



# **RKDF UNIVERSITY, BHOPAL**

Open Distance Learning program

**Faculty of Social Science**

**Course-BA**

**Subject:-SOCIOLOGY**

**Semester:-Second**

## **SYLLABUS**

Course	Category	Subject	SubjectCode
<b>B.A.</b>	<b>MAJOR</b>	<b>BASIC CONCEPT OF SOCIOLOGY</b>	<b>BA-SO 201</b>
<b>Total Credit: 6</b>		<b>Max.Marks:100 (Internal:40+External:60)</b>	

Units	Topic	Duration (In Hours)	Marks
I	Emergence of Sociology : 1. Tradition of Indian Thinking 2. Sociology 2.1 Meaning 2.2 Scope 2.3 Subject Matter 2.4 Importance 3. Origin and Development of Sociology (Including Special Reference to Madhya Pradesh) 4. Sociology as a Science 5. Humanistic Orientation in Sociology 6. Relationship with other Social Sciences 7. Sociology and Professions	18	20
II	<b>Basic Concepts:</b> 1. Society 2. Relation between Individual and Society 3. Community 4. Association 5. Institution 6. Social Group 7. Social Structure and Function 8. Status and Role	19	20
III	<b>Social Organization and Institutions:</b> (Concept, Emergence, Development, Forms and Challenges) 1. Social Organization 2. Social System 3. Family 4. Kinship 5. Marriage 6. Caste, Class and Power 7. Education	18	20
IV	Socio – Cultural Processes: 1. Culture 1.1 Meaning 1.2 Characteristics 1.3 Types 1.4 Components of culture. 1.5 Cultural Lag	18	20

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.6 Culture and Civilization</li> <li>2. Socialization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.1 Meaning</li> <li>2.2 Characteristics</li> <li>2.3 Stages</li> <li>2.4 Agencies</li> <li>2.5 Types</li> <li>2.6 Importance</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Social Processes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3.1 Cooperation</li> <li>3.2 Accommodation</li> <li>3.3 Competition,</li> <li>3.4. Conflict</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
V	<p><b>Social Control and Change:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Social Control <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1 Meaning</li> <li>1.2 Characteristics</li> <li>1.3 Types</li> <li>1.4 Means of Social Control</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Social Stratification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.1 Meaning</li> <li>2.2 Characteristics</li> <li>2.3 Bases</li> <li>2.4 Forms</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Social Mobility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3.1 Meaning</li> <li>3.2 Characteristics</li> <li>3.3 Types</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Social Change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4.1 Meaning</li> <li>4.2 Characteristics</li> <li>4.3 Factors of Social Change</li> <li>4.4 Patterns of Social Change</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	18	20

## Recommended Books:-

### Part- C Learning Resource

#### Text Books, Reference Books, Other Resources

#### Suggested Readings:

- 1- Maclver, Robert M & Charles Hunt Page (1949) Society: An Introductory Analysis, New York.
- 2- Beteille Andre (1965) Caste Class & Power, California University. Berkeley.
- 3- Ghurye GS (1961) Caste. Class & occupation. Popular Book Depot., Bombay.
- 4- Ogburn & Nimkoff (1947) Hand Book of Sociology, K.PAUL, Trench, Prebner and Comp. Ltd. London.
- 5- Giddens, A. (2006) Sociology (5<sup>th</sup> ed.) Oxford University Press. London
- 6- Horton and Hunt, (1964) Sociology – A Systematic Introduction. Allied Publishers Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi.
- 7- Johnson, Harry M., (1988) Sociology – A systematic Introduction. Allied Publishers Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi.
- 8- Inkeles Alex, (1977) What is Sociology – Prentice – Hall of India, Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
- 9- Shankar Rao C.N. (2019) Sociology-S Chand and Company Ltd. New Delhi
- 10- Shankar Rao C.N. (2018) Sociology of Indian Society – S Chand and Company Ltd. New Delhi
- 11- Pandey Vinita (2016) Indian Society and Culture, Rawat Publication. Jaipur,
- 12- Bhushan Vidya and Sachdeva D.R. (2000) Kitab Mahal, Allahabad.

Suggestive digital platforms web links

[https://nios.ac.in/online-course-material/sr-secondary-courses/Sociology-\(331\).aspx](https://nios.ac.in/online-course-material/sr-secondary-courses/Sociology-(331).aspx)

#### **Suggested equivalent online courses:**

IGNOU & Other centrally/state operated Universities/MOOC platforms such as “SWYAM” in Indian and Abroad.

# UNIT I

## **Emergence of Sociology**

The emergence of sociology as a distinct field of study occurred during the 19th century, influenced by several social, economic, and intellectual transformations. Here are the key factors and historical developments that contributed to the rise of sociology:

### **1. The Enlightenment**

The Enlightenment (17th-18th centuries) was an intellectual movement emphasizing reason, individualism, and skepticism of traditional authorities. Enlightenment thinkers such as John Locke, Voltaire, and Jean-Jacques Rousseau questioned established institutions and beliefs, promoting ideas about social progress and human rights that laid the groundwork for sociological thinking.

### **2. Industrial Revolution**

The Industrial Revolution (late 18th-19th centuries) brought about profound economic and social changes. Rapid industrialization led to urbanization, changes in family structures, and new social classes. The resulting social upheaval, including issues such as poverty, labor exploitation, and the breakdown of traditional communities, created a need for a systematic study of society.

### **3. Political Revolutions**

The American Revolution (1775-1783) and the French Revolution (1789-1799) challenged the traditional political and social orders. These revolutions promoted ideas of liberty, equality, and democracy, inspiring further inquiry into the nature of society, governance, and social change.

### **4. Scientific Advances**

The success of the natural sciences in explaining the physical world inspired a similar approach to studying the social world. The application of scientific methods to social phenomena aimed to uncover laws governing human behavior and societal organization.

### **5. Key Pioneers in Sociology**

Several early thinkers contributed to the development of sociology as a distinct discipline:

- **Auguste Comte (1798-1857):** Often called the "father of sociology," Comte coined the term "sociology" and proposed a scientific approach to studying society. He believed in positivism, the idea that society could be studied using the same scientific methods as natural sciences.
- **Karl Marx (1818-1883):** Marx's analysis of capitalism, class struggle, and historical materialism provided a critical perspective on social structures and inequalities.

- **Herbert Spencer (1820-1903):** Spencer applied the theory of evolution to societies, advocating the idea of social Darwinism, which emphasized the survival of the fittest in social contexts.
- **Émile Durkheim (1858-1917):** Durkheim established sociology as an academic discipline. His work on social integration, collective consciousness, and the study of social facts laid the foundation for functionalist perspectives.
- **Max Weber (1864-1920):** Weber's work focused on the effects of rationalization, bureaucracy, and religion on society. He emphasized the importance of understanding the meanings and motivations behind social actions.

## 6. Institutionalization of Sociology

By the late 19th and early 20th centuries, sociology began to be institutionalized as an academic discipline. The first departments of sociology were established in universities, and professional associations such as the American Sociological Association (founded in 1905) were formed. Academic journals dedicated to sociological research also emerged during this period.

## 7. Expansion and Diversification

Throughout the 20th century, sociology expanded to include various subfields and theoretical perspectives. The discipline diversified to address issues related to race, gender, and global inequality, reflecting the complexity and changing dynamics of modern societies.

The emergence of sociology as a distinct discipline was driven by a combination of intellectual currents, social transformations, and the contributions of key thinkers who sought to understand and address the profound changes occurring in their societies.

## Tradition of Indian Thinking

Indian thinking, or Indian philosophy, encompasses a rich and diverse tradition that spans thousands of years. It includes a variety of schools of thought, religious beliefs, and philosophical systems. Here is an overview of the major traditions in Indian philosophy:

### 1. Vedic Tradition

- **Vedas:** The oldest sacred texts of Hinduism, composed in Sanskrit, including the Rigveda, Samaveda, Yajurveda, and Atharvaveda. They are a collection of hymns, rituals, and philosophical discourses.
- **Upanishads:** Philosophical texts that form the theoretical basis for the Vedic tradition, exploring concepts like Brahman (ultimate reality) and Atman (soul).

### 2. Orthodox (Astika) Schools

These schools accept the authority of the Vedas.

- **Nyaya:** Focuses on logic and epistemology, emphasizing systematic reasoning and debate.
- **Vaisheshika:** Concerned with metaphysics and categorizing the physical and non-physical universe into different entities.
- **Samkhya:** A dualistic system that distinguishes between Purusha (consciousness) and Prakriti (matter).
- **Yoga:** Emphasizes practices and disciplines (like meditation and ethical conduct) to achieve spiritual liberation (moksha). Closely related to Samkhya.
- **Purva Mimamsa:** Focuses on the ritualistic aspects of the Vedas and the importance of performing duties (dharma).
- **Vedanta:** Explores the nature of reality, with key sub-schools including Advaita (non-dualism), Vishishtadvaita (qualified non-dualism), and Dvaita (dualism).

### 3. Heterodox (Nastika) Schools

These schools reject the authority of the Vedas.

- **Buddhism:** Founded by Siddhartha Gautama (Buddha), it teaches the Four Noble Truths and the Eightfold Path as a way to end suffering (dukkha) and achieve Nirvana.
- **Jainism:** Founded by Mahavira, it emphasizes non-violence (ahimsa), truth, and asceticism as paths to liberation.
- **Charvaka:** A materialistic and atheistic school that rejects the supernatural and emphasizes direct perception and empirical evidence.

### 4. Bhakti and Sufi Traditions

- **Bhakti Movement:** A devotional movement emphasizing love and devotion to personal gods like Vishnu, Shiva, and the goddess Devi. It includes poets and saints like Kabir, Tulsidas, and Mirabai.
- **Sufism:** The mystical Islamic tradition in India, focusing on the inner path to God, with famous saints like Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti and Nizamuddin Auliya.

### 5. Modern Indian Thinkers

- **Swami Vivekananda:** Advocated for Vedanta and Yoga in the modern world, emphasizing the unity of all religions.
- **Rabindranath Tagore:** A poet and philosopher who emphasized humanism and the synthesis of Eastern and Western thought.
- **Mahatma Gandhi:** Promoted non-violence (ahimsa) and truth (satyagraha) as means for social and political change.
- **B.R. Ambedkar:** A social reformer and the principal architect of the Indian Constitution, who critiqued the caste system and worked for the rights of marginalized communities.
- **Sri Aurobindo:** A philosopher and spiritual leader who integrated yoga and modern science, focusing on spiritual evolution and human unity.

### 6. Contemporary Indian Philosophy

- **Postcolonial Thought:** Engages with issues of identity, culture, and power in the context of India's colonial history and its aftermath.
- **Feminist Theory:** Examines the roles, experiences, and representations of women in Indian society and challenges patriarchal structures.
- **Dalit Studies:** Focuses on the experiences and struggles of Dalits (formerly "untouchables"), advocating for social justice and equality.

Indian philosophical thought is characterized by its diversity and depth, with a rich history of intellectual inquiry and spiritual exploration. The various traditions and thinkers have contributed to a complex and multifaceted understanding of life, reality, and the human condition.

## **Sociology :Meaning, Scope, Subject, Matter,Importance**

Sociology is the systematic study of society, social relationships, and social institutions. It involves analyzing and understanding social behavior, social structures, and the patterns of social interaction. Here are some key aspects of sociology:

### **1. Definition**

Sociology is the scientific study of society, including its development, structure, functioning, and the relationships within it. It seeks to understand how human behavior is shaped by social contexts, institutions, and interactions.

### **2. Scope and Focus**

- **Social Behavior:** Sociology examines how individuals and groups behave and interact within society.
- **Social Structures:** It studies the organized patterns of social relationships and social institutions, such as family, education, religion, and economy.
- **Social Institutions:** Sociology explores established systems of norms and values that guide social life, such as marriage, religion, and government.
- **Social Change:** It investigates how societies change over time and the factors driving such changes.
- **Social Inequality:** Sociology analyzes disparities in wealth, power, and status within societies, focusing on issues like class, race, and gender.

### **3. Key Concepts**

- **Culture:** The beliefs, behaviors, objects, and other characteristics shared by members of a society.
- **Socialization:** The process through which individuals learn and internalize the values and norms of their society.
- **Roles and Status:** The behaviors expected of individuals in certain social positions and the prestige associated with those positions.
- **Social Groups:** Collections of individuals who interact and form relationships, such as families, communities, and peer groups.



- **Social Institutions:** Structured systems of social order governing behavior, such as the legal system, education system, and religious organizations.
- **Social Stratification:** The hierarchical arrangement of individuals into different social classes or castes based on wealth, power, and status.
- **Deviance and Social Control:** The study of behaviors that violate social norms and the mechanisms societies use to maintain order.

#### 4. Theoretical Perspectives

- **Functionalism:** Views society as a complex system whose parts work together to promote stability and social order.
- **Conflict Theory:** Focuses on the struggles between different social groups, particularly in terms of power and resources.
- **Symbolic Interactionism:** Analyzes how individuals create and interpret symbols and meanings in social interactions.
- **Feminist Theory:** Examines gender inequalities and advocates for gender equality.
- **Postmodernism:** Critiques established narratives and emphasizes the fragmented, subjective nature of social reality.

#### 5. Research Methods

Sociology employs a variety of research methods to study social phenomena:

- **Quantitative Methods:** Include surveys, experiments, and statistical analysis to collect and analyze numerical data.
- **Qualitative Methods:** Include interviews, ethnography, and content analysis to gather and interpret non-numerical data.

#### 6. Applications

Sociology has practical applications in many areas, including:

- **Public Policy:** Informing the design and implementation of policies that address social issues.
- **Education:** Enhancing teaching and learning through understanding social dynamics in educational settings.
- **Healthcare:** Improving health outcomes by addressing social determinants of health.
- **Business:** Understanding consumer behavior and organizational dynamics.
- **Criminology:** Analyzing the causes and consequences of crime and developing strategies for prevention and rehabilitation.

In summary, sociology is a diverse and dynamic field that seeks to understand the complexities of human society and social life through rigorous scientific inquiry.

The scope of sociology is vast and encompasses a wide range of topics, areas, and fields of study. Sociology investigates the complexities of social life, the structure of societies, the

dynamics of social relationships, and the mechanisms of social change. Here are some key areas that outline the scope of sociology:

### 1. Social Institutions

- **Family:** Examines family structures, relationships, dynamics, and roles within households.
- **Education:** Studies educational systems, processes, policies, and their impact on society.
- **Religion:** Analyzes religious beliefs, practices, institutions, and their role in social life.
- **Economy:** Investigates economic systems, labor markets, and the relationship between economy and society.
- **Politics:** Explores political institutions, processes, power dynamics, and governance.
- **Healthcare:** Looks at health systems, health behaviors, medical institutions, and the social determinants of health.

### 2. Social Structures

- **Social Stratification:** Studies the hierarchical arrangement of individuals and groups in society, focusing on class, caste, gender, race, and ethnicity.
- **Social Mobility:** Examines the movement of individuals or groups within the social hierarchy.
- **Social Inequality:** Investigates disparities in wealth, income, education, and power among different social groups.

### 3. Social Processes

- **Socialization:** The process through which individuals learn and internalize societal norms, values, and roles.
- **Deviance and Social Control:** Studies behaviors that violate social norms and the mechanisms societies use to regulate behavior and maintain social order.
- **Collective Behavior and Social Movements:** Analyzes how groups of people behave collectively and the emergence and impact of social movements.

### 4. Social Interactions

- **Micro-sociology:** Focuses on small-scale interactions between individuals and groups, including socialization, communication, and everyday social interactions.
- **Symbolic Interactionism:** Investigates how individuals create and interpret symbols and meanings in social interactions.

### 5. Culture

- **Cultural Sociology:** Examines cultural norms, values, symbols, and practices and how they influence social life.
- **Mass Media and Communication:** Studies the role and impact of media and communication technologies on society.

## 6. Demography

- **Population Studies:** Analyzes population size, composition, distribution, and trends.
- **Urban and Rural Sociology:** Studies the social structures, processes, and issues specific to urban and rural areas.

## 7. Globalization

- **Global Sociology:** Examines the impact of globalization on social, economic, and cultural processes across different societies.
- **Comparative Sociology:** Compares social phenomena across different cultures and societies to understand similarities and differences.

## 8. Applied Sociology

- **Public Policy:** Uses sociological research to inform and develop policies that address social issues.
- **Criminology:** Studies the causes, consequences, and prevention of crime.
- **Industrial Sociology:** Examines the social aspects of work and industry, including labor relations and organizational behavior.
- **Medical Sociology:** Analyzes the social aspects of health, illness, and healthcare systems.

## 9. Theoretical Sociology

- **Classical Theories:** Studies the foundational theories and ideas of early sociologists like Karl Marx, Max Weber, and Émile Durkheim.
- **Contemporary Theories:** Explores modern sociological theories and perspectives, including feminism, critical theory, postmodernism, and more.

## 10. Methodological Approaches

- **Quantitative Methods:** Employs statistical techniques to analyze numerical data collected through surveys, experiments, and secondary data sources.
- **Qualitative Methods:** Uses non-numerical data obtained through interviews, ethnography, participant observation, and content analysis to understand social phenomena.

## Conclusion

The scope of sociology is extensive, encompassing various aspects of human social life and providing insights into the functioning of societies. Sociologists use a range of theoretical perspectives and methodological approaches to study and understand the complexities of social reality, contributing to our knowledge of social processes and helping to address societal challenges.

**Subject matter of Sociology-** Sociology is the study of society.

- The science of social life.
- The study of social relationships.
- The study of the behaviour of man.
- The study of human behaviour in groups \
- The study of forms of social relationships. \
- The study of social action. \
- The study of social groups and social systems \
- The study of human interactions and interrelations, their conditions and consequences.
- The study of social phenomena.
- The study of human society's origin, growth, and development

## Origin and Development of Sociology (Including Special Reference to Madhya Pradesh)

The origin and development of sociology, particularly with reference to key contributions from sociologists, can be understood through a historical overview of the field. Here is a detailed account:

### Origin of Sociology

Sociology emerged as a distinct discipline in the 19th century amidst significant social, political, and economic changes. The Industrial Revolution, the rise of capitalism, urbanization, and political revolutions such as the French Revolution were major catalysts that spurred interest in studying society scientifically.

### Early Thinkers and Foundations

- **Auguste Comte (1798-1857):** Often regarded as the "father of sociology," Comte coined the term "sociology" and established the field as a science. He proposed the idea of positivism, emphasizing the use of scientific methods to study social phenomena.
- **Karl Marx (1818-1883):** Marx focused on the conflicts between different social classes, particularly the struggles between the bourgeoisie (capitalists) and the proletariat (workers). His work laid the groundwork for conflict theory.
- **Herbert Spencer (1820-1903):** Spencer applied the concept of evolution to societies, advocating for social Darwinism, which emphasized the survival of the fittest in societal contexts.
- **Émile Durkheim (1858-1917):** Durkheim's work on social facts, collective consciousness, and the study of social integration and anomie (normlessness) significantly shaped functionalism.

- **Max Weber (1864-1920):** Weber's contributions include his analysis of bureaucracy, the process of rationalization, and the significance of cultural and religious influences on social actions.

## Development of Sociology

- **Institutionalization:** By the late 19th and early 20th centuries, sociology became institutionalized as an academic discipline. The first sociology departments were established in universities, and professional associations, such as the American Sociological Association (founded in 1905), were formed.
- **Expansion of Theories and Methods:** Throughout the 20th century, sociology expanded its theoretical and methodological approaches. This period saw the development of symbolic interactionism (e.g., George Herbert Mead), structural functionalism (e.g., Talcott Parsons), and critical theory (e.g., the Frankfurt School).

## Sociology in the Indian Context

Sociology in India developed in response to the unique social, cultural, and political contexts of the country. Indian sociologists have contributed significantly to global sociological thought, while also focusing on indigenous social issues.

- **Early Influences:** The establishment of sociology as a discipline in India can be traced to the influence of British colonial rule and Western education. Indian scholars were exposed to Western social theories and methodologies, which they adapted to study Indian society.
- **Pioneering Indian Sociologists:**
  - **G.S. Ghurye (1893-1983):** Often considered the father of Indian sociology, Ghurye's work focused on caste, tribes, and kinship in India.
  - **M.N. Srinivas (1916-1999):** Known for his work on social stratification, particularly the concept of "Sanskritization," which describes the process by which lower castes seek upward mobility by adopting the practices of higher castes.
  - **D.P. Mukerji (1894-1961):** Emphasized the importance of historical and cultural contexts in sociological research and advocated for an indigenized sociology in India.
  - **A.R. Desai (1915-1994):** A Marxist sociologist who analyzed Indian society through the lens of historical materialism, focusing on the impacts of colonialism and capitalism.

## Contemporary Developments

- **Diverse Research Areas:** Modern Indian sociology covers a wide range of topics, including urbanization, globalization, gender studies, rural development, and social movements.
- **Interdisciplinary Approaches:** Indian sociologists increasingly adopt interdisciplinary approaches, integrating insights from anthropology, history, economics, and political science.
- **Global Contributions:** Indian sociologists continue to contribute to global sociological debates, providing unique perspectives based on the diverse and complex social fabric of India.

