

SATISH CHANDRA MEMORIAL SCHOOL
SOCIAL SCIENCE
CLASS – VIII
CIVICS CHAPTER ONE
QUESTION AND ANSWER

1) **Define the term constitution.**

Ans. A constitution helps to serve as a set of rules and principles that all persons in a country can agree upon as the basis of the way in which they want the country to be governed. This includes not only the type of government but also an agreement on certain ideals that they all believe the country should uphold.

2) **What are the purpose of constitution?**

Ans. Various purpose of the constitution are as follows:

- I. It Lays out certain ideals that form the basis of the kind of a country, that we as citizens aspire to live in.
- II. The second important purpose of a constitution is, to define the nature of the country's political system.
- III. The constitution plays a crucial role in laying out certain important guidelines that governs decision making within the society.

3) **What were the challenges face by constitution makers during the making of the constitution?**

Ans. Following are some challenges faced by the constitution makers during the making of the constitution.

- I. The country was made up of several communities, who spoke different languages, belonged to different regions and had distinct culture.
- II. When the constitution was being written, India was going through considerable turmoil.
- III. The partition of the country into India and Pakistan was imminent. Some of the princely states remain undecided about their future.
- IV. The socioeconomic condition of a vast mass of people appeared dismal.
- V. All of these issues played in the mind of constitution makers as they were drafting the constitution.
- VI. They gave this country a visionary document that reflects a sense of respect for maintaining diversity and preserving national unity.

4) Write about the different functions that a constitution plays in a democracy to protect the interest of people.

- I. In democratic societies, the constitution often lays down certain rules that guard against the misuse of power by the authority or political leaders.
- II. Another important function that a constitution plays in a democracy is to ensure that a dominant group does not use its power over less powerful group or people. This can refer to one community dominating another – inter-community domination or, members of same community dominating others – intra-community domination.
- III. Sometimes, we need a constitution to safeguard us from ourselves. This may sound strange but what is meant by

this is that, we might sometimes feel strongly about an issue, that can go against our larger interest.

5) Write about the struggle of Nepal for democracy. Why do the people of Nepal want a new constitution?

Ans. Until recently Nepal was a monarchy. The previous constitution of Nepal which has been adopted in 1990, reflected the fact that the final authority rested with the king. A people's movement in Nepal fought for several decades to establish democracy. In 2006 they finally succeeded in putting an end to the power of king .

In 2008 Nepal became a democracy after abolishing the monarchy. The reason that they want to abolish the previous constitution is because it did not reflect the ideals of the country that they want Nepal to be and that they have fought for.