LOTUSARISE IAS

MAINS 2027 EDITION

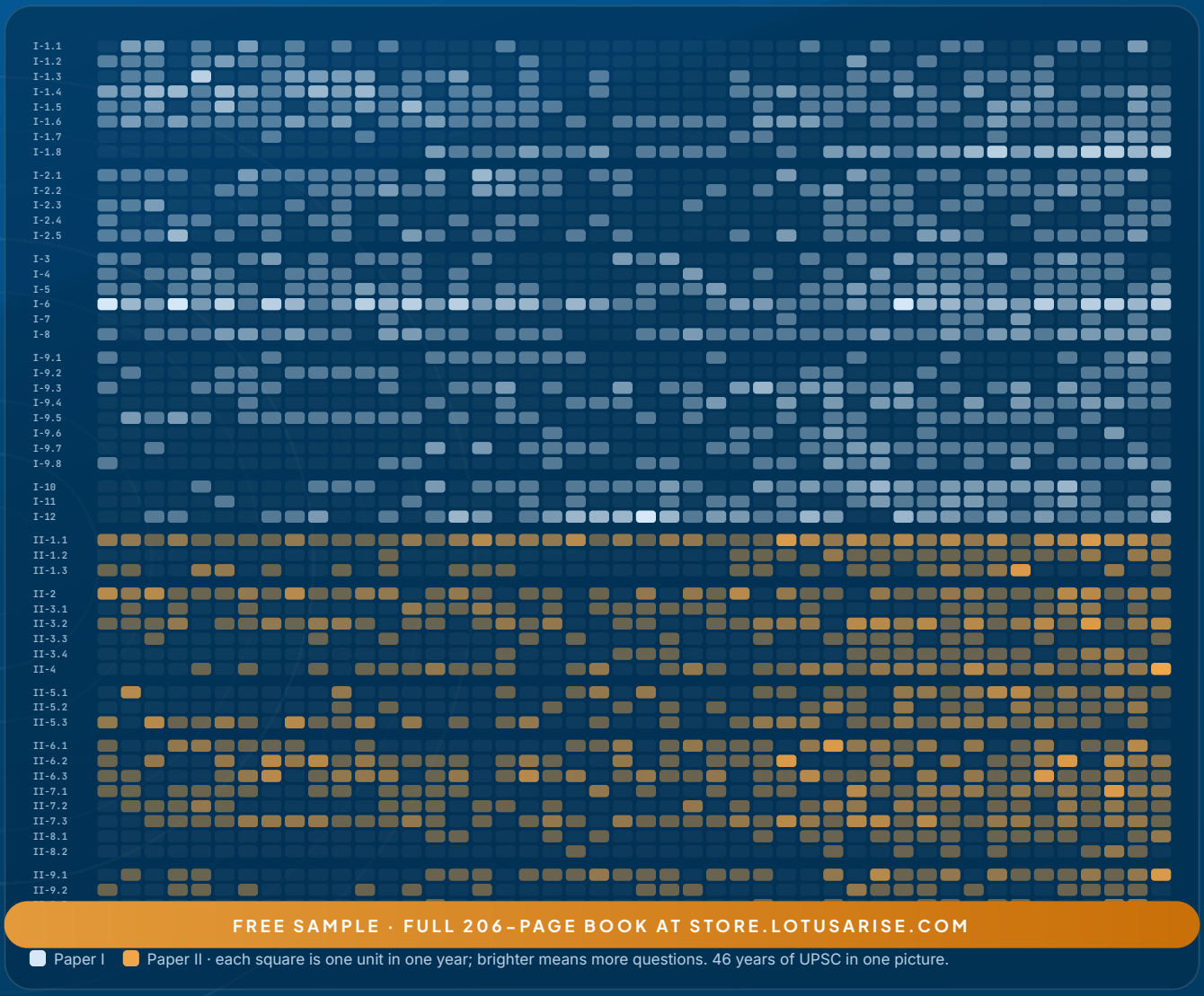
UPSC CSE MAINS · ANTHROPOLOGY OPTIONAL · PAPER I & II

Previous Year Questions

Topic-wise 1981–2026 + **Year-wise** 2014–2026

All 53 syllabus units of Anthropology, from the meaning of the discipline to tribal policy, every question paper since 2014 with its marks, and a ten-year pattern analysis of what UPSC asks.

COMPILED BY | **Arvind KrS**



1,855
questions sorted into units

53
syllabus units, both papers

26
full papers, 2014–2026

10
years of pattern charts

Contents

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How to use this book. Learn topic-wise, test year-wise. Units follow the UPSC syllabus numbering (Paper I 1.1 to 12, Paper II 1.1 to 9.3). Work through a unit's questions after you finish it, newest first, then sit full papers against the clock.