## Conclusion

The origin and development of sociology reflect a dynamic interplay between social changes and intellectual advancements. From its roots in 19th-century Europe to its establishment and growth in India, sociology has evolved to address the diverse and complex issues of societies worldwide. Indian sociologists have played a crucial role in this evolution, enriching the field with their insights and analyses of Indian society.

## Sociology as a Science

Sociology as a science involves the systematic study of society, social relationships, and social institutions using scientific methods. This classification is based on several key characteristics that sociology shares with other scientific disciplines. Here is a detailed explanation of why sociology is considered a science:

### 1. Systematic Methods

Sociology employs systematic methods of empirical investigation and critical analysis. Sociologists use both qualitative and quantitative research methods to gather data and test hypotheses about social phenomena.

- **Quantitative Methods:** Surveys, experiments, and statistical analysis are used to collect and analyze numerical data. These methods allow for the measurement and comparison of social variables.
- **Qualitative Methods:** Interviews, ethnography, participant observation, and content analysis provide in-depth understanding of social processes and contexts.

### 2. Empirical Evidence

Sociology relies on empirical evidence, meaning it bases its findings on observed and verifiable data rather than on beliefs or assumptions. Sociologists gather data through systematic observation, experimentation, and documentation.

### 3. Theoretical Frameworks

Sociology develops and uses theoretical frameworks to explain social phenomena. These theories provide a structured way to understand and interpret social behaviors and patterns. Some key sociological theories include:

- **Functionalism:** Focuses on the functions of various social institutions and their role in maintaining social stability.
- **Conflict Theory:** Examines the power struggles and conflicts between different social groups, often focusing on issues of inequality.
- **Symbolic Interactionism:** Studies how individuals create and interpret meanings through social interactions.
- **Feminist Theory:** Analyzes gender inequalities and advocates for gender equality.

- **Postmodernism:** Challenges established narratives and emphasizes the fragmented, subjective nature of social reality.

#### 4. Objectivity

Sociologists strive for objectivity in their research. This means they aim to conduct their studies without allowing personal biases or preconceived notions to influence the results. Objectivity is maintained through rigorous methodological standards and peer review processes.

#### 5. Cumulative Knowledge

Sociology, like other sciences, builds cumulative knowledge. Research findings are published, critiqued, and refined over time, leading to a deeper and more comprehensive understanding of social phenomena. This ongoing process of knowledge accumulation and refinement is essential to scientific progress.

#### 6. Prediction and Explanation

Sociology aims to explain and sometimes predict social phenomena. By identifying patterns and regularities in social behavior, sociologists develop theories that can predict future occurrences under certain conditions. For example, demographic studies can predict population trends, and studies on social movements can anticipate potential political changes.

#### 7. Ethical Standards

Sociologists adhere to ethical standards in their research, ensuring the rights, dignity, and confidentiality of participants are respected. Ethical guidelines are crucial for maintaining the integrity and trustworthiness of sociological research.

### Challenges and Debates

While sociology meets many criteria of a science, it faces certain challenges and debates:

- **Complexity of Social Phenomena:** Social phenomena are often more complex and less predictable than natural phenomena, making scientific study more challenging.
- **Subjectivity and Reflexivity:** Sociologists must constantly be aware of their own social positions and how these might influence their research. This reflexivity is both a strength and a challenge in maintaining objectivity.
- **Interdisciplinary Nature:** Sociology often overlaps with other disciplines, such as psychology, economics, and anthropology. This interdisciplinary nature can sometimes blur the boundaries of sociology as a distinct science.

**Conclusion-**Sociology is considered a science because it employs systematic methods of inquiry, relies on empirical evidence, develops theoretical frameworks, and strives for objectivity and ethical rigor. Despite the complexities and challenges of studying human behavior and social

structures, sociology's scientific approach provides valuable insights into the functioning of societies and the behavior of individuals within social contexts.

### **Humanistic Orientation in Sociology**

The humanities orientation in sociology reflects the integration of humanistic perspectives, emphasizing the subjective and interpretive aspects of social life. This approach contrasts with the more positivist, scientific methodologies that focus on objective, quantifiable aspects of social phenomena. Here's an exploration of the humanities orientation in sociology:

#### **1. Focus on Meaning and Interpretation**

- **Symbolic Interactionism:** This theoretical perspective, rooted in the work of George Herbert Mead and Herbert Blumer, emphasizes how individuals create and interpret symbols and meanings in their social interactions. It focuses on the subjective experiences of individuals and the meanings they attach to their actions and the actions of others.
- **Phenomenology:** This approach, influenced by philosophers like Edmund Husserl and sociologists like Alfred Schutz, examines how individuals experience and interpret the world around them. It seeks to understand the lived experiences and consciousness of individuals.

#### **2. Cultural Sociology**

- **Cultural Analysis:** Cultural sociology studies the symbolic aspects of social life, including beliefs, values, norms, and practices. It explores how culture shapes individuals' perceptions and behaviors and how cultural meanings are produced, disseminated, and changed.
- **Hermeneutics:** This method, derived from the interpretation of texts, is applied in sociology to understand the meanings embedded in social practices, rituals, and institutions. It involves interpreting the deeper meanings behind social phenomena.

#### **3. Qualitative Research Methods**

- **Ethnography:** This method involves immersive, detailed observation and participation in the social lives of the people being studied. It aims to provide an in-depth understanding of the social world from the perspective of its participants.
- **In-Depth Interviews:** These allow researchers to explore individuals' thoughts, feelings, and experiences in great detail, providing rich, qualitative data about their social worlds.
- **Case Studies:** These provide comprehensive, detailed accounts of specific instances of social phenomena, offering insights into the complexities and nuances of social life.

#### **4. Historical and Comparative Analysis**

- **Historical Sociology:** This approach examines how societies develop over time, looking at historical contexts and processes to understand present social phenomena. It emphasizes the importance of historical context in shaping social structures and events.



- **Comparative Sociology:** This involves comparing different societies or social phenomena to understand similarities and differences, often highlighting the influence of cultural and historical contexts.

## 5. Critical and Reflexive Approaches

- **Critical Theory:** Originating from the Frankfurt School, critical theory critiques the power structures and ideologies that perpetuate social inequalities. It combines sociological analysis with philosophical reflection to understand and challenge social injustices.
- **Reflexivity:** Sociologists adopting a humanistic orientation are often reflexive, acknowledging their own positionality and the impact it may have on their research. Reflexivity involves a critical self-examination of the research process and the relationship between the researcher and the subject.

## 6. Interdisciplinary Integration

- **Literature and Arts:** Sociology intersects with literature, arts, and other humanities disciplines to explore how cultural expressions reflect and shape social realities. Sociologists might analyze novels, films, paintings, and other cultural artifacts to understand societal norms and values.
- **Philosophy:** Sociological inquiry often engages with philosophical questions about human nature, ethics, and the nature of social reality. This interdisciplinary approach enriches sociological analysis by incorporating ethical and existential dimensions.

## 7. Focus on Human Agency and Subjectivity

- **Human Agency:** The humanities orientation emphasizes the active role of individuals in creating and shaping their social worlds. It acknowledges the capacity of individuals to act independently and make choices, contrasting with deterministic views.
- **Subjectivity:** This perspective values individuals' subjective experiences and perspectives, seeking to understand how people perceive and make sense of their social environments.

## Conclusion

The humanities orientation in sociology enriches the discipline by bringing in-depth, interpretive insights into social phenomena. It emphasizes understanding the meanings, experiences, and subjective realities of individuals, providing a nuanced view of social life that complements more scientific approaches. This orientation highlights the complexity of human behavior and the importance of cultural and historical contexts, making sociology a deeply interdisciplinary and comprehensive field of study.

## Relationship with other Social Sciences

Sociology shares close relationships with various other social sciences, as they all study different aspects of human society and social phenomena. These interdisciplinary connections enrich each field and provide comprehensive insights into the complexities of social life. Here are some key relationships sociology has with other social sciences:

## 1. Psychology

- **Overlap:** Sociology and psychology both study human behavior, but from different perspectives. Sociology focuses on the social context and external influences on behavior, while psychology emphasizes individual thoughts, feelings, and mental processes.
- **Complementary Perspectives:** Understanding individual behavior requires considering both social and psychological factors. Sociological insights can inform psychological research by providing broader social contexts, while psychological theories contribute to understanding individual motivations and cognitive processes.

## 2. Economics

- **Overlap:** Sociology and economics both study aspects of human behavior, particularly related to decision-making, resource allocation, and economic activities.
- **Complementary Perspectives:** Sociology provides insights into the social structures and cultural norms that influence economic behavior. Economics offers theories and models for understanding economic systems and processes, which sociology can apply to analyze social inequalities and economic disparities.

## 3. Political Science

- **Overlap:** Sociology and political science both study power, authority, governance, and political behavior.
- **Complementary Perspectives:** Sociology provides a broader understanding of the social forces and structures that shape politics, such as social movements, class dynamics, and cultural values. Political science offers insights into formal political institutions, processes, and policy-making, which sociology can analyze in the context of broader social structures and dynamics.

## 4. Anthropology

- **Overlap:** Sociology and anthropology both study human societies and cultures, but with different focuses. Sociology tends to study contemporary societies and social structures, while anthropology often focuses on studying cultures, traditions, and social practices in non-Western or preindustrial societies.
- **Complementary Perspectives:** Anthropology provides insights into cultural diversity, kinship systems, rituals, and ethnographic methods that sociology can draw upon to understand social processes and cultural dynamics. Sociology contributes theories and concepts for analyzing social institutions, inequalities, and social change that can enhance anthropological research.

## 5. History

- **Overlap:** Sociology and history both study human societies over time, but with different emphases. History focuses on past events, developments, and changes, while sociology examines broader social structures, patterns, and processes.
- **Complementary Perspectives:** History provides sociologists with historical contexts and narratives that inform their understanding of social change, continuity, and the long-term impacts of social events. Sociology offers theoretical frameworks and analytical tools that historians can use to interpret social dynamics and structures within specific historical contexts.

## 6. Geography

- **Overlap:** Sociology and geography both study spatial patterns, distribution, and interactions, but with different focuses. Sociology examines social relationships and behaviors within geographical contexts, while geography studies the physical landscapes, environments, and spatial processes that shape human activities.
- **Complementary Perspectives:** Geography provides sociologists with spatial analyses and mapping techniques to understand spatial inequalities, urban development, and environmental impacts on social life. Sociology contributes social theories and concepts that help geographers analyze the social dimensions of spatial phenomena, such as migration patterns, urbanization, and globalization.

## Conclusion

The relationships between sociology and other social sciences are dynamic and interdisciplinary, with each field offering unique perspectives and methodologies for studying human society. By collaborating and drawing upon insights from various disciplines, sociologists can develop more comprehensive understandings of social phenomena and contribute to addressing complex social challenges. These interdisciplinary connections highlight the interconnectedness and complexity of social life, enriching our understanding of human behavior and society.

## Sociology and Professions

Sociology has significant relevance and applications in various professional fields, contributing valuable insights and perspectives to address complex social issues. Here's a look at how sociology intersects with different professions:

### 1. Social Work

- **Role:** Sociological perspectives inform social work practice by providing insights into the structural factors influencing individual and community well-being.
- **Applications:** Social workers use sociological theories to understand the root causes of social problems, develop intervention strategies, advocate for policy changes, and promote social justice and equality.

### 2. Education

- **Role:** Sociology informs educational practices by examining the social dynamics within educational institutions, such as schools and universities.
- **Applications:** Sociological research helps educators understand issues like student diversity, inequality in educational access and achievement, the impact of social class and race on academic performance, and the role of education in social mobility.

### 3. Public Policy

- **Role:** Sociology contributes to the development and evaluation of public policies by providing evidence-based insights into social issues and their impacts on communities.
- **Applications:** Sociological research informs policy-making in areas such as poverty alleviation, healthcare access, education reform, criminal justice, environmental sustainability, and social welfare programs.

### 4. Criminal Justice

- **Role:** Sociology examines the social factors underlying crime and deviance, as well as the functioning of criminal justice systems.
- **Applications:** Sociological insights help criminal justice professionals understand patterns of crime, the effectiveness of law enforcement strategies, the impact of incarceration on individuals and communities, and the causes of recidivism.

### 5. Healthcare

- **Role:** Sociology contributes to healthcare by examining social determinants of health, healthcare disparities, and patient-provider interactions.
- **Applications:** Sociological research informs healthcare policies and practices, addressing issues such as access to healthcare services, disparities in health outcomes based on socioeconomic status and race, patient advocacy, and the social aspects of illness and healing.

### 6. Business and Management

- **Role:** Sociology provides insights into organizational behavior, workplace dynamics, and the social impacts of business practices.
- **Applications:** Sociological perspectives help businesses understand issues such as diversity and inclusion in the workplace, organizational culture, employee motivation and satisfaction, consumer behavior, and corporate social responsibility.

### 7. Urban Planning

- **Role:** Sociology contributes to urban planning by examining social processes within urban environments and their implications for community development.
- **Applications:** Sociological research informs urban planners about issues like urbanization, gentrification, housing affordability, transportation access, community engagement, and sustainable development.

## 8. Media and Communications

- **Role:** Sociology provides insights into the social influences of media and communication technologies on individuals and society.
- **Applications:** Sociological research helps media professionals understand audience behavior, media representations of social issues, the role of media in shaping public opinion and culture, and the impacts of digital technologies on social interactions and identities.

## Conclusion

Sociology plays a vital role in various professional fields by offering critical perspectives, empirical evidence, and theoretical frameworks to address social challenges and improve professional practice. Its interdisciplinary nature and focus on understanding the complexities of social life make sociology a valuable asset in diverse professional settings, contributing to informed decision-making, effective intervention strategies, and positive social change.

## UNIT-II

### Basic Concepts Society

Sociology is the scientific study of society, social relationships, and social institutions. Here are some of the fundamental concepts in sociology:

#### 1. Society

Society is a group of individuals involved in persistent social interaction, or a large social group sharing the same geographical or social territory, typically subject to the same political authority and dominant cultural expectations.

#### 2. Culture

Culture encompasses the beliefs, behaviors, objects, and other characteristics shared by members of a society. It includes language, customs, traditions, and artifacts.

#### 3. Socialization

Socialization is the process through which individuals learn and internalize the values, beliefs, norms, and social skills necessary to participate in their society. This process starts at birth and continues throughout life.

#### 4. Social Structure

Social structure refers to the organized pattern of social relationships and social institutions that together compose society. This includes family, education, religion, and economic and political institutions.

#### 5. Social Institutions

Social institutions are complex, integrated sets of social norms organized around the preservation of a basic societal value. Examples include the family, education, religion, and the economy.

## 6. Roles and Status

- **Role:** A role is the behavior expected of an individual who occupies a given social position or status.
- **Status:** Status refers to the social position a person holds, which can be ascribed (assigned at birth) or achieved (earned through actions).

## 7. Groups and Networks

- **Groups:** A group is a collection of individuals who interact and form a social relationship. Primary groups are close-knit and intimate, while secondary groups are larger and more impersonal.
- **Social Networks:** These are the web of relationships formed by the sum of individual interactions and connections.

## 8. Social Stratification

Social stratification refers to the hierarchical arrangement of individuals into divisions of power and wealth within a society. This includes class, race, and gender stratifications.

## 9. Deviance and Social Control

- **Deviance:** Deviance refers to behaviors or actions that violate societal norms.
- **Social Control:** Social control is the mechanisms, strategies, and institutions used by societies to regulate individual behavior and maintain social order.

## 10. Power and Authority

- **Power:** Power is the ability of individuals or groups to achieve their goals despite opposition from others.
- **Authority:** Authority is the legitimate or socially approved use of power that a person or a group holds over another.

## 11. Functionalism, Conflict Theory, and Symbolic Interactionism

- **Functionalism:** This perspective views society as a complex system whose parts work together to promote solidarity and stability.
- **Conflict Theory:** This perspective focuses on the struggles between different social classes and groups for power and resources.
- **Symbolic Interactionism:** This perspective analyzes society by addressing the subjective meanings that people impose on objects, events, and behaviors.

## 12. Globalization

Globalization refers to the process by which businesses, cultures, and institutions become integrated worldwide. It influences many aspects of social life, including economic, political, and cultural dimensions.

These concepts form the backbone of sociological study, allowing sociologists to analyze human behavior and societal development comprehensively.

### **Relation between Individual and Society**

Sociology shares close relationships with various other social sciences, as they all study different aspects of human society and social phenomena. These interdisciplinary connections enrich each field and provide comprehensive insights into the complexities of social life. Here are some key relationships sociology has with other social sciences:

#### 1. Psychology

- **Overlap:** Sociology and psychology both study human behavior, but from different perspectives. Sociology focuses on the social context and external influences on behavior, while psychology emphasizes individual thoughts, feelings, and mental processes.
- **Complementary Perspectives:** Understanding individual behavior requires considering both social and psychological factors. Sociological insights can inform psychological research by providing broader social contexts, while psychological theories contribute to understanding individual motivations and cognitive processes.

#### 2. Economics

- **Overlap:** Sociology and economics both study aspects of human behavior, particularly related to decision-making, resource allocation, and economic activities.
- **Complementary Perspectives:** Sociology provides insights into the social structures and cultural norms that influence economic behavior. Economics offers theories and models for understanding economic systems and processes, which sociology can apply to analyze social inequalities and economic disparities.

#### 3. Political Science

- **Overlap:** Sociology and political science both study power, authority, governance, and political behavior.
- **Complementary Perspectives:** Sociology provides a broader understanding of the social forces and structures that shape politics, such as social movements, class dynamics, and cultural values. Political science offers insights into formal political institutions, processes, and policy-making, which sociology can analyze in the context of broader social structures and dynamics.

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- **Complementary Perspectives:** Geography provides sociologists with spatial analyses and mapping techniques to understand spatial inequalities, urban development, and environmental impacts on social life. Sociology contributes social theories and concepts that help geographers analyze the social dimensions of spatial phenomena, such as migration patterns, urbanization, and globalization.

**Conclusion-**The relationships between sociology and other social sciences are dynamic and interdisciplinary, with each field offering unique perspectives and methodologies for studying human society. By collaborating and drawing upon insights from various disciplines, sociologists can develop more comprehensive understandings of social phenomena and contribute to addressing complex social challenges. These interdisciplinary connections highlight the interconnectedness and complexity of social life, enriching our understanding of human behavior and society.

**Community-**Man cannot live in isolation. He cannot live alone. He keeps contact with his fellow beings for his survival. It is not possible for him to keep contact with all the people or to belong as a member of all the groups existing in the world.



He establishes contact with a few people who live in close proximity or presence to him in a particular area or locality. It is quite natural for people living in a particular locality for a longer period of time to develop a sort of likeness or similarity among themselves. They develop common ideas, common customs, common feelings, common traditions etc. They also develop a sense of belonging together or a sense of feeling. This kind of common social living in a specific locality gives rise to the community. The examples of community include a village, a tribe, a city or town. For example in a village community, all the villagers lend each other hand in the event of need in agriculture and in other occupations.

They take part in all important occasions which occur in a neighbour's home. They are present when marriages, deaths, births take place in any family. They celebrate the festivals together, worship common deities and jointly face all calamities. In this way the sense of belongingness is generated among the villagers which creates village community.

The word community has been derived from two words of Latin namely 'com' and munis. In English 'com' means together and 'munis' means to serve. Thus, community means to serve together. It means, the community is an organization of human beings framed for the purpose of serving together. Community is a people living within a geographical area in common interdependence. It exists within the society. It is bound by the territorial units. It is a specific group while society is abstract. "Community living is natural to man.

He is born in it and grows in the community ways. It is his small world. Men, we have seen began with group life. Over the time, they occupied a habitat and while in permanent occupation of it; they developed likeness, common habits, folkways and mores, interdependence and acquired a name.

They developed amongst themselves a sense of togetherness and an attachment to their habitat. A community thus has a habitat, strong community sense, and a manner of acting in an agreed and organized manner. There are various definitions of community.

Osborne and Neumeier write, "Community is a group of people living in a contiguous geographic area, having common centres of interests and activities, and functioning together in the chief concerns of life."

Association , Institution ,Social Group ,Social Structure and Function ,Status and Role

### **Institution**

The concept of institution is one of the most important in the entire field of sociology. Patterns of activity reproduced across time and space. Institutions often concern basic living arrangements that human beings work out in the interactions with one another and by means of which continuity is achieved across generations. Institutions are also known as the basic building blocks of societies. Social institutions are like buildings that are at every moment constantly being reconstructed by the very bricks that compose them. Unfortunately, it is a concept that has not been consistently used by sociologists. The importance of understanding the concept of institution in order to understand society is at the same time recognized by all the sociologists. In fact, Durkheim has gone to the extent of defining sociology as the science of social institutions. Sumner and Keller have said, "Folkways are to society what cells are to the biological organism; institutions are its bones and tissues". F. H. Giddings regards institution as "the organs that conserve what is best in the past of human race".

