



## INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

<b>Class: IX</b>	<b>Department: SOCIAL SCIENCE</b>	<b>Date of submission</b>
<b>QUESTION BANK</b>	<b>Topic: CONSTITUTIONAL DESIGN ( Democratic Politics)</b>	<b>Year: 2021-22</b>

### **Q.1. What was the condition of the blacks under the apartheid system in South Africa?**

**Ans:** The conditions of the blacks under the apartheid system in South Africa were as given below:

- They were forbidden from living in White areas.
- They could work in white areas only if they had a permit.
- Trains, buses, taxis, hotels, schools, hospitals etc. were all separate for the whites and the blacks.
- They could not even visit the churches where the Whites worshipped.
- Blacks could not form associations or protest against any ill treatment.

### **Q.2. Who were the people fought against the apartheid? What were the effects of the struggle?**

- The blacks, the colored and the Indians fought against the apartheid system.
- The African National Congress led the struggle against the apartheid policies of segregation.
- Many workers and unions and Communist Party joined the struggle.
- Many Whites who condemned the system also joined the ANC to oppose apartheid and played an important role in this struggle.
- Several countries too denounced apartheid as unjust and racist.

**Effects:** As the protests and struggles against apartheid intensified, the White minority government felt that it was not possible to keep the blacks under control through repressive policies. So they took the following steps:

- Discriminatory laws were repealed.
- Ban on political parties and restrictions on the media were lifted.
- Nelson Mandela was released after 28 years of imprisonment.
- Finally, on 26 April 1994, Republic of South Africa came into existence.

### **Q3. What were the objectives of black majority and the white minority in South Africa at the time of making the Constitution? How did they compromise to achieve those objects?**

**Ans:** The black majority was keen to have the democratic principle of majority rule in the country and to have social and economic rights.

- The white minority wanted to protect the privileges and property.  
The compromise was reached as given below:
- The whites agreed on the principle of majority rule and that of one person, one vote value. Some basic rights will be given to the poor and the workers.
- The blacks agreed that the majority rule will not be absolute. They also agreed that the majority would not take away the property of the whites.

**Q.4. Why do we need a Constitution?**

**OR**

**What are the functions of the Constitution?**

**OR**

**“A Constitution does many things” Justify the statement**

**Ans:**

- It generates a degree of trust and coordination for the people living together.
- It specifies how the government will be constituted, who will have the power to take which decisions.
- It lays down limits on the powers of the government and tells us about the rights of the citizens.
- It expresses the aspirations of the people creating a good society.

**Q5. Describe the basic ideas that were accepted by almost everyone in India even before the Constitution Assembly met to frame the Constitution?**

**Ans:**

- In India although there were sharp differences of opinion within the freedom struggle about the path India should take after independence yet some ideas had to be accepted by almost everyone:
- In 1928 Motilal Nehru and eight Congress leaders drafted a constitution that is known as Nehru Report.
- Again in 1931 the resolution in the Karachi Session dealt with the future constitution of Independent India.
- These two documents -Nehru Report and Resolution at the Karachi session included Universal adult franchise, right to freedom and equality and protecting the rights of the minorities.

**Q6. Describe the composition of the Constituent Assembly. How much time it took to frame the Indian Constitution?**

**Ans:**

- Election to the constituent Assembly was held in July 1946. Its first meeting was in Dec.1946. After the division of the country into India and Pakistan the assembly was also divided into the Constituent Assembly of India and Constituent Assembly of Pakistan.
- The Constituent Assembly of India had 299 members.
- It took 2yrs, 11months and 18 days to frame the constitution. The members deliberated for 114 days.
- The Constituent Assembly adopted the constitution on 26<sup>th</sup> Nov.1949. It came into effect on 26<sup>th</sup> Jan. 1950 which celebrated as Republic Day.