PAPER I · FOUNDATIONS OF ANTHROPOLOGY

FOUNDATIONS, HUMAN EVOLUTION AND PREHISTORY

1.1	Meaning, scope and development	19	13
1.2	Relationships with other disciplines	14	15
1.3	Main branches of Anthropology	29	17
1.4	Human evolution and emergence of man	53	19
1.5	Primates	40	23
1.6	Fossil hominids	49	26
1.7	Biological basis of life	11	30
1.8	Prehistoric archaeology and cultures	57	31

CULTURE, SOCIETY, MARRIAGE, FAMILY AND KINSHIP

2.1	Nature of culture	37	35
2.2	Nature of society	31	38
2.3	Marriage	17	41
2.4	Family	20	43
2.5	Kinship	33	45

ECONOMY, POLITY, RELIGION, THEORY AND METHOD

3	Economic organization	30	48
4	Political organization and social control	26	51
5	Religion	39	54
6	Anthropological theories	115	57
7	Culture, language and communication	8	63
8	Research methods	55	64

HUMAN GENETICS

9.1	Human genetics: methods	17	68
9.2	Mendelian genetics in man	14	70
9.3	Polymorphism and Hardy-Weinberg	38	72
9.4	Chromosomal aberrations	30	75
9.5	Race and racism	29	78
9.6	Genetic markers	11	81
9.7	Ecological anthropology	25	83
9.8	Epidemiological anthropology	23	85

GROWTH, DEMOGRAPHY AND APPLIED ANTHROPOLOGY

10	Human growth and development	46	87
11	Fertility and demography	24	90
12	Applications of anthropology	65	92

PAPER II · INDIAN ANTHROPOLOGY

INDIAN CULTURE, CIVILIZATION AND PREHISTORY

1.1	Indian culture and civilization	91	96
1.2	Palaeo-anthropological evidence	22	102
1.3	Ethno-archaeology in India	30	104

POPULATION, SOCIAL SYSTEM AND ANTHROPOLOGY IN INDIA

2	Demographic profile of India	64	107
3.1	Traditional Indian social system	27	111
3.2	Caste system in India	65	113
3.3	Sacred complex	15	117
3.4	Religions and Indian society	18	119
4	Anthropology in India	51	121

VILLAGE AND SOCIO-CULTURAL CHANGE

5.1	Indian village	36	125
5.2	Linguistic and religious minorities	22	128
5.3	Processes of socio-cultural change	49	130

TRIBES, CASTES AND WEAKER SECTIONS

6.1	Tribal situation in India	43	134
6.2	Problems of tribal communities	54	137
6.3	Development, displacement and forests	57	141
7.1	SCs, STs and OBCs	44	145
7.2	Social change in tribal societies	33	149
7.3	Ethnicity and tribal movements	63	152
8.1	Religions and tribal societies	18	156
8.2	Tribe and nation-state	9	158

TRIBAL ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

9.1	Tribal administration and PTGs	40	159
9.2	Anthropology in development	20	162
9.3	Regionalism and movements	11	164

YEAR-WISE PAPERS

2026 · p167 | 2025 · p170 | 2024 · p173 | 2023 · p176 | 2022 · p179 | 2021 · p182 | 2020 · p185

2019 · p188 | 2018 · p

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PART A
2017–2026

Ten years of patterns

How many questions UPSC asked from each unit in the last ten years, and the marks they carried. Each sub-part counts as one question; Q1 and Q5 notes carry 10 marks each, the parts of the long questions 20, 15 or 10. A question that fits two units is counted in both.