#### **1.1. Definitions**

1. According to Ginsberg "Institutions may be described as recognized and established usages governing the relations between individuals and groups".
2. MacIver and Page have defined Institutions as the established forms or conditions of procedure characteristic of group activity".
3. According to Kingsley Davis "Institutions can be defined as a set of interwoven folkways, mores and laws built around one or more functions".
4. H.E.Barnes defined "Institutions as the social structure and the machinery through which human society organizes, directs and executes the multifarious activities required to satisfy human needs".
5. According to C. A. Ellwood "Institutions are the habitual ways of living together which have been sanctioned, systematized and established by the authority of communities".

#### **1.2. Characteristics of Institutions**

The main characteristics of social institutions may be described here.

- *(i) Social in Nature:* Institutions come into being due to the collective activities of the people. They are essentially social in nature. After all, institutions are the products of the secular and repetitive forms of social relationships of the individuals.
- *(ii) Universality:* Social institutions are ubiquitous. They exist in all the societies and existed at all the stages of social development. The basic institutions like family, religion, property and some kind of political institutions are observed even in the tribal or primitive societies.
- *(iii) Institutions are Standardized Norms:* An institution must be understood as standardized procedures and norms. They prescribe the way of doing things. They also prescribe rules and regulations that are to be followed. Marriage as an institution, for example, governs the relations between the husband and wife. Similarly, the school or college has its own rules and procedures.
- *(iv) Institutions as means of satisfying needs:* Institutions are established by men themselves. They cater to the satisfaction of some basic and vital needs of man. These basic needs are, (a) the need for self-preservation (b) the need for self-perpetuation, and (c) the need for self-expression.
- *(v) Institutions are the controlling mechanisms:* Institutions are like religion, morality, state, government, law, legislation etc., control the behaviour of men. These mechanisms preserve the social order and give stability to it. Institutions are like wheels on which human society marches on towards the desired destination.
- *(vi) Relatively permanent:* Institutions do not undergo sudden or rapid changes. Changes take place slowly and gradually in them. Many institutions are rigid and enduring. They, in course of time, become the conservative elements in society.
- *(vii) Abstract in nature:* Institutions are not external, visible or tangible things. They are abstract. Thus marriage cannot be kept in a museum; religion cannot be rated or quantified.
- *(viii) Oral and written traditions:* Institutions may persist in the form of oral and/or written traditions. For the primitive societies they may be largely oral. But in modern complex societies they may be observed in written as well as unwritten forms. There may be written institutional forms like constitutions, sacred text books, syllabus, governmental orders, business contracts, examination system etc., relating to political, religious, educational and economic institutions and so on.
- *(ix) Synthesising symbols:* Institutions may have their own symbols, material or non-material. For example, the state has flag emblem, national anthem as its symbols, religion may have its own symbols like crucifix, crescent moon, star, swastika; the school may have its own flag or school prayer, marriage may have its own wedding ring or mangala-sutra and so on.
- *(x) Institutions are interrelated:* Institutions, though diverse, are interrelated. Understanding of one institution requires the understanding of the other related institutions. The religious, moral, educational, political, economic and other types of institutions are essentially interlinked.

### 1.3. Primary and Secondary Institutions

Institutions are often classified into (i) Primary institutions and (ii) Secondary institutions. The most basic institutions which are found even in primitive societies like religion, family, marriage, property, some kind of political system, are primary in character. As societies grew in size and complexity, institutions became progressive and more differentiated. Accordingly, a large number of institutions

are evolved to cater to the secondary needs of people. They may be called secondary institutions. For example, education, examination, law, legislation, constitution, parliamentary procedure, business, etc.

#### 1.4. Functions of Social Institutions

Institutions have great functional importance. Their main functions are as follows:

- (i) Institutions cater to the satisfaction of needs: Institutions contribute to the fulfillment of the fundamental human needs such as (a) the need for self perpetuation, (b) perpetuation, and (c) self-expression. They provide and prescribe the ways and means of fulfilling them.
- (ii) Institutions Control Human Behaviour Institutions organize and regulate the system of social Through the institutions the unexpected, spontaneous and irregular behaviour of people is replaced by expected, patterned, systematic, regular and predictable behaviour. Thus the interpersonal relationships of the individuals are regulated by institutions. They make clear for the members what is allowed and what is not; what is desirable and what is undesirable. This is particularly true of the governmental institutions.
- (iii) Institutions simplify actions for the individual: Since the institutions prescribe a particular way of behaviour for the fulfillment of our basic needs, they save much of our energy and also time. They avoid confusion and uncertainties and contribute to a system and order in society.
- (iv) Institutions assign roles and statuses to the individual: Institutionalisation of the social behaviour consists of the establishment of definite norms. These norms assign status positions and role-functions in connection with such behaviour. Institutions such as family, marriage, education, property, division of labour, caste, religion, etc. provide some social standing for the individuals concerned.
- (v) Institutions contribute to unity and uniformity: institutions which regulate the relations between individuals have largely been responsible for unity and uniformity that are found in a society.
- (vi) Manifest functions of Institutions: Every institution has two types of manifest functions – (a) the pursuit of its objective or interests, and (b) the preservation of its own internal cohesion so that it may survive. For example, the state must serve its citizens and protect its boundaries. At the same time, the state must escape the danger of internal revolution and external conquests.
- (vii) The negative functions of institutions: Institutions may cause harmful effects also. They do not undergo changes easily and quickly even if the circumstances demand change. When they become too conservative they retard progress. They even hamper the growth of personalities of the people. Religion and caste can be mentioned here as examples to show how they often discourage people to do achievements or adventures.

## 2. Association

Men try to fulfill their ends through co-operation and mutual assistance. On the basis of this co-operative effort each individual will be contributing to the ends of his fellow men. This co-operative pursuit has a reference to association. When a group or collection of individuals organizes itself expressly for the purpose of pursuing certain of its interests together on a co-operative pursuit, an association is said to be born.

## 2.1. Definitions

- (i) An association is “an organization deliberately formed for the collective pursuit of some interest, or a set of interests, which its members share” – R. M. MacIver
- (ii) An association is “a group of social beings related to one another by the fact that they possess or have instituted in common an organization with a view to securing a specific end or ends”. – Morris Ginsberg.

An association is a group of people organized for the achievement of a particular interest or interests. Men have several interests. Hence they establish different associations to fulfil them. They have a number of associations of different kinds.

## 2.2. Main characteristics of Association

The main characteristics of association are as follows:

- (i) Association – a human group: An association is formed or created by people. It is basically a social Without people there can be no association. However, all groups are not associations, because, an association is basically an organized group. An unorganized group like crowd or mob cannot be an association.
- (ii) Common interest or interests: An association is not merely a collection of individuals. It consists of those individuals who have more or less the same interests. Accordingly, those who have political interests may join political associations, and those who have religious interests may join religious associations, and so on.
- (iii) Co-operative Spirit: An association is based on the co-operative spirit of its members. People work together to achieve some definite purposes. For example, a political party has to work together as a united group on the basis of co-operation in order to fulfill its objective of coming to power.
- (iv) Organization: Association denotes some kind of organization. An association is known essentially as an organized group. Organization gives stability and proper shape to an association. Organization refers to the way in which the statuses and roles are distributed among the members.
- (v) Regulation of relations: Every association has its own ways and means of regulating the relations of its members. Organization depends on this element of regulation. They may assume written or unwritten forms.
- (vi) Association as agencies: Association are means or agencies through which their members seek to realize their similar or shared interests. Such social organizations necessarily act not merely through leaders, but through officials or representatives, as agencies. Associations normally act through agents who are responsible for and to the association. This fact gives association a distinctive character and its peculiar legal status. Further, association may have its own methods of operation peculiar to it as an association.
- (vii) Durability of Association: An association may be permanent or temporary. There are some long-standing associations like the state, family, religious associations etc. some associations may purely be temporary in nature. Eg.: associations that are established to felicitate some great writers, scientists, and religious leaders and associations created for performing some social, religious or other ceremony or fair on a grand scale.

It is clear from the above, that an association is not merely a group, it is something more than that. It is a group expressly organized around a particular interest. The qualification “expressly organized”, helps us to distinguish between associations and other social groups. Social groups like class, crowd, mob, public, etc., in this way, are not associations.

In modern society, the number of associations is on the increase. Not only their number is increasing, but their varieties are also increasing. In almost all the fields of our social life we have associations. The rapid changes that are taking place in different fields of our social life have necessitated the birth of a large number of associations. In modern democratic countries associations have a distinct role to play. Their role in strengthening the democratic set-up can hardly be esaggerated. The modern age today, is really an age of organizations or associations. Man’s life is, today, to a very great extent, lived and controlled by the larger associations.

### 3. Social Groups

A social group is any number of people who share common goals and norms. A true group exhibits some degree of social cohesion and is more than a simple collection or aggregate of individuals, such as people waiting at a bus stop. In other words, a group refers to two or more people regularly interacting on the basis of shared expectations of others’ behavior, interrelated statuses and roles. The characteristics shared by members of a group may include interests, values, representations, ethnic or social background, and kinship ties. Paul Hare regards the defining characteristic of a group as social interaction.

Society starts with an aggregate of people. But the mere congregation of people in a physical area does not make them a social group. A social group exists when two or more people are in direct or indirect contact and communication. The members of the group stimulate and respond to one another in some meaningful way.

#### 3.1. Definitions of Social Groups

1. Harry M. Johnson says that, “a social group is a system of interaction”.
2. Marshal Jones is of the opinion that a social group is “two or more people between whom there is an established pattern of interaction”.
3. R.M. MacIver and Page define social group as “any collection of human beings who are brought into human relationships with one another”.
4. According to Ogburn and Nimkoff, “whenever two or more individuals come together and influence one another, they may be said to constitute a social group”.
5. Emory S. Bogardus defines social group as “number of persons, two or more, who have common objects of attention, who are stimulating to each other, who have common loyalty and participate in similar activities.”

#### 3.2. Characteristics of Social Group

The main characteristics of social group are as follows:

- (i) Collection of Individuals: Social group consists of people. Without individuals there can be no Just as we cannot have a college or university without students and teachers we cannot have a group in the absence of people.

- (ii) Interaction among members: Social interaction is the very basis of group life. Hence mere collection of individuals does not make a group. The members must have interaction. A social group, is in fact a system of social interaction. The limits of social groups are marked by the limits of social interaction.
- (iii) Mutual Awareness: Group life involves mutual awareness. Group members are aware of one another and their behavior is determined by this mutual recognition. This may be due to what Giddings call 'the consciousness of kind'.
- (iv) Group Unity and Solidarity: Group members are tied by a sense of unity. The solidarity or integration of a group is largely dependent upon the frequency, the variety and the emotional quality of the interaction of its members. A family or a friend's group, or a religious group is highly united and integrated, because its members are related by several common interests and have frequent social contacts with one another.
- (v) Common Interests: The interests and ideals of groups are common. Groups are mostly formed or established for the fulfillment of certain interests. In fact, men not only join groups but also form group for the realization of their objectives or interests. Forms of the groups differ depending upon the common interests of the group. Hence, there are political groups, religious groups, economic groups, educational groups, national groups and so on.
- (vi) Similar Behaviour: The members of a group behave in more or less similar way for the pursuit of common interests. Social groups represent collective behavior.
- (vii) Group Norms: Every group has its own rules or norms which the members are supposed to. These norms may be in the form of customs, folkways, mores, traditions, conventions, laws, etc. They may be written or unwritten norms or standards. Every group has its own ways and means of punishing or correcting those who go against the rules.
- (viii) Groups are Dynamic: Social groups are not static but dynamic. They are subject to changes whether slow or rapid. Old members die and new members are born. Whether due to internal or external pressures or forces, groups undergo changes.

### 3.3. Classification of Groups

1. Primary Groups and Secondary Groups: On the basis of nature and quality of social interaction, groups have been classified into primary and secondary groups. The name of C.H Cooley is very much associated with this classification. Cooley has introduced the term 'primary group' in his book 'Social Organisation'. Primary groups refer to the most fundamental and basic social groups which are based on direct relation and face-to-face interaction, for instance, family. Secondary Groups on the other hand, are not fundamental groups and do not possess direct interaction among the group members, but have relevant role in maintaining social interrelationship. The group of friends, classmates and neighbours are examples of secondary group.

2. In-Groups and Out-Groups: W.G. Sumner in his book, 'Folkways' differentiates between in-groups and out-groups. An 'In-group' is simply the 'We-group' and an 'Out-group' is 'they-group'. This classification is more subjective, in the sense; it depends on the tendency on the part of an individual to identify himself with a particular group in a particular situation for a particular reason.

3. Horizontal and Vertical Groups: P.A. Sorokin has divided groups into two major types-the horizontal and the vertical. The former are large, inclusive groups; such as nations, religious

organizations and political parties. The latter are smaller divisions, such as economic classes which give the individual his status in the society.

#### 4. Status

The concepts of role and status occupy a central place in the analysis of social structure. The interaction between individuals and groups very much depends upon the proper functioning according to role and status. The concepts of role and status were initially used by common men and women everywhere long before the anthropologists and sociologists started any discussion upon them. Every status carries a cluster of expected behaviors; how a person in that status is expected to think, feel, as well as expectations about how they should be treated by others. The cluster of expected duties and behaviors that has become fixed in a consistent and reiterated pattern of conduct. Each society must have some form of division of labour and most rudimentary form of division of labour includes a classification according to status and role.

##### 4.1. Definitions

1. According to Donald A. Hobbs and Stuart J. Blank, “status is a defined position in the social structure that is distinguished from and at the same time related to other positions. Each status is linked to a social role that is a pattern of behavior expected of one who occupies a status”.
2. According to D. Popenoe, “status is a social position in a social system”.
3. Ralph Linton has defined that “the term status, like the term culture, has come to be used with a double significance”.

Social status consists of a ranked position in a social hierarchy or stratification system and an individual’s social standing in society. A status, as distinct from the individual who may occupy it, is simply a collection of rights and duties.

Status and roles are interdependent. Each status consists of many related roles. “The set of roles associated with a single status is called a role set”. There is no complete agreement throughout a society about expectations of each status. In fact, the social organization consists of status and roles. Most people are accustomed to talking in terms of ‘status’ while referring to various particular people and qualifying this term by the more common words such as higher and lower.

#### 5. Roles

Historically speaking the concept of role was first introduced by Pareto in 1916. It was he who first recognized sociological significance of the labels such as, physicians, engineers, artists, etc. which indicate their roles. For Pareto, the recognition of labels was a step in the special analysis of social elites. In 1920, Max Weber more generally and explicitly analyzed the methodological issues involved in the classification of human beings. He pointed out that the understanding of the origin of a society must be preceded by a functionally oriented investigation. It is necessary to know as to what kind of typical action leads to such classification. From 1925 onwards the term role was more and more used by the American Sociologists such as, W. I. Thomas, W. E. Burgess and others.



### 5.1. Definitions of Role

1. According to R.H. Roher and M. Sherif, “social roles are part and parcel of an individual’s behavior when interacting with other people in various situations”.
2. According to Ralph Linton, “a set of expectations and behaviours associated with a specific position in a social system”.
3. As mentioned by S. F. Nadel, “a role represents the dynamic aspect of a status-when he puts the rights and duties which constitute the status into effect”.

### 5.2. Role and Status

A role must have a halo effect, without which it is reduced to a label or category. An example of this halo effect in a role is the concept of bureaucrat. This is true about a role in the full sense of the term. However certain terms bearing the label of roles might be in fact what Nadel calls, “non-roles or near roles are quasi roles”. Status can be elaborated into roles and roles have a foundation in status. Most of the writers have accepted that roles and status are complimented concepts. Role behavior is something translated into action.

## 6. Values

Values are life-style priorities. Since values lie behind all the choices we make, it follows the very core of the life we have created for ourselves through the choices we have made. Thus, through values we express what is important in our life and, when we are true to our values, the life-style we live is our expression of these values. There is a definite link between, values, morals, ethics and principles. If you know what values a person holds, you will have a general idea of what they want to do in their life. For example, if a person’s highest priority value is Achievement/Success you would expect them to be striving towards one or more goals and doing whatever they can to achieve them. Likewise, if a person’s highest priority value is Research/Knowledge, you would expect them to be in an occupation such as medical research, social research, etc. So there is a link between values and the general category of activities the person would be expected to be involved in because of the priority values they have.

### 6.1. The Relationships between Values, Norms, Behaviours, Ethics, Morals, Principles

From knowing the values alone, we cannot know how, specifically, the person is going to behave. Some people, driven by their high priority value i.e., Achievement/Success, will do anything it takes to achieve their goal – some athletes; for example, will take illegal drugs to boost their chances of success. On the other hand, we all know people driven by the same value, who do not cheat to win. Let’s now take the value, Research/Knowledge. If the person is a medical researcher, we cannot know from the value alone if they undertake their research by experimenting, or not experimenting, on animals. Both examples on the previous page illustrate there’s more to the picture than values. Because we live in a society, we cannot live our values any way we want. The impact of how we live our values on other people and the environment must be considered. This is where codes of behaviour (i.e. ethics, morals, norms of behaviour,

laws, and the like) come in. It depicts codes of behaviour spelt out how we are expected to live our values. Thus, knowing a person's values gives us a general idea of what they want to do in their life, knowing their ethical or moral stance, inform us as to how they will live their values. The difference between values and ethics may be summarised as:

*Values motivate – ethics & morals constrain.*

## 6.2. World-Views & Values

The model people have of the world (their world-view) is comprised of knowledge and beliefs. We hold the values we do, and believe in certain principles related to “the way things work in this world”, because of our model of the world. In turn, the principles in which we believe influence the way we believe people should behave. Different people have different world-views. Yet, many people have similar world-views, which is just another way of saying that many people share similar beliefs about what living in this world is all about. Similar world-views have associated with them similar sets of priority values. People live their values in particular ways because of beliefs they hold about how those values should be lived. People filter the consequences of their actions through their values. Therefore, people's world-views, once established, are very stable. Some people will die to defend their world-view rather than entertain the thought that someone else's world-view might be more of a mere accurate representation of actuality than their own. Even if they are not prepared to die for their world-

view, people who believe their world-view is the truth gets rather upset when told, “Say not that you have found the truth, rather say I have found a truth.” Because of the above dynamic, people's world-views are very difficult to change.

## UNIT III

### Social Organization

Social organization refers to the structured way in which people interact and form relationships within a society. This structure can be seen in the various institutions, groups, and roles that define social interactions and govern behaviors. Key aspects of social organization include:

1. **Institutions** : These are established systems and structures within society, such as family, education, religion, and government, that provide guidelines for behavior and help maintain order.
2. **Social Groups** : These are collections of individuals who interact and share a sense of unity. They can range from small groups like families and friendships to larger groups like communities and social classes.
3. **Roles and Statuses** : Roles are the expectations for behavior associated with a particular social position, while status refers to the social position itself. For example, the role of a teacher includes responsibilities like instructing students, and the status of a teacher is the position held in the educational system.

4. Norms and Values : Norms are the informal rules that govern behavior in society, while values are the shared beliefs about what is important and desirable. These help guide individuals in making decisions and interacting with others.

5. Social Networks : These are the connections and relationships individuals have with others. Social networks can influence access to resources, information, and support.

6. Social Stratification : This refers to the hierarchical arrangement of individuals in society, often based on factors like wealth, power, and prestige. It can lead to inequalities in access to resources and opportunities.

Understanding social organization helps in analyzing how societies function, how individuals relate to each other, and how social change occurs.

### **social system**

A social system refers to the complex set of human relationships interacting in many ways within a society. It encompasses the organized patterns of relationships and institutions that together form the fabric of society. Key elements of a social system include:

1. Structure : This refers to the organization of various parts of the system. In a social system, structure includes the different roles, institutions, norms, and values that make up the society.

2. Function : This refers to the contributions of each part of the system to the overall stability and functioning of society. For example, the family system functions to nurture and socialize children, while the education system functions to impart knowledge and skills.

3. Interdependence : Elements within a social system are interdependent, meaning that a change in one part of the system can affect other parts. For instance, changes in the economic system can impact the family system and vice versa.

4. Boundaries : Social systems have boundaries that define who is included and excluded. These boundaries can be physical, such as geographic borders, or social, such as membership criteria for a group or institution.

5. Equilibrium : Social systems tend to seek a state of balance or stability, though this does not imply that they are static. Systems can adapt to changes and restore balance through mechanisms of social control and integration.

6. Subsystems : Within a larger social system, there are smaller subsystems, such as the family, education, religion, and economy. Each subsystem has its own structure and function but is also connected to and influenced by other subsystems.

7. Roles and Norms : Roles are the expected behaviors associated with particular positions within the system, and norms are the shared guidelines or rules for behavior within the system. Together, they help maintain order and predictability.

8. Culture : The shared beliefs, values, and practices that characterize a society. Culture provides the context within which the social system operates and influences how people interact within the system.

## Family

**The family** is a fundamental social institution and plays a crucial role in the structure and functioning of society. It serves as the primary unit of socialization and support, providing members with emotional, economic, and social stability. Key aspects of the family include:

### 1. Types of Families :

- Nuclear Family : Consists of two parents and their children.
- Extended Family : Includes relatives beyond the nuclear family, such as grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins.
- Single-Parent Family : Consists of one parent raising one or more children.
- Blended Family : Formed when one or both parents bring children from previous relationships into a new marriage or partnership.