**Q7. What are the reasons for accepting the constitution framed by the Constituent Assembly more than fifty years ago?**

**Ans:**

- The constitution reflects the views of its members as well as it expresses a broad consensus of its time. During the last 50 years, several groups have questioned some provisions of the constitution but no one has ever questioned the legitimacy of the constitution itself.
- The constituent assembly represented the people of all regions, political groups and opinions, different language groups, classes, castes, religion of the country. There was no universal adult franchise and the members were elected by the provincial legislatures.

- The assembly was dominated by the Congress which represented a variety of political groups and opinions.
- The constituent assembly worked in a systematic, open and consensual manner thus giving sanctity to the constitution.

**Q8. What is the philosophy of the Indian Constitution?**

**OR**

**What is a Preamble? Why is it called the “soul of the Indian Constitution”?**

**Ans:** The Constitution begins with a short statement of its basic values. This is called the Preamble to the constitution.

- It contains the philosophy on which the entire constitution has been built.
- The preamble provides a standard to examine and evaluate any law and action of government to find out whether it is good or bad. It is the soul of the constitution.
- The preamble mentions people as source of the constitution.
- It states that India is a sovereign, socialist, secular and democratic republic. It provides justice, liberty, equality and fraternity for the people.

**Q9. Describe how the Indian Constitution has embodied the basic values into institutional arrangements.**

**OR**

**What are the constitutional amendments?**

**Ans:** A constitution is not merely a statement of values and philosophy. A constitution is mainly about embodying these values into institutional arrangements.

- Indian constitution is a very long and detailed document. Therefore, it needs to be amended quite regularly to keep it updated.
- Those who crafted the Indian Constitution felt that it has to be in accordance with people’s aspirations and changes in society.
- They did not see it as a sacred, static and unalterable law. So, they made provisions to incorporate changes from time to time. These changes are called constitutional amendments.
- Like any constitution, it lays down a procedure for choosing persons to govern the country. It defines who will have how much power to take which decision. It puts limits to what the government can do by providing some rights to the citizens that cannot be violated.

**Q10. Describe the main features of the preamble to the Constitution of India.**

**OR**

**Write any five guiding values of the Indian Constitution.**

**Ans:** WE, THE PEOPLE WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA: The constitution has been drawn up and enacted by the people through their representatives, and not handed down to them by a king or any outside.

- **SOVEREIGN:** People have supreme right to make decisions on internal as well as external matters. No external power can dictate the government of India.
- **SOCIALIST:** Wealth is generated socially and should be shared equally by society. Government should regulate the ownership of land and industry to reduce socio-economic inequalities.
- **SECULAR:** Citizens have complete freedom to follow any religion. But there is no official religion. Government treats all religious beliefs and practices with equal respect.

- **DEMOCRACY:** A form of government where people enjoy equal political rights, elect their rulers and hold them accountable. The government is run according to some basic rules. **REPUBLIC:** The head of the state is an elected person and not a hereditary position.
- **JUSTICE:** Citizens cannot be discriminated on the grounds of caste, religion and gender. Social inequalities have to be reduced. Government should work for the welfare of all, especially of the disadvantaged groups.
- **LIBERTY:** There are no unreasonable restrictions on the citizens in what they think, how they wish to express their thoughts and the way they wish to follow up their thoughts in action.
- **EQUALITY:** All are equal before the law. The traditional social inequalities have to be ended. The government should ensure equal opportunity for all.
- **FRATERNITY:** All of us should behave as if we are members of the same family. No one should treat a fellow citizen as an inferior.

**Q11. What did Mahatma Gandhi want the constitution to do as expressed in his magazine Young India in 1931?**

**Ans:**

- Poorest to feel to be in their own country and have effective voice.
- No high or low class of people.
- Perfect harmony among various communities.
- No place for untouchability or intoxicating drinks and drugs.
- Equal rights for men and women.

**Q.12. The Constitution of S. Africa is called “Rainbow Constitution” Give reasons.**

**Ans:** It is one of the finest Constitution in the world which could satisfy all the needs and aspirations of the Blacks, the Whites and the Mixed races called the “Coloured” South Africa is a land of diverse population, Hence the constitution South Africa is called the “Rainbow Constitution”.