



Teacher's Guide

Democracy and Diversity

Part 2

Based on the NCERT Curriculum for Standard X



JANAAGRAHA CENTRE FOR CITIZENSHIP & DEMOCRACY

Janaagraha's initiative to improve citizen engagement in India's democracy through their civic learning program

Developed in collaboration with Young Leaders for Active Citizenship (YLAC)

Democracy and Diversity | Teacher's Guide (2/4)

Part 2

Class X

Board – CBSE

Subject – Social Science

Textbook – Democratic Politics- II for Class X (NCERT)

Chapter 3 – Democracy and Diversity

Number of parts – 04

Length – 75-90 minutes (estimated, for a class of 40-45 students)

Note: Teachers may divide the lesson plan into as many periods as they see fit

Section I: What are we going to learn and why is it important?

Learning objectives

Students will:

- Understand the concept of over-lapping social differences and cross-cutting differences.
- Examine the potential outcomes of over-lapping and cross cutting differences in society.

Learning outcomes

Students will be able to:

- Understand that overlapping differences lead to social divisions in society while cross cutting does not.

Key Terms

Overlapping differences	Cross cutting differences	Protestant
Ethnic Identities	Catholic	

Materials Needed

1. Projector to show videos
2. Print out of the activity sheet for concluding activity, depending upon the number of students in class.

Section II: How are we going to learn?

1. Introduction Discussion: What happens when more than one difference divides communities?

Time: 5 mins

- We discussed in the previous lesson how various social differences exist between people in a society. These differences can be by birth or by choice. We can choose to respond in different ways. Our responses to these differences can be in a way that is favourable to everyone or cause tensions and problems when we choose to divide ourselves on it.
- Now let's take another case, when a person has more than one difference or identity- let's say that they are from a lower caste and also poor. Or a person is from a particular religion and also rich.
- Having more than one identity can help a person relate to different people in different ways. However, it can also lead to a person facing more discrimination based on the position that they are in.
- For example, what happens when a person is from the minority community and is also poor? This would lead to a social division making this minority community feel even more isolated. While in other cases, this may not happen at all.
- There may be many social differences, but these differences may not combine to create social divisions.
- In this lesson, we are going to learn how communities can have multiple social differences and what problems these differences can potentially result in.

2. Overlapping differences

Time: 10-15 minutes

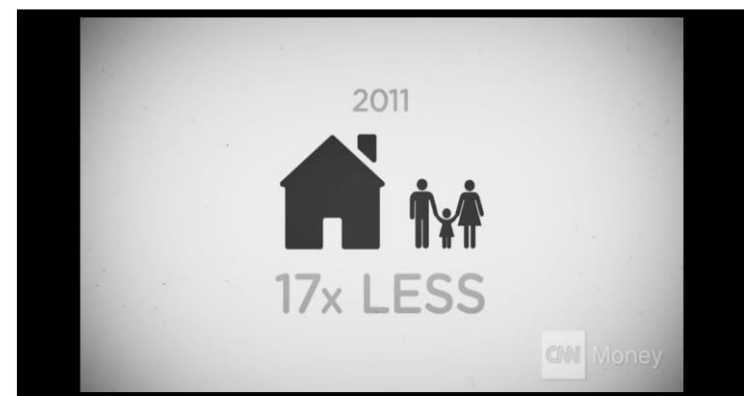
Note to the teacher:

- Let's see the following video to understand this better.

Video: Wealth: America's other racial divide.

The video explains how racism in America has created an economic divide between the black and white population in the country. There is a huge divide between the income of the White and Black people.

Link: [YouTube](#)



Facilitation notes:

- Let's break down what we saw and understand the social differences that are discussed in this video.

Questions	Potential answers
Which are the two groups being spoken about in the video?	The video talks about Black and White people in America.
Which group has historically faced discrimination in America (as discussed in the previous lesson)?	African-American (Black people) face discrimination in America.
What kind of social difference is the video specifically pointing at?	It is pointing at the income inequality between Black and White people in America. White people still hold the major share of wealth in America. We also saw in the video how Black people suffer from lack of housing along with income inequality. We can see through the video how social differences clearly exist in the American society and white people are more privileged than Black people even now.