### 2. Functions of the Family :

- Socialization : The family is the primary agent of socialization, teaching children norms, values, and customs.
- Emotional Support : Families provide love, care, and emotional support to their members.
- Economic Support : Families often share resources and provide financial support to members.
- Reproduction : Families play a key role in the reproduction of society by bearing and raising children.
- Regulation of Sexual Behavior : Families help regulate sexual behavior and reproduction through cultural norms and values.

### 3. Roles within the Family :

- Parents : Typically responsible for the upbringing and socialization of children, providing emotional and economic support.
- Children : Are socialized into their roles in society and often assist in family responsibilities.
- Extended Family Members : May provide additional support and socialization, and can play significant roles in the lives of nuclear family members.

### 4. Family Dynamics :

- Communication : Effective communication is essential for healthy family functioning.
- Conflict and Resolution : Families may experience conflicts, but they also develop mechanisms for resolving disputes and maintaining harmony.
- Power and Authority : Different family structures have varying distributions of power and authority, influencing decision-making and roles.

### 5. Changes in Family Structures :

- Diverse Forms : Modern societies see a variety of family structures beyond the traditional nuclear family, including cohabitating couples, same-sex families, and childless families.

- Impact of Social Change : Economic, social, and cultural changes, such as increased mobility, changing gender roles, and evolving norms around marriage and parenting, have transformed family structures and dynamics.

#### 6. Theoretical Perspectives on the Family :

- Functionalism : Views the family as a crucial institution that performs essential functions for societal stability and individual well-being.
- Conflict Theory : Focuses on the power dynamics and inequalities within the family, often highlighting issues such as domestic violence and economic disparities.
- Symbolic Interactionism : Examines the day-to-day interactions and meanings that family members create and share.

The family remains a central and enduring component of social organization, adapting to and reflecting broader social, cultural, and economic changes.

### **Kinship**

Kinship refers to the relationships between individuals that are based on blood ties, marriage, or adoption. These relationships are fundamental to the social structure of societies, as they define social roles, responsibilities, and connections. Kinship systems vary widely across cultures and play a crucial role in organizing social life. Key aspects of kinship include:

#### 1. Types of Kinship :

- Consanguineal Kinship : Relationships based on blood ties, such as those between parents and children or siblings.
- Affinal Kinship : Relationships established through marriage, such as those between spouses or in-laws.
- Fictive Kinship : Relationships that are socially recognized as equivalent to kinship ties, even though they are not based on blood or marriage, such as godparents or close family friends.

#### 2. Kinship Terminology :

- Different cultures have specific terms for various kin relationships. For example, the terms "uncle" and "aunt" can refer to a variety of specific relationships depending on the culture.

#### 3. Descent Systems :

- Patrilineal Descent : Descent and inheritance are traced through the father's line.
- Matrilineal Descent : Descent and inheritance are traced through the mother's line.
- Bilateral Descent : Descent and inheritance are recognized through both the mother's and the father's lines.
- Unilineal Descent : Tracing descent through only one line, either matrilineal or patrilineal.

#### 4. Functions of Kinship :

- Social Organization : Kinship defines social groups and networks, organizing individuals into families, clans, and lineages.
- Inheritance and Succession : Kinship rules often determine how property and titles are passed down through generations.
- Marriage Rules : Kinship systems often prescribe whom one can or cannot marry, regulating social alliances and relationships.

- Social Support : Kinship provides a network of support, including economic assistance, caregiving, and emotional support.
- Cultural Transmission : Kinship systems play a role in the transmission of culture, traditions, and social norms across generations.

#### 5. Kinship Charts :

- Anthropologists often use kinship charts to map out relationships within a society. These charts can show how individuals are related and the structure of kinship networks.

#### 6. Kinship and Social Identity :

- Kinship can influence an individual's identity, social status, and role within the community. It shapes how people see themselves and their place in society.

#### 7. Variations in Kinship Systems :

- Simple Societies : In simpler, less stratified societies, kinship ties may dominate social organization and daily life.
- Complex Societies : In more complex, stratified societies, kinship remains important but may be complemented by other social institutions like the state, market, and formal organizations.

Understanding kinship is essential for studying human societies as it provides insights into social organization, relationships, and cultural practices.

Marriage is a socially and legally recognized union between individuals that establishes rights and obligations between them, their children, and their extended families. It is a universal institution found in various forms across different cultures and societies. Here are key aspects of marriage:

### **Marriage**

#### 1. Types of Marriage :

- Monogamy : A marriage between two individuals. It is the most common form in many societies.
- Polygamy : A marriage where one individual has multiple spouses. It includes:
  - Polygyny : One man married to multiple women.
  - Polyandry : One woman married to multiple men.
- Group Marriage : A less common form where multiple men and multiple women form a family unit.

#### 2. Forms of Marriage :

- Arranged Marriage : Marriages that are arranged by families or matchmakers, often with the consent of the individuals involved.
- Love Marriage : Marriages that are based on mutual attraction and love between the individuals involved.
- Civil Marriage : A marriage performed, recorded, and recognized by a government official.
- Religious Marriage : A marriage conducted according to religious rites and recognized by a religious authority.

#### 3. Functions of Marriage :

- Social and Legal Recognition : Provides a recognized status for the couple and their offspring.
- Economic Partnership : Often involves economic cooperation and shared resources between the partners.
- Reproduction and Child Rearing : Traditionally ensures the continuation of lineage and upbringing of children.
- Socialization : Helps in the socialization of children and transmits cultural, moral, and social values.
- Emotional and Psychological Support : Provides companionship, emotional support, and stability.

#### 4. Marriage Customs and Practices :

- Dowry : A transfer of parental property, wealth, or gifts at the marriage of a daughter.
- Bride Price : An amount of money, property, or wealth paid by the groom or his family to the parents of the bride.
- Wedding Ceremonies : Varied rituals and celebrations that mark the union, often reflecting cultural and religious traditions.
- Marriage Contracts : Legal agreements that outline the rights and responsibilities of the spouses.

#### 5. Marriage and Kinship :

- Endogamy : The practice of marrying within a specific social group, caste, or ethnic group.
- Exogamy : The practice of marrying outside one's social group, caste, or ethnic group.
- Cross-Cousin Marriage : Marriage between the children of a brother and a sister.
- Parallel-Cousin Marriage : Marriage between the children of two brothers or two sisters.

#### 6. Changing Trends in Marriage :

- Same-Sex Marriage : Increasingly recognized and legalized in many countries, reflecting changing social attitudes towards LGBTQ+ rights.
- Cohabitation : Growing acceptance of couples living together without being formally married.
- Delayed Marriage : Trends towards marrying later in life due to educational, career, and personal goals.
- Decline in Marriage Rates : In some societies, fewer people are choosing to marry, influenced by changing social norms and economic factors.

#### 7. Legal Aspects of Marriage :

- Marriage Laws : Vary by country and can include regulations on age, consent, and the rights and obligations of spouses.
- Divorce : Legal dissolution of a marriage, including the division of property, alimony, and child custody arrangements.
- Inheritance : Marriage often affects inheritance rights and the distribution of property.

Marriage is a dynamic institution that adapts to social, cultural, and economic changes. Understanding its various forms and functions provides insight into the complexities of human social organization and relationships.

## UNIT-IV

### **Socio – Cultural Processes:**

In sociology, cultural processes refer to the ways in which cultures are created, maintained, and transformed over time. These processes encompass a wide range of activities and phenomena that contribute to the development and perpetuation of cultural norms, values, beliefs, and practices. Key aspects of cultural processes include:

1. **Socialization** : This is the process through which individuals learn and internalize the values, norms, and practices of their culture. It occurs through various agents such as family, education, peers, media, and religion. Socialization ensures cultural continuity by passing on cultural knowledge from one generation to the next.
2. **Innovation** : Cultural innovation involves the creation of new ideas, practices, or artifacts that introduce change within a culture. Innovations can arise from technological advancements, scientific discoveries, or creative expressions, and they can significantly alter cultural patterns.
3. **Diffusion** : This refers to the spread of cultural elements from one society or cultural group to another. Diffusion can occur through trade, migration, mass media, or other forms of contact and communication, leading to the exchange and blending of cultural traits.
4. **Cultural Lag** : This concept describes the period of adjustment when non-material culture (values, norms, and beliefs) struggles to adapt to new material conditions (technological advancements). This lag can lead to social problems and conflicts as society adjusts to new realities.
5. **Acculturation** : This process occurs when two or more cultural groups come into direct contact and there is a subsequent exchange and adaptation of cultural traits. Acculturation can lead to significant changes in both or all interacting cultures, often resulting in new, hybrid cultural forms.
6. **Assimilation** : Assimilation involves the process by which a minority group gradually adopts the culture of the dominant group, often losing its original cultural identity. This can happen through voluntary means or through social pressures and policies designed to promote cultural homogeneity.
7. **Multiculturalism** : This is a response to cultural diversity that promotes the recognition and appreciation of multiple cultures within a society. Multiculturalism advocates for the coexistence of different cultural groups and supports policies that encourage cultural retention and exchange.
8. **Globalization** : Globalization refers to the increasing interconnectedness and interdependence of the world's cultures through economic, political, and social exchanges. It leads to the spread of cultural products, ideas, and practices across the globe, often resulting in both homogenization and increased cultural diversity.



9. **Cultural Hegemony** : This concept, developed by Antonio Gramsci, describes the dominance of a culturally diverse society by the ruling class, who manipulate the culture to reflect their own values and interests. Cultural hegemony is maintained through institutions such as education, media, and religion, which propagate the dominant ideology.

10. **Cultural Resistance** : Cultural resistance involves efforts by individuals or groups to challenge and resist dominant cultural norms and values. This can take the form of social movements, artistic expression, or everyday acts of defiance, aiming to bring about cultural change and social justice.

These processes highlight the dynamic nature of culture and its ongoing evolution influenced by various social forces and interactions.

## **Culture and Civilization**

Culture and civilization are closely related concepts but have distinct meanings in sociology and anthropology:

1. **Culture** : Culture refers to the shared beliefs, values, customs, norms, language, symbols, and practices that characterize a particular group of people. It encompasses both material (tangible) and non-material (intangible) aspects of human society, including art, literature, religion, cuisine, rituals, and social institutions. Culture shapes individuals' perceptions, behaviors, and interactions within their social environment and provides a framework for understanding the world. Culture can vary widely between different societies and can change over time through processes such as innovation, diffusion, and acculturation.

2. **Civilization** : Civilization typically refers to an advanced stage of human social development characterized by complex social, political, economic, and cultural organization. Civilizations are often associated with the development of cities, writing systems, monumental architecture, centralized government, and specialized labor roles. They emerge when societies transition from small, nomadic groups to larger, settled communities with sophisticated systems of governance, trade, and cultural expression. Examples of ancient civilizations include Mesopotamia, Egypt, Indus Valley, and Mesoamerica.

While culture is a broader concept that encompasses the entire way of life of a group of people, civilization specifically denotes a high level of social complexity and organization within a cultural context. Civilizations are often seen as distinct stages in human history characterized by significant advancements in technology, governance, and cultural achievements.

## **Socialization**

socialization refers to the lifelong process through which individuals learn and internalize the norms, values, beliefs, and behaviors of their culture or society. It occurs primarily through interactions with various social agents such as family, peers, education, media, and religious institutions. Socialization plays a crucial role in shaping individuals' identities, personalities, and social roles, as well as in maintaining social order and continuity across generations.

## **Social processes**

Social processes are the interactions and activities that occur among individuals and groups within a society. These processes shape social relationships, institutions, and structures, influencing how society functions and evolves over time. Here are some key social processes:

1. **Socialization** : The process through which individuals learn and internalize the norms, values, beliefs, and behaviors of their culture or society.
2. **Social Interaction** : The exchange of behaviors, symbols, and meanings between individuals or groups, including communication, cooperation, conflict, and negotiation.
3. **Socialization** : The process through which individuals learn and internalize the norms, values, beliefs, and behaviors of their culture or society.
4. **Social Change** : The transformation of societal institutions, structures, and practices over time, driven by various factors such as technological advancements, economic shifts, cultural shifts, and collective action.
5. **Social Control** : The mechanisms and strategies used by society to regulate and enforce conformity to social norms and expectations, including formal institutions (e.g., laws, police) and informal mechanisms (e.g., peer pressure, social sanctions).
6. **Social Stratification** : The hierarchical arrangement of individuals and groups within a society based on factors such as wealth, power, status, and privilege, leading to inequalities in access to resources and opportunities.
7. **Socialization** : The process through which individuals learn and internalize the norms, values, beliefs, and behaviors of their culture or society.
8. **Social Conflict** : The struggle for power, resources, and recognition between individuals or groups with differing interests, values, or identities, often leading to social change or the reproduction of inequalities.

These social processes are dynamic and interconnected, shaping the structure and functioning of societies in complex ways. Understanding them helps sociologists analyze and explain various aspects of social life and human behavior.

## **UNIT-V**

### **Social Control and Change:**

**Social control**-Social control and social change are two important dynamics in sociology that influence how societies maintain order and evolve over time:

## 1. Social Control :

- Definition : Social control refers to the mechanisms and strategies used by society to regulate and enforce conformity to social norms, values, and expectations.

- Forms : Social control can take both formal and informal forms. Formal social control includes laws, regulations, and institutions such as the police and judiciary, which enforce compliance through sanctions and punishment. Informal social control operates through socialization, peer pressure, social norms, and mechanisms like gossip and ridicule.

- Functions : Social control helps maintain social order, stability, and cohesion by discouraging deviant behavior and reinforcing conformity to established norms and rules. It promotes predictability and cooperation within societies, contributing to their functioning and sustainability.

- Examples : Examples of social control mechanisms include legal penalties for criminal behavior, peer pressure to conform to group norms, parental supervision of children's behavior, and religious teachings emphasizing moral conduct.

## 2. Social Change :

- Definition : Social change refers to the transformation of societal institutions, structures, and practices over time. It involves shifts in cultural patterns, social relationships, behaviors, beliefs, and values.

- Causes : Social change can be driven by various factors, including technological advancements, economic developments, demographic shifts, political movements, cultural diffusion, and environmental changes.

- Processes : Social change occurs through processes such as innovation, diffusion, revolution, modernization, globalization, and collective action. These processes can lead to both gradual evolutionary changes and abrupt revolutionary transformations in societies.

- Impacts : Social change can have far-reaching effects on individuals, communities, and entire societies, reshaping social norms, power structures, economic systems, and cultural practices. It can lead to improvements in living standards, increased social justice, and greater equality, but it can also result in social dislocation, conflict, and resistance to change.

- Examples : Examples of social change include the Industrial Revolution, the civil rights movement, the rise of the internet and digital technology, changes in family structures, shifts in gender roles, and globalization's impact on cultures and economies.

Both social control and social change are essential aspects of social life, as societies seek to balance the need for stability and order with the imperative to adapt to changing circumstances and aspirations.

- The term social stratification refers to how societies categorize people based on factors such as wealth, income, education, family background, and power.
- Social stratification exists in all societies in some form. However, it is easier to move up socially in some than others. Societies with more vertical social mobility have open stratification systems, and those with low vertical mobility have closed stratification systems.
- The importance of stratification is that those at the top of the hierarchy have greater access to scarce resources than those at the bottom.

- Sociologists have created four main categories of social stratification systems: class systems, caste systems, slavery, and meritocracy. The last of these is a largely hypothetical system.
- Class consistency refers to the variability of one's social status among many dimensions (such as education and wealth) during one's lifetime. More open stratification systems tend to encourage lower class consistency than closed stratification systems.
- Social stratification can work along multiple dimensions, such as those of race, gender, sexuality, religion, ethnicity, and so on. Intersectionality is a method for studying systems of social stratification through the lens of multiple identities.

### **Social mobility**

Social mobility refers to the movement of individuals or groups within a social hierarchy, typically involving changes in their socioeconomic status, education level, occupation, or income. It can be upward (moving to a higher position) or downward (moving to a lower position) and is influenced by factors such as education, economic opportunities, inheritance, and social policies.

### **Social change**

Social change refers to the transformation of societal institutions, behaviors, attitudes, and norms over time. It can occur through various processes such as technological advancements, cultural shifts, political movements, economic developments, and demographic changes. Social change can be gradual or rapid, intentional or unintentional, and it often results from the interactions and conflicts between different groups within society.



# **RKDF UNIVERSITY, BHOPAL**

Open Distance Learning program

**Faculty of Social Science**

**Course-BA**

Subject:-SOCIOLOGY

Semester:-Second

<b>COURSE</b>	<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>SUBJECTCODE</b>
<b>B.A.</b>	<b>MINOR</b>	<b>SOCIETY IN INDIA</b>	<b>BA-SO 202</b>
<b>Total Credit: 6</b>	<b>Max.Marks:100 (Internal:40+External:60)</b>		

Units	Topic	Duration (In Hours)	Marks
I	<b>Traditional background of Indian society</b> 1.1 Classical features of Indian Society 1.2 Historical Background: Ancient,Medieval Period, <b>1.3 Classical Approach</b> 3.1 Varna,Ashram,Purusharth 3.2 Rina,Yagya,Sanskar <b>1.4 Field View</b> 4.1 Ethnic,Linguistic,and Religious 4.2 Demographical Culture Scenario	18	20
II	<b>Tribal Society</b> 1. Tribes-Meaning,Characteristics. 2. Tribal Area. 3. Tribal Classification 4. Family,Marriage,Kinship 5. Tribal Problem 6. Tribal Welfare,Constitutional Provisions and their Evaluation	19	20
III	<b>Rural Society</b> 1. Meaning Characteristic, Type. 2. Rural Life:Folk Culture,Little and Great Treditions 3. Caste system.Jamani System 4. Rural Leadership,Rural Factionalism	18	20

IV	<b>Urban Society</b> 1. Town and City: Concept 2. Indian Cities And Their Development 3. Change In Urban Society 4. Rural Urban Society 5. Urban Social Problem 6. Urban Planning and Management	18	20
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## UNIT-1

### Traditional background of Indian society

Indology is a perspective of studying Indian society which holds that the nature of Indian thought and psychological make-up ( characterized by holism, and collectivism) is essentially different from that of the west (primacy of individual, freedom, liberty), so in order to better understand it, it must be understood in terms of Indian thinking, traditions, and philosophy.

According to M.N. Srinivas, Indology can be called the textual view of Indian society. It has nothing to do with the conditions on the ground; rather it deals with the ideas of Indian society as mentioned in classical religious texts like the Vedas, Upanishads, Dharma Shastra, Manusmriti, Mahabharata, Ramayana etc.

The orientalist/Ideologist view of India offers a picture of the society as static, timeless, and space less. These scholars emphasize the role of traditions and groups as the basis of social relations rather than individuals. They also consider religion, ethics, and philosophy as the basis of the social organization rather than interpersonal or group dynamics.

The British, borrowing from their own traditions to understand Indian tradition through texts (from the known to the unknown), made a fundamental error in over-emphasizing the elements of discreteness of Indian social entities and neglecting the linkages between them which bound these entities into an organic whole. The rigidity that became one of the defining attributes of the caste system in the British era was in part caused by the British system of administration and jurisprudence.

### G.S. GHURYE

Focus points: caste, tribes, culture, and national unity. Govind Sadashiv Ghurye stressed that Indian tradition is Hindu tradition and felt that to understand Indian society one must understand Hindu traditions. BK Nagla says he created a kind of Hindu sociology.

### On Caste

Ghurye studied caste from a historical, comparative and integrative perspective. He identified six basic features of caste system:

1. Segmental division.
2. Lack of choice of occupations for each segment.
3. Purity and pollution associated with the occupation.
4. Hierarchy of these divisions based on purity and pollution.
5. Commensal and conjugal relations. (Civil/religious disabilities/privileges of sections)
6. Restrictions on marriage. (Caste endogamy and Gotra/Pinda exogamy)

Ghurye laid emphasis on endogamy as the most important feature of the caste system.

The rules of endogamy and commensality marked off castes from each other. These rules acted as integrative instruments which organised segmented castes into a totality or collectivity.

## **On Tribes**

Ghurye believed that the tribes had been Hinduised after a long period of contact and acculturation. He felt that it was futile to look for a different identity for tribes, rather they should be treated as backward caste Hindus. He felt that this backwardness was a result of their imperfect integration into the Hindu society and that could only be improved by their acculturation. Ghurye debated with Verrier Elwin about the issue of tribal. Elwin held that tribals should be left to their own devices while Ghurye was a strong proponent of acculturation. Finally, Nehru's view of assimilation prevailed.

## **On Culture & Civilization**

According to Ghurye culture constitutes the central element for understanding society and its evolution. For him the challenging task of a sociologist in India was to analyse the complex acculturation process in India, he refers to how the caste system was developed by Brahmins and how it spread to other sections of the society. He identified five foundations of culture which cut across problems of civilization growth:

1. Religious consciousness.
2. Conscience.
3. Justice.
4. Pursuit of knowledge and free expression.



## 5. Toleration.

Ghurye felt that religion is at the center of the total cultural heritage of man, it molds and directs behaviour of man in society. He recognised the importance of the concept of reincarnation and the changing concept of godhead in Indian society.

