GSO S6 02 (M)
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Social Movements

SEMESTER - VI

SOCIOLOGY

BLOCK - 1

KRISHNA KANTA HANDIQUI STATE OPEN UNIVERSITY

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COURSE INTRODUCTION

The course 'Social Movements' attempts to introduce to the learners the phenomenon of social movement, from a sociological perspective.

This course comprises of 15 units. It has been classified into two blocks. The first block (Block 1) consists of 7 units, and the second block (Block 2) consists of 8 units. The course provides a holistic understanding of the idea of social movements. It begins with a discussion on the basic theoretical approaches to understand social movements. Here, it highlights the Liberal, Revolutionary, Radical perspectives. It also emphasises on the idea of New Social Movements.

Further, the course progresses with special emphasis laid on particular kinds of social movements, with specific reference to the context of India. Here, discussions have been undertaken on the ideas of religious movements, reform movements, student movements, identity movements, women's movements, environment movements, tribal movements, dalit movement.

The different topics have been tried to be explained with relevant exemplifications.

BLOCK INTRODUCTION

This is the first block of the paper 'Social Movements', offered in the 6th semester of B.A. Sociology programme of Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University. This block intends to provide the learners an understanding of the theoretical approaches to the study of social movements.

In this direction, Unit 1, titled "Social Movements : An Introduction" focuses on the meaning and typology of social movements, and it's relation with social change.

Unit 2, titled "Theories of social movement" highlights the Relative Deprivation theory, Structural Functional theory, and the Resource mobilisation theory.

Unit 3, titled "Revolutionary approach to social movement" provides the main overview, advocates and issues associated with the revolutionary approach to social movements.

Unit 4, titled "Radical approach to social movement" provides the main overview, advocates and issues associated with the radical approach to social movements.

Unit 5, titled "Liberal approach to social movement" provides the main overview, advocates and issues associated with the liberal approach to social movements.

Unit 6, titled "New social movements" introduces the concept of new social movements, it's issues, leadership and achievements.

Unit 7, titled "Religious movement" highlights the emergence, causes, and implications of religious movements in India, with the help of relevant examples.

In order to make the text more interesting and informative, a section called LET US KNOW has been provided in the units. This section tries to provide some additional information regarding the content of the unit. Further, in order to enable the learners to continuously check their progress regarding the content, some questions have been put at the end of various sections of a unit with the heading CHECK YOUR PROGRESS. The answers to the questions of CHECK YOUR PROGRESS section have been provided at the end of each unit. In the end of each unit few Model Qustions of long and short type are provided in order to provide an idea of the question pattern to be expected in the examinations by the learners.