- Social division takes place when some social difference **overlaps** with other differences. What are the two clear differences we see in the video (Race- white/ black and income- rich/ poor)
- Now is there a connection between the race and income.
- (The teacher to make the following table on the board)

Black	Poor
White	Rich

- If you are black, then is it more likely for you to be poor or rich? (Poor)
- (Underline black and poor)
- This means that race and income are creating greater divides in society. What do you think this overlap leads to? (tension, feeling of discrimination, anger etc.)

- The differences here imply one community clearly dominates the other. The difference between the Blacks and Whites becomes a social division in the US because the Blacks tend to be poor, homeless and discriminated against and the whites are rich and have access to all opportunities.
- Can someone draw a similar parallel in our country? Where a certain kind of people have also been historically poor and discriminated. (Expected answers: people from lower castes, minority religions etc)
- Such differences are called overlapping differences. Let's understand another example:

Video: The Northern Ireland Conflict: Easily Explained

The video very simply explains the conflict between Protestants and Catholics in Northern Ireland and how has that resulted in violence due to social division in the country.

Link: [YouTube](#)

Facilitation notes:

- *Ask students-* Which country is the video talking about?
(Northern Ireland. This region of the United Kingdom has been for many years the site of a violent and hateful ethno-political conflict. Its population is divided into two major sects of Christianity: 53 per cent are Protestants, while 44 per cent are Roman Catholics.)
- What is the cause of conflict between the two groups?
(The fight is between two Christian groups called 'Protestants' and 'Catholics'
The Catholics were represented by the nationalist parties who demanded that Northern Ireland be unified with the Republic of Ireland, a predominantly Catholic country. The Protestants were represented by Unionists who wanted to remain with the UK, which is predominantly protestant.
- It has resulted in years of war between the two groups. Hundreds of civilians, militants and security forces were killed in the fight between Unionists and Nationalists and between the security forces of the UK and the Nationalists.
- In 1998, a peace treaty was signed between the two groups. However, the divide is still very evident in form of segregated schools, housing, wall paintings etc.
- The Protestants in Ireland have the best living conditions. This leads to Catholics feeling discriminated against due to their religious identity.



2. Cross-cutting differences

Time: 10-15 mins

Facilitation Notes:

- Now let's discuss another example of a country called Netherlands.
- Netherlands consists of an almost equal number of Catholics and Protestants. There isn't a direct co-relation between one person's religion and their economic class. Any Catholic or Protestant is equally likely to be rich or poor in Netherlands.
- Netherlands has a long record of social tolerance. The government does not favour any of the communities which has resulted in everyone feeling like an equal part of the country.
- Catholics and Protestants are equally likely to be poor or rich. So, in a way, religion and incomes cut across each other. As a result, there is no conflict between Catholics and Protestants in the Netherlands.
- The Netherlands as a result ranks among the highest in international indexes of press freedom, economic freedom, human development, quality of life, as well as happiness.

De-Brief

Questions	Potential answers
What is the difference between Northern Ireland and Netherlands?	Catholics and Protestants are equally likely to be poor or rich as a result there is no conflict between Catholics and Protestants in the Netherlands. In Northern Ireland, as we saw above, if you are Catholic, you are more likely to be poor and you may have suffered a history of discrimination.
Why is there conflict in Northern Ireland?	Protestants try to dominate Catholics. As a result, the social difference between the two communities overlaps which leads to violence.
Why is there no conflict in Netherlands despite differences in religious beliefs of people?	No social group in Netherlands is trying to dominate the other social groups. The social differences in Netherlands cut-across each other making the society harmonious. Overlapping social differences create possibilities of deep social divisions and tensions. Cross-cutting social differences are easier to accommodate.
Between overlapping and cross cutting differences, which are more	Overlapping differences because they lead to divisions that cause deep

harmful and can have greater consequences?

divides between people.

How do social divisions affect politics? What does politics do to these social divisions?

Time- 15 mins

Facilitation Notes:

- We understand that when differences overlap, they cause greater divides between people. What can be the potential outcomes of these divides? Let's understand from the case of another small country in Europe.

3. Outcome of over-lapping differences in Yugoslavia

Time: 15 minutes

Note to the teacher:

Show the following video to the class. The students will be taking notes while watching the video. Pause the video in the middle and ask students for questions since the video can be slightly difficult to understand.

Video: Why did Yugoslavia collapse?

The video explains the disintegration of Yugoslavia due to over-lapping differences that turned into social division.