560
Questions, 2017–2026 (every sub-part counts as one)

8,000
Marks those questions carried

11/53
Units asked in every one of the ten years

32
Questions from the most-asked unit, Prehistoric archaeology and cultures

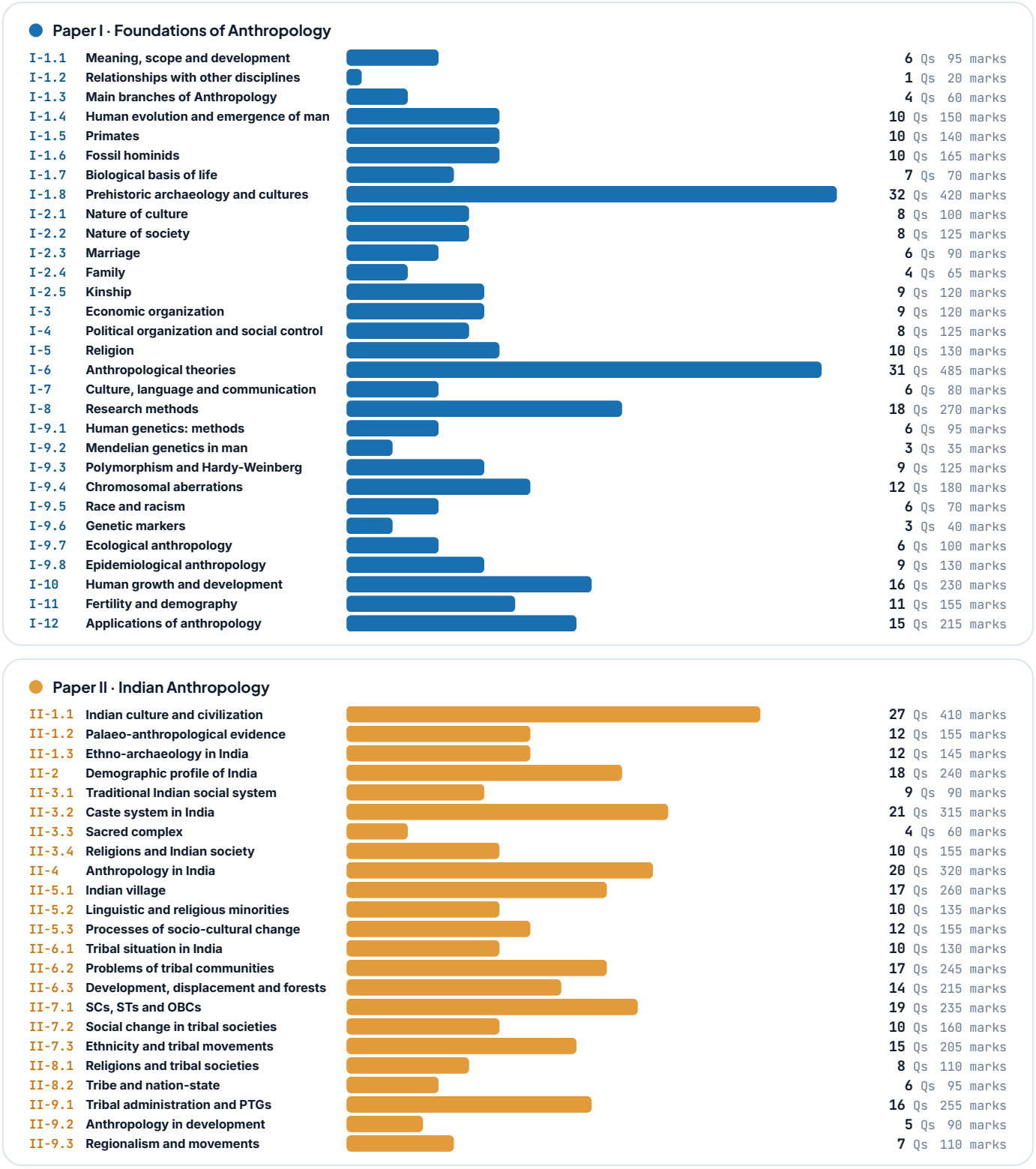
WHAT THE DATA SAYS

- **Most asked:** Prehistoric archaeology and cultures (32 questions, 420 marks), Anthropological theories (31 questions, 485 marks), Indian culture and civilization (27 questions, 410 marks) over ten years.
- **Rising fastest** (2022–26 vs 2017–21): Problems of tribal communities (+5 questions), Biological basis of life (+5 questions), Tribal administration and PTGs (+4 questions).
- **Cooling:** Ethno-archaeology in India (-6 questions), Processes of socio-cultural change (-6 questions), Ecological anthropology (-4 questions). Cooling is not skipping: each of these was still asked in 6 or more of the ten years.
- **Asked least often:** Relationships with other disciplines (1 of 10 years), Genetic markers (2 of 10 years), Mendelian genetics in man (3 of 10 years). Even these units drew questions, so no unit is a safe skip.
- **Human Genetics runs through Paper I:** its eight units (9.1–9.8) account for 54 of the 293 Paper I questions sorted into units over ten years, roughly one in 5, before counting evolution, growth and applied anthropology.
- **Paper II leans on tribal India:** tribes, castes, weaker sections and tribal administration (6.1–9.3) account for 127 of Paper II's 299 questions in the same ten years, about 42 per cent.

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Unit weightage, 2017–2026

Number of questions asked from each unit across the last ten years, with the marks they carried alongside. One scale for both papers, so the bars compare directly.



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Year-by-year heat map

Questions asked from each unit in each year. Darker cells mean more questions; a dot means the unit was not asked that year. Ten-year totals: questions, then marks.

UNIT		17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	Qs	Marks
I-1.1	Meaning, scope and development	1	1	·	·	·	1	1	·	2	·	6	95
I-1.2	Relationships with other disciplines	·	·	·	·	1	·	·	·	·	·	1	20
I-1.3	Main branches of Anthropology	·	1	1	1	1	·	·	·	·	·	4	60
I-1.4	Human evolution and emergence of man	·	2	·	1	2	·	1	1	2	1	10	150
I-1.5	Primates	1	·	2	2	1	1	·	·	2	1	10	140
I-1.6	Fossil hominids	·	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	165
I-1.7	Biological basis of life	·	·	1	·	·	·	1	2	2	1	7	70
I-1.8	Prehistoric archaeology and cultures	2	3	4	2	3	3	4	4	3	4	32	420
I-2.1	Nature of culture	1	·	1	1	·	1	1	1	2	·	8	100
I-2.2	Nature of society	·	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	·	·	8	125
I-2.3	Marriage	1	1	·	·	1	·	1	·	1	1	6	90
I-2.4	Family	·	·	·	1	·	·	·	1	1	1	4	65
I-2.5	Kinship	2	1	·	·	1	1	1	1	2	·	9	120
I-3	Economic organization	1	1	2	·	1	2	1	1	·	·	9	120
I-4	Political organization and social control	1	1	·	1	1	1	1	1	·	1	8	125
I-5	Religion	2	1	1	·	1	1	1	·	1	2	10	130
I-6	Anthropological theories	3	2	3	2	4	2	4	4	3	4	31	485
I-7	Culture, language and communication	1	1	·	2	·	·	1	·	1	·	6	80
I-8	Research methods	2	1	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	18	270
I-9.1	Human genetics: methods	1	·	·	·	·	1	·	1	2	1	6	95
I-9.2	Mendelian genetics in man	·	·	·	·	·	·	1	1	1	·	3	35
I-9.3	Polymorphism and Hardy-Weinberg	1	·	1	2	·	2	1	·	1	1	9	125
I-9.4	Chromosomal aberrations	·	2	·	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	12	180
I-9.5	Race and racism	1	1	1	1	1	·	1	·	·	·	6	70
I-9.6	Genetic markers	·	·	·	·	·	1	·	2	·	·	3	40
I-9.7	Ecological anthropology	1	1	1	1	1	·	·	·	1	·	6	100
I-9.8	Epidemiological anthropology	·	1	·	2	·	1	1	1	2	1	9	130
I-10	Human growth and development	2	2	2	2	2	3	1	·	·	2	16	230
I-11	Fertility and demography	2	2	1	·	1	2	1	·	1	1	11	155
I-12	Applications of anthropology	2	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	3	15	215
II-1.1	Indian culture and civilization	3	2	3	1	3	3	4	3	3	2	27	410
II-1.2	Palaeo-anthropological evidence	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	·	2	2	12	155
II-1.3	Ethno-archaeology in India	2	1	2	4	·	·	·	2	·	1	12	145
II-2	Demographic profile of India	2	2	1	1	1	3	3	1	2	2	18	240
II-3.1	Traditional Indian social system	1	1	1	·	1	2	2	·	1	·	9	90
II-3.2	Caste system in India	1	3	1	2	3	1	4	1	2	3	21	315
II-3.3	Sacred complex	1	1	·	·	1	·	·	·	·	1	4	60
II-3.4	Religions and Indian society	1	1	1	1	·	1	2	2	1	·	10	155
II-4	Anthropology in India	1	3	2	1	2	1	1	2	2	5	20	320
II-5.1	Indian village	1	2	3	3	1	2	1	2	1	1	17	260
II-5.2	Linguistic and religious minorities	1	1	·	2	1	1	1	1	2	·	10	135
II-5.3	Processes of socio-cultural change	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	·	1	·	12	155
II-6.1	Tribal situation in India	·	2	·	1	2	·	1	1	3	·	10	130
II-6.2	Problems of tribal communities	2	·	1	1	2	4	·	3	2	2	17	245
II-6.3	Development, displacement and forests	·	2	1	1	4	1	1	2	1	1	14	215
II-7.1	SCs, STs and OBCs	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	4	2	2	19	235
II-7.2	Social change in tribal societies	1	·	1	1	·	2	1	2	1	1	10	160
II-7.3	Ethnicity and tribal movements	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	2	1	15	205
II-8.1	Religions and tribal societies	1	·	1	1	1	1	·	·	1	2	8	110
II-8.2	Tribe and nation-state	1	·	1	·	·	·	1	2	1	·	6	95
II-9.1	Tribal administration and PTGs	2	·	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	4	16	255
II-9.2	Anthropology in development	·	1	·	·	·	1	1	1	1	·	5	90
II-9.3	Regionalism and movements	1	·	1	1	·	·	·	2	2	·	7	110

