

Name: _____ Date: _____

Understanding Secularism

Q1. Give one example to prove that the Indian secular state can intervene to prevent the religious domination concerning different groups of the same religion.

Ans. _____

Q2. List the different types of religious practice that you find in your neighbourhood. This could be different forms of prayer, worship of different gods, sacred sites, different kinds of religious music and singing etc. Does this indicate freedom of religious practice?

Ans. _____

Understanding Secularism

Q1. Give one example to prove that the Indian secular state can intervene to prevent the religious domination concerning different groups of the same religion.

Ans. We can prove this fact with following example: Where members of the same religion ('upper-caste' Hindus) dominate other members (some 'lower castes') within it. In order to prevent this religion-based exclusion and discrimination of 'lower castes', the Indian Constitution banned untouchability. In this instance, the State is intervening in religion in order to end a social practice that it believes discriminates and excludes, and that violates the Fundamental Rights of 'lower castes' who are citizens of this country.

Q2. List the different types of religious practice that you find in your neighbourhood. This could be different forms of prayer, worship of different gods, sacred sites, different kinds of religious music and singing etc. Does this indicate freedom of religious practice?

Ans. The various types of religious practice found in our neighbourhood are:

- i. Hindu performing Puja and Havan
- ii. Muslims offering Namaz
- iii. Sikhs visiting Gurudwara
- iv. Christians praying in Church

There are churches, gurudwaras, mosques and temples in our neighbourhood. People of different cultures and religions stay together and celebrate festivals. This indicates that all the citizens are able to practice their religion with freedom in secular environment.