

Name: _____ Date: _____

Understanding Marginalisation

Q1. You are participating in a debate where you have to provide reasons to support the following statement: 'Muslims are a marginalised community'. Using the data provided in this chapter, list two reasons that you would give.

Ans. _____

Q2. What were the hardships faced by the Adivasis?

Ans. _____

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Ans. Two reasons in support of the statement "Muslims are a marginalized community":

- i. The Muslim community has not been able to gain from the country's socio-economic development as statistics on basic amenities, literacy rate and public employment. 63.6% Muslims live in kutcha houses as compared to only 55.2% Hindus; the literacy rate amongst Muslims was the lowest at 59% in a 2001 survey.
- ii. Their customs are distinct from other religious communities, so much so that they are identified as separate from the "rest of us" leading to unfair treatment and discrimination against Muslims.

Q2. What were the hardships faced by the Adivasis?

Ans. Hardships faced by the Adivasis were;

- i. Forest lands have been cleared for timber and to get land for agriculture and industry.
- ii. Adivasis have also lived in areas that are rich in minerals and other natural resources. These are taken over for mining and other large industrial projects.
- iii. Huge tracts of their lands have also gone under the waters of hundreds of dams that have been built in independent India.
- iv. In the North east, their lands remain highly militarised and war-torn.
- v. India has 54 national parks and 372 wildlife sanctuaries. These are areas where tribals originally lived but were evicted from.
- vi. Losing their lands and access to the forest means that tribals lose their main sources of livelihood and food.
- vii. Adivasis have migrated to cities in search of work where they are employed for very low wages in local industries or at building or construction sites.
- viii. They, thus, get caught in a cycle of poverty and deprivation.