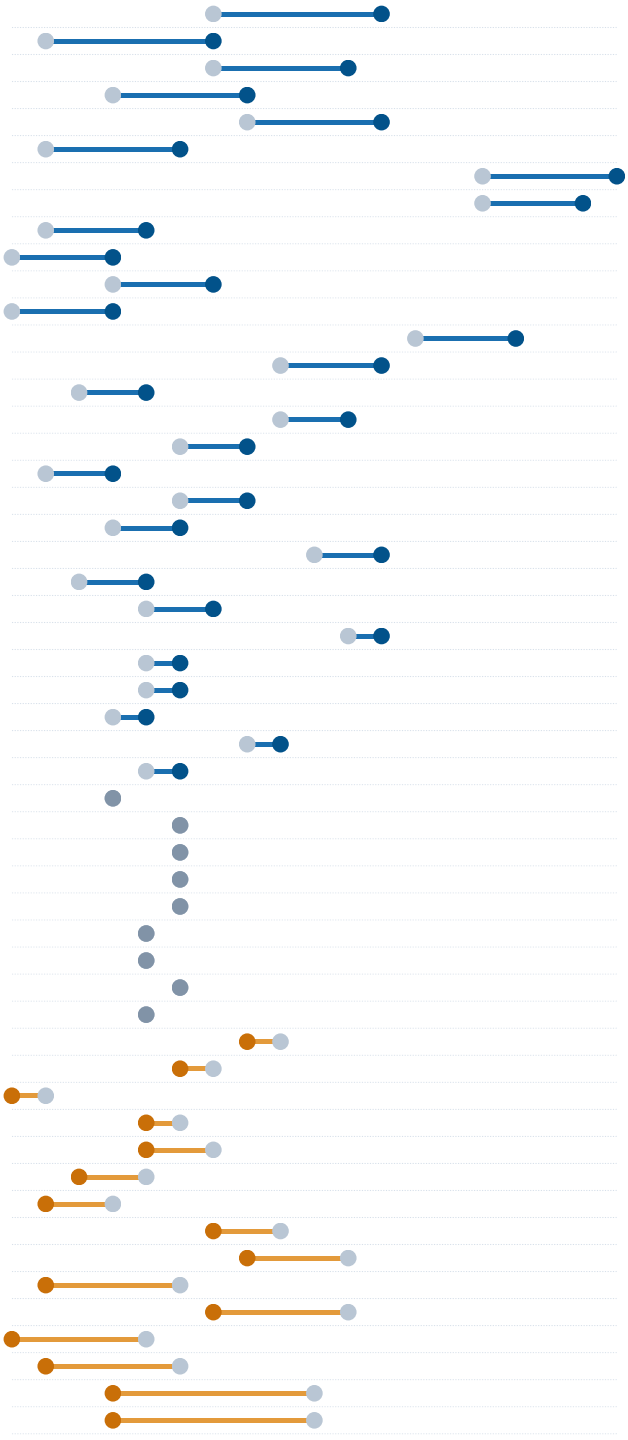
Fewer questions — More questions (max 5 in one year)

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Rising and cooling units

Questions asked in 2017–2021 (grey dot) against 2022–2026 (dark dot), sorted from the biggest rise to the biggest fall. The change in marks is shown on the right.

