

Cultural Diversity and Pluralism

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SLOs

4.1.3 describe the terms ‘cultural diversity’ and ‘pluralism’;

4.1.4 analyse the role of cultural diversity and pluralism towards the enrichment of society in Pakistan;

What do you mean by the terms Cultural diversity and pluralism?

Respond in the chat box in one/two words

Cultural Diversity and Pluralism

- **Existence of more than one culture in a society or country**
- **Existence of more than one race, languages, traditions, religions etc.**
- **Treatment of people as equal and same citizens irrespective of their cultural, ethnic, religious backgrounds.**



Role in the enrichment of society

**What is the role
of cultural
diversity and
pluralism**


**Respond in the
chat**



Tolerance and Peace

- Accepting and respecting people of other religious, sectarian, racial, or ethnic groups sows seeds of peace/tolerance.
 - Biggest issue today- Religious intolerance
1. Terrorism in the name of religion has destroyed peace and the overall development of the nation.
 2. sectarianism has taken the thousands of innocent lives over the years
- Thus by the promotion of the spirit of accepting cultural and religious diversity in our country can lead to a tolerant culture in the society.
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Promotion of national integration and cohesion

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- A characteristic of pluralism is that the state caters to the needs and aspirations of people belonging to different religious, sectarian, ethnic groups, and regions.
 - This creates a sense of being empowered and patriotism among these people thus promoting national integration.
 - Similarly, common cultural values and positive cultural aspects if projected can act as a catalyst in the promotion of national cohesion.

Promotion of democratic values

- In pluralism, ‘the acceptance of diversity’ means the existence of diverse ethnic-religious communities, as well as political ideologies, are being respected.
- With this acceptance comes equal opportunities for the people to play their role in the political, economic, and social arena of a country.
- This is how pluralism can help evolve nations into democratic societies.

Power-sharing

- One of the key characteristics of a pluralistic society is that it is dominated by a multiplicity of small groups rather than by a single elite.
- These small groups become well organized over time.
- Although a few can be larger and more influential than the others the power sharing element restricts them to relatively narrow areas such as defense, foreign policy, or banking.



Equality of political opportunity

- **Pluralism emphasizes the equality of political opportunity.**
- **This means that all communities or nationalities enjoy equal and same political rights.**
- **And all have an equal chance to participate in government as per law of the land.**

Consensus making

- **Another advantage: consensus on the "rules of the game" that on democratic principles and values binds the members of a society together.**
- **For example, in democratic states, people of different interest groups:**
 - 1. accept regular and open elections, the right to vote, political equality, majority rule, and free speech.**
 - 2. accept the right to assemble, differences of opinion, and the other rules important for peaceful and orderly politics.**
 - 3. And, most importantly, abide by the outcomes of elections.**

Conclusion

Since it is fair to say that pluralism is the most widely accepted interpretation of a democratic society providing equal opportunity for development to people at both individual and collective levels.

Home Task

- Go to GCR
- Complete the Home Task, “ Cultural Diversity and Pluralism” in Pakistan Studies Class work

Best of Luck