R.K.
GROUP OF COLLEGE

Behind Kalwar Police Station, Kalwar, Jaipur (Raj.)

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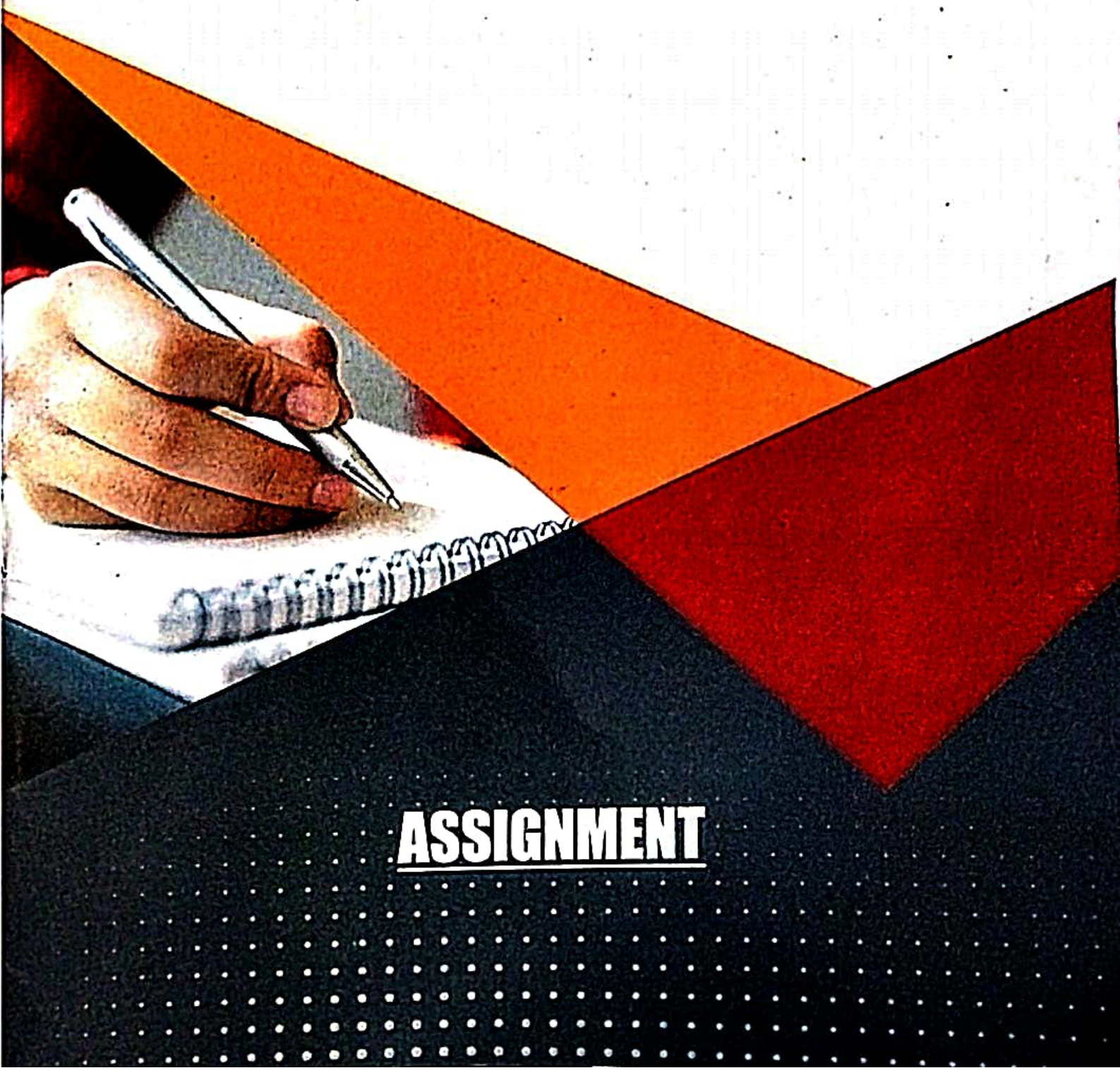
ASSIGNMENT

1. Development of Sociological Thought in India

India has a long tradition of sociological thought, with roots in ancient texts and philosophy. Modern sociology emerged during British colonial rule, when British officials used ethnography, anthropology, and sociology to understand Indian society. Before independence, sociology began to be taught as an academic subject in several universities. In 1924, Patrick Geddes established a Department of Sociology and Civics at Bombay University. Later, scholars like G.S. Ghurye made significant contributions to its development. In 1952, Ghurye founded the "Indian Sociological Society." After independence, Indian sociology studied the cultural, economic, and political directions of Indian society. Sociologists like D.P. Mukerji, A.R. Desai, M.N. Srinivas, and S.C. Dube used diverse approaches such as Marxist and structural-functional perspectives.

2. Swami Vivekananda's Social Ideas

Swami Vivekananda emphasized nationalism and the preservation of the Vedic educational system. He advocated for social justice and equal opportunities for all. He believed that serving humanity is equivalent to serving God, as every human being embodies the divine. According to Vivekananda, each individual must focus on inner development. His famous saying is: "Arise, awake, and stop not till the goal is reached." He opposed superstition and dogma and supported women's education and social reforms.

3. Radhakamal Mukerjee's Views on Social Values and Culture

Radhakamal Mukerjee (1889–1968) is recognized as one of the pioneering sociologists of India. He developed the concept of "Social Ecology," which studies the relationship between humans and their environment. Mukerjee argued that culture plays a crucial role in shaping ecological relationships. According to him, values are essential for the harmony and progress of society. He believed that value-based behavior is a fundamental part of social interaction and that, unlike Western thought, facts and values cannot be separated in Indian society. His ideas are significant for areas like environmental sociology, ecological economics, and sustainable development.

4. M.N. Srinivas's Structural-Functional Approach and Sociological Significance

M.N. Srinivas introduced the structural-functional approach to sociological research in India. According to this approach, society is a complex system whose various parts work together for unity and stability. Srinivas emphasized fieldwork to understand this perspective. He developed important concepts such as "Dominant Caste" and "Sanskritization." His concept of dominant caste has been widely used by sociologists, anthropologists, and politicians. He also showed how the traditional caste system is changing in modern times, leading to increasing competition and conflict among different castes. His work is regarded as essential for understanding the dynamics and cultural practices of Indian society.