

## Chapter 1

# INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

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## SOCIOLOGY

### The Birth of Sociology:

Man is the only creation among living beings created by Allah Almighty who has a complete sense of consciousness having the ability of knowing and expressing himself. The history of human beings tells and testifies this that human race always flourished in the social life and the social philosophers in the field of social life always kept on trying to answer the questions regarding the reason of making families, worshipping of Allah Almighty, deviating from social regulations by some and respecting the same by others, poverty and richness, the

factors keeping a society coherent and continuous changing of societies with passage of time.

A few years back, the answers to these questions were given through revelation, wisdom, guessing and whims which were called folk wisdom and it kept on being transferred race by race with reference to wisdom. Up to the eighteenth century, the study of sociology remained the sovereignty of the social philosophers and these men always kept on thinking about the nature of a society whereas had changed this thinking altogether.

### The Basic point of view or insight:

The beginning of sociology took place from the logic that "Basically man is a social animal. (Aristotle)" "The existence of society is not our habit but it is a matter of our existence" (Robertson) We pass our life whether good or bad in the society and in our opinion after our death, the society will exist. We are all born in human groups and get our identity, hopes, determination, fear, problems and satisfaction from these groups.

### C.W. Mills (1959) Sociological Imagination:

According to him, "The consciousness of relations of an individual and society is the basic viewpoint of sociology."

### The Origin:

The new knowledge of sociology began in the middle of the nineteenth century when Europe was passing through rapid revolutionary changes. The industrial progress was upsetting the social values and traditions. The societies that existed since centuries were strong and stable, the industrial progress and new invention affected the social life to the extent of deterioration. The physical and social environment (material culture) changed in such a way that even strong and stable values of the change was not clear social stability was in danger and the conditions were such as to be understood in a better way. In the circumstances, the social thinkers gave their attention to the forces which could provide the guarantee to the stability of the society. Among these, sociologists are:

1. August Comte (1798-1857)
2. Herbert Spencer (1820-1905)
3. Emile Durkheim (1858-1917)
4. Max Weber (1864-1920)

These sociologists arranged the subject of sociology as a scientific knowledge but among these, a great Muslim thinker, Allama Abdur Rehman Muhammad Ibn-e-Khaldun (1332-1406) is not be ignored who before four hundred years of European Industrial Revolution while writing the history of Burchers tribes, felt that the "Social conditions are changing again and again in the

same manner under the influence of social forces." (Moqadma Ibn Khaldun) Therefore; the knowledge of these social forces, he gave the name of 'Alm Al-Imran' and thus he was called Father of Sociology but with the downfall of Muslims this knowledge also went under the dust of the time.

**The Nature and Definition of Sociology:**

**1. Ibn-e-Khaldun**

From Ibn-e-Khaldun's point of view, "Sociology is the logical reason of historical formulas." Ibn-e-Khaldun in his writing 'Al-Mokadama' presented and described the society, state, beginning of rule, group life, prejudices, theory of social variation, influence of environment on population along with views about rise and fall of nations and also derived principles and rules for those that facility to understand social variation.

**2. August Comte (1798-1857):**

The French philosopher who gave the name Sociology to that social knowledge is composed of two roots 'socius and logus'. Comte had the belief that social phenomena and natural laws are alike and a formal study of society can help to make human circumstances better.

According to Comte, "Sociology is the sense of thought about society, aimed to probe the basic laws."

**3. Emile Durkheim (1858-1917):**

He stressed group unity and has defined sociology as the "Study of social institution." He gives great importance to social institutions and thinks these five basic institutions—family, religion, education, economy and politics, necessary for the formation of society and its functions. Family and religion as institution plays an important part in social unity. According to him, the incidents of group life of an individual differ from his incidents of individual life which are called social facts and are helpful in understanding social life.

**4. Talcott Parsons:**

He was fundamentally a functionalist and was interested in explaining the functions of different parts of society with reference to its formation. That is why he has stressed the structure and function while defining the sociology. According to him, "Sociology is the study of structure and function of human groups."

The basic element of structure of human society is a sum of social groups. Therefore, to understand its structure and function, the study of structure and function of social groups play an important part which can be understood in a better way and this is the basic aim of sociology.

**5. Max Weber:**

He is considered among original sociologists and according to him,

"Sociology is the study social action." Social action has the status of soul of the social life. Every society in every movement is busy in social action because "the social action is such an internal and external activity of an individual to which he gives objective meaning." (Max Weber) These activities of individual of the society are the social life which takes the form of cooperation, competition, conflicts and reconciliation and the study of these social phenomena is the focal point of Sociology. That is why Max Weber thinks the study of social action is the Sociology.

**6. N.S. Timashaff:**

According to him, Sociology is the study of those individuals who are inter-dependent on each other. In his own words, "Sociology is the study of Men Interdependent."