Link: [YouTube](#)

Facilitation notes:

- Political and economic instability began in Yugoslavia in the 1980's after the death of Prime Minister Joseph Tito.
- Yugoslavia was home to people from different ethnicities, language groups, religions, nationalities.



- The people of different nationalities started demanding an independent country.
- Different political parties started fighting amongst themselves which deepened the divide between people.
- In 1990's four republics declared their independence from Yugoslavia.
- This led to wars in the region. Many people died in these wars.
- People from different backgrounds could no more find a common ground to live together.
- Due to competition between two parties, a divide was created between the people based on the party.
- Political competition along religious ethnic ending ethnic lines led to disintegration of Yugoslavia into 6 independent countries.

De-brief

- We studied four countries today. I want you to fill this table (the students to first discuss this table on the board and then copy it in their notebooks):

Country	Type of Differences
USA	Over lapping
Netherlands	Cross cutting
Northern Islands	Over lapping
Yugoslavia	Over lapping

- From our discussion on these differences, what was the general result of over lapping differences? (They led to conflict, division, and tensions).
- Between the two, what type of differences had greater political consequences? (over-lapping differences because they led to the instability of the country).
- So, if a society is to stay strong, it is imperative that we do not let our social divisions overlap. As a society, we need to constantly make an effort to ensure that our differences cut across each other.

4. Concluding activity

Time: 10-15 minutes

Material needed: Slips of paper with one social identity for each student (printable version of the paper in the appendix)

Note to teacher:

- The purpose of this activity is to clarify any doubts students may have with respect to overlapping or cross cutting differences.
- The class is divided into two groups- group 1 and 2.

- Students in group 1 will get a slip with label A or B, students in group 2 will get a slip with a label C.
- (From the sheet below, cut out one slip each and hand them over to the respective students.)
- Students from group 1 have to go to students from group 2, they will try to combine information given in the two slips and make examples of differences.
- Label A will make overlapping differences with C.
- Label B will make cross cutting differences with C.
- For instance, a student in group 1 has a slip that says, 'Born a girl'. This student will have to find a student with a slip that combines this information to form an overlapping difference. He/she could find another student that says, 'this village does not let girls do a job'. So, the complete information- Born a girl and this village does not let girls do a job makes an overlapping difference.
- Similarly, students with label B have to create cross cutting differences.

Facilitation Notes:

- Let's close this lesson with a fun activity which will also clarify everyone's doubts about over-lapping and cross cutting differences.
- Each of you will now be given a slip of paper. Each slip will be labelled as A, B, or C. Each slip of paper has one example of a social identity given. Listen very carefully.
- All students with slip A or B have to find a student with slip C to create an overlapping or a cross cutting difference.
- Students with label A have to create an example of an overlapping difference. While students with label B have to create an example of a cross cutting difference.
- (distribute one chit of paper to each student from the appendix section)
- Now take five minutes and walk around the class to find the correct partner for yourself.
- (Give students 5 minutes to make their pairs and then take a few responses)
- Discuss with your partner how the difference that you have selected will impact politics of this imaginary country.
- Please note: There are no right or wrong answers to this, the idea is to encourage discussion on different scenarios that come out of this exercise.

A. Born in India as a Muslim Girl	B. Born in India as a Muslim Girl	C. Live in a village where girls are not allowed to go to school.
A. Born as a boy	B. Born as a boy	C. Religious minorities are not permitted to hold

		elected offices.
A. Born a religious minority	B. Born a religious minority	C. Preference given to rich upper caste people for jobs.
A. Born as fair skinned	B. Born as fair skinned	C. Lower castes not given homes on rent in safe neighbourhoods.
A. Born as dark skinned	B. Born as dark skinned	C. Girls and Boys have equal access to education.
A. Born as an upper caste Hindu boy	B. Born as an upper caste Hindu boy	C. Born in a country where boys are expected to only do low paying jobs as manual labour.
A. Born as a lower-caste girl	B. Born as a lower-caste girl	C. Fair skinned people are given preferences to get admissions in schools.
A. Born as a girl	B. Born as a girl	C. Dark skinned and fair skinned people are given equal access to government facilities.

Section III: Closure

Time: 5 minutes

Summary by students

Note to the teacher: Select a student at random to summarize the key points and learnings of the session.