### **On National Unity**

As a sociologist, he was interested in the concept of integration and the process of national unity in India. Ghurye held that while groups play an integrational role in society that is true only up to a certain extent. He felt that in modern Indian society there were **five sources of danger to national (basically Hindu) unity** due to their excessive attachment to their groups:

1. Scheduled castes.
2. Scheduled tribes.
3. Backward classes.
4. Muslims and minority groups.
5. **Linguistic minorities.** Ghurye majorly viewed the brahminical endeavour as the cause of national unity in India and thus while he calls it the process of acculturation, it is basically a one-way flow in which brahminical ideas and institutions gained prevalence among non-Brahmins.

Ghurye's concept of cultural unity is not secular in nature. He is concerned with the **India of Hindu culture** and uses Indian and Hindu culture interchangeably. He viewed regional language as having a symbolic integration value for the region i.e. dysfunctional for the whole.

### **Relevance**

- He contributed to building sociology that was completely Indian in orientation and with his deep knowledge of Hinduism he contributed greatly in many spheres.

### **Critique of Ghurye's Indological Perspective**

- The biggest limitation of his understanding of India was that he never acknowledged the contribution of Christianity and Islam to the **cultural pluralism of India**.
- Ghurye failed to recognize that a qualitative change has occurred in the dynamics of Indian unity in modern India. His knowledge of India's past instead of helping him stood in his way of gaining a better understanding of contemporary Indian society.

- SC Dube says that his approach is mostly criticized as culture-bound, myopic, textual, and Brahmanic view of India but since most other approaches developed as reflexive critiques of Ghurye's writings his impact on Indian sociology cannot be discounted.
- His view that the development of a regional language could lead to disunity is also claimed to be an oversimplification. Ex. Eco Survey 2016-17 noted that language was not a barrier to trade within India.
- He also failed to appreciate that the political involvement of caste as an outcome of the collective mobilization process in modern India.

## (b) STRUCTURAL FUNCTIONALISM

Structural functionalism originated as a tradition in British Anthropology. It came to the fore with **Radcliffe-Brown**'s critique of **Malinowski**'s functionalism. It assumes that society is made up of interconnected and interdependent parts, which make up a unified whole (structure). These parts serve the needs of the society, and are thereby functional (organismic analogy). (Three postulates: unified whole, universal functionalism, indispensable parts)

### M.N. SRINIVAS

Srinivas didn't go for a strictly SF approach, he changed approaches as per the requirements. It is retrospectively that his followers and critics labeled him as a structural-functionalist. He believed that both Ideologists and Marxists before him had been very ambitious in trying to understand Indian society at a macro level despite its huge population and numerous variations. He advocated an approach that was both logical and acceptable to study Indian society. Srinivas is credited with initiating the tradition of **macro generalisations based on micro anthropological insights** (village studies) in Indian sociology.

### On Caste

He used the Structural Functionalist approach to study caste. Srinivas held that due to a large number of castes in India (**more than 20,000**) it was impossible to empirically study all of them in their innumerable variations. He advocated that to better understand the caste system, it would be better to look into the **structure of caste** itself.

Srinivas identified two distinct hierarchies of caste: a **ritual** and a **secular hierarchy**. The position of a caste in the ritual hierarchy is defined by commensal relations, ritual status, values, deities one prayed to, and speech. Secular criteria were defined by wealth, power, access to education and jobs, etc. Using these he formulated the theories of Sanskritization, Westernisation (as avenues for social mobility), and Dominant Caste.

### Theory of Sanskritization by M N Srinivas:

**Sanskritization** is a process of **mobility in the ritual hierarchy**, usually **preceded by upward mobility in the secular hierarchy**. The group undergoing Sanskritization changes their ritual patterns (commensal relations, teetotalism, vegetarianism, etc.) to reflect those of the target group (dvija caste) over time in order to improve their ritual status. He also observed that mobility had always been possible especially in the **middle of the caste hierarchy**. He called this process Sanskritization instead of brahmanisation as some places also exhibited the tendency to move **towards other dvija castes** too (thus a broader outlook than simply brahmanisation). Ex movement of Marathas towards claiming a status of Kshatriyas similar to Rajputs. This concept was developed by Srinivas in his **study of Coorgs** (Religion and Society Among the Coorgs). He cited examples of how the Kayasthas of Bengal had taken up administrative functions during the Mughal rule and thus improved their ritual hierarchy greatly through advances in the secular hierarchy.

### **Theory of Westernization by M N Srinivas:**

**Westernization**, similarly, was the process by which either an upper caste or the lowest castes (places with limited mobility in the traditional structure) adopted western habits, traditions, education, etc. to gain mobility in status. Other castes too used this method but it must be noted that the **uppermost and lowest castes** could only use this as other means of mobility were blocked for them. Westernisation happened at three levels:

1. Primary - interacted with the western culture directly
2. Secondary - interacted with the primary beneficiaries
3. Tertiary - indirect contact with western customs.

Y. Singh says that westernisation led to:

1. Growth of a universal legal system
2. Expansion of education
3. Urbanization and Industrialization
4. Increased network communication

### **Theory of Dominant caste**

**Dominant caste** is an important concept to understand the rural social life in any part of India according to Srinivas. Typical features of a dominant caste in a village are:

- Numerical strength,
- Economic and political power, and

- Western education and occupations.

Dominant castes **dominate the secular hierarchy** but not necessarily the ritual hierarchy. When a caste enjoys all of the above at the same time, it can be said to enjoy **decisive dominance**.

However, decisive dominance is rare, with the different elements being dispersed among various groups. A caste that is dominant in a number of villages in an area may be said to have **regional dominance**. This concept was developed in his **study of Rampura village** titled the **Remembered Village**.

Srinivas considers caste as a **stratification system**, and caste positions and relations as dynamic in nature. So, he concludes that this understanding of caste can be applied to both micro and macro levels.

### **M N Srinivas on Indian Villages**

Srinivas' understanding of Indian villages is neither textual nor cultural. He dismisses Louis Dumont's mono-causal approach to understand Indian society in terms of purity and pollution and instead argues that **every Indian carries multiple identities**. People from a single caste are divided on the basis of family and kinship; people from a single village are divided on the basis of caste, and villagers stand united forgetting all divisions against the outside world. Basically like the Bedouin proverb: me against my brother; I and my brother against my cousin; I, my brother, and my cousin against the world.

Thus, he concludes that while caste provides **horizontal solidarity** to groups, villages provide **vertical solidarity**. He adds that **Jajmani relations** further bolstered the vertical solidarity as do power/rivalry factions. In doing so he opposes the views of Dumont who holds that there is no solidarity outside of the caste group.

He advocated village studies in order to understand:

1. The social structure of village communities,
2. Specific structural characters of a given village.

Srinivas never said that the village is a representation of Indian society in general. Rather he held that by studying villages located in various parts of the country we can gather enough information about the continuity and change in village traditions and norms. By doing so, we would be able to understand the continuity and change experienced by the Indian society as a whole. Thus, his views liberated Indian sociology from the determinism of Indology and Marxist approaches and introduced the traditions of empirical studies and intensive fieldwork in the realm of Indian sociology. He can be credited with leading a shift from the book view to the **field view perspective**.

### **On New Avatar of Caste**

In his analysis of Indian unity, he writes that despite the people of India being divided on the basis of religion, language, and caste; common cultural consciousness and emotive consciousness promote unity among them. He coined the term **AJGaR** (Ahir, Jat, Gujjar, and Rajput) to indicate how prosperous agricultural communities were **forgetting caste differences to claim political power in states**. This position took him closer to the Marxist view of how **caste is evolving into class** in India.

Srinivas noted that in contemporary India, the conflict between upper and lower castes was missing. Rather the conflict was **between OBCs (Yadavs) and Dalits (BSP)** who in the case of UP had thrown out Brahmins and Rajputs from the power structure. Thus, **castes with similar class interests were fighting against each other**. Similar is the case of AJGaR, Ahirs and Jats are engaged in rivalry at the village level but come together as backward castes to gain reservation. He also talked about **vote-bank politics** and the transformation of caste system into casteism. Thus, he tried to disprove the Marxist notion of caste evolving into a class due to the numerous internal frictions.

### **Critique of M N Srinivas's Structural Functionalism**

- As the founder of modern sociology in India, he was not committed to any particular approach or theory, rather he adapted his approach as he went along. He began as an Indologist and moved on to structural functionalism and used various other approaches in his vast array of works.
- **Yogendra Singh** considers MNS' sociology as a **form of objective idealism**, i.e. undergoing both continuity and change. Objective because he used empirical methods and idealists 'cause he believed that India can never go for absolute change or modernity.
- **Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak** holds that it is because of Srinivas that Indian society was studied from a caste perspective till the 80s. The subaltern perspective is important.
- Dalit scholars consider that Srinivas was a **Brahmanic sociologist much like Ghurye**. While Ghurye celebrated Hindu culture, Srinivas celebrated Sanskritization.
- His concept of Sanskritization is no longer valid in today's society. Middle and lower castes have begun opting for **westernisation** and **political representation** by mass mobilisation instead to gain social mobility.
- Dominant caste too is no longer a valid concept in rural areas. OBCs and lower castes have successfully displaced the traditional upper castes like Brahmins and Rajputs from the power structure of the states. Also since the **Jajmani relations have broken down**, the traditional patronage system no longer works to maintain the dominance of the land-owning castes.

- Srinivas' approach has been termed as brahminical by his critics. When he speaks of Sanskritization and speaks against reservation it can be said that the Brahmin in Srinivas supersedes the sociologist in Srinivas.

**Ancient and Medieval** societies were characterized by a number of salient features that distinguished them from other periods in human history. One of the most notable of these was the Unity in Diversity that pervaded these societies. Another key feature was their Dynamic and Syncretic nature, which allowed for the absorption and assimilation of new ideas and cultures into existing frameworks. In this blog post, we will explore these and other salient features of Ancient and Medieval societies!

### **What are the salient features of society?**

There is no one answer to this question, as society is a complex and ever-evolving entity. However, there are some key features that have been present in most societies throughout history, namely unity in diversity and dynamic syncretism.

#### **Unity in Diversity**

Unity in Diversity refers to the fact that all societies are composed of different groups and individuals who come together to form a cohesive whole. These groups may have different religions, cultures, languages, or ideologies, but they all share the same society. This diversity is what makes societies strong and resilient, as it allows for different voices and perspectives to be heard.

#### **Dynamic Syncretism**

Dynamic Syncretism refers to the fact that all societies are constantly changing and evolving. New ideas and technologies are always emerging, and different groups are constantly interacting with one another. This leads to a constant process of adaptation and evolution, as societies strive to meet the needs of their members.

#### **Rural and Agraria**

Rural and Agrarian societies are those that are based on agriculture and/or natural resources. They are typically characterised by a strong sense of community, as people rely on each other to survive. Rural societies are often more traditional and conservative than urban societies, and they place a high value on family and community ties. Agrarian societies are typically more technologically advanced than rural societies, and they are more focused on production than community.

These are just a few of the salient features of society. Every society is unique, and there is no one-size-fits-all answer to the question of what makes a society thrive. However, these three concepts provide a good starting point for understanding the complex world of society. Thank you for reading!

Unity in Diversity, Dynamic Syncretism, Rural and Agrarian societies are salient features of society during the Ancient and Medieval Periods.

However, it is important to understand the commonalities that exist between all societies

### **Other Salient Features of Society**

Some other salient features of society:

- Migration of people: This has always been a salient feature of society, as people have constantly moved from one place to another in search of better opportunities.
- Technology: Technology is another key factor that has helped societies to thrive. New technologies allow for increased productivity and efficiency, and they also provide new ways of communicating and interacting with the world.
- Education: Education is another important aspect of society, as it allows for the transmission of knowledge and culture from one generation to the next.
- Population: The size and composition of a society's population can have a significant impact on its overall development. A large, diverse population can be a boon to society, while a small, homogeneous population may be more susceptible to instability.
- Urbanisation: In recent years, there has been a trend of urbanisation, or the migration of people from urban to rural areas. This is largely due to the high cost of living and lack of opportunities in cities.

### **Salient features on Ancient India:**

Cities: Cities were the centres of trade, learning and culture. They attracted people from all parts of the country.

Trade: The main form of economy was trade. People traded goods such as spices, textiles, precious stones and metals.

Religion: The main religions were Hinduism and Buddhism.

Education: Education was available to people of all castes and classes. Cities had universities where students studied mathematics, astronomy, medicine and philosophy.

Art: The art of the period was characterised by its ornate style. It included stone carvings, paintings and metalwork.

### **Salient features of Medieval India:**

Migration: People migrated to different parts of the country in search of work. This led to the spread of different cultures and religions.

Unification: The country was divided into many small kingdoms. However, over time, these kingdoms merged to form larger empires.

Culture: The culture of the period was characterised by its mix of Hindu and Muslim influences.

Religion: The main religions were Hinduism and Islam.

Education: Education was available to people of all castes and classes. However, it was mainly concentrated in the cities.

Art: The art of the period was characterised by its realism. It included paintings, sculptures and metalwork.

Unity in Diversity: One of the most distinctive features of Indian society is its unity in diversity. This means that despite the many different cultures and religions, all Indians share a common identity.

### **Conclusion**

The ancient and medieval periods were times of great change in many ways. One area where there was a lot of transformation was in the structure of society. In this post, we've looked at some of the salient features of society during these two time periods. We hope that this has been

informative for you and given you a better understanding of what life was like during these times. If you have any questions or would like to learn more, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We are always happy to help students gain a deeper understanding of history!

### **INDIA is a Multicultural country.**

- The study of different socio-cultural and genetic variability defined the population of India more appropriately.
- India is the world's second most populous nation (after China). Its ethnic composition is complex, but two major strains predominate: the Aryan, in the north, and the Dravidian, in the south. India is a land of great cultural diversity, as is evidenced by the enormous number of different languages spoken throughout the country. Although Hindi (spoken in the north) and English (the language of politics and commerce) are used officially, more than 1,500 languages and dialects are spoken. The Indian constitution recognizes 15 regional languages (Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Malayalam, Marathi, Oriya, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, and Urdu).
- About 80% of the population is Hindu, and 14% is Muslim. Other significant religions include Christians, Sikhs, and Buddhists. There is no state religion.
- India is a fascinating country where people of many different communities and religions live together in unity. Indian Population is polygenetic and is an amazing amalgamation of various races and cultures.
- People of different groups in India living here for hundreds or even thousands of years and correspondingly try to maintain their individual identity even by living side by side.
- Also, Anthropologist's commitment towards the grasping of different information and the dynamics of communities and populations.
- India with 1000 million people is one of the world's top twelve mega diversity countries.
- Different groups are present in India, like from stone-age food gatherers to agriculturists. They also engaged in mechanized and chemicalised agriculture, mechanized fishing, tapping off shore oil and natural gas, running atomic power plants and producing computer software.
- According to Bhasin and Walter (2001); India is a homeland of over 4000 populations, 3700 endogamous groups are structured in Hindu caste system as 'JATIS' and a 1000 of Mendelian Population which are autochthonous and religious communities.
- Thus, India offers a cauldron where the processes of unification as well as fragmentation are unceasingly taking place.

### **Racial elements of India**

- Although, there are no strict rules to diversify different races; but Anthropologists distinguish groups on the basis of common origin, living in certain defined regions and different characteristic features on the basis of geographical regions.
- Modern man, biologically uniform in basic features (for example; upright posture, well-developed hand and feet, absence of bony eyebrow etc.). Scientists depict all human beings into single species i.e. Homo sapiens.
- However, differentiation in groups can be seen on the basis of different geographical regions.



- Complexity of Indian population by the continuous influence of other new racial elements from outside can be manifested by the classification of different racial elements by different Anthropologists.

## **Criticisms of classifications**

### **1. RISLEY'S CLASSIFICATION.**

- Risley's Classification faced criticism especially in the case of Scytho-Dravidians and the Mongolo-Dravidian.
- Speakers of Aryan Language Found in vast majority in Indian subcontinent; where as in Risley's Classification is distributed only in Punjab, Rajputana and Kashmir Valley.
- According to Risley, Broad-headed elements in Bengal have been influenced by Mongolian People; but in reality it is not found in people living in Bengal.
- Also, Risley conducted that the people of South India speak Dravidian language but actually they do not speak Dravidian language and distinct features from Dravidian.
- Risley didn't mention about Negrito element in India.

## **ETHNIC ELEMENTS OF INDIA**

- Aggregation of biological and socio-cultural characteristics can be defined as an ETHNIC GROUPS.
- It comprises CASTE, SCHEDULED CASTE, SCHEDULED TRIBE and COMMUNITIES.
- According to Bhasin and Walter; —COMMUNITY can be defined as a group of people having occupational, religious, linguistic or regional characteristics.

## **CASTE**

Caste in India, is an exclusively Indian phenomenon. The word 'caste' derives from the Portuguese word 'casta', denoting breed, race or kind. Risley (1915) defines it as —a collection of families or groups of families bearing a common name; claiming a common descent from a mythical ancestor, human or divine; professing to follow the same hereditary calling; and regarded by those who are competent to give an opinion as forming a single homogeneous community' is generally associated with a specific occupation

- A caste is highly endogamous, into smaller circles each of which is endogamous which is referred to as Jati and the endogamous division is 'Gotra'.
- different terms used in different regions
- Northern India, 'Jat' (breed) and 'Qaum' (tribe) are the synonyms.
- 'Biradari' or 'Bhaiband' (brotherhood) who lives in a particular neighborhood.
- Caste referred to as the social classes from which an individual are confined to their original socially allotted position and are also called as CLOSE SYSTEM.
- M.N. Srinivas (1969) stated caste as —the idea of hierarchy is central to caste. The customs, rites and way of life were different among higher and lower castes.

## **VARNA OR JAT**

The term 'Varna' appears in the earliest Rig-Veda in its tenth book called —PURUSHASUKTAI.

- According to Manu, there are four Varnas; Brahmin, Kshtriya, Vaishyas and Sudras. Therefore, all the JATIS were arisen by the interaction between the members of four Varna and also, after that, between the descendants of initial unions. However, the UNTOUCHABLES are not included in this.
- Brahmin, Vaishyas and Kshtriyas are also called DVIJAS (twice born), whereas sudra are not at all included in it.
- Comparatively, Varna and Caste or Jati are two different things. Caste or Jati refers to the occupational groups and also internally segmented.

**CHARACTERISTICS OF CASTE**The fundamental features of Caste are

### **1. Hereditary identity**

2. An individual born to particular caste are not allowed to move up and down along the social ladder.

- This means that an individual can't escape from his/her caste identity for his/her whole life

An individual of particular caste can marry within its own caste.

According to Manu, a higher caste man is not allowed to marry the lower caste woman.

### **3. Hereditary occupation**

- Each Caste is associated with its particular hereditary occupation.

Like Muchis are shoemakers, Chamars are the leather workers, Lohars are the Blacksmiths.

### **4. Hierarchy**

Each Caste cites an evidence of its superiority; with reference to the rituals it performs, the customs it observes, or the myth of the origin.

### **5. Purity and pollution**

It is a concept of pollution to maintain between different castes. Occupational specializations among castes are because of the degree of purity and pollution.

### **6. Restriction on food, drink and smoking**

The membership norm of each caste determines what a person may eat and with whom he/she may sit for a meal.

### **7. Distinction in customs, dress and speech**

The members of higher caste are supposed to wear fine clothes and gold ornaments, while the members of lower caste wear coarse materials and silver ornaments.

### **Scheduled caste (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs).**

The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were enumerated from 1951 census onwards. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have been specified by 15 Presidential Orders issued under the provisions of Articles 341 and 342 of the Constitution. They are listed in Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act 1976.

In the Census of India 2001, 16.2 % of the population was ‘Scheduled Castes’ or another 8.2 % as belong to ‘Scheduled Tribes’.

Occupational specialization:

Landless agricultural laborers,  
Cultivators with small holdings,  
Small commodity producers or artisans,

## **UNIT-II**

### **Tribal Society**

**Tribal Society** A tribe can be defined as a community living in hilly forest or well demarcated areas having its own culture, religion, language, and strong ethnic identity. Anthropologists have explained tribe as a social group with territorial affiliation, endogamous in nature; with no specialization of functions, ruled by tribal chiefs, hereditary or otherwise, united in language or dialect, recognizing social distance with other tribes or castes, following tribal traditions, beliefs and customs, conscious of their ethnic and territorial homogeneity

**Characteristics of Tribal Society:**

- They have usually a well-demarcated geographical territory
  - Generally, they live in forests or hilly areas.
  - Their territory is relatively isolated or semi-isolated compared to another social group.
  - They have their own culture, folklore, cosmology and belief system.
  - Economically they are self-sufficient, i.e. their economy is based on subsistence level where there is no concept of surplus. They cling to primitive technology. They lack monetary economy. Their economy is dependent on barter exchange.
  - They are more interested in earning their today's need and do not bother about their
- The tribes are the forest's ancestral residents. They are frequently known as Adivasis or native inhabitants. Tribal communities in India are the object of academic interest, primarily in social sciences and humanities departments.

