

UNIVERSAL CONVENT SR. SEC. SCHOOL, KId.CLASS - VII SOCIAL SCIENCE [SOCIAL AND
POLITICAL LIFE]CHAPTER - 1 ON EQUALITY

→ ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS :

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

Ans. In a democracy, a universal adult franchise is important as it is based on the idea of equality. It states that every adult in a country, irrespective of their wealth and the communities she/he belongs to, has one vote.

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

Ans. Article 15 addresses inequality in

terms of discrimination based on religion, race, caste, gender, place of birth etc.

It also addresses that the fact that the use of public places such as wells, tanks, bathing ghats, roads under full or partial government funding are not subject to discrimination based on the criteria's mentioned above.

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

Ans. Omprakash Valmiki was discriminated on the account of his caste, while the Ansaris were discriminated on account of their religion. The core similarity is that they both were discriminated because of their birth, which is prohibited under Article 15.

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

Ans. The statement means that every citizen, be it from the Prime Minister or President to a daily labourer, is equal in the eyes of the law. No one can be or will be discriminated on the basis of their birth such as religion, gender, caste etc.

Equality is the soul of democracy. We know that democracy is a form of government which gives equal importance and recognition to all. If inequalities exist, democracy would never flourish.

5. Define the following terms:

(a) UNIVERSAL ADULT FRANCHISE

It means that all adult (those who are 18 and above) citizens

have the right to vote irrespective of their social or economic backgrounds.

(b) DIGNITY

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

(c) CONSTITUTION

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

(d) CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

A movement that began in USA in 1950s in which African-American people demanded equal rights and an end to racial discrimination.