Recap by a studentTime: 2 minutes**Recap by the teacher**Time: 3 minutes

- Overlapping social differences refer to the case when one social difference becomes more powerful, due to the impact of another.
- Cross-cutting social difference is the situation when a social difference is compromised with another.
- If political parties start competing in terms of some existing social division, it can make social divisions into political divisions and lead to conflict, violence or even disintegration of a country.
- Outcome of a social difference is dependent upon the governments and the people's response to it.
- Northern Ireland and Netherlands are both Christian countries divided into Catholics and Protestants.
- There has been no conflict in Netherlands between the two groups as Catholics and Protestants are equally likely to be rich or poor.
- In Northern Ireland there has been an ongoing conflict for years between the two Christian communities because Catholics are more likely to be poor and discriminated against.
- In the next session/class we will learn about over-lapping differences in India and their outcomes.

Section IV: Assessment**Pop Quiz**Time: 5 minutes**Facilitation Notes:**

- When does a social difference become a social division?
- What groups did the conflict exist between in Northern Ireland?
- _____ social differences create possibilities of deep social divisions and tensions. _____ social differences do not usually lead to conflict.
- Consider the following three statements.
 - Social divisions take place when social differences overlap.
 - It is possible that a person can have multiple identities.
 - Social divisions exist in only big countries like India.

Which of the statements is/are correct? (a) A, B and C (b) A and B (c) B and C (d) Only C

Section V: Homework:

1. Ask students to read the case study on Page number 35 of this chapter and answer the questions given in the study.
2. Read the following passage from a famous speech by Martin Luther King Jr. in 1963:

“I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the colour of their skin but by the content of their character. Let freedom ring. And when this happens, and when we allow freedom ring—when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God’s children—black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics—will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual: ‘Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!’ I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: ‘We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal’.”

- Which social division is he talking about? What are his aspirations and anxieties?
- Do you see a relationship between this speech and the incident in Mexico Olympics mentioned in this chapter?

Section VI: Additional Resources

Resources for teachers:

1. Reading: Two Tribes: A divided Northern Ireland

The article explains how despite an increase in the Catholic Population in Northern Ireland and the decline of Protestant majority there is a huge divide between the two communities.

Link: [The Irish Times](#)

2. Reading: Between wealth and poverty. Former Yugoslavia 25 years after the breakup

This article talks about the current situation of each country that disintegrated from Yugoslavia 25 years ago. Before disintegration Yugoslavia was considered the best developed of all communist states, today most former Yugoslav republics are rather poor countries.

Link: [Central European Financial observer](#)

Resources for students:

1. Reading: How two students with different political beliefs formed a unique friendship

The videos discusses how two students with very different political beliefs have not only formed a friendship but have also created a culture of acceptance and dialogue in the university

Link: [Seattle Pacific University Voice](#)

2. Video: Amahlubi living in harmony with Batswana neighbours for 91 years

The video shows a group of Amahlubi from the Eastern Cape have been living side by side with their Batswana neighbours in the Rustenburg area for the last 91 years. Locals say this serves as an example of how to live together in harmony despite cultural differences.

Link: [YouTube](#)

3. Reading: War denying millions of children an education

The article discusses how due to political conflict 50 million students are not able to attend school.

Link: [The Guardian](#)

Appendix

Printable worksheet for the concluding activity

A. Born in India as a Muslim Girl	B. Born in India as a Muslim Girl	C. Live in a village where girls are not allowed to go to school.
A. Born as a boy	B. Born as a boy	C. Reservation for Jobs for minorities
A. Born a religious minority	B. Born a religious minority	Preference given to rich upper caste people for jobs.
A. Born as fair skinned	B. Born as fair skinned	C. Lower castes not given homes on rent in safe neighbourhoods.
A. Born as dark skinned	B. Born as dark skinned	C. Girls and Boys have equal access to education.
A. Born as an upper caste Hindu boy	B. Born as an upper caste Hindu boy	C. Born in a country where boys are expected to only do low paying jobs as manual labour.
A. Born as a lower caste girl	B. Born as a lower caste girl	C. Fair skinned people are given preferences to get admissions in schools.
A. Born as a girl	B. Born as a girl	C. Dark skinned and fair skinned people are given equal access to government facilities.
		C. Religious minorities are not permitted to hold elected offices.
		C. Religious minorities are allowed to vote first in every election.

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