

Difference between Caste and Class is explained here in detail.

Caste is a form of social stratification determined by one single factor i.e. birth.

Class of a person is based on multiple factors like economic status, education, power, achievements etc.

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The major differences between Caste and Class are:

<b>Caste</b>	<b>Class</b>
A person's caste is dependent on a person's birth, it is not based on any other factor like education, literacy, wealth, prosperity etc.	A person's Class is based on social status, wealth and power acquired, level of education and other achievements.

A person belonging to certain caste has to follow certain traditions, rituals and customs	A person belonging to a certain class is not bound by customs, rituals or traditions.
Caste is unique to Indian sub-continent	Classes are usually found in highly industrialized countries located in Europe, North America.
Inter caste marriage leads to disputes between family members and members of different castes.	If there is a marriage between two people belonging to different classes, it does not evoke any kind of disputes between members of different Class.
Caste system does not promote democracy, since it classifies people as superior and inferior just on the basis of birth and not on any other metrics.	Class system does not act as an hindrance to democracy, since classification is based on education, social status, and the work one does.
Occupational mobility is one of the biggest bane of the Caste system. A person has to continue in the line of work of his ancestors irrespective of his interest, education and skills.	Social class does not act as an hindrance to occupational mobility. A person belonging to any class can change his occupations based on his skills, education and interests.
Caste system has religious connotations.	Class system is not based on any religion.
The Social Gap between people belonging to different castes is very wide which is not healthy for the overall progress of a nation	The Social gap between people belonging to different classes is narrower when compared to the gap that is prevalent among people belonging to different Castes.
Caste System is static	Class system is dynamic
There is no scope for vertical social mobility since the division is solely determined by birth.	There is ample scope for vertical social mobility for people belonging to different classes, since it is dependent on one's abilities, nature of work, education, acquisition of wealth, status etc.
Caste system works as a political force.	Class system does not act as a political force.
Cumulative Inequality is a distinctive feature of caste system	Dispersed Inequality is a distinctive feature of class system

After learning about the Difference between Caste and Class, visit the below-given links for important information pertaining to Sociology Optional, and for other important details regarding Social Empowerment in India.

- [Sociology Optional for UPSC - Preparation Strategy, Reference Books](#)
- [Sociology Optional - Syllabus for UPSC Mains Examination](#)
- [Vulnerability due to Caste - An Overview and Laws in Constitution for Protection](#)
- [Social Empowerment - Gist of Yojana Magazine](#)
- [Laws formulated for Reservation in India](#)
- [Rural Prosperity - Gist of Kurukshetra Magazine](#)

Candidates can find the general pattern of the UPSC Exams by visiting the [UPSC Syllabus 2020](#) page.

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