According to the view holders of the beginning of society—Thomas Hobbes, John Locke and Rousseau, the passion for cooperation became a cause of group life that brought society into existence. Group life is dependent on cooperation from others. An individual cannot live without depending upon others and is needy of others' help in getting all of his aims of life. This dependence gives rise to social action and gives stability to society. According to S.N. Timashaff, sociology has interest in the study of such individuals who play an important role in the promotion of social life because its flow and existence are social interdependence relations.

**7. Alex Inkle:**

According to him, "Sociology is the scientific study of social order and disorder."

**8. Park and Burges:**

According to them, "Sociology is the scientific study of collective behaviour." All of the above definitions merge into W.G. Sumner's definition that, "The sociology is the science of the society." When Durkheim talks about the social institutions, he really pinpoints the basic ingredients of society. When Talcott talks about the study of functions and structures of the group, he talks about the study of micro level of society. Just like, Timashaff's manner of saying the study of individual is sociology who are interdependent on each other, it is also, in fact, the study of society because this interdependence upon each other is a source of existence of society.

In the light of these definitions, we can say with certainty that sociology is the study of all aspects of social life which take place in collective life, whether groups or basic social institutions, group behaviours, social actions or some constructive or destructive characters. In fact, according to August Comte, this knowledge is that sense of thought which aims at finding out social laws which

are evident from historical incidents that social life has always been under the influence of specific social laws and according to Ibn-e-Khaldun it is a logical reason of the historical formulas.

In the light of all of these, comprehensive definition of sociology can be given in the words:

"Sociology is the study of all aspects of collective life of a human society in a scientific way."

"Sociology is the scientific study of all dimension of collective human life in society."

**Question: Describe the relation of Sociology with Economics, Anthropology, History Politics, Psychology and Social welfare.**

**Ans: Sociology and Other Social Sciences**

Sociology is not only the social sciences that deals with human behaviour and society but also other social sciences, study some other aspects of human and social life.

Sociology and other social sciences like economics, anthropology, history, politics and social welfare are neighbouring disciplines. The common characteristics of them, have a base as theory and research. All of these disciplines study the human activities and relation but in spite of this, there is a difference in aspects of life that makes every discipline distinguishable from others.

#### 1. Sociology and Economics:

Economics deals with the production of commodities, the distribution and consumption services and activities. To understand these activities, to make them better, to increase sources of production to distribute these in a better way are the topics of this discipline. Basically, economics proposes steps and measures to organize the economic activities of individuals of a society and promotion for better economic sources which give stability to the economy of the society but sometimes there is a non-balance in the society or there is a dangers of some suspense. In the circumstances, sociology helps to make the relation better to make the economic activities continue in a better manner. For example, in the case of a landlord and a former economic relations or owner of a factory and labourer relation, there is a conflict, then sociologists with the help of better sense of human relations restore the economic relations. Sometimes, economic activities fall a prey to a standstill reducing the production. At this moment, sociologists try to change the viewpoint and play an important role in introducing new techniques, to cape with disintegration and economic exploitation. The mutual cooperation of Sociology and Economics in economic condition and problems, explains their

relationship with each other.

#### 2. Sociology and Anthropology:

Anthropology deals with knowledge of kinds of human races, their characteristics with reference to physical and social difference, origin of social life and its evolution. Basically, this discipline deals with such societies, having ancient traditions and customs and are quite separate from modern societies. They are living in an illiterate society. Its main branches are - Archaeology, Linguistics, social and cultural anthropology and human anatomy are more famous. All of these branches explain the evolutionary stages of human social life. In cultural anthropology, human culture is studied with variation thereof. This is the common topic between sociology and anthropology. However, in Sociology; instead of ancient; modern culture; is of more interest and. Sociology gets much from cultural knowledge of Anthropology in the study of present culture as low culture affects the personality of an individual and uses traditions and customs mould into specific structure. Anthropology studies a selected culture collectively and all parts are observed. However, in sociology keeping a specific problem in view culture is studied and techniques of questioning and interview are used to collect data. Human group life, culture and personality are common topics in both the disciplines. That is why, the experts of these disciplines are profiting themselves from each other experiences.

#### 3. Sociology and History:

History is the name of knowledge of previous nations, societies and cultures. History is not only the record of wars and life stories of the rulers but it describes the rise and fall of nations, different cultural conflicts and absorption stages also. According to Ibn-e-Khaldun, the appearance of historical incidents in a specific manner became a cause of beginning of sociology. Therefore, sociology gets help from history by its given stages of variation of society along with traditions and customs. When the knowledge of sociology helps much in understanding the incidents occurring in the history, therefore, the study of rise and fall of different civilizations with reasons and elements are common topics of both the disciplines.

#### 4. Sociology and Politics:

Economic development creates an expansion of the society which becomes a cause of complications for the government and these become the cause of making better rules and regulations to run the administration of the government and this gave birth to politics. This not only provides guiding principles for the government but also there is a study of international relations, political views, activities, the methods of acquiring authority and political behaviour of individuals of a society. In sociology, the political movement and their elements,

trends, political public opinion and the study of behaviours of social life cannot be ignored. Social problems become a cause of political conflict producing a social disintegration and affecting the functions of basic institutions. All of these topics relate to both sociology and politics.

