

CLASS VIII CHAPTER 2 UNDERSTANDING SECULARISM (NCERT)

Exercises

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Question 1.

List the different types of religious practice that you find in your neighborhood. This could be different forms of prayer, worship of different gods, sacred sites, different kinds of religious music and singing, etc. Does this indicate freedom of religious practice?

Answer : Different types of religious practice:

(i) Jagran (ii) Kirtan (iii) Namaj (iv) Mass (v) Havan

Yes, this indicates freedom of religious practice.

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Question 2.

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Will the government intervene if some religious group says that their religion allows them to practice infanticide? Give reasons for your answer.

Answer :

The practice of infanticide is a crime. Under this practice the life of a newly-born child is killed. The law does not allow anyone to kill a life.

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Question 3.

Find out some examples of different views within the same religion.

Answer:

As for example, only in the Hindu religion, we have hundreds of deities worshipped by different groups of people. (alvars, nayanars) Similarly, in Muslim community, there are Shiyas and Shunnis. In Jainas, there are Shwetambar and Digambar sects. In Buddha Dharma, there are Hinayaans and Mahayaans.

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Question 4.

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The Indian State both keeps away from religion as well as intervenes in religion. This idea can be quite confusing. Discuss?

Answer: India is a land of complex ideas. There are many ideals in the Constitution but practices are quite different from them. We see laws explain a concept in a different way. But people interpret it differently. Law itself in some cases act differently.