

Name: _____ Date: _____

Understanding Secularism

Q1. Explain the concept of 'principled distance'.

Ans. _____

Q2. How are non-Muslims treated in Saudi Arabia?

Ans. _____

Q3. What is meant by the word 'establishment'?

Ans. _____

Q4. What is the most important aspect of secularism? State its importance.

Ans. _____

Q5. "The government cannot force Sikhs to wear a helmet while driving two wheelers." Give reason.

Ans. _____

Q6. What provision has been made by the government to follow religious equality in government spaces, schools and offices?

Ans. _____

Understanding Secularism

Q1. Explain the concept of 'principled distance'.

Ans. This means that any interference in religion by the State has to be based on the ideals laid out in the Constitution.

Q2. How are non-Muslims treated in Saudi Arabia?

Ans. In Saudi Arabia, non-Muslims are not allowed to build a temple, church etc., and nor can they gather in a public place for prayers.

Q3. What is meant by the word 'establishment'?

Ans. The word 'establishment' means that the legislature cannot declare any religion as the official religion. Nor can they give preference to one religion.

Q4. What is the most important aspect of secularism? State its importance.

Ans. The most important aspect of secularism is its separation of religion from State power. This is important for a country to function democratically.

Q5. "The government cannot force Sikhs to wear a helmet while driving two wheelers." Give reason.

Ans. This is because the Indian State recognises that wearing a pugri (turban) is central to a Sikh's religious practice and in order not to interfere with this, allows an exception in the law.

Q6. What provision has been made by the government to follow religious equality in government spaces, schools and offices?

Ans. In India, government spaces like law courts, police stations, government schools and offices are not supposed to display or promote any one religion. Government schools cannot promote any one religion either in their morning prayers or through religious celebrations.