#### 5. Sociology and Psychology:

Psychology explores both the biological and social origins of human behaviour. It is study of social and biological movements, emotions, feelings, abilities, behaviours, trends, collective feelings and stimuli. Whereas, in sociology attitudes of groups, their tendency, collective feelings, and actions are studied. However, personality individual and group behaviours, mutual relationship, trends, attitudes and the methods of their study, research and technique are common in both the disciplines and mutual exchange of information is most useful.

#### 6. Sociology and Social Welfare:

Social welfare is a professional discipline which is often confused with sociology. Basically, social welfare is an organized system for social service and its circle extends to individuals and society in helping to live a better life and to promote their social activities in such a manner as to bring their energy for the social welfare of the society whereas, sociology analyses on the scientific bases, the relation of individuals and effects. To understand social welfare, family, group, society and culture in a better way, we can get benefit from sociology and it can benefit itself from the social welfare's techniques for scientific research. With this reference, both the disciplines are mutually inclusive and because of aim and methodology are helpful for each other.

The above detail shows a close relation of sociology with other above described disciplines but this does not mean that it is indebted to above social services but it is a comprehensive and individualistic discipline which by using of scientific methods searches the solution of social problems and explains these relations which show its own position and status as a separate discipline.

### SOCIAL IMPORTANCE OF SOCIOLOGY

**Question:** Discuss the application and benefits of sociology in the fields of daily life. (P.U. 2001)

- Write a composition on the benefits of sociology and its application on Pakistani society. (P.U. 2002)
- Define sociology and describes its application in daily life. (P.U. 2003)
- Define sociology. State the use of sociology in the different fields of social life.

### Ans: Importance of Sociology in Society and Everyday Life Applications of Sociology:

Sociology has the better ability of understanding the important aspects of social life because of the knowledge of the effects on social life of structure of social groups, the nature of relation of individuals and their functions. Because of the reliable knowledge of research and theory of sociology and the ability of solving the social problems in a better way, provides it an important position in society. The modern and science-based knowledge of sociology is able to cope with ever newly created problems. That is why, as the society moves towards the modernism, the importance of sociology is increasing. Its importance is explained by the following detail given under different topics:

#### 1. Teaching and Education:

The promotion and progress of any knowledge depends upon the interest of the individual of a society. The increase in member of students and arrangements for higher education in the Pakistani universities and opening of departments of sociology show its growing importance. That is why, highly educated sociologists are teaching in the colleges and universities so that the experts in sociology should be produced for the solution of social problems.

#### 2. Research:

The progress and survival of a discipline is dependent upon the research efforts of its experts. Many experts of sociology are doing their duties in the fields of education social welfare, social and economic planning, illiteracy, poverty alleviation, crimes control and environment welfare fields etc. A great help and information is got from research in rectification of social science, in checking the prevalent views, establishing new hope, feasibility of progressive trade and welfare projects etc. All these steps help in making the future bright and easy and also problems to be faced in future may be avoided and controlled.

#### 3. Social Welfare and Betterment:

The importance and benefits of sociology can be estimated from the figures according to which sociologists are doing work in the plans of social welfare in the capacity of administrators, researchers and as guides. Many sociologists are busy in providing useful suggestions and to incline towards harmony with the modern needs by providing useful information. With the help of experience and knowledge of sociology, a social welfare department, reclamation and probation department, labour welfare department, rehabilitation of special children and S.O.S village and such other non-governmental organizations are getting benefits very much.

#### 4. Economic Reforms:

The secret of welfare of a country lies in the succession of its economic plans and these plans can only succeed when individuals of a society are fully aware of the importance and should provide a thrilling support. To help the individuals for this support, sociologists provide them help through their knowledge and experience. In the field of agriculture, industry and trade, sociologists are providing guidance in the following ways:

##### A. Agriculture:

Pakistan is an agricultural country. In spite of this, our agricultural department is suffering from backwardness. In this department, the services of sociologists are being fully availed of and efforts are being made to do away with the backwardness by providing to the farmers with modern agricultural equipments, better seeds, fertilizers, insecticides etc. to harmonise this field with modern needs and demands to increase production and thus to make the standard of life of the farmers better and welfare of the country. All of these efforts are being done with the help of sociologists, working in this field.

##### B. Industry:

It is difficult to have a status of prestige among the nations of the world without progress in the field of industry in this modern age. The presence of an industrial environment is necessary for the promotion of industry so that, the internal and external investors may be able to invest with confidence and freedom. Pakistani Sociologists and labourers are trying pleasant relation in the field of industry so that by better wages of labourers and other facilities, the industrial production should be increased. The quarrels between labourers and owners of mills, strikes and riots like incidents should be avoided and the industry may progress on in a pleasant atmosphere.

##### C. Trade:

Trade activities lessen poverty and unemployment. Industrial production is increased which increases social welfare but it is only possible when the individuals of a society should pay attention to the use of such things. In the field of trade, there is a need of sociologists, especially for Pakistan-like underdeveloped country because of the help of knowledge of cultural and social values and traditions. People are to be directed and a healthy trend is necessary and this is only possible with the help of sociology. That is why, the Pakistani sociologists are playing an important role through advertisement, campaigns, by introducing industrial commodities, by promoting a tendency to expert and by bringing positive changes in the life style of the people.

#### 5. Social Reforms and Precautions:

The basic aim of sociology is to keep the society safe from disorganization

and riots and to propose measures for the survival of social stability. The experts of sociology are providing help to the government and other non-governmental organizations to achieve this aim. Community Development organizations, Human Resources development organizations, Family welfare development, Fountain houses and S.O.S. village are the organizations that are doing service for the welfare of the society under the guidance of sociologists. Because of organized and based on scientific knowledge, sociology is providing effective and useful guidance in the formations of different plans and policies so that the future problems may be avoided and the society may be kept safe from any untoward situation and worry. The strong and stable progress in a society is only possible through effective precautionary measures. For this safeguard, the knowledge of sociology and research can save a society from instability, overpopulation, unemployment, poverty, environmental pollution and waywardness and this shows the importance of sociology.

#### 6. Health and Environment:

A pleasant environment and healthy persons play an important role in the progress and economic welfare of a society. Sociology is playing an important role in keeping the population safe from pollution and in promoting healthy activities in the society. Social Medical officers in the hospitals are providing financial help to the patients and useful suggestions to keep the environment healthy for protection from diseases. There are seminars and walks to acquaint the people with steps to control environmental pollution.

#### 7. Reclamation of Offenders:

Sociology provides a valuable help for reclamation of criminal people of the society. This provides help in understanding and controlling the reasons of crimes. According to the study of this discipline, criminals are a part of society and they should be treated like sick people and to recover them from that illness (crimes) to make them useful citizens. For this purpose, there is a Reclamation and Probation Department where in case of accidental crimes, the offenders are sent to the probation officer instead of sending them to jail and the officer looks after them and rectifies their behaviour and helps them to become useful citizens protecting them from going to jail.

Besides this, the prisoners of serious crimes with long time sentenced in the jail are given to the care of a sociologist (probation officer) after their being ashamed of their crimes. This officer after assessing the tendency and atmosphere, assigns the criminal some job with certain specific conditions and thus the person succeeds in making his behaviour constructive adapts himself better with the environment under the supervision of the sociologist. It helps to reduce the currency of crimes in the society and provide a facility to reduce the tendency of

crimes.

#### 8. Solution of Social Problems:

With the industrial revolution in Europe, the society fell a prey to numerous complicated social problems. It was the knowledge of sociology that helped in the solution of these problems. Its basic and important aim is to point out the social problems, to find out their causes and to present suggestions for their solution. In the Pakistani society, the sociologists are presenting better and suitable suggestions in the light of the knowledge and research of this discipline for the problems like overpopulation, illiteracy, poverty, unemployment, agricultural backwardness, use of narcotics, crimes, environmental pollution, social and cultural prejudices and political and social instability. This knowledge makes it easy to understand these problems and their root causes and measures taken in the light of this knowledge are effective and fruitful. Our country suffers backwardness in education and sociologists will take into consideration the condition responsible for this backwardness and afterwards to propose steps to promote education.

Similarly, overpopulation is a problem. To solve this problem, sociologists, keeping in view social values and guide the people toward suitable rate of birth and present feasible reports to the government and as a result of this, the birth rate has been reduced from 3.2 % (1970) to 1.9 % (2004).

All of the above services in the concerned departments show the importance and benefits of sociology and of the sociologists as well.

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## Chapter 2 SOCIAL GROUP

### 1. Definition:

- i. Kinds of Social Groups—Primary, Secondary, in groups, out groups, formal and informal groups. Reference groups and Locality groups
- ii. Importance of Group life

### 2. Society:

- i. Definition
- ii. Kinds of Societies— Hunting and Gathering Societies, Horticulture Societies, Agrarian Societies, Rural Societies, Modern Urban Societies

According to Talcott, "sociology is the discipline of formal study of functions and structures of human groups" and according to John Locke "Social life began from human groups when individuals began to depend on each other for their basic needs and their completion and for safety from natural calamities."

This is a fact that we are social animals and our personality is formed according to the group to which we belong. Most of our social life's activities pass in the company of others whether these activities be about any work, game, study or gossiping. Group life not only has practical objects but has psychological needs. If, for a long time, people are separated from each other, they will turn mad. According to international law, keeping a criminal in solitary imprisonment for thirty days is a serious cruelty. According to Robertson, "A group is a collection of people interacting together in an orderly way on the basis of shared expectations about one another's behaviour. As a result of this interaction, members feel a common sense of belonging." He says further:

- i. A group differs from an Aggregate; "A collection of people who happen to be in the same place at the same time", such as the passengers in a bus or a crowd in a street.
- ii. A group also differs from a Category, "A number of people who may never have met one another but also share similar characteristics, such as age, race, or sex." They sometimes do use the word 'group' loosely, but we, sociologists use the term only in its strict 'sense'.

Group not only provides the basis of social life but also is the source of

achievement of aims of social life. From family to the state set up the sources are the groups. Group life guarantees the survival of individual's life.

**Question:** Define social group. Which are important social groups? Explain any two of those. (P.U 2003)

**Ans:** Definition of Social Group

1. J.W. Vander Zanden:

"A group consists of two or more people who share a feeling of unity and who are bound together in relatively stable patterns of social interactions."

2. R.T. Schaefer:

"A group is any number of people with similar norms, values and expectations who regularly and consciously interacts."

3. Caroline Hodges Persell:

"Groups are collection of people who know each other and interact on the basis of common expectations."

4. Bogardus:

"Social group means two or more than two individuals committed to a common cause affecting each other and whose sympathies are common and who do the same type of jobs."

In the light of the above definitions; it is clearly explained that a group has specific structural ingredients and these play an important role in the formation of groups and because of seriousness, decrease or increase of importance of these, different groups are formed.

#### Structural Elements of Social Groups:

1. At least two individuals are required to form a social group, just as husband and wife or two friends make social groups and individuals of a country in millions may also form groups.
2. It is necessary that people in a group should have mutually interactive seriousness, time, importance or relativity may be of different nature but the function existence has to be there otherwise the group will become an aggregate or categories.
3. Two or more than two interactive individuals must have some common expectation, aim and its achievement which are a source of their relation, contact and cooperation.

#### Important Social Groups:

1. Primary Group
2. Secondary Group
3. In-Group

4. Out-group
5. Formal Group
6. Informal Group
7. Reference Group
8. Locality Group

#### 1. Primary Group:

Primary group has a special importance in the social life because individuals of a society live most of the part of social life in primary groups and this has the most permanent effect on the personality of the individuals. C.H. Cooley introduced this group first of all. In his own words, "A primary group involves two or more people who enjoy a direct, intimate, cohesive relationship with each other." (1909)

#### Characteristics of Primary Group:

R.T. Schaefer and Robertson have given the following characteristics of this group:

1. It consists of a few individuals generally who have a feeling of strong attachment as is found in a family or friends.
2. The period of interaction among the individuals is generally long and there is emotional depth in their relationships.
3. The relations between the individuals of primary group are face to face and on secret basis or intimate association and due to this, they understand the nonverbal language of each other.
4. There is open mindedness among people of primary groups because of stability of relation and there is no status consciousness among them.
5. They have uniform activities and uniform problems. However, individual's problems are also solved with a strong passion and personal and group needs are also fulfilled through primary groups.
6. Since they live together most of the time, therefore, they have common activities and problems and because of this, there is a uniformity of their thinking, habits, views and thus this group develops a sense of identity.
7. Cooperation and sympathy create a sense of security among them and thus expression ties predominate in the group. An individual adopts himself to group expectations which make his personality specific. Thus, they may love and try to maintain the feelings and experiences of the primary group.

#### 2. Secondary Group:

This type of group is of secondary importance because of the relations of individuals are informal and have some purpose, so there is no depth of feelings

and there is no seriousness in interaction among them. According to C.H. Cooley, "A group of two or more people based on impersonal relations having some specific objectives and gathered for its achievement."

#### Characteristics of Secondary Group:

1. The number of people in this group is more than a dozen because of this large number, there is less intensity in the relations among them as the contact with all is difficult.
2. The relations among them are indirect and limited to the reference of a personality. In other words, instead of full personality only a part of personality is involved and because of this there is no depth of feelings.
3. This group is associated with the achievement of a specific objective. C.H. Cooley says, "Secondary group is instrumental, that is, goal-oriented." For example, Professors' Association, Student's union and trade unions etc.
4. The people of this group meet with each other at specific and for limited time with their full attention to their objectives, therefore; the relations are formal and they try to keep social distance consciously, so there are no emotional ties among them.
5. The people of this group meet under specific rules and interaction is for a limited time, therefore, there is an atmosphere of strangeness among them and they do not affect each other. For example, annual meetings of big associations. In the modern age, people join among primary groups.
6. A secondary group has its specific objective and expect from members to limit to that objective and to try collectively for that objective. Personal feelings, desires, psychological needs and individual problems are not important in a secondary group and this group does not help to solve individual's problems. They have short-term relations and their end does not produce any psychological insecurity.

R.T. Schaefer has beautifully described about the structure and characteristics of this group as:

"Secondary group is relatively large, has short duration, little social intimacy, less mutual understanding, generally superficial relationships, more formal and impersonal."

Secondary group is creation of modern age and clubs, trade unions, professional association etc. are its examples.

7. The membership of this group has specific standards, capabilities and interests. Therefore, the manner of relationship among members is formal and an impersonal and superficial behaviour can be felt clearly. Social control manner is also formal. Social sanctions are formal and specific

procedural way, is fixed already.

**Question:** Describes the in - and out-groups and formal and informal groups with their characteristics.

**Ans:**

#### In-Group and Out-Group

1. An individual of in-group is a member himself and he expresses concern and sentimental attachment with the group which includes pride and love just as our family, any lovely city, our homeland etc. whereas in out-group, the individual is not a member himself, so he shows unconcern and detachment, tells its weaknesses, showing his inferiority just like other family, stronger city etc. and expresses his words like that those people are disrespectful, thieves and the city is dirty etc.
2. In-group often refers to good qualities just as my family comes of a good race, our family has good traditions, nothing like my city, my country people are most beautiful and brave whereas out-groups refers to weaknesses generally rather always, in which disgrace or inferiority is shown just your family or low worker, you belong to an inferior race, and the people of Bharat are coward and cunning etc.
3. There is a love with the beliefs, traditions and customs of in-group because of acquaintance there is pride and liking, that is, thought as a sign of unity and group stability and there is a passion of sacrifice for their preservation and security whereas out-group beliefs are ridiculed and disliked and are thought injurious for society. There are tried to distort consciously just as, in American society, Muslims are presented as terrorists, cruel and bloody people and by concealing the cruelty and terrorism of the American society, it is presented as a civilized nation.

#### Formal and Informal Group

Formal groups come into existence because of increase in population in the modern age for specific condition, these groups are best for specific purpose. In early ages, population was less and in villages the most of the needs of social life were fulfilled informally in basic groups. From structural point of view, both formal and informal groups are opposite of each other. Therefore, sociologists have defined only formal group and informal group have been brought under discussion from this reference. As Robertson says, "Formal group is big secondary group which is brought into existence for the advancement of an objective consciously."

In the words of Schaefer, "Formal group is a special purpose group designed and structured in the interests of maximum efficiency." (R.T. Schaefer



1989)

It can be deduced from the above definition that formal or informal groups are formal on the basis of structure, importance of aims and objective of relations of a group, the detail of which is given by the characteristics of the groups.

#### Characteristics of Formal and Informal Groups:

1. A Formal Group has discipline in a stressed manner and its structure is in a regular organized manner. Members are aware of their duties and rights but Informal Group has a loose discipline and duties are not fixed seriously.
2. Formal group has fixed rules and regulations. For membership, there are fixed standards and the members have to abide by these and going against these rules they are punishable under rules whereas in Informal group, there is no standard of eligibility for members and there are no formal sometimes for it.
3. Formal Group comes into existence for a specific purpose and all activities of members focused that objective and their abilities coincide with the objectives but in Informal Group, there are no fixed objectives and as such the members are not required to have specific abilities. Just as in a college, teacher makes a formal group. Its aim is to educate. Therefore, all the activities will concern about education and only those people will be eligible to become its members who are either educated or have a tendency of teaching whereas group of friends is informal and its members may be doctors, teachers and government servants also.
4. The relations of the Formal Group members are specifically under rules and protocol is taken into consideration and there are different groups but in an Informal Group, relations are informal and interaction is less deep and is of temporary nature. Formal groups come into existence for big and collective purposes in a society that is why to keep its structure stable the relations of its members are kept subject to restrictions of sanctions and formal actions just big business concern, bureaucracy, police force are Formal Groups.
5. The life in a Formal Group is of a special manner because specific activities for the achievement of specific objectives affect the personality of a member for a long time and because of this the characteristics of a formal group become the part of characteristics of the personality of the individual and the group becomes a sign of recognition of his member. A person related with police force has many characteristics developed in him and his way of speaking, walking and thinking has a specific colour and other people can easily recognize him as belonging to a specific group but

in the case of informal group, effects are temporary and are not permanent. For example, people watching a match from an informal group and interaction is any of superficial nature and the effects are temporary on the personality of the individuals. The example of formal groups is Bar Council, Bureaucrats, educationalists, actors associations, trade unions etc. The visitors of a match, the practice pants of a meeting, friends in a marriage party or viewers of a film in the cinema or a drama are informal groups.

**Question: Define a social group. Explain reference and locality groups.**

**Ans:**

**Note:** You can see the definitions of social group on the previous pages.

#### Reference Group

This term was used first of all by Herbert Hyman in 1942 while studying the gradation of social groups. "Sociologists use this term Reference group when speaking of any group that individuals use as standard for evaluating themselves and their own behaviour." (R.T. Schaefer 1989)

Robertson Jan (1987) defines reference groups as:

"Reference group, a group to which people refer when making evaluation of themselves and their behaviour".

We refer to the standards of a group while evaluating our behaviour, desires, style of life, determinations and that group may be we are in group of which we are members or may be a group of which we are not members. That group may be part of our beautiful past or we desire to become a member of this group in future. These groups play an important rôle in the social action of an individual because they give a special edge to the tendency of an individual and have the force of a strong element. That is why we cannot ignore the important functions of these groups.

#### Functions of Reference Group:

There are two functions of this group: Normative and comparative functions. 1. Normative Functions:

- i. This group determines the standard of behaviour and expected role of individuals of a society with reference to this group under which the individuals of a society instead of an external pressure, make their behaviour under the influence of their desires according to the needs and demands of a society, which promotes harmony and social stability.
- ii. This increases the fulfilling of the promise of an individual with group life because if the primary or secondary group is his

reference group, then it will be a matter of pride for him and its members will be a role model for him and he will abide by the group functions being impressed by this. He will be faithful to his group and he will not care about even by offering a sacrifice for the survival and stability of his group.

## 2. Comparative Functions:

- i. With reference to the Reference Group, individuals get help in correcting their character, tendency and behaviour. An individual compares his life with that of the Reference Group and then by removing his weaknesses, tries to be one like those of the Reference Group. If the individual's Reference Group is in harmony with positive thinking, he tries to make the society better but in case of negative thinking, the results may be reversed.
- ii. Change in attitude gets help from reference group of an individual. For example, cricketers and actors are reference group of our youth and through them same useful adventures like fighting police, jaundice and AIDS can be effectively introduced to the people.
- iii. Reference Groups have an importance in the study of trends and behaviour of an individual because they have a deep effect on the personality of the individual. Some times reference groups play more important part in the making of personality of an individual as compared to his primary group.
- iv. The intensity and depth of the influences of the reference group can help in knowing the future trends of an individual.

### Locality Group

The term of Locality group was first used by Ferdinand Tonnies. He gave it the name, Gemeinschaft or locality group.

"Gemeinschaft is the term used to describe close-knit communities, often found in rural areas, in which strong personal bonds unite members."

Afterwards, Rolph Linton explained this further to study the characteristics of this group in different societies and prepared a list of commonly found characteristics, the detail of which is given below:

#### Characteristics of Locality Group:

1. It consists of a few individuals of a few families where racial background, and ancestors are one and the same and have lived in an area for a long time.
2. There is intense social interaction among the individuals of a locality group and this is often of secret nature because of which a few words,

intonation and way of speaking separate than that of the other societies and this is their recognition.

3. The attachment of the individual of this group is of emotional nature. The relations are durable and hereditary. The reason of this is the love of the locality and relations, which are often shown in poetry and folk songs.
4. The interaction is informal and unceremonious. Sympathy element is present and there is no status consciousness among the members of this group.
5. This group has its specific local culture. The language, words, dress, marriage and death sites and customs are different than that of other societies. The individuals of the group have a desire to have their individuality consciously to have an identity in the local culture.
6. This group does not like change in life style, prevents the social variation and collective efforts are made to present this change that variation is compulsory and then the whole group tries to adopt it to keep its individuality and separateness.
7. There is a system of formal activities to keep discipline and group stability which is strictly followed and any antagonism has a group reaction which is often very intense and unbearable for the individuals and the individuals are kept bound for group activities, traditions and values.
8. The membership in the Locality Group is racial and hereditary. Strangers are not allowed to enter the group and their membership is nearly impossible. Because the presence of a stranger is thought an external interference and it is hated and is thought against the integrity of the group.
9. The social discipline in Local Group is on strong formulation. Therefore, no deviation from social discipline or very rare. However, there are internal grouping and they are solved at the locality level. External interference in the solution of problem is not liked at all and is hated and there is a collective defense against it.

In the Pakistani societies, Bugti, Afridi and Mahmud, Kalish tribes, Bihari in Karachi, Amritsari Mohellah etc. are called Locality Groups.

**Question:** What is the importance of social groups in the human life? Being a member of a society, how is your life affected from different groups? (P.U.2001)

**Ans:**

Man is the creation of group life. German sociologist, George Samuel holds that, "Dyad, one is able to achieve or special level of intimacy that cannot

be duplicated in large groups marital relationships between wife and husband is the best example of a dyad."

Groups play an important part in human life. An individual's bringing up, care, personality building, education, social, economic and psychological needs, fulfilment, sense of security, love, satisfaction of emotions and culture transmission—all of these are possible through group life which tells its importance. How an individual is affected by groups? How do groups create facilities for individuals? How does an individual benefit from these? The detail of these is given below:

#### 1. Enhancement in Individual's capacity:

In social life, many jobs cannot be done by an individual and he needs the help of others. The bringing up of children and their care cannot be done by an individual alone for whom family came into existence and this increased the individual's capacity. In agriculture, no man can do the job alone because some heavy jobs of carrying stones is not possible for an individual whereas two or more persons can do this job easily. That is why, family is given importance in the society. Because this group provides manpower for agriculture and is also helpful in fighting being strong physically.

#### 2. Fulfilment of Basic Needs:

A lonely person is helpless and this obliged him to lead a group life. A man not only is a living creature or has biological needs for his satisfaction but also he has social and psychological needs. Therefore, needs can be divided into three kinds:

- i. Biological needs: Hunger, thirst, sleep and sexual satisfaction
- ii. Sociological needs: Desire for wealth, honour and social status.
- iii. Psychogenic or Psychological needs: Love, friendship and ego passions. The completion of all of these needs is not possible individually and only group life plays an important role for these achievement. The primary group of family does play its part in providing love, sexual satisfaction, food etc. Primary, secondary and reference groups play their parts for behaviour, tendency correction and building of personality. In-group provides recognition and self-bring. Thus, all groups play their parts according to the expectations of the society to complete the basic needs of an individual.

#### 3. Personality Development:

A man is a clot of blood at the time of his birth. It is group life that teaches him language and tells him the ways of living. He begins his life from the primary group where he is brought up. He learns family ways and then interacts with other

groups which include friends, neighbours. Their ways affect his habits and life style and his personality. Afterwards, school, college, office affects him by contact with secondary groups. His personality is improved by discipline and rules. His way of living becomes mature. Reference Group helps him to compare his personality with those of others to make it better. Formal and Informal Group interaction gives a chance to express his personal abilities and their promotion and all of these help him to become the best of all the creatures.

#### 4. Transmission of Culture:

Groups play a part in transmitting culture from one race to another race. Primary group as family, friends and neighbours make the individual learn norms of life, customs, traditions, values and habits. Similarly, language, dress transmits knowledge; experience through formal and informal education to a new race. In-group and Informal Group transmit recreation, games and stories of wars to a new race which are adopted by the new race to harmonies with the culture and also to guarantee the security of the culture.

#### 5. Social Control:

The most important function is social action in the group dynamics. Primary group is an informal manner that manages for social control. Good manners and informal sanctions make the character of an individual according to the expectation of the society and traditions. Values and customs create materiality in the expected character and there is a harmony between the trends and behaviour of the society. Secondary Group makes the individual abide by the rules and regulations. Formal Group produces some prestige in interaction through status degree. Formal Group also helps in adopting sanctions for achieve of specific objectives. In this way, discipline finds a way in life. Deviation in manners is decreased which in turn, decreases mutual dispersion and social stability is promoted.

#### 6. Possibility of Achievement of Collective Aims:

In social life, some human needs are such which cannot be got by individual efforts. For example, construction of houses, festivals of grief and happiness, building of places of worships are collective aims and their achievement is only possible through different groups. Recreation is a collective aim and it needs the participation of primary and secondary group. Similarly, protecting society from crimes is a collective aim. This can be achieved by formal and secondary groups with the help of primary group. In the modern and urban life, the collective aims—electricity, water supply, roads, dams, law and order are not possible without the secondary and formal groups like Wapda, Wasa, Highways authority, police and administration. This shows that the collection aims are only to be achieved through social groups.

## Society

### Community:

Since the last centuries, human society has changed from simple to complicated individual society. The concept of human society is as old as man. In the beginning, man wandered in search of food and got his food from hunting, fruit and vegetables.

### Hunting and Gathering Society:

Afterwards, man domesticated animals and needed herds of cattle and he got his food, dress and other needs from them.

### Pastoral Society:

In that age, man wandered here and there. When the population increased, it became difficult to change place in search of food. Then he began to live at specific places after selection of proper places and began to grow vegetables for his need and this made the achievement of food easy and he also began to hoard that food.

### Horticulture Society:

The invention of plough produced easiness in agriculture and it produced a revolution in agriculture. Six thousand years before agricultural society came into existence. Social structure changed and social classes were established. The demands and needs of life increased. New inventions and discoveries were made. Handicrafts developed and industries came into existence and an industrial revolution took place and for the last two hundred and fifty years have become from individual society to industrial society. Before definition of society, it is necessary to explain the difference between society and community and it should be understood that both the words are synonymous.

### Definition of Society

1. **Datson:** "A society is a spatial or territorial unit of social organization in which people have a sense of identity and a feeling of belonging." (Datson 1986)
2. **R.T. Schaefer:** "A society is fairly large number of people who live in same territory, are relatively independent of people outside their area, and participate in a common culture".
3. **J.W. Wander Zanden:** "Society refers to a group of people who live within the same territory and share a common culture."
4. **Young and Mack:** "Society is such the biggest group which has common cultural manner or way and that encompasses all basic institutions."
5. **Samuel Koenig:** "Society is such a group of individuals that has common

traditions, values, customs and style of life."

### Types of Society

Societies have lived a long evolutionary period before reaching the present stage of a modern society. In this evolutionary journey, different societies came into existence and changed forms and nature according to the changes of time. The evolutionary forms of the society is given rise to kinds of societies and the detail of these is given below:

#### 1. Hunting and Gathering Societies:

These societies depended upon hunting and fruit for their food. In other words, "A hunting and gathering society is one relying upon for its subsistence on such wild animals and vegetables as its members can hunt or gather."

From the beginning of the human society to few hundred years, all societies adopted this way of life. Even today, the segregated societies still depend on hunting and vegetables for food.

Hunting societies consisted of a few individuals and were scattered in the form of wandering groