to one community. We belong to it simply because we were born into it.

2. **Based on physical abilities / disabilities:** there is discrimination based on gender, different kinds of complexion and tall or short. All kind of social difference is not based on accident of birth.

3. **Difference based on choices:** some people are atheist, they do not believe in god or any religion, while some people choose to follow a religion other than the one in which they were born into.

3. Discuss 3 factors that determine the outcome of politics of social divisions.

1. The outcome depends on how people perceive their identities.
2. The outcome depends on how political leaders raise the demands of any communities.
3. It depends on how the govt. reacts to the demands of different groups.

4. How do social differences overlap ?

1. It takes place when social division or social differences overlap each other.
2. The difference between blacks and whites becomes a social division in U.S. because the blacks tend to be poorer, homeless and discriminated against.
3. In India, Dalits tend to be poor and landless. They often face discrimination and injustice.

4. These kinds of situations produce social divisions when one kind of social difference becomes more important than the other and people start feeling that they belong to different communities.

5. Give examples to prove that social differences cross cut each other.

1. If social differences cross cut one another it is difficult to put one group of people against the other.
2. In N. Ireland class and religion overlap with each other. A catholic is more likely to be poor and they suffer discrimination.
3. In Netherlands, class and religion tend to cross cut each other. Catholics and protestants are both likely to be poor or rich. The result is that Catholics and protestants had conflicts in N.Ireland while they do not so in Netherland.

6. How do social divisions affect politics?give two examples.

Combination of politics and social divisions is very dangerous and explosive, if people start competing in terms of some existing social division. It can make social divisions into political divisions and lead to conflicts, violence and even disintegration of a country.

Example : Northern Ireland :

Its population is divided into 2 major groups of Christianity – 53 % are protestants while 44% are Roman catholics. Catholics were represented by Nationalist parties and the Protestants were represented by Unionists. There was fight between these 2 groups and only in 1998, they made a peace treaty.

Example : Yugoslavia

Political competition along religions and ethnic lines led to disintegration of Yugoslavia into 6 independent countries.