Many people know that India is the birthplace of many human races; the country also possesses the most diversified tribal populations. Under the Indian Constitution's Schedule 5, the Indian Constitution recognizes tribal communities in India as Scheduled Tribes. Therefore, our Indian President clarifies tribal communities in India as scheduled tribes as per the Indian Constitution's Article 342. Therefore, any tribal communities in India or the largest tribal community in India

shall be added or removed by law from the tribal communities register. As per the article, there are around 600 scheduled tribes.

Who are Tribes?

A tribe is a historic class division in which individuals are related by societal, cultural, religious, or blood connections and share a set of norms and accents. In addition, a tribe has particular features and attributes that distinguish it as a unique national, socioeconomic, and cultural entity.

### **Tribal Communities in India**

Some discernible attributes of tribal communities:

- Social uniformity
- Dwelling in a mountainous or forested environment
- Possessing a distinct geographic and cultural area to which they belong
- An interconnected social structure based mainly on biological connections
- There is no structure between men or groups.
- A separate psychological approach to living life
- The loss of a powerful, comprehensive, hierarchical team or the absence of one
- Kinship is their social bonding tool
- Property ownership allotted on a communal basis
- Little value placed on wealth creation or active trading
- A character with a segmented personality
- An absence of difference between forms and content of spirituality

### **Tribal Communities in India – Challenges**

In the past, the involvement of outsiders caused some of the indigenous people's concerns. The first ones to make adjustments in their secluded living conditions seem to have been Muslim monarchs. They began using the communities for the reasons listed below.

- They aimed to utilize the tribal territories' riches, particularly the vast mineral deposits
- They desired to be kings over the tribal communities in India Tribal regions have valuable natural resources, and therefore cultural interaction with tribes is favorable, resulting in the following: Transportation and communication infrastructures allow strangers to access their community
- Authorities and missionaries are allowed to enter the tribal territory

- Tribal populations are being displaced from their customary habitats due to initiatives such as hydroelectric power plants and others
- Experts such as medicine men, sales assistants, and agents can enter their tribe region

### **Characteristics of Tribal Society:**

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- They have their own culture, folklore, cosmology and belief system.
- Economically they are self-sufficient, i.e. their economy is based on subsistence level where there is no concept of surplus. They cling to primitive technology. They lack monetary economy. Their economy is dependent on barter exchange.
- They are more interested in earning their today's need and do not bother about their future requirements.
- They have their own language; generally, do not have any script.
- They have their own political system, i.e. both stateless and state. Earlier they had stateless system, i.e. without any tribal chief. They manage their law and order system through family and kinship ties. Later on, came the state system, when tribals nominated or elected their own chiefs. Today, of course this autonomy has been lost and they have become part of the local administration.
- Tribal societies are known as simple societies because their social relationships are primarily based on family and kinship ties. Besides they do not have any rigid social stratification.
- They have their own religion, i.e. having their own deities (gods and goddesses) and belief system. Their forms of religion are known as animism (worshipping the soul or ancestors), animalism (worshipping any non-living body like stone or wood), totemism (worshipping a tree or any animal as the founding ancestor), and naturism (worshipping objects of nature like river, stream, sun, moon, forest, etc.).
- They have a sense of belongingness to their own community; they feel that they are the sons of the soil and hence they have a strong ethnic identity.

### **Classification of Indian Tribes by Their Properties**

In India, there is no single and definitive system for classifying tribes. However, various anthropologists and scholars have attempted to distribute Indian tribes from time to time. The classification of Indian tribes by their properties refers to categorizing them based on certain characteristics or traits that are either acquired or permanent over time.

### **Acquired properties**

Acquired properties refer to factors that have changed over time due to historical, social, and economic factors, such as their subsistence patterns and level of integration into mainstream Hindu society.

### **Permanent properties**

The permanent properties of Indian tribes include factors such as their geographic location or territory, language, physical or racial attributes, and size. These are inherent characteristics of a tribe that is not easily changeable and have been part of their identity for generations.

## **Classification of Indian Tribes by Race**

Anthropologists have attempted to classify India's tribal population based on physical characteristics. However, determining the racial origins and relationships of these communities is a difficult task due to a lack of sufficient information and limited evidence.

Sir Herbert Risley was the first to make a scientific attempt to categorize Indian tribes based on their physical attributes, including race. He classified the entire population of India into seven racial types, including

- Turku-Iranian
- Indo-Aryan
- Scytho-Dravidian
- Aryo-Dravidian
- Mongol-Dravidian
- Mongoloid
- Dravidian.

However, he did not provide a separate classification scheme for the tribal population.

J.H. Hutton, S.C. Guha, and D.N. Majumdar made a more recent attempt at classification. However, S.C. Guha's classification (1935) is the most widely accepted. Who identified six main races and nine sub-types. The racial classification of Indian tribes is as follows:

- **Mongoloid:** This group is further subdivided into the two sub-groups which are Tibeto-Mongoloids and Paleo-Mongoloids(Long-headed and Broad-headed).
- Negrito
- Proto- Australoid

- Mediterranean: This group is further subdivided into the three sub-groups which are Palaeo-Mediterranean, Mediterranean, and Oriental type.
- Western Brachycephals: This group is also further subdivided into the three sub-groups as Alpinoid, Dinaric, and Armenoid.
- Nordic

However, the tribes of India currently have the three following racial compositions:

- Mongoloid
- Negrito
- Proto-Australoid

### **Mongoloid**

Mongoloid group includes the tribes of north-eastern India and the western Himalayan region. This group is characterized by Straight hair, a flat nose, prominent cheekbones, almond-shaped eyes, the epicanthic fold, and yellowish skin.

### **Negrito**

This group is distinguished by dark skin (which appears blue), a round head, a broad nose, and frizzy hair. These characteristics are shared by the Kadar (Kerala), Onge (Little Andaman), Sentinelese, and Jarwa (Andaman Islands), among others. The Siddis, who migrated from African shores, are also members of the Negrito group.

### **Proto-Australoid**

The Mundas, Oraons, Hos, Gonds, Khonds, and other tribes of middle India are descended from the Proto-Australoid stock. Dark skin tone, short to medium stature, low forehead, sunken nose, dark complexion, and curly hair are characteristics of this group.

## **Classification of Indian Tribes by Zone**

Indian tribes can be classified into different zones based on their geographical location and demographic set-up. However, B.S. Guha, an eminent Indian anthropologist, classified the India tribes into three zones:

- North-North-Eastern Zone
- Central Zone
- Southern Zone

### **North-North-Eastern Zone**

This zone includes the north and north-eastern zone in the mountain valleys and eastern frontiers of India.

## **Central Zone**

The Central Zone, as classified by B.S. Guha, includes the central or middle zone occupying the older hills and plateaus along the dividing line between Peninsular India and the Indo-Gangetic Plains.

## **Southern Zone**

According to B.S. Guha, the Southern Zone includes the entire southern zone of Peninsular India. This zone's tribes are primarily Dravidian speakers.

## **Classification of Indian Tribes by Language**

Language or linguistic categories are also used to classify tribes. The linguistic characteristics of Indian tribes are far more complex. According to current estimates, the tribal people speak 105 distinct languages and 225 subsidiary languages. However, Indian tribes can be divided into four major linguistic groups, which are as follows:

- Indo-Aryan
- Austro-Asiatic
- Dravidian
- Sino-Tibetan

### **Indo Aryan**

The Indo-Aryan is the largest language family in India and is spoken by a large number of tribes in Gujarat, Rajasthan, and the Indo-Gangetic Plain. Many tribes in India speak Indo-Aryan languages as their mother tongue. Some of the major tribes are:

- The Bhil tribe are one of the largest tribes in India and are mainly found in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh.
  - They speak the Bhili language, which is a dialect of the Gujarati and Rajasthani languages belonging to the Indo-Aryan family.
- Banjari is a dialect of Hindi, an Indo-Aryan language spoken by the Banjara community in India.
- The Broqpas speak Dardic.
- The Gujjars speak Gujjari
- Lamani is spoken by the Lambadis.
- Baghelkhandi is spoken by the Paos.
- Chattisgarhi, Gujarati, Marathi, Assamese, Oriya, and Baigana, spoken by the Baigas.

### **Austric Linguistic Group**

The Austric language family is spoken by the Khasis and Jaintias of Meghalaya. Other Indian tribes who speak languages from the Austric or Mundarian (as it is sometimes called) language family are as follows:



- Mundas (Bihar).
- Bondos (Odisha)
- Santhals (West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, and Tripura).
- Saoras (West Bengal, Bihar, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Odisha).
- Hos (Bihar, Odisha, West Bengal, and Madhya Pradesh).
- Korkus (Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra).

The Austro-Asiatic family is further subdivided into the three sub-groups listed below:

- Mon-Khmer Branch: Languages from this family are spoken by the Khasis and Jaintias of Meghalaya, as well as the Nicobarese of the Nicobar Islands.
- Munda Branch: Santhali is spoken by Santhalis, Gutob speaks Gadabas, and Korwa is spoken by Kodaku.
- Kherwarian group: Ho tribe belongs to this group.

### Dravidian Linguistic Group

The Dravidian language family includes all of the tribes in southern India, as well as the Gonds and Oraons in central India. However, this language family includes the Gondi language spoken by the Gonds, who spread from Uttar Pradesh to Andhra Pradesh and from Maharashtra to Orissa. Other languages in this family include:

- The Kandh of Orissa speaks Kui.
- The Malerus of Karnataka speak Tulu.
- The Oraons of central India speak Kurukh.
- The Dravidian language family also includes the languages spoken by the Chenchus of Andhra Pradesh, the Kadars of Kerala, and the Irulas, Palliyans, and Todas of Tamil Nadu.

### Sino-Tibetan

The Sino-Tibetan language family is one of the largest language families in the world, and it includes a number of sub-groups and branches. In India, this family is subdivided into the two sub-groups listed below:

- Tibeto Burman
- Siamese-Burmese

#### Tibeto Burman

Apart from the Khasis and the Jaintias of Meghalaya, who speak languages belonging to the Austroasiatic language family, all the other tribes of northeast India and the Himalayan region speak languages belonging to the Tibeto-Burman language family. This language family is known for its diversity and complexity, and it includes many distinct languages and dialects spoken by different ethnic groups across the region.

- Tibeto-Himalayan Branch: Ladakhi, Khampa, Memba, and Bhotia, spoken by the Kagati, Mons, and Sherpa peoples.
- Prenominalised Western Himalayan (Himachal Pradesh) sub-group: Lahauli is spoken by the Lahaula, and Swangli and Kinnauri are spoken by the Kinnaura.
- Non- Prenominalised Himalayan group: Rongke is spoken by the Lepchas (Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, and Darjeeling), and, Toto is spoken by the Totos people (West Bengal)
- Arunachal Branch: Hrusso is spoken by the Akas, Miri is spoken by the Miris, and the Mishmis speak Mishmi.
- Assam-Burmese Branch can be classified into;
  - Bodo group: Mikir, Dimasa, Garo, and Kachari are spoken by the Karbis people, and Koch & Dowyan are spoken by the Tiwas and Rabha tribes.
  - Naga Group: Chakhesang, Lotha, Konyak, Angami, Ao, Maram, Phom, Sema, and Rengma peoples.
  - Kuki-Chin Group: Monsang, Moyon, Koirang, Lamgang, Paite, Vaiphei, Zou, and Himar peoples.
  - Kachin Group: Singpho.

### *Siamese-Burmese*

This family of languages is spoken by the Tai people, which includes the Khamptis and the Phakials.

### **Conclusion**

India is a diverse country with a rich cultural heritage, and its population includes a wide range of communities, each with its own distinct culture and traditions. Scheduled Tribes in India account for approximately 8.6% of the Country's total population of over 10.4 crore people, according to the 2011 census. Similarly, Over 730 tribes in India have been notified as Scheduled Tribes under Article 342 of the Indian Constitution, recognizing the diversity of the tribal population and providing special provisions for their welfare and development. The Indian government established the Ministry of Tribal Affairs in 1999 to promote the integrated socio-economic development of tribal communities in India. Since its establishment, the ministry has introduced several policies and programs to address the various challenges faced by Scheduled Tribes in the Country.

We hope all your doubts regarding the Classification of Tribes in India are addressed after going through this article. Test boo always assured the quality of its product, like content pages, live tests, GK and current affairs, mocks, and so on. Ace your preparation with the Testbook App! Register for UPSC Online Classes at an affordable price through the UPSC CSE Coaching platform to boost your IAS preparation.

The term “tribal” or “Adivasi” creates an image of half-naked men and women in our mind, wielding arrows and spears, wearing feathers on their heads, and speaking an unintelligible language.

Even as the majority of the world's communities continued to change their lifestyles to keep up with the world's "progress," there were communities that remained true to their traditional values, customs, and beliefs, allowing them to live in harmony with nature and their unpolluted environment.

The so-called civilised world labelled these communities as natives, uncivilised people, Aboriginals, Adivasis, Tribals, Indigenous, uncontacted people, and many other such terms. In India, they are commonly referred to as Adivasis/Girijans.

Be it social or technological, the problems faced by tribals in India are many. They are educationally backward and face numerous social and religious troubles; they are in poverty and go through exploitation and forced displacement with several health issues. Every day, new tribal problems emerge throughout India. Tribals people are estimated 104 million and they cover 8.61 percent of the country's total population, and the 2011 census has given this report. The seven states of northeast India and the "central tribal belt" stretching from Rajasthan to West Bengal have the highest concentrations of indigenous people. More than half of the Scheduled Tribes population lives in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, and Gujarat. Article 342 of the Indian Constitution has identified almost 700 Scheduled Tribes, spread across various states and union territories. Many tribes are found in multiple states. Orissa and Madhya Pradesh have the most scheduled tribes (i.e., 62). Santhals, Gonds, Angamis, Bhils, Khasis, Bhutias, and Great Andamanese are some of India's major tribal groups. Each of these tribes has its own unique culture, language, tradition, and way of living life. Many more such tribes in the country live away from the mainland. Many such ethnic groups are there in India who are not yet qualified for their scheduled tribe status, and that is the reason they have not been officially recognized yet,

## **Tribal Problems**

Certain types of tribal problems emerged with their contact with outsiders. Before the Muslim rule, the tribals lived fairly in isolation. During Muslim rule the process of revenue collection started. However, the Muslim rulers did not interfere with, the tribal customs and traditions. Exploitative contact started during the British; rule. This was found mainly because of three reasons:

- (a) The Britishers wanted to rule over the tribals.
- (b) They wanted to syphon off resources from tribal areas, which were rich in mineral resources.

(c) They wanted to preach Christianity under the pretext of rationality.

**Cultural contact came into being because of the following reasons:**

(a) Existence of mineral resources in the tribal areas

(b) Entry of administrators and missionaries into tribal areas.

(c) Entry of specialists like medicine man, agents and vendors into the tribal areas.

(d) Development of transport and communication in the tribal areas, which facilitated the entry of outsiders.

(e) Displacement of tribal population from their traditional habitat due to construction of industries and hydro-electricity and irrigation projects. In this manner most of the tribal problems have emerged due to cultural contact There are several tribal problems, which are as follows:

**Land alienation** caused due to the introduction of monetary economy. For every consumption need, the tribals needed money, but did not have any source of earning. They mortgaged land or sold it off land. Besides, outsiders exploited them and grabbed away their land. Further industrialization also resulted into acquisition of land by the state. Various State governments have passed several acts to abolish transfer or sale of tribal land to non-tribals.

**Indebtedness** cropped in due to lack of adequate source of income. Private money lenders (Like mahajan and sahuakar) are readily available in tribal areas. They provided personal loan on heavy rate of interest. The consumption patterns of the tribals include regular consumption of liquor, bride price during marriage and fine for any deviant behaviour. All these require money. Hence, they go to the moneylender. In this manner they are heavily in debt. Effective measures have been taken by various State governments to curb the entry of Sahukars into the tribal areas and arrangements have been made to secure loans on nominal rate of interest from the banks.

**Bonded labour** is a serious problem, which came in due to rampant poverty and lack of stable income. In fact, land alienation, indebtedness; bonded labour and poverty are inter-related problems.

**Major Issues of Tribes of India**

Scheduled tribes have primitive characteristics, distinct culture, geographical isolation, shyness of contact with the larger community, and backwardness. As a result, they face numerous challenges throughout their lives. Tribal problems in India are many, with various social, religious, educational, and health-related issues.

#### Educational Issues

1. The Literacy Rate (LR) for Scheduled Tribes (STs) has increased from 8.53 percent in 1961 to 58.96 percent in 2011, whereas the LR of the total population has increased from 28.30 percent from 1961 to 72.99 percent in 2011.
2. From 2001 to 2011, the LR increased by 11.86 percentage points for STs and 8.15 percentage points for the entire population.
3. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is currently implemented as India's most important program for universalizing elementary education.
4. Dropout rates among the tribal students are incredibly high, especially at the secondary and senior secondary levels.
5. Higher education suffers as well; they have a dropout rate of 73% in Class X, 84% in Class XI, and 86% in Class XII.
6. According to a recent Human Rights Watch report, the Principal of one of the schools in Uttar Pradesh's Sonbhadra District stated that tribal children were a "big problem" in the school.
7. Such prejudice prevents tribal children from learning in the classroom and encourages discrimination and exclusion, adding more to Tribal problems in India.
1. Tribal people believe in superhumans and supernatural powers, and they worship them as well. This raised many questions in the minds of young educated people. The tribal culture is undergoing a revolutionary change as they contact other cultures.
2. The tribal people match Western culture in many aspects of their social lives, while they are abandoning their own culture.
3. It has resulted in the decline of tribal life and tribal arts such as dance, music, and various types of craft.

#### Social Issues

1. Child marriage among tribes is still practiced in states such as Bihar and Andhra Pradesh, which is constitutionally wrong and has many negative consequences. Some Himalayan tribes practice polyandry and polygamy.
2. Such practices are not accepted by mainstream society. Infanticide, homicide, animal sacrifice, black magic, wife swapping, and other harmful practices are still practiced by tribes, which are considered a significant Tribal problem in India.
3. Language is also one of the barriers to tribal education promotion.

#### Health issues

1. There are questionable issues among the tribal populations in terms of healthcare. One of the weakest links is public health services to Scheduled Tribes.
2. The lack of health care personnel who are willing, trained, and equipped to work in Scheduled Areas is a significant barrier to providing public health care to tribal populations.
3. In the public health care system in Scheduled Areas, there is a shortage, vacancy, absenteeism, or apathy among doctors, nurses, technicians, and managers.
4. The near-complete absence of participation of Scheduled Tribes people or their representatives in shaping policies, making plans, or implementing services in the health sector is one of the reasons for inappropriately designed and poorly organised and managed health care in Scheduled Areas.

5. Medical insurance coverage's such as Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) are very low in Scheduled Areas. Therefore, the scheduled tribes people live without protection towards catastrophic and acute illnesses.

6. The infant mortality rate (IMR) among tribal people is estimated to be between 44 and 74 per 1,000 live births.

#### Consumption of Tobacco and Alcohol

1. Data from the Xaxa Committee Report 2014 show that men aged 15 to 54 years consume a lot of tobacco, either smoking or chewing. Tobacco use was prevalent in approximately 72 per cent of Scheduled Tribes and 56 per cent of Non-Scheduled Tribes, respectively.

2. Alcohol consumption is a part of many tribal communities' social rituals. On a national level, it is noted that approximately half of Scheduled Tribe men (51 percent) consume alcohol in some form.

3. Tobacco was consumed by approximately 73 percent of rural Scheduled Tribe men compared to 60 percent of urban counterparts. Tobacco use was widespread among Scheduled Tribe men in states such as West Bengal, Bihar, Mizoram, and Odisha (more than 80 percent). This also contributes to serious health issues.

#### Poverty and Indebtedness

1. The majority of tribes are impoverished. The tribes engage in a variety of simple occupations based on rudimentary technology.

2. The majority of the occupations are primary occupations such as hunting, gathering, and agriculture. The technology they utilise for such purposes is of the most basic type. In such an economy, there is no profit or surplus.

3. As a result, their per capita income is meagre, much lower than the Indian average. The majority live in extreme poverty and are in debt to local moneylenders and Zamindars.

4. They frequently mortgage or sell their land to the moneylenders to repay the debt. The debt burden is an almost unavoidable tribal problem in India, considering the high-interest rates charged by these moneylenders.

## Tribal Welfare, Constitutional Provisions and their Evaluation

### Constitutional Provisions Related to Tribals in India

The Indian Constitution guarantees that no citizen shall be discriminated against. There are specific provisions in the Constitution that address the rights and welfare of Scheduled Tribes (STs):

### Issues Faced by Tribal in India

The tribal in India are facing significant challenges that are making their lives difficult.

- One major problem is the **exploitation of their natural resources**. The government's policies of liberalization and globalization prioritize using resources for economic growth, which clashes with the traditional tribal view of resource utilization. This has led to the extraction of resources from tribal territories, causing ecological damage.
- Another issue is **forced displacement** due to large development projects. Many tribal areas have been taken over for these projects, and the displaced communities often struggle to find proper rehabilitation.
- **Different tribal communities face varied problems**. For instance, some suffer from poor health conditions, with shorter life expectancy and higher rates of diseases like

Sickle Cell Anemia. There are also conflicts among tribes over access to natural resources and territorial control.

