

## Chapter - 1

# Understanding Diversity

**Ques** Draw up a list of the different festivals celebrated in your locality. Which of these celebrations are shared by members of different regional and religious communities?

**Ans** The different festivals celebrated in our locality are -

- 1) Holi
- 2) Pusal
- 3) Id (Eid)
- 4) Christmas
- 5) Baisakhi
- 6) Durga Puja etc

Holi, Pusal, Durga Puja are celebrated by Hindus. Id by Muslims, Baisakhi by Sikhs and Christmas by Christian communities.

**Ques** What do you think living in India with its rich heritage of diversity adds to your life?

**Ans** Living in India with its rich heritage of diversity adds variety to our life and enriches it significantly. It helps us to understand that one thing can be done in many

different ways. It teaches us to be open-minded and tolerant. It helps us evolve as better human beings because we respect people with different religious beliefs, viewpoints, tastes, customs and cultures.

Q3 Do you think the term 'unity in diversity' is an appropriate term to describe India? What do you think Nehru is trying to say about Indian unity in the sentence quoted above from his book 'The discovery of India'?

Ans: 'unity in diversity' is surely an appropriate description of India. Pt. Nehru has explained that Indians are having unity with all their diversities from the period of their first civilization and it is not influenced by any other part of the world but it comes from our inner soul or heart.

Ques 4 Underline the line in the poem sung after the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, which according to you, reflects India's essential unity.

Ans 4 "The blood of Hindus and Muslims flow together today!"  
This line reflects Indian unity. Because when it comes to struggling for freedom of the country. The Hindus and Muslims come together to fight and their blood flow together.

Q5 Choose another region in India and do a similar study of the historical and geographical factors that influence the diversity found here. Are these historical and geographical factors connected to each other? How?

Ans) (5) Yes, the historical and geographical experiences of any area connects to various way of life of that area people.

Historical Experiences → Many people of different races entered in India from the north-west and settled in Punjab and mixed with the people of that region. So they are modern and developed, whereas Bihar witnessed no such intermixing of the people that's why they are backward and still developing.

b) Geographical Experiences — The people of Punjab gets moderate to little rainfall and soil of that area is mixture of sand and clay so they grow pulses and wheat. Chapati and dal is the main food of that region. whereas Bihar gets moderate to heavy rainfall and soil has more clay content that's why people grow rice and that is the main food of that region.

Anshika  
Singh