2017–2021 2022–2026



II-6.2	Problems of tribal communities	6 → 11	+5	+75 marks
I-1.7	Biological basis of life	1 → 6	+5	+50 marks
II-9.1	Tribal administration and PTGs	6 → 10	+4	+85 marks
II-7.2	Social change in tribal societies	3 → 7	+4	+70 marks
II-2	Demographic profile of India	7 → 11	+4	+60 marks
I-9.1	Human genetics: methods	1 → 5	+4	+55 marks
I-1.8	Prehistoric archaeology and cultures	14 → 18	+4	+40 marks
I-6	Anthropological theories	14 → 17	+3	+85 marks
II-9.2	Anthropology in development	1 → 4	+3	+50 marks
I-9.6	Genetic markers	0 → 3	+3	+40 marks
I-9.8	Epidemiological anthropology	3 → 6	+3	+40 marks
I-9.2	Mendelian genetics in man	0 → 3	+3	+35 marks
II-1.1	Indian culture and civilization	12 → 15	+3	+30 marks
II-7.1	SCs, STs and OBCs	8 → 11	+3	+25 marks
I-1.1	Meaning, scope and development	2 → 4	+2	+35 marks
I-8	Research methods	8 → 10	+2	+30 marks
I-9.4	Chromosomal aberrations	5 → 7	+2	+30 marks
I-2.4	Family	1 → 3	+2	+25 marks
II-1.2	Palaeo-anthropological evidence	5 → 7	+2	+25 marks
I-2.1	Nature of culture	3 → 5	+2	+20 marks
II-4	Anthropology in India	9 → 11	+2	+20 marks
II-8.2	Tribe and nation-state	2 → 4	+2	+15 marks
II-3.4	Religions and Indian society	4 → 6	+2	+5 marks
II-3.2	Caste system in India	10 → 11	+1	+45 marks
I-2.5	Kinship	4 → 5	+1	+30 marks
I-9.3	Polymorphism and Hardy-Weinberg	4 → 5	+1	+25 marks
II-9.3	Regionalism and movements	3 → 4	+1	+20 marks
II-7.3	Ethnicity and tribal movements	7 → 8	+1	+15 marks
II-3.1	Traditional Indian social system	4 → 5	+1	+10 marks
I-2.3	Marriage	3 → 3	0	+20 marks
II-6.1	Tribal situation in India	5 → 5	0	+20 marks
I-1.4	Human evolution and emergence of man	5 → 5	0	+10 marks
I-1.6	Fossil hominids	5 → 5	0	+5 marks
I-5	Religion	5 → 5	0	0 marks
II-8.1	Religions and tribal societies	4 → 4	0	0 marks
I-4	Political organization and social control	4 → 4	0	-5 marks
II-5.2	Linguistic and religious minorities	5 → 5	0	-5 marks
I-2.2	Nature of society	4 → 4	0	-25 marks
I-12	Applications of anthropology	8 → 7	-1	-5 marks
I-11	Fertility and demography	6 → 5	-1	-15 marks
I-1.2	Relationships with other disciplines	1 → 0	-1	-20 marks
I-3	Economic organization	5 → 4	-1	-20 marks
I-1.5	Primates	6 → 4	-2	-20 marks
I-7	Culture, language and communication	4 → 2	-2	-30 marks
II-3.3	Sacred complex	3 → 1	-2	-40 marks
II-6.3	Development, displacement and forests	8 → 6	-2	-45 marks
II-5.1	Indian village	10 → 7	-3	-40 marks
I-9.5	Race and racism	5 → 1	-4	-50 marks
I-10	Human growth and development	10 → 6	-4	-50 marks
I-1.3	Main branches of Anthropology	4 → 0	-4	-60 marks
I-9.7	Ecological anthropology	5 → 1	-4	-70 marks
II-1.3	Ethno-archaeology in India	9 → 3	-6	-75 marks
II-5.3	Processes of socio-cultural change	9 → 3	-6	-75 marks

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PART C | 53 UNITS | 1,855 QUESTIONS

Topic-wise questions

Every question UPSC has set since 1981, sorted into its syllabus unit, newest first. From 2014 onwards each question carries its marks and its place in the paper, as printed; the tag names the thinker, scholar or sub-topic where it helps.