- The **interests of market forces often take precedence over the well-being and security of the tribal people**. Many tribes are left unemployed or forced to work in exploitative and low-paying jobs.
- **Globalization** has worsened the situation, exacerbating social exclusion and vulnerability for the downtrodden tribes. This has even led to sub-national movements seeking greater autonomy or recognition for tribal areas.
- **Tribal women** are particularly affected as they are often directly impacted by corporate exploitation of their lands. Poverty drives many young women from tribal areas to migrate to urban centers in search of work, where they face exploitation and poor living conditions.
- The **influx of immigrant laborers** and development projects have also threatened tribal cultures and habitats. Some isolated tribes, like the Sentinelese, are hostile to outsiders and need protection from interference.

### Way Forward

To protect tribals in India and safeguard their rights and well-being, several measures and policies need to be implemented. Here are some key steps that can be taken:

- **Social and Cultural Preservation:** Take measures to preserve the unique cultural heritage of tribal communities. Encourage traditional practices and crafts, and protect their sacred sites and cultural spaces.
- **Community Empowerment:** Empower tribal communities by involving them in decision-making processes that concern their lives and resources. Recognize and support their traditional governance systems and cultural institutions.
- **Land Rights:** Ensure tribal communities have clear and undisputed ownership of their lands. Address issues of land alienation and take strict action against illegal land acquisitions.
- **Awareness and Sensitization:** Create awareness among government officials, law enforcement agencies, and the general public about the rights and issues of tribal communities. Sensitize them to the unique challenges faced by these communities.
- **Protection of Isolated Tribes:** Take necessary precautions to protect isolated tribes and their habitats. Strictly enforce the “eyes on, hands off” policy to prevent any harmful interference in their lives.
- **Legal Protection:** The implementation of the Forest Rights Act, which recognizes and secures the rights of tribal communities over their traditional lands, should be prioritized.
- **Inclusive Development:** Ensure that development projects in tribal areas are undertaken with the full consent and participation of the local communities. Projects should aim to uplift tribal livelihoods and preserve their culture, rather than causing displacement and exploitation.
- **Rehabilitation and Compensation:** Properly rehabilitate and compensate tribal communities affected by development projects. The government must ensure that displaced tribes receive fair compensation, adequate housing, and opportunities for a sustainable livelihood.
- **Education and Healthcare:** Improve access to quality education and healthcare services in tribal areas. Building schools, and healthcare centers, and improving infrastructure will help in enhancing the well-being and future prospects of tribal communities.

- **Employment Opportunities:** Promote skill development and employment opportunities in tribal regions. This will reduce the dependence on exploitative labor markets and provide sustainable livelihood options.

### **Conclusion**

Tribals in India are an important part of the nation. They consist of around 8.6% of the total population. They do face a number of challenges in India. By implementing the above-mentioned measures and promoting a comprehensive approach to tribal welfare, India can work towards protecting the rights and preserving the rich cultural heritage of its tribal communities. It is essential to foster an environment where tribal communities can thrive and enjoy the same opportunities and rights as other citizens of the country.

## **UNIT-III**

### **Rural Society**

Rural Society Rural society means society that lives in village, and is dependent on natural environment rural economy rests predominantly on agriculture and allied activities. These societies have a low density of population, intimate group relationships and have oral traditions. Rural societies are rich in culture and tradition. However, from the contemporary point of view, they are considered to be socio-economically less developed. Therefore, several development activities have been undertaken in our country to improve their socio-economic conditions

#### **Characteristics of Rural Societies:**

- Agriculture is the predominant occupation among them. It is not the only source of income but also the way of life for the villagers.
- The village community is small in size. It means they live in small geographical areas with lower density of population as compared to the towns
- They have primary group behaviour, i.e. face-to-face relationship is found among the members of the village
- Their social structure is based on kinship and family relationships. Here the role of lineage (Vansh) is very important.
  - Mostly they live in joint family. A joint family is a group of people who live under one roof, eat food cooked at one hearth, have joint property, participate in common worship and are linked to each other through kinship ties. The joint family has a greater generation bondage than the nuclear family.
- They are more conservative and tradition oriented towards the performance of rituals as well as belief in deities.
  - Group feeling and mutual cooperation is more evident among them. They have a brotherhood feeling. They co-operate with each other in times of exigencies.
- Their culture is also known as folk culture, i.e. consisting of customs, rituals and norms, etc. which are unwritten, but orally transmitted and learned. Since they have a common socio-economic background, they do not have differences in ideology towards life. Hence, they are homogenous in nature.
  - (Traditionally, their economy is based on agriculture having primitive technology and monocropping pattern. It was less productive. Lack of proper marketing facilities and introduction of monetary economy has resulted in poverty. Further, decline in cottage industries has pushed them to migrate to neighboring towns.



- Village India is largely based on caste system, which has a hierarchical (castes are ranked according to their purity and pollution. Their religious customs and practices and the nature of their occupation) base. For example, Brahmins are ranked as highest one because they do the purest occupation of performing rituals and teaching, whereas, shudras is ranked lowest because of his impure occupation of working as scavengers. They follow the above hierarchical system intensely.

### **jajmani system**

The jajmani system or yajman system was an economic system most notably found in villages of the Indian subcontinent in which lower castes performed various functions for upper castes and received grain or other goods in return.

## **Rural Factionalism in India, its meaning, characteristics and causes!**

Rural India is conventionally synonymous with social solidarity. The Indian villages are known as well-knit social units. People living in villages irrespective of their caste and vocation contribute to the unity of the village through peaceful co-existence and mutual support. They take pride in the image of their village. Of late unity of the village has been threatened by factionalism.

Peace of the village has been affected by various small groups called factions. Ruralites no longer look forward to the leadership of a single individual called the headman of village. The headman is no longer the centre of power and authority in the village. Factional leaders are enjoying dominating positions and the headman is relegated to the background.

Eventually the pattern of leadership has changed in the villages. There is growing dissention among factions. Competition for power among factions has led to intolerance, intrigues and violence. Peace of the village is fast deteriorating.

This changing scenario has been a matter of deep concern for the social thinkers and much deliberation is being made in this direction by the sociologists.

### **Meaning and Structure of Faction:**

A faction is a small group formed on the basis of political ideology, caste power, clash of personality in order to serve political, social and economic interests of a small minority.

Sociologists are of the view that factionalism raises its ugly head in the rural communities on account of natural rivalry and conflict or clash of personality.

In his book *Leadership and Groups in a South Indian Village*, H.S. Dhillon has rightly observed that rivalry and opposition to some groups is a general feature of a faction and a faction usually comes into existence on account of mutual rivalry and conflict or clash of personalities. In some villages the faction is known as “Dhar” which means a human body.

The family is a miniature form of a faction. Structurally, the faction is an organisation that centres around a single individual or a group of families’ with a common interest. For example, peasant families owning vast landed property in a village may combine themselves into a faction. Similarly families with small holdings may organise themselves into a faction.

The third faction in a village may consist of the families who have no land and earn their livelihood as labourers. It may so happen that people belonging to one caste or supporting one political party or following one religious ideology organise themselves into a faction to fulfill the mutual interests of its members. In villages families and persons also form factions on the basis of dependence on each other in addition to some common interest.

However, there are some families in the village who are self-dependent. They neither seek others’ help nor do they care for anyone in the village. These families remain neutral or indifferent.

They are keen on maintaining their independent identity. Thus a village is divided into factions depending on the relationship among the families, which may be either of (i) animosity and hostility, or (ii) friendly cooperation, or (iii) indifference. A faction is further subdivided into smaller factions when a few members of a faction group together and try to have their independent status. They defy the authority of the leader of their faction and form a faction of

their own. Each difference in the faction leads to further subdivision of the faction. If all the factions in a village cooperate with each other, the village can achieve prosperity.

## **UNIT-IV**

### **Urban Society**

Urban society includes the towns, cities and metros with a specific way of life. An urban society can be defined as an area having higher density of population, people engaging mostly in occupations other than agriculture and domestication of animals, having a distinct ecology and culture different from that of the large society's culture.

### **Characteristics of Urban Society**

- The cities and towns have a higher density of population than the rural areas.
- Cultural heterogeneity is found in the urban areas because people from various areas having different cultures migrate to the towns in search of employment, education and medical and health care.
- Cities have a distinct environment that is not natural but a man-made environment.
- The occupation of the urban areas is mainly non-agricultural, i.e. based on-- manufacturing, trade & commerce, professional and governance, etc.
- In urban areas more social mobility is found in the sense people gradually adapt to class structure (lower, middle or upper class based on economic criteria).

- In urban areas interaction among people is based on secondary contact and not primacy contact. It means face-to-face and individual to individual interaction is not possible in the urban areas.

- People in the cities have an urban way of life. Which means they have formal interaction, impersonal behaviour, non-kinship relationships, cultural exhibitionism, passing leisure time in clubs, parks, restaurants, cinema balls or markets.

- Civic facilities like roads, electricity, water, communication, park, hotels and cinemas, etc. are found in urban areas.

- Anonymity is a feature of urban societies. It means people do not know each other in the city as in the villages. India's Urban Communities In India the urban area has the following Characteristics:

- An area having some urban administrative unit like a Municipality, Metropolitan Council, Notified Area Council or Cantonment Board, etc.

- An area having more than 10000 population.

- 75% of population engaging in non-agricultural occupation.

- Should have a density of 1000 persons per sq. mile.

- Having some urban amenities like an industrial area, a large housing settlement, having center of entertainment and tourist importance or having some civic amenities.

## **Indian Cities and Their Development**

□ **Infrastructure:** Many cities are focusing on improving public transport, road networks, and sustainable development. Examples include the Mumbai Metro, Delhi Metro, and Smart City projects in cities like Ahmedabad and Pune.

□ **Economic Growth:** Cities like Bengaluru and Hyderabad have become major IT hubs, attracting global companies and fostering startup ecosystems. Mumbai remains the financial capital, while Pune and Chennai are notable for their manufacturing and automotive industries.

□ **Urbanization:** Rapid urbanization is a common trend, with cities expanding their boundaries and developing new residential and commercial areas. This has led to the growth of satellite towns and urban agglomerations.

□ **Cultural and Historical Preservation:** Despite modernization, cities like Kolkata, Jaipur, and Lucknow are investing in preserving their rich cultural and historical heritage while promoting tourism.

□ **Environmental Sustainability:** Efforts are being made towards green city initiatives, waste management, and reducing pollution. Cities are increasingly focusing on sustainable urban planning and development.

## Conclusion

The development of Indian cities is a dynamic and ongoing process, with each city contributing uniquely to the country's overall growth. Infrastructure improvements, economic diversification, and sustainable development are key factors driving this progress.

## Change In Urban Society

The urban society in India has been undergoing significant changes due to various factors such as economic growth, technological advancements, globalization, and social transformations.

## Detailed Changes

1. **Economic Shifts:** The shift from agriculture to industry and services has transformed the economic landscape of urban areas. The rise of the IT sector in cities like Bengaluru and Hyderabad has created numerous job opportunities and attracted a skilled workforce.
2. **Demographic Changes:** Rapid urbanization has led to a diverse mix of people in cities, contributing to a melting pot of cultures. This has also put pressure on urban infrastructure and services.
3. **Technological Advancements:** The adoption of technology in urban planning and daily life has improved the efficiency of city services and the quality of life. Smart city initiatives aim to use technology to enhance urban living.
4. **Infrastructure Development:** Improved infrastructure, such as metro rail systems and expressways, has enhanced connectivity and made commuting easier. Development of urban amenities has improved the living standards in cities.
5. **Lifestyle Changes:** Urbanization has brought about changes in lifestyles, with a blend of traditional and modern values. There is a growing preference for nuclear families, and consumption patterns are influenced by global trends.

6. **Education and Skill Development:** The proliferation of educational institutions in urban areas has provided better educational opportunities. Skill development programs are helping the youth to acquire new skills and improve employability.
7. **Cultural Transformation:** Urban areas are witnessing a blend of traditional and modern values, with increased cultural exchanges and a vibrant entertainment industry. Festivals and cultural events are celebrated with great enthusiasm.
8. **Environmental Concerns:** Urbanization has led to environmental challenges, but there are concerted efforts to address these issues through pollution control measures, green initiatives, and waste management.
9. **Healthcare Improvements:** Better access to healthcare facilities and the rise of private hospitals have improved the healthcare landscape in urban areas. Telemedicine services are making healthcare more accessible.
10. **Social Changes:** There is greater gender equality and rising awareness about social issues. Efforts are being made to empower marginalized communities and address social inequalities.

## Conclusion

The changes in urban society in India are multifaceted, driven by economic, technological, and social factors. While these changes present challenges, they also offer opportunities for growth and development. The dynamic nature of urban society requires continuous adaptation and innovative solutions to improve the quality of life for urban residents.

## Rural Urban Society

The dynamics between rural and urban societies in India have been significantly impacted by economic development, technological advancement, and social change. The interaction between these two societies has led to a complex and evolving relationship that shapes the country's overall development.

### Detailed Changes

1. **Economic Interactions:** The migration of people from rural to urban areas in search of better employment opportunities has created a flow of remittances back to rural areas, supporting local economies. Urban markets depend on rural areas for agricultural produce, creating economic interdependence.
2. **Infrastructure Development:** Improvements in transportation and communication infrastructure have bridged the gap between rural and urban areas. Roads, electrification, and internet connectivity have reached remote villages, facilitating better integration with urban centers.
3. **Agricultural Modernization:** The adoption of modern farming techniques and government support has transformed agricultural practices. Mechanization, better

irrigation, and crop insurance programs have improved productivity and reduced risks for farmers.

4. **Education and Skill Development:** The establishment of educational institutions and vocational training programs in rural areas has improved access to education and skill development. This has enabled rural youth to seek better employment opportunities and contribute to the economy.
5. **Healthcare Improvements:** Government schemes and telemedicine have improved healthcare access in rural areas. Primary Health Centers and mobile health units provide essential medical services, and telemedicine bridges the gap in specialist care.
6. **Cultural Exchange:** The interaction between rural and urban societies has led to a cultural exchange where traditional practices influence urban culture, and modern trends reach rural areas. This fusion enriches the cultural landscape and promotes mutual understanding.
7. **Social Changes:** Social structures in rural areas are changing with increased mobility and awareness. Gender equality is improving, and there is greater participation in social and economic activities. Media and self-help groups play a significant role in this transformation.
8. **Environmental Concerns:** Urbanization impacts rural environments through deforestation and pollution. Efforts are being made to promote sustainable agricultural practices and eco-friendly initiatives to mitigate these effects.
9. **Political and Administrative Reforms:** Decentralization of governance through Panchayati Raj institutions has empowered rural communities. Development programs like MGNREGA and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana focus on improving rural infrastructure and livelihoods.
10. **Economic Opportunities:** The growth of non-agricultural employment and rural entrepreneurship is creating new economic opportunities. Rural industries, handicrafts, and tourism are being promoted to diversify the rural economy and reduce dependency on agriculture.

## Conclusion

The changes in rural-urban society in India reflect a dynamic interplay between tradition and modernity, economic growth, and social transformation. As rural areas become more integrated with urban centers, there are significant opportunities for mutual development. Sustainable practices, effective governance, and continued investment in infrastructure and human capital are essential to ensure balanced and inclusive growth for both rural and urban societies.

## Urban Social Problem

Urban social problems are issues that arise in cities due to rapid urbanization, economic disparities, population density, and inadequate infrastructure. These problems can significantly impact the quality of life and overall well-being of urban residents

1. **Housing Shortage:** Rapid urbanization has led to a significant shortage of affordable housing. This has resulted in the proliferation of slums and informal settlements where living conditions are often poor, with limited access to basic amenities such as clean water, sanitation, and electricity. Efforts like the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana aim to address these issues by promoting affordable housing.
2. **Traffic Congestion:** Cities often face severe traffic congestion due to inadequate public transportation systems, increasing vehicle ownership, and poor urban planning. This not only causes long commute times and stress but also contributes to air pollution. Enhancing public transportation infrastructure and promoting alternative modes of transport like cycling can help alleviate congestion.
3. **Pollution:** Urban areas suffer from various forms of pollution. Air pollution from vehicles and industries, water pollution from untreated sewage and industrial waste, and noise pollution from traffic and construction activities all contribute to health problems and environmental degradation. Policies aimed at reducing emissions, improving waste treatment, and enhancing green spaces are crucial.
4. **Waste Management:** Many cities struggle with ineffective waste management systems. This includes issues with waste collection, disposal, and recycling. Overflowing landfills and inadequate waste segregation practices pose significant environmental and health risks. Initiatives like the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan aim to improve cleanliness and waste management practices.
5. **Health Issues:** Urbanization often leads to overcrowded living conditions, which can facilitate the spread of communicable diseases. Inadequate healthcare infrastructure further exacerbates health problems, making it difficult for residents to access necessary medical services. Strengthening healthcare facilities and promoting preventive health measures are essential steps.
6. **Crime and Safety:** High population density and economic disparities can lead to increased crime rates in urban areas. Issues such as theft, assault, and violence, including violence against women, are common concerns. Effective policing, community engagement, and social welfare programs can help improve safety and security.
7. **Unemployment:** Despite economic growth, many urban areas face high unemployment rates, particularly among the youth. This can lead to economic instability and social unrest. Promoting skill development, entrepreneurship, and job creation in diverse sectors can help address unemployment.
8. **Social Inequality:** There are stark disparities in income, access to services, and quality of life between different social groups in urban areas. Marginalized communities often face limited access to education, healthcare, and employment opportunities. Policies focused on inclusive growth and social equity are necessary to bridge these gaps.
9. **Infrastructure Strain:** Rapid urban growth puts a strain on existing infrastructure, including water supply, electricity, and sanitation services. Cities often face shortages and frequent outages, impacting daily life and productivity. Investing in robust infrastructure and efficient resource management is critical.
10. **Education Deficits:** Access to quality education is a significant challenge in urban areas, particularly for economically disadvantaged groups. Overcrowded schools, lack of resources, and disparities in educational quality contribute to skill gaps and limited opportunities. Enhancing educational infrastructure and promoting equal access to education are vital.



## Conclusion

Urban social problems in India are multifaceted and interconnected. Addressing these issues requires a comprehensive approach involving government policies, community engagement, and sustainable development practices. By focusing on improving infrastructure, promoting social equity, and ensuring sustainable urban planning, cities can enhance the quality of life for their residents and create more resilient and inclusive urban environments.

## Urban Planning and Management

- 1. Comprehensive Land Use Planning:**
  - **Zoning Regulations:** Define specific areas for residential, commercial, industrial, and recreational use to ensure balanced development.
  - **Mixed-Use Developments:** Promote developments that combine residential, commercial, and recreational spaces to reduce travel time and enhance livability.
  - **Green Spaces:** Allocate land for parks and green belts to improve air quality and provide recreational areas.
- 2. Efficient Transportation Systems:**
  - **Public Transit:** Develop and expand metro rail systems, bus rapid transit (BRT) corridors, and suburban rail networks to reduce traffic congestion and pollution.
  - **Non-Motorized Transport:** Create pedestrian pathways and cycling lanes to encourage walking and cycling, promoting a healthy lifestyle and reducing carbon emissions.
  - **Integrated Transportation:** Ensure seamless integration between different modes of transport for efficient mobility.
- 3. Affordable Housing and Real Estate Regulation:**
  - **Housing Schemes:** Implement affordable housing schemes like Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana to provide homes for low-income families.
  - **Real Estate Regulations:** Enforce regulations to control housing prices, prevent speculative practices, and ensure transparency in real estate transactions.
  - **Public Housing:** Develop public housing projects to cater to the housing needs of the urban poor.
- 4. Environmental Sustainability:**
  - **Renewable Energy:** Promote the use of renewable energy sources like solar and wind power to reduce dependence on fossil fuels.
  - **Waste Management:** Implement efficient waste segregation, recycling, and disposal systems to manage urban waste sustainably.
  - **Pollution Control:** Enforce strict pollution control measures to improve air and water quality.
- 5. Robust Infrastructure Development:**
  - **Utilities Expansion:** Ensure the availability and reliability of essential services like water supply, sewage systems, and electricity.
  - **Urban Renewal:** Revitalize older parts of the city through urban renewal projects that upgrade infrastructure and improve living conditions.
  - **Smart Infrastructure:** Incorporate smart technologies in infrastructure development to enhance efficiency and sustainability.

6. **Economic Development Initiatives:**
  - **Special Economic Zones (SEZs):** Establish SEZs to attract investments, promote industrial growth, and create job opportunities.
  - **Support for Local Businesses:** Provide support for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) through grants, loans, and training programs.
  - **Startup Ecosystem:** Foster a conducive environment for startups through incubators, accelerators, and innovation hubs.
7. **Social Services Provision:**
  - **Healthcare:** Establish and upgrade healthcare facilities to ensure access to quality medical services for all residents.
  - **Education:** Build and maintain schools and colleges to provide quality education and skill development opportunities.
  - **Community Services:** Develop community centers and recreational facilities to promote social cohesion and well-being.
8. **Effective Urban Governance:**
  - **Local Government Empowerment:** Strengthen municipal corporations and local bodies to enable effective governance and service delivery.
  - **Citizen Participation:** Encourage citizen participation in urban planning and decision-making processes to ensure transparency and accountability.
  - **Policy Implementation:** Enforce policies and regulations that promote sustainable urban development and protect public interests.
9. **Disaster Management and Preparedness:**
  - **Risk Assessment:** Conduct regular risk assessments to identify and mitigate potential hazards.
  - **Resilient Infrastructure:** Design and construct buildings and infrastructure that can withstand natural disasters.
  - **Emergency Response:** Develop and implement comprehensive emergency response plans to manage disasters effectively.
10. **Smart City Initiatives:**
  - **Technology Integration:** Use Internet of Things (IoT) and other technologies to enhance urban services like traffic management, waste collection, and energy distribution.
  - **E-Governance:** Implement e-governance platforms to streamline administrative processes and improve public service delivery.
  - **Data-Driven Planning:** Utilize data analytics to inform urban planning and make evidence-based decisions.

## Conclusion

Urban planning and management require a multifaceted approach that addresses the diverse needs of city residents while promoting sustainable development. By implementing comprehensive land use plans, efficient transportation systems, affordable housing policies, environmental sustainability measures, robust infrastructure development, economic growth initiatives, social services provision, effective governance, disaster preparedness, and smart city technologies, cities can create a livable, inclusive, and resilient urban environment for all.

# UNIT-V

## Social Problem

Social problems are issues that adversely affect the well-being of a significant number of people in a society. In urban settings, these problems can be exacerbated by factors such as high population density, economic disparities, and inadequate infrastructure. Here's an overview of some major social problems in urban areas, along with their causes, impacts, and potential solutions:

### 1. Poverty:

- **Causes:** High unemployment, underemployment, economic inequality, lack of access to education and healthcare.
- **Impacts:** Poor living conditions, malnutrition, limited access to basic services, increased crime rates.
- **Solutions:** Implementing job creation programs, social welfare schemes, skill development initiatives, and ensuring equitable access to education and healthcare.

### 2. Homelessness:

- **Causes:** High cost of housing, unemployment, mental health issues, substance abuse.
- **Impacts:** Exposure to weather extremes, health problems, increased vulnerability to crime, social exclusion.
- **Solutions:** Providing affordable housing options, emergency shelters, mental health support, and adopting housing-first policies that prioritize permanent housing.

### 3. Crime:

- **Causes:** Economic disparities, lack of education and employment opportunities, substance abuse.
- **Impacts:** Increased fear among residents, property loss, physical and psychological harm.
- **Solutions:** Enhancing community policing, providing youth engagement programs, and implementing crime prevention strategies.

### 4. Substance Abuse:

- **Causes:** Stress, mental health issues, peer pressure, lack of recreational activities.
- **Impacts:** Health problems, increased crime, family breakdowns, loss of productivity.
- **Solutions:** Offering rehabilitation programs, mental health support, public awareness campaigns about the dangers of substance abuse.

### 5. Unemployment:

- **Causes:** Economic downturns, lack of skills matching job market needs, automation.
- **Impacts:** Poverty, mental health issues, increased crime, social unrest.
- **Solutions:** Providing job training programs, promoting economic diversification, supporting small businesses, and encouraging entrepreneurship.

### 6. Discrimination:

- **Causes:** Prejudices based on race, gender, religion, or socioeconomic status; systemic inequalities.
  - **Impacts:** Social tension, reduced opportunities for affected groups, mental health issues.
  - **Solutions:** Enforcing anti-discrimination laws, conducting awareness campaigns, and promoting inclusive policies and practices.
7. **Health Disparities:**
- **Causes:** Economic inequality, lack of healthcare facilities in certain areas, disparities in healthcare access.
  - **Impacts:** Higher mortality rates, prevalence of chronic diseases, lower quality of life for disadvantaged groups.
  - **Solutions:** Ensuring universal healthcare access, deploying mobile health units, and implementing public health initiatives.
8. **Education Inequality:**
- **Causes:** Economic disparities, inadequate funding for public schools, lack of educational resources.
  - **Impacts:** Lower literacy rates, limited career opportunities, perpetuation of the poverty cycle.
  - **Solutions:** Increasing funding for education, providing scholarships, offering after-school programs, and ensuring equal access to quality education.
9. **Overcrowding:**
- **Causes:** Rapid urbanization, migration to cities for better opportunities, limited urban planning.
  - **Impacts:** Strain on infrastructure, increased pollution, spread of communicable diseases, poor living conditions.
  - **Solutions:** Implementing planned urban development, improving infrastructure, and encouraging balanced regional development to reduce migration pressure on cities.
10. **Environmental Degradation:**
- **Causes:** Industrial activities, vehicle emissions, poor waste management practices, overuse of natural resources.
  - **Impacts:** Health problems, loss of biodiversity, reduced quality of life, climate change.

## **Domestic Violence, Divorce, Gender Inequality**

Domestic violence, divorce, and gender inequality are interconnected social issues that impact individuals and society in significant ways. Each issue has distinct characteristics, but they often overlap and exacerbate each other. Here's an overview of each, their interconnections, and potential solutions:

### **Domestic Violence**

Domestic violence refers to a pattern of behavior in a relationship that is used to gain or maintain power and control over an intimate partner. It can be physical, emotional, psychological, sexual, or financial.

### Key Points:

- **Prevalence:** It affects millions of individuals worldwide, with women and children being disproportionately impacted.
- **Consequences:** Victims may experience severe physical injuries, psychological trauma, and long-term health issues.
- **Barriers to Leaving:** Fear, financial dependence, social stigma, and lack of support often prevent victims from leaving abusive relationships.

## Divorce

Divorce is the legal dissolution of a marriage by a court or other competent body.

### Key Points:

- **Causes:** Common causes include infidelity, lack of communication, financial problems, and domestic violence.
- **Impact on Individuals:** Divorce can lead to emotional distress, financial hardship, and changes in social status and support networks.
- **Impact on Children:** Children of divorced parents may experience emotional and behavioral issues, though many adjust well over time.

## Gender Inequality

Gender inequality refers to the unequal treatment or perceptions of individuals based on their gender. It manifests in various social, economic, and political contexts.

### Key Points:

- **Economic Inequality:** Women often face wage gaps, limited job opportunities, and higher rates of poverty.
- **Social Inequality:** Gender norms and stereotypes can limit individuals' roles and opportunities in society.
- **Political Inequality:** Women are underrepresented in political leadership and decision-making positions.

## Interconnections

1. **Domestic Violence and Gender Inequality:** Gender inequality is a significant factor in domestic violence. Societal norms that devalue women and normalize male dominance contribute to abusive behaviors. Women with fewer economic resources or social support are more vulnerable to staying in abusive relationships.
2. **Domestic Violence and Divorce:** Domestic violence is a major cause of divorce. However, the process of leaving an abusive relationship can be complex and dangerous, often involving legal, financial, and emotional challenges.

3. **Gender Inequality and Divorce:** Gender inequality can influence divorce outcomes, with women often facing greater financial hardships post-divorce. Custody battles and legal proceedings may also reflect gender biases.

## Solutions and Approaches

1. **Legal Reforms:** Strengthening laws and legal protections against domestic violence, ensuring fair divorce settlements, and promoting gender equality in all legal contexts.
2. **Support Services:** Providing comprehensive support services for victims of domestic violence, including shelters, counseling, legal aid, and financial assistance.
3. **Economic Empowerment:** Promoting economic opportunities for women, ensuring equal pay, and supporting women in the workforce can reduce financial dependency and empower women to leave abusive relationships.
4. **Education and Awareness:** Raising awareness about domestic violence and gender equality through education campaigns, school programs, and community initiatives.
5. **Policy and Advocacy:** Advocating for policies that promote gender equality, protect victims of domestic violence, and support equitable divorce processes.
6. **Cultural Change:** Challenging and changing societal norms that perpetuate gender inequality and tolerate domestic violence through media, community leaders, and grassroots movements.

## Youth Unrest, Problem Of Elderly:

Youth unrest and the problems faced by the elderly are significant social issues that reflect broader societal challenges. Although they primarily affect different age groups, addressing these problems requires comprehensive strategies that can benefit society as a whole. Here's an overview of each issue, their causes, impacts, and potential solutions:

### Youth Unrest

Youth unrest refers to the dissatisfaction and agitation among young people, often manifesting in protests, riots, or other forms of social and political activism.

#### *Key Causes:*

1. **Unemployment:** High levels of youth unemployment can lead to frustration and a sense of hopelessness.
2. **Education System:** An education system that does not align with job market needs or fails to engage students can contribute to youth discontent.
3. **Political Disenfranchisement:** Young people often feel excluded from political processes and decision-making.
4. **Social Inequality:** Disparities in wealth, opportunities, and social mobility can fuel youth unrest.
5. **Cultural and Social Changes:** Rapid societal changes can lead to a generational disconnect, where the values and expectations of the youth clash with those of older generations.

### *Impacts:*

- **Violence and Crime:** Increased involvement in violent activities, protests, and crime.
- **Mental Health Issues:** Higher rates of depression, anxiety, and other mental health problems among the youth.
- **Social Instability:** Persistent unrest can lead to broader social and political instability.

### *Solutions:*

1. **Employment Opportunities:** Creating job opportunities through economic policies that encourage entrepreneurship, vocational training, and internships.
2. **Educational Reforms:** Aligning the education system with market demands and providing life skills and civic education.
3. **Political Inclusion:** Engaging young people in the political process through youth councils, representation, and participatory governance.
4. **Addressing Inequality:** Implementing policies that reduce social and economic disparities.
5. **Mental Health Support:** Providing accessible mental health services and creating awareness about mental health issues.

## **Problem of the Elderly**

The problems faced by the elderly, or the older population, include issues related to health, social inclusion, and financial stability.

### *Key Issues:*

1. **Health Care:** Increased need for healthcare services due to age-related illnesses and chronic conditions.
2. **Financial Security:** Many elderly people face financial insecurity due to insufficient retirement savings, pensions, or social security benefits.
3. **Social Isolation:** Loneliness and social isolation can significantly impact the mental and emotional well-being of older adults.
4. **Elder Abuse:** Elderly individuals are sometimes subject to abuse, neglect, or exploitation.
5. **Accessibility:** Challenges related to mobility and access to essential services and facilities.

### *Impacts:*

- **Health Deterioration:** Poor health outcomes due to inadequate access to healthcare and support.
- **Mental Health Issues:** Increased rates of depression, anxiety, and cognitive decline linked to social isolation and loneliness.
- **Economic Burden:** Financial instability can lead to poverty and reduced quality of life.
- **Reduced Independence:** Lack of support and accessible services can lead to dependency on family or institutional care.

## *Solutions:*

1. **Healthcare Services:** Improving healthcare services tailored to the needs of the elderly, including preventive care, chronic disease management, and geriatric care.
2. **Financial Support:** Strengthening pension systems, social security, and creating opportunities for older adults to remain economically active.
3. **Social Inclusion:** Promoting community programs and activities that encourage social interaction and support networks for the elderly.
4. **Protection and Advocacy:** Implementing policies and laws to protect against elder abuse and ensure their rights and dignity.
5. **Accessibility and Mobility:** Ensuring that public spaces, transportation, and services are accessible to older adults.

## **Interconnections and Comprehensive Approaches**

While youth unrest and the problems of the elderly primarily affect different age groups, they both highlight the need for social systems that provide stability, support, and opportunities for all citizens. Addressing these issues comprehensively involves:

1. **Intergenerational Programs:** Initiatives that promote interaction and mutual support between the young and the elderly, fostering understanding and solidarity.
2. **Inclusive Policies:** Developing policies that cater to the needs of all age groups, ensuring that both the young and the elderly have access to resources, opportunities, and support.
3. **Community Engagement:** Encouraging community-based solutions that leverage local knowledge and resources to address both youth unrest and elderly problems.
4. **Economic Stability:** Creating a stable economic environment that offers opportunities for youth employment and financial security for the elderly.
5. **Health and Well-being:** Promoting a holistic approach to health that includes physical, mental, and social well-being for all age groups.

By addressing these issues through inclusive, equitable, and supportive measures, societies can create environments where both the youth and the elderly can thrive.

## **National Integration issues and Challenge**

National integration refers to the process of uniting different groups within a nation to create a sense of unity and common identity. Achieving national integration is crucial for maintaining social harmony, political stability, and economic development. However, many countries face significant challenges in this area due to various social, economic, cultural, and political factors. Here are some key issues and challenges related to national integration:

### **Key Issues and Challenges**

1. **Ethnic and Cultural Diversity**
  - o **Issue:** Many countries are home to diverse ethnic, linguistic, and cultural groups, which can lead to tensions and conflicts if not managed properly.



- **Challenge:** Balancing the preservation of cultural identities with the promotion of a unified national identity can be difficult.
- 2. **Religious Differences**
  - **Issue:** Religious diversity can sometimes lead to inter-religious conflicts and discrimination.
  - **Challenge:** Promoting religious tolerance and ensuring that all religious groups feel respected and included in the national narrative.
- 3. **Economic Disparities**
  - **Issue:** Economic inequality between different regions and groups can create feelings of resentment and exclusion.
  - **Challenge:** Implementing policies that promote economic equity and inclusive growth to bridge the gap between rich and poor regions or communities.
- 4. **Political Fragmentation**
  - **Issue:** Political divisions and regionalism can undermine national unity, particularly in countries with decentralized or federal systems of government.
  - **Challenge:** Creating political systems that encourage cooperation and representation of diverse groups while maintaining a strong central authority.
- 5. **Social Inequality and Discrimination**
  - **Issue:** Discrimination based on race, ethnicity, gender, or caste can hinder national integration efforts.
  - **Challenge:** Enforcing anti-discrimination laws and promoting social justice to ensure equal opportunities for all citizens.
- 6. **Language Barriers**
  - **Issue:** Linguistic diversity can be both a source of cultural richness and a barrier to communication and unity.
  - **Challenge:** Promoting multilingualism and ensuring that language policies do not marginalize any group.
- 7. **Historical Grievances**
  - **Issue:** Historical injustices and conflicts can leave deep-seated animosities that hinder integration.
  - **Challenge:** Addressing historical grievances through truth and reconciliation processes, reparations, and inclusive historical narratives.
- 8. **Migration and Refugees**
  - **Issue:** Large influxes of migrants and refugees can strain social cohesion and resources.
  - **Challenge:** Integrating newcomers in a way that respects their rights while promoting social harmony and integration with existing populations.

## **Strategies for Promoting National Integration**

1. **Education and Awareness**
  - **Strategy:** Implement educational programs that promote national values, tolerance, and understanding of diversity. Encourage the teaching of multiple languages and the history and culture of various groups within the nation.
2. **Inclusive Policies**

- **Strategy:** Develop and enforce policies that ensure equal rights and opportunities for all citizens, regardless of their background. This includes economic policies aimed at reducing regional and group disparities.
- 3. **Promoting Dialogue and Participation**
  - **Strategy:** Foster dialogue between different groups through forums, cultural exchanges, and participatory governance. Ensure that all groups have a voice in decision-making processes.
- 4. **Cultural Promotion**
  - **Strategy:** Celebrate cultural diversity through national festivals, cultural programs, and media representation. Promote a sense of pride in the nation's cultural mosaic.
- 5. **Strong Legal Framework**
  - **Strategy:** Strengthen laws against discrimination and hate crimes. Ensure that justice is accessible and fair for all citizens.
- 6. **Decentralization and Local Governance**
  - **Strategy:** Empower local governments to address specific needs of their communities while maintaining a strong national framework that ensures unity and coherence.
- 7. **Economic Development Programs**
  - **Strategy:** Implement targeted economic development programs in underdeveloped regions to reduce disparities and promote equitable growth.
- 8. **Media and Communication**
  - **Strategy:** Use media to promote national integration by highlighting stories of unity and cooperation. Combat negative stereotypes and misinformation.
- 9. **Reconciliation Processes**
  - **Strategy:** Address historical grievances through formal reconciliation processes, including apologies, reparations, and inclusive historical education.
- 10. **Community Building**
  - **Strategy:** Encourage community-building activities that bring people from different backgrounds together, such as sports, volunteer programs, and community service projects.

## **Conclusion**

National integration is a complex and ongoing process that requires concerted efforts from government, civil society, and the citizenry. By addressing the root causes of division and promoting policies and practices that foster unity, countries can build more cohesive and resilient societies.

## **Change and Transformation in India Society:**

India has undergone significant change and transformation in its society over the past few decades. These changes are driven by a variety of factors, including economic development, globalization, technological advancements, and social reforms. Here's an overview of the key areas where change and transformation have been most notable:

## Economic Changes

### 1. Economic Liberalization:

- **Impact:** The economic reforms of 1991 marked a shift from a primarily closed and state-controlled economy to a more open and market-driven one. This led to rapid economic growth, increased foreign investment, and the rise of a robust middle class.
- **Challenges:** Despite growth, economic disparities remain a concern, with significant portions of the population still living in poverty.

### 2. Urbanization:

- **Impact:** Rapid urbanization has transformed India's demographic landscape. Cities have become economic hubs, attracting millions of people from rural areas in search of better opportunities.
- **Challenges:** Urbanization has led to challenges such as housing shortages, traffic congestion, pollution, and the need for improved urban infrastructure.

## Technological Advancements

### 1. Information Technology (IT) and Digital Revolution:

- **Impact:** India has become a global leader in IT and software services, with cities like Bangalore emerging as tech hubs. The digital revolution has also led to increased internet penetration and the growth of the digital economy.
- **Challenges:** Digital divides persist, with rural and marginalized communities having limited access to digital resources.

### 2. Telecommunication:

- **Impact:** The proliferation of mobile phones and affordable internet has revolutionized communication, access to information, and service delivery in sectors like banking, education, and healthcare.
- **Challenges:** Ensuring equitable access and addressing cybersecurity concerns are ongoing issues.

## Social Changes

### 1. Education:

- **Impact:** There has been a significant improvement in literacy rates and educational attainment, particularly among women. The Right to Education Act (2009) ensures free and compulsory education for children aged 6-14.
- **Challenges:** Quality of education and access to higher education remain uneven, particularly in rural areas.

### 2. Healthcare:

- **Impact:** Improvements in healthcare infrastructure and initiatives like the National Health Mission have enhanced healthcare access and outcomes. Programs targeting maternal and child health have shown positive results.
- **Challenges:** Healthcare access and quality still vary widely across regions, with rural areas facing significant shortages of medical personnel and facilities.

## Cultural and Social Norms

### 1. Gender Equality:

- **Impact:** There have been strides toward gender equality, with more women participating in the workforce, politics, and education. Legal reforms have addressed issues like domestic violence and sexual harassment.
- **Challenges:** Deep-seated gender biases and patriarchal norms continue to affect women's rights and opportunities.

### 2. Caste System:

- **Impact:** Legal measures and affirmative action policies have aimed to reduce caste-based discrimination and improve the socio-economic status of historically marginalized communities.
- **Challenges:** Caste-based discrimination and violence persist in various forms, particularly in rural areas.

## Political and Legal Reforms

### 1. Democratization:

- **Impact:** India's democracy has become more vibrant with increased political participation and the rise of regional and local parties, reflecting the country's diverse population.
- **Challenges:** Issues like corruption, political polarization, and electoral violence pose challenges to the democratic process.

### 2. Judicial Reforms:

- **Impact:** Efforts to make the judicial system more efficient and accessible have been ongoing, including initiatives to reduce case backlogs and enhance legal aid services.
- **Challenges:** The judicial system faces issues like delays in case resolution, inadequate infrastructure, and limited access to justice for marginalized communities.

## Environmental Awareness

### 1. Sustainability:

- **Impact:** There is growing awareness and activism around environmental issues, with efforts to promote sustainable development, conservation, and climate change mitigation.
- **Challenges:** Balancing economic growth with environmental sustainability remains a complex challenge, particularly in light of industrialization and urbanization pressures.

## Conclusion

The transformation of Indian society is multifaceted and ongoing. While significant progress has been made in various areas, challenges persist, requiring continuous efforts and innovative solutions. The interplay of economic, technological, social, and cultural factors will continue to

shape the future of India's society, as the country navigates its path towards inclusive and sustainable development.

**Recommended Books:-** Part- C Learning Resource Text Books, Reference Books, Other Resources Suggested Readings: 1- Maclver, Robert M & Charles Hunt Page (1949) Society: An Introductory Analysis, New York. 2- Beteille Andre (1965) Caste Class & Power, California University. Berkeley. 3- Ghurye GS (1961) Caste. Class & occupation. Popular Book Depot., Bombay. 4- Ogburn & Nimkoff (1947) Hand Book of Sociology, K.PAUL, Trench, Prebner and Comp. Ltd. London. 5- Giddens, A. (2006) Sociology (5thed.) Oxford University Press. London 6- Horton and Hunt, (1964) Sociology – A Systematic Introduction. Allied Publishers Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi. 7- Johnson, Harry M., (1988) Sociology – A systematic Introduction. Allied Publishers Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi. 8- Inkeles Alex, (1977) What is Sociology – Prentice – Hall of India, Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi. 9- Shankar Rao C.N. (2019) Sociology-S Chand and Company Ltd.

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