

Class-7 Civics Chapter- 1 On Equality

Exercises

1. In a democracy why is universal adult franchise important?

Answer : Universal Adult Franchise is important in democracy as:

- (i) It is based on the principle of equality.
- (ii) It means that all adult (those who are 18 and above) citizens have the equal right to vote.
- (iii) It do not discriminate on the basis of social or economic backgrounds.
- (iv) It is an important aspects of democratic societies

2. Re-read the box on Article 15 and state two ways in which this Article addresses inequality?

Answer : Article 15 in democracy of the constitution prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth. Two ways in which this Article addresses inequality:

- (i) It suggests States not to discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them.
- (ii) No citizen shall be subject to any disability, liability and restriction on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them.

3. In what ways was Omprakash Valmiki's experience similar to that of the Ansaris?

Answer : In following ways Omprakash Valmiki's experience was similar to that of the Ansaris:

- (i) Both of them discriminated by the society on the basis of their caste or religion.
- (ii) Dignity and self respect of both of them get violated.
- (iii) Both suffered from unequal treatment.

4. What do you understand by the term "all persons are equal before the law"? Why do you think it is important in a democracy?

Answer : The term "all persons are equal before the law" means that everyone will be given justice before law by treating them equal. From the President of the country to the common people, all are equal in front of law. It is important in a democracy because:

- (i) Democracy suggests that no one should be treated on unequal basis because of their wealth caste, colour, religion, gender etc.
- (ii) It also ensures that no one will be given more preference for the same crime.
- (iii) It provide the people equal opportunity to defend themselves in public court irrespective of their socioeconomic position.
- (iv) It also reflects the true nature of democracy.

Q1. Fill in the blanks.

- i. India is a _____ country.
- ii. _____ is a key feature of democracy.
- iii. The idea of _____ is based on the idea of equality.
- iv. Every person is _____ before the law.

Q2. True/False

- i. One of the more common forms of inequality in India is the caste system.
- ii. Every person should not be treated with dignity. _____
- iii. Establishing equality in a democratic society is a continuous struggle. _____

Q3. Which was the first state in India to introduce mid-day-meal scheme?

Ans. Tamil Nadu was the first state in India to introduce this scheme.

Q4. What is Joothan?

Ans. Joothan is autobiography of a famous Dalit writer Omprakash Valmiki.

Q5. Why do you think the Ansaris were being treated unequally?

Ans. Ansaris is being treated unequally on the basis of differences of religion.

Q6. What do you understand by 'dignity'?

Ans. This refers to thinking of oneself and other persons as worthy of respect.

Q7. What are common forms of inequality that exist in India? Ans. Common forms of inequality in India are the inequality based on caste system and religion.

Q8. What is the midday meal programme?

Ans. This refers to the programme introduced in all government elementary schools to provide children with cooked lunch.

Q9. What property dealer suggested to Mr. Ansari?

Ans. The property dealer suggested them to change their names and call themselves Mr and Mrs Kumar.

Q10. What are the factors on the basis of which inequality is being practiced in India?

Ans. Inequality is being practiced in India on the basis of caste, religion, disability, sex (male or female) and economic status.

Q11. Why do you think Omprakash Valmiki was being treated unequally by his teacher and his classmates?

Ans. Omprakash Valmiki is being treated unequally on the basis of differences of caste.

Q6. What is constitution?

Ans. This is a document that lays down the basic rules and regulations for people and the government in the country to follow.