

# **Constitution of India**

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**AAO EXAM PAPER -II**

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# PREAMBLE

*“WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a **SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC** and to secure to all its citizens:  
JUSTICE, Social, Economic and Political;  
LIBERTY of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship;  
EQUALITY of status and of opportunity;  
and to promote among them all  
FRATERNITY assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the Nation;  
IN OUR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY this twenty-sixth day of November, 1949, do **HEREBY ADOPT, ENACT AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THIS CONSTITUTION.**”*

## What is a Preamble?

A preamble is an introductory section of a document that outlines its philosophy and objectives. In the context of a constitution, it conveys the intentions of its framers, the historical context of its creation, and the fundamental values and principles that define the nation.

## Ingredients Of The Preamble

The Preamble reveals four ingredients or components:

1. **Source of authority of the Constitution:** The Preamble states that the Constitution derives its authority from the people of India.
2. **Nature of Indian State:** It declares India to be of a sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic and republican polity.
3. **Objectives of the Constitution:** It specifies justice, liberty, equality and fraternity as the objectives.
4. **Date of adoption** of the Constitution: It stipulates November 26, 1949 as the date.

5. Preamble embodies the **ideal, hopes, faith and aspiration** of the people
6. **Equality of status and opportunity**- refer to social, economic and political affair
7. Preamble is part of the Constitution and **can be amended only if no change in the basic structure is made.**

### Key words in the Preamble

- **We, the people of India:** It indicates the **ultimate sovereignty of the people of India.** Sovereignty means the independent authority of the State, not being subject to the control of any other State or external power.
- **Sovereign:** The term means that India has its **own independent authority** and it is not a dominion of any other external power. In the country, the **legislature has the power to make laws** which are subject to certain limitations.
- **Socialist:** The term means the **achievement of socialist ends through democratic** means. It holds faith in a **mixed economy** where both private and public sectors co-exist side by side.
  - It was added in the Preamble by 42<sup>nd</sup> Amendment, 1976.
- **Secular:** The term means that all the **religions in India get equal respect**, protection and support from the state.
  - It was incorporated in the Preamble by 42<sup>nd</sup> Constitutional Amendment, 1976.
- **Democratic:** The term implies that the Constitution of India has an established form of Constitution which gets its authority from the will of the people expressed in an election.
- **Republic:** The term indicates that **the head of the state is elected** by the people. In India, the President of India is the elected head of the state.

## Objectives of the Indian Constitution

The Indian Constitution serves as the supreme law of the land, aimed at maintaining societal integrity and promoting unity among citizens to build a strong nation.

**The factors which help in achieving this objective are:**

1. **Harmony and Unity:** The primary objective of the Indian Constitution is to foster harmony throughout the nation.
2. **Justice:** This is a fundamental principle that encompasses three key elements:
  - **Social Justice:** The Constitution aims to create a society free from discrimination based on caste, creed, gender, religion, or any other factors.
  - **Economic Justice:** Economic justice ensures that no discrimination occurs based on wealth, income, or economic status. Everyone is entitled to equal pay for equal work and should have opportunities to earn a living.
  - **Political Justice:** Political justice guarantees that all individuals have equal rights to participate in political processes, free from discrimination.
3. **Equality:** The concept of equality ensures that no section of society enjoys special privileges. All individuals are provided equal opportunities and are treated equally under the law.
4. **Liberty:** Liberty refers to the freedom of individuals to choose their way of life, express political views, and engage in social activities. However, this freedom is bounded by the limits set by law.
5. **Fraternity:** Fraternity embodies a sense of brotherhood and emotional connection among citizens, promoting dignity and unity within the nation.

These principles collectively underpin the Constitution's role in shaping a just and equitable society.