I-1.1
Meaning, scope and development
19 questions

I-1.2
Relationships with other disciplines
14 questions

I-1.3
Main branches of Anthropology
29 questions

I-1.4
Human evolution and emergence of man
53 questions

I-1.5
Primates
40 questions

I-1.6
Fossil hominids
49 questions

I-1.7
Biological basis of life
11 questions

I-1.8
Prehistoric archaeology and cultures
57 questions

I-2.1
Nature of culture
37 questions

I-2.2
Nature of society
31 questions

I-2.3
Marriage
17 questions

I-2.4
Family
20 questions

I-2.5
Kinship
33 questions

I-3
Economic organization
30 questions

I-4
Political organization and social control
26 questions

I-5
Religion
39 questions

I-6
Anthropological theories
115 questions

I-7
Culture, language and communication
8 questions

I-8
Research methods
55 questions

I-9.1
Human genetics: methods
17 questions

I-9.2
Mendelian genetics in man
14 questions

I-9.3
Polymorphism and Hardy-Weinberg
38 questions

I-9.4
Chromosomal aberrations
30 questions

I-9.5
Race and racism
29 questions

I-9.6
Genetic markers
11 questions

I-9.7
Ecological anthropology
25 questions

I-9.8
Epidemiological anthropology
23 questions

I-10
Human growth and development
46 questions

I-11
Fertility and demography
24 questions

I-12
Applications of anthropology
65 questions

II-1.1
Indian culture and civilization
91 questions

II-1.2
Palaeo-anthropological evidence
22 questions

II-1.3
Ethno-archaeology in India
30 questions

II-2
Demographic profile of India
64 questions

II-3.1
Traditional Indian social system
27 questions

II-3.2
Caste system in India
65 questions

II-3.3
Sacred complex
15 questions

II-3.4
Religions and Indian society
18 questions

II-4
Anthropology in India
51 questions

II-5.1
Indian village
36 questions

II-5.2
Linguistic and religious minorities
22 questions

II-5.3
Processes of socio-cultural change
49 questions

II-6.1
Tribal situation in India
43 questions

II-6.2
Problems of tribal communities
54 questions

II-6.3
Development, displacement and forests
57 questions

II-7.1
SCs, STs and OBCs
44 questions

II-7.2
Social change in tribal societies
33 questions

II-7.3
Ethnicity and tribal movements
63 questions

II-8.1
Religions and tribal societies
18 questions

II-8.2
Tribe and nation-state
9 questions

II-9.1
Tribal administration and PTGs

II-9.2
Anthropology in development
20 questions

II-9.3
Regionalism and movements
11 questions

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PAPER I · 2.5
33 QUESTIONS · 1981–2026

Kinship

9 questions in the last 10 years

120 marks, 2017–2026

7/10 years asked



SYLLABUS Kinship: Consanguinity and Affinity; Principles and types of descent (Unilineal, Double, Bilateral, Ambilineal); Forms of descent groups (lineage, clan, phratry, moiety and kindred); Kinship terminology (descriptive and classificatory); Descent, Filiation and Complementary Filiation; Descent and Alliance.

2025 2 questions

1 Theoretical significance of Purum kinship-system. Short note · 150 words — 10

2 How the study of variation in forms of marriage led to rethinking on the concepts of social reproduction, kinship and family? — 20

2024 1 question

3 Critical perspective on avoidance and joking relationship Short note · 150 words — 10

2023 1 question

4 Critically discuss A.L. Kroeber's contribution to kinship studies. — 15

2022 1 question

5 Discuss how the rules of descent contradict the principles of residence in matrilineal society, mentioning suitable examples? — 20

2021 1 question

6 Descent Groups Short note · 150 words — 10

2018 1 question

7 Kinship Terminology Short note · 150 words — 10

2017 2 questions

8 Bilineal and bilateral descents Short note · 150 words — 10

9 Elucidate the determinants of Kinship terminology. — 15

2016 2 questions

10 Lineage and Clan Short note · 150 words — 10

11 Describe the cardinal points of descent and alliance theories. — 20

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2014 1 question

12 Double Descent Short note · 150 words 10

2013 1 question

13 Write a note in 150 words on Various types of descent

2012 1 question

14 Describe the types of kinship groups formed on the basis of different principles.

2010 2 questions

15 Write a note in 150 words on. Segmentary lineage and territoriality

16 What factors are responsible for bringing about variation in residence of different societies? Explain how kinship influences man's social life.

2008 1 question

17 Write a note on Forms of descent groups

2003 1 question

18 Define Kinship and throw light on the functional importance of Kinship in Anthropology.

2001 1 question

19 Explain the salient features of Descent and Alliance theories. Discuss the relevance to the analysis and understanding of Social Structure.

1998 1 question

20 Now we live more in a class than a caste. Discuss foe role of kinship in this changed situation.

1997 1 question

21 Discuss the distinguishing features of unilineal, bilineal and bilateral kin groups with suitable examples.

1995 1 question

22 What is kinship system? Describe the changing roles of the system in the context of westernization in India.

1994 2 questions

23 Write a note on Kinship terms and kinship behaviour

24 Write a note on Lineage and clan

1991 1 question

25 What is kinship system? Discuss its relevance in understanding the social structure of society.

1988 1 question

26 What are incest regulation? Bring out their socio-cultural functions in the context of stability in the institutions marriage, family and kinship.

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1986 1 question

27 Write a note on Differences between clan and lineage in primitive society.

1984 3 questions

28 Distinguish between: Double descent and bilateral descent.

29 Descent is a cultural rule. Discuss.

30 Evaluate the role of kinship in regulating sex and marriage.

1983 1 question

31 Extended family and kinship ties are incompatible with an industrial society. Critically examine the view.

1982 1 question

32 The modern State has taken over many functions of the family and kin groups. Discuss.

1981 1 question

33 "Unilineal kinship is more characteristic of segmentary society than bilateral kinship." Discuss.

FINISHED I-2.5?

Read Kinship in full before you write

PAPER I · PART A + PART B

Paper I Complete Notes: Socio-Cultural, Physical and Archaeological Anthropology

54 chapters and 1,368 pages in syllabus order, 287 diagrams, and the previous year questions after every chapter. Printable PDF.

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PAPER II · 6.2
54 QUESTIONS · 1981–2026

Problems of the Tribal Communities

17 questions in the last 10 years

245 marks, 2017–2026

8/10 years asked



SYLLABUS Problems of the tribal Communities — Land alienation, poverty, indebtedness, low literacy, poor educational facilities, unemployment, under-employment, health and nutrition.

2026 2 questions

1 Write an account on the prevalence of sickle cell disease among the tribal populations of India. What are the initiatives undertaken by the affected states to tackle with this disease? — 15

2 What are the major challenges tribal communities are facing in contemporary India? — 15

2025 2 questions

3 Examine the environmental and biocultural factors influencing the health of tribals of India. — 15

4 Describe the nature of traditional socioeconomic interdependence among the Toda, Kota, Kurumba and Irula tribes of Nilgiri Hills. Highlight the changes occurring in these interrelationships. Trade and markets — 20

2024 3 questions

5 Causes of stunting and wasting among tribal children Short note · 150 words — 10

6 Custodians of natural resources are the tribals, but they are the most deprived. Critically examine how climate change will impact their survival in future. — 20

7 Discuss the economic, social and developmental impacts on tribal communities with special reference to mining. — 15

2022 4 questions

8 Issues of tribal agricultural labourers Short note · 150 words — 10

9 Major problems of nomadic and semi-nomadic groups Short note · 150 words — 10

10 Explain how British policies impacted the major resources of the tribals. — 15

11 Discuss the issues and solutions related to the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe populations in India. — 15

2021 2 questions

12 Elucidate the problems and challenges in educational attainment of the Scheduled Tribes.

13 Examine the factors responsible for malnutrition in tribal India and suggest interventions required to overcome the problem.

2020 1 question

14 Elucidate the problem — 15

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2019 1 question

15 Issues relating to tribal education. Short note · 150 words — 10

2017 2 questions

16 Indebtedness among tribal communities. Short note · 150 words — 10

17 Describe the impact of displacement on the health and nutritional status of tribal communities. — 20

2015 2 questions

18 Discuss how constitutional provisions in India have built-in mechanisms for dealing with the problem of land alienation in tribal areas. — 20

19 Discuss the sociocultural, economic and psychological constraints responsible for low literacy in tribal areas. — 15

2014 1 question

20 Discuss the impact of land alienation on the tribes of Central India. — 15

2010 4 questions

21 Write a note in 150 words on Education and health among tribal women.

22 “Land and forest are the twin problems of the tribes.” Explain.

23 Discuss the relevance of traditional wisdom and knowledge of the tribes with reference to health in the present day context.

24 Critically examine the various structural constraints in the educational development of Scheduled Tribes

2009 1 question

25 Write a note on Indebtedness in Tribal Communities.

2008 1 question

26 Discuss the health problems faced by tribal populations in India. Suggest some corrective measures.

2007 1 question

27 Write a note on Land Alienation

2005 1 question

28 Discuss the factors related to low literacy rate among the tribals of India. Write in brief the measures taken by the government in different five-year plans to eradicate it.

2003 2 questions

29 Write a note on Constraints of educational development among the tribals

30 Write a note on Land alienation among the tribals

2000 1 question

31 Write a note on The problems of denotified groups

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1999 2 questions

32 Write a note on Land Alienation in tribal India

33 Bring out, with suitable examples, the constraints of educational development of tribal communities in India. Suggest remedial measures in this context.

1998 1 question

34 Discuss the health and nutritional status of tribal and rural children in India. How far has the government policy been effective?

1996 1 question

35 Distinguish among nutrition, food and diet. Comment on the nutritional status of the tribes with subsistence economy in the form of hunting-gathering, shifting cultivation and settled agriculture in India.

1995 1 question

36 Describe the socio-cultural factors related to the poor health conditions of the Indian tribal population. Suggest measures for improving these conditions.

1994 1 question

37 Write a note on Factors responsible for tribal migration and its consequences

1993 1 question

38 Write a note on Tribal education

1992 2 questions

39 Write a note on Indebtedness and land alienation among Indian tribes

40 What are the major problems of the tribes in India? Evaluate the measures adopted by the Central and State Governments in India to solve these problems.

1991 1 question

41 What are the principal characteristic of tribal markets? What extra-economic functions do such markets perform? Trade and markets

1990 3 questions

42 Write a note on Transfer and alienation of tribal land.

43 Discuss the anthropological approach to the understanding of the tribal ethos and comment on the major socioeconomic problems of Indian tribes.

44 Write a note on Tribal markets as centres of social and cultural interaction. Trade and markets

1989 2 questions

45 Discuss major problems of the tribes of India. Make a critical evaluation of the measures adopted by the Central and State Govt, in India to solve these problems and account for their limited success.

46 Write a note on Barter and Exchange in the tribal societies. Trade and markets

1988 3 questions

47 Write a note on Common Property Resources in tribal villages

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48 Write a note on Elites and alienation in tribal society.

49 Discuss the special problems of shifting cultivators or of hunting food gathering tribes.

1986 2 questions

50 Write a note on Indebtedness and land alienation among Indian tribes.

51 Define untouchability and point out whether the problems of its removal should be treated as a matter of social reform rather than as part of administrative and legal measures.

1983 2 questions

52 Write a note in 200 words: Indebtedness and land alienation among Indian tribes.

53 Discuss the isolationist and assimilationist approaches to the tribal problems, showing their respective merits and demerits.

1981 1 question

54 Identify the main type of problems that arise out of contacts between tribal people and more advanced sections of Indian population. What measures do you suggest to mitigate the same?

FINISHED II-6.2?

Read Problems of tribal communities in full before you write

PAPER II · PART A + PART B

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Question papers 2026

Paper I and Paper II · 250 marks each · 3 hours each · attempt five questions: Q1 and Q5 compulsory, three more with at least one from each section.

PAPER I Foundations of Anthropology

SECTION A

Q1 **Write notes on the following in about 150 words each:** 10×5=50

(a) Health as a cultural construct

(b) Canalization and catch-up growth

(c) Myth as oral literature

(d) Genetic polymorphism and natural selection

(e) Ethnoarchaeology and classical archaeology

Q2

(a) What is meant by a somatotype? Discuss the Heath-Carter anthropometric method, giving its advantages over that of Sheldon's method. How can somatotyping be applied in sports sciences? 20

(b) How do religious beliefs help people to devise cultural mechanisms to adapt to their environment? Discuss in detail with appropriate examples. 15

(c) How is the theory of structuralism helpful in understanding the concepts of caste and gender? 15

Q3

(a) How do the concepts of power, authority, legitimacy and social control change with changing political organization? Discuss in detail giving suitable examples. 20

(b) Human evolution is a product of both biological and cultural factors. Elaborate. 15

(c) Give the distribution of Palaeolithic sites around the Himalayan and Sub-Himalayan areas, highlighting the typo-technologies of the tools. 15

Q4

(a) Discuss the phylogenetic status, characteristic features, geographical distribution and lifeways of Paranthropus. 20

(b) Discuss 'incest taboo' as the basis of development of kinship systems in human societies. 15

(c) Numerical chromosomal aberrations can be due to abnormalities in autosomes as well as sex chromosomes. Elaborate in terms of the effects these have on human body, giving suitable examples. 15

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SECTION B

Q5 **Write notes on the following in about 150 words each:** 10×5=50

(a) Ethics in anthropological fieldwork

(b) Distinguishing features of nuclear and mitochondrial DNA

(c) Feminist movement and family

(d) Anthropometry in ergonomics

(e) Thermoluminescence dating method

Q6

(a) How would you find out that a particular disease/disorder is inherited and, if so, in which manner? Elaborate with suitable examples. 20

(b) Critically discuss how culture determines human behaviour in the light of Leslie White's theory. 15

(c) What are Strepsirhini Primates? Describe their geographical distribution and mention the characteristics that distinguish them from Haplorhini Primates. 15

Q7

(a) Discuss the mixed method approach in anthropological research. 20

(b) What do you understand by fertility and mortality? How are these influenced by biological and socio-ecological factors? 15

(c) Write a detailed note on the characteristic features, chronology, geographical distribution, tool types and lifeways of Magdalenian cultural tradition of Europe. 15

Q8

(a) Compare Edmund Leach's structuralism with interpretive anthropology of Clifford Geertz. 20

(b) In what manner is our understanding of serogenetics and cytogenetics useful in reproductive biology? What are the major ethical issues involved in reproductive technology? 15

(c) Discuss, with appropriate examples, how basic personality types may lead towards building up of national character. 15

PAPER II Indian Anthropology

SECTION A

Q1 **Write notes on the following in about 150 words each:** 10×5=50

(a) Dravidian language family and its tribal speakers.

(b) Seed Eaters Model of hominid differentiation.

(c) Tana Bhagat movement.

(d) Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) of the islands.

(e) Kumar Suresh Singh's contribution in studying tribal movements.

Q2

(a) What are the major debates related to the concept of jajmani system? 20

(b) 'Dharti Aaba Janjatiya Gram Utkarsh Abhiyan aims to meet some of the Sustainable Development Goals'. Discuss. 15

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(c) What are the evidences available regarding crops and domesticated animals of Indus Valley Civilization? What are the views of the scholars regarding Indus script? 15

Q3

(a) Critically examine the salience of F. G. Bailey's study on Bisipara village of Odisha. 20

(b) Discuss the impact of Christianity on the tribal population of Jharkhand. 15

(c) Discuss with examples, how general comparative analogy has been used for ethnoarchaeological studies in India. 15

Q4

(a) Write an account on the contribution of Verrier Elwin in developing policies for the tribal populations in post-independent India. 20

(b) Why the classifications of Indian populations, based on somatometric and somatoscopic characteristics failed to develop a common understanding of the population diversity? 15

(c) Make a critical appraisal of Niyamgiri movement against mining-induced displacement. 15

SECTION B

Q5 **Write notes on the following in about 150 words each:** 10×5=50

(a) Buddhist tribes of India.

(b) Debate regarding the phylogenetic position of Narmada Man.

(c) Article 371A of the Indian Constitution.

(d) Nature-Man-Spirit-Complex.

(e) Contribution of L. K. Ananthakrishna Iyer in Anthropology.

Q6

(a) Make a critical appraisal of the mesolithic culture of Ganga basin with reference to artifacts, faunal and human skeletal remains excavated from different sites. 20

(b) Discuss the impact of democratic institutions on the tribal populations of India. 15

(c) Write an account on the prevalence of sickle cell disease among the tribal populations of India. What are the initiatives undertaken by the affected states to tackle with this disease? 15

Q7

(a) Assess the contribution of colonial scholars in studying the tribal populations of North-East India. 20

(b) Does caste as a social category exist among the non-Hindu communities in India? Illustrate your answer with suitable examples. 15

(c) Write an account on Development Action Plan for Scheduled Tribes (DAPST). 15

Q8

(a) Make a critical appraisal of Surajit Sinha's line of argument that tribes and castes may not be isolated social categories, but are a part of the great Indian civilization. 20

(b) What are the major challenges tribal communities are facing in contemporary India? 15

(c) What are the provisions given in the Constitution of India for the safeguard of the Scheduled Caste populations? 15

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