Polity & Governance · GS - II

Discuss the importance of social harmony and constitutional values in maintaining India's unity amid caste, religious and regional differences.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 20/10/2026	GS - II	Polity & Governance

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Constitutional morality, secularism, equality, fraternity, Articles 14 and 25, freedom of expression, social justice, pluralism, dialogue, inclusive development.

Model Answer

Introduction

India's diversity is a defining feature of its society. Social harmony requires respect for differences, equal citizenship and commitment to constitutional principles.

Importance of Social Harmony

- **National integration:** Mutual respect among communities strengthens social cohesion and reduces the risk of conflict.
- **Equality and justice:** Articles 14 and 15 prohibit discrimination on specified grounds and support equal citizenship.
- **Religious freedom:** Article 25 protects freedom of conscience and religious practice, subject to constitutional limitations.
- **Fraternity:** The Preamble emphasises fraternity to promote individual dignity and national unity.

Challenges

Caste discrimination, communal polarisation, regional tensions and misinformation can undermine trust. Social unity can also be weakened when dissent or minority concerns are dismissed rather than addressed through dialogue.

Way Forward

Education in constitutional values, impartial law enforcement, inclusive public policies and inter-community dialogue can strengthen social cohesion. Peaceful dissent should be respected, while incitement to violence and unlawful discrimination must be addressed under the law.

Conclusion

India's unity is best sustained through constitutional morality, equal rights and mutual respect. A pluralistic society becomes stronger when diversity and democratic freedoms are protected together.

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