

Class 6  
Social Science  
Book: Social and Political Life- I  
Chapter -1: Understanding Diversity

**GENERAL INSTRUCTION**

1. Read the lesson thoroughly.
2. Question – Answers to be written in the Social Science notebook / Practice Notebook / Loose sheets.
3. YouTube link is for the explanation of the chapter.

YouTube link : <https://youtu.be/VSW2aCNE5uk>

**INTRODUCTION**

India is a country of many diversity.

People speak different languages, eat various types of food, celebrate different festivals and practice different religions.



**EXPLANATION**

- During ancient times, man was nomad later he started to lead a social life which led to the emergence of diversity.
- Human beings are social animals and thus cannot fulfil all their needs on their own.
- They depend each other and also on their social groups to fulfill the needs.
- Within various social groups of humans, different activities are performed depending on the culture, skills, geographic location, interest and understanding.
- Historical and geographical factors also influence the diversity of a region.

## Historical and Geographical Factors:

We can understand the diversity better through case study of Ladakh and Kerala:

### LADAKH

- Ladakh is a cold desert in the mountains in the eastern part of Jammu and Kashmir.
- Very little agriculture is possible here since this region is covered in snow for a large part of the year.
- The people in Ladakh keep sheep and goats and sell pashmina wool to the traders from Kashmir
- Pashmina shawls chiefly woven in Kashmir.
- Buddhism reached Tibet via Ladakh.
- Islam was introduced in this region more than 400 years ago and there is a significant Muslim population here.



### KERALA

- Kerala is the state in the southern west corner of India.
- It is surrounded by the sea on one side and hills on the other side.
- A number of spices like pepper, cloves and cardamoms are grown on the hills.
- Jewish and Arab traders were the first to come here.
- People in Kerala practice different religions such as Judaism, Islam, Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism.
- The fertile land and climate are suited for growing rice.



### UNIY IN DIVERSITY:

- India's diversity has been recognised as a source of its strength.
- When the British ruled India, women and men from different cultural, religious and regional backgrounds came together to oppose them.

## MINDMAP



## QUESTION- ANSWERS

### 1. How did diversity emerge as a source of its strength?

Ans. India's diversity emerge as a source of its strength during the British rule when -

- People from different cultural, regional and religious backgrounds came together.
- They worked together and form different ways to oppose the British.
- The British policy of divide and rule proved unsuccessful during freedom struggle.

### 2. What are the various aspects of diversity in India?

Ans. India is a land of many diversities: -

- We speak different languages. Eg- Hindi, Punjabi, Gujarati etc.
- We celebrate different festivals such as Holi, Diwali, Christmas etc.
- We eat various types of food such as rice, fish, vegetables etc.
- We practise different religions such as Hinduism, Islam, Christianity etc.

**3. What do you think living in India with its rich heritage of diversity adds to our lives?**

Ans- The rich heritage culture adds to our lives in the following ways-

- a) We learn many things of other communities like its culture and tradition.
- b) We enjoy food and festivals of different regions.
- c) We learn about the language, history, religion and dressing pattern of other region of our country.

**4. List the difference between Ladakh and Kerala.**

<b>LADAKH</b>	<b>KERALA</b>
1. It is a cold desert in eastern part of Jammu and Kashmir.	1. It is a state in south west corner of India surrounded by sea on one side and hills on the other.
2. People eat meat and milk products.	2. People eat rice, fish and vegetables.
3. Buddhism and Islam are followed in Ladakh.	3. Judaism, Islam, Buddhism are practised here.
4. Ladakh is famous for pashmina wool.	4. It is famous for spices like pepper, cloves etc.
5. People rear sheep, goat, and cows.	5. Farming and fishing are main activities.

**5. What do you mean by the term inequality?**

Ans- It means the unavailability of resources and opportunities for different people like caste system.

**6. What did Pandit Nehru says in his book “Discovery of India”**

- Ans a) It was Pandit Nehru who coined the phrase “Unity in Diversity”.
- b) India is a large country and people of different parts follow different faiths, speak different languages, wear and eat differently. Despite of the diversities, as Indians we are one.
  - c) India’s unity is not something imposed from outside.
  - d) It is something deeper and within its fold.
  - e) Every belief and custom is practiced and acknowledged in India.

**7. What do you mean by diversity?**

Ans. Diversity means being varied or different. People are different in terms of:

- a) Physical appearance
- b) Language spoken
- c) Cultural background
- d) Religious rituals
- e) Interests
- f) Geographical surroundings etc.