BA (H) Sociology
Core Course 02
Sociology of India I

Course Objectives:

1.   Introduction to images and ideas of India.

2.   Understanding key concepts and institutions of Indian society.

Course Learning Outcomes:

1. The course lays the foundation of viewing images and ideas of India through a sociological lens. It further investigates sociological concepts and institutions in the Indian context.

2. Through informed interrogation of images, ideas, concepts and institutions of India, the course contributes to the development of critical and analytical thinking.

3. The course, supported by an inter-disciplinary approach, facilitates learning and reflecting about the multiple – and contextual – socio-cultural registers of Indian society.

4. Given the high standard/quality of the syllabus and use of innovative teaching-learning methods, the course prepares students to successfully compete in global academia.

Course Outline:

Unit 1: Images and Ideas of India [Weeks 1-3]

> **1.1 India: Pre-Colonial and Colonial Images**

> **1.2 Idea of India I: M.K. Gandhi**

> **1.3 Idea of India II: B.R. Ambedkar**

Unit 2: Indian Society: Concepts and Institutions [Weeks 4-14]

> **2.1.   Caste: Concept and Critique**

> **2.2.   Agrarian Classes**

> **2.3.   Industry and Labour**

> **2.4.   Tribe: Profile and Location**

> **2.5.   Village: Structure and Change**

> **2.6.   Kinship: Principle and Pattern**

2.7. **Religion and Society**

Course Content

Unit 1: Images and Ideas of India [Weeks 1-4]

1.1. India: The Colonial Image

Dube, S.C. 1990, *Indian Society*. Delhi: National Book Trust, Pp. 1-28

Cohn, B.S., 1990, *An Anthropologist among the Historians and Other Essays*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 136-171.

1.2. Idea of India I: M.K. Gandhi

Gandhi, M.K., 1938, *Hind Swaraj*. Ahmedabad: Navjivan Publishing House.

1.3. Idea of India II: B.R. Ambedkar

Ambedkar, B.R., 1971 [1936], *Annihilation of Caste*. Jullender: Bheem Patrika.

Unit 2: Indian Society: Concepts and Institutions [Weeks 5-14]

2.1. Caste: Concept and Critique

Srinivas, M.N., 1969, "The Caste System in India", in A. Beteille (ed.) *Social Inequality: Selected Readings*. Harmondsworth: Penguin Books, Pp. 265-272.

Mencher, J., 1991, "The Caste System Upside Down", in D. Gupta (ed.), Social Stratification. Delhi: Oxford University Press, Pp. 93-109.

2.2. Agrarian Classes

Dhanagare, D.N., 1991, "The Model of Agrarian Classes in India", in D. Gupta (ed.), *Social Stratification.* Delhi: Oxford University Press, Pp. 271-275.

2.3. Industry and Labour

Breman, J., 1999, "The Study of Industrial Labour in Post Colonial India: The Formal Sector", *Contributions to Indian Sociology*, 33(1&2), pp.1-41.

2.4. Tribe: Profile and Location

Xaxa, V., 2011, Tribes and Social Exclusion (*Occassional Paper*, No. 2). Calcutta: CSSSC-UNICEF, Pp. 1-18.

2.5.   Village: Structure and Change

Madan, V., 2002, "Introduction" in V. Madan (ed.), *The Village in India*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, Pp. 1-26.

2.6.   Kinship: Principle and Pattern

Karve, I., 1994, "The Kinship Map of India", in P. Uberoi (ed.), *Family, Kinship and Marriage in India.* Delhi: Oxford University Press, Pp.50-73.

2.7.   Religion and Society

Srinivas, M.N. and A.M. Shah., 1968,   "Hinduism", in D.L. Sills (ed.), *The International Encyclopaedia of Social Sciences*, Volume 6. New York: Macmillan, Pp. 358-366.

Momin, A.R., 1977, "The Indo Islamic Tradition", *Sociological Bulletin*, 26, Pp. 242-258.

Uberoi, J.P.S., 1991, "Five Symbols of Sikh Identity", in T.N. Madan (ed.), *Religion in India*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, Pp. 320- 332.

References

Compulsory Readings:

Ambedkar, B.R., 1971 [1936], *Annihilation of Caste*. Jullender: Bheem Patrika.

Breman, J., 1999, "The Study of Industrial Labour in Post-Colonial India: The Formal Sector", *Contributions to Indian Sociology*, 33(1&2).

Cohn, B.S., 1990, *An Anthropologist among the Historians and Other Essays*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Dhanagare, D.N., 1991, "The Model of Agrarian Classes in India", in D. Gupta (ed.), *Social Stratification*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Dube, S.C. 1990, *Indian Society*. Delhi: National Book Trust, Pp. 1-28

Gandhi, M.K., 1938, *Hind Swaraj*. Ahmedabad: Navjivan Publishing House.

Karve, I., 1994, "The Kinship Map of India", in P. Uberoi (ed.), *Family, Kinship and Marriage in India.* Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Madan, V., 2002, "Introduction" in V. Madan (ed.), *The Village in India*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Mencher, J., 1991, "The Caste System Upside Down", in D. Gupta (ed.), *Social Stratification*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Momin, A.R., 1977, "The Indo Islamic Tradition", *Sociological Bulletin*, 26.

Srinivas, M.N. and A.M. Shah., 1968, "Hinduism", in D.L. Sills (ed.), *The International Encyclopaedia of Social Sciences,* Volume 6. New York: Macmillan.

Srinivas, M.N., 1969, "The Caste System in India", in A. Beteille (ed.), *Social Inequality: Selected Readings.* Harmondsworth: Penguin Books.

Uberoi, J.P.S., 1991, "Five Symbols of Sikh Identity", in T.N. Madan (ed.), *Religion in India.* Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Xaxa, V., 2011, Tribes and Social Exclusion (*Occassional Paper, No. 2*). Calcutta: CSSSC-UNICEF.

Additional Resources:

Books and Articles:

Caplan, L., 1991, "Christian Fundamentalism as Counter-Culture", in T.N. Madan (ed.), *Religion in India*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Dube, L., 1988, "On the Construction of Gender: Hindu Girls in Patrilineal India", in K. Chanana (ed.), *Socialization, Education and Women: Explorations in Gender Identity*. New Delhi: Orient Longman, Pp.166-192.

Haimendorf, C.V.F., 1967, "The Position of Tribal Population in India", in P. *Mason India and Ceylon: Unity and Diversity*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Nehru, J.L., 1945, *The Discovery of India*. Bombay: Asia Publishing House.

Srinvas, M.N., 1987, *The Dominant Caste and Other Essays*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Audio-Visual Material:

Select Films (any three):

Pather Panchali (1955; Dir: Satyajit Ray)

Sadgati (1984; Dir: Satyajit Ray)

Do Bigha Zameen (1953; Dir: Bimal Roy)

 Mother India (1957; Dir: Mehboob Khan)

 Mrigaya (1976; Dir: Mrinal Sen)

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar (2000; Dir: Jabbar Patel)

 Gandhi (1982; Dir: Richard Attenborough)

Teaching Learning Process:

This course has been designed keeping the student at the centre of teaching-learning process. The readings are exciting to young students, for they are able to connect these and the subjects examined therein with reality. Students are encouraged to read and the teacher participates in the reading process and the discussion which follows. The teacher, therefore, engages in active rather than passive pedagogy. Collective/team reading helps in understanding conceptual questions plus details present in the essays. The value of ethical awareness and responsibility, which is one of the important elements of lifelong learning, is treated as pivotal to the teaching-learning process. The use of digital aids contributes further to classroom interaction and excitement for learning.

Assessment Methods:

Assessment in this course, both internal and external, will include mid-semester tests, written assignments/term papers, team/individual projects, class presentations and University of Delhi conducted end-semester examination.

Keywords:

Images and ideas of India, Indology, orientalism, census, construction of communities, modernity, caste, class, rural, urban, village, tribe, kinship, marriage and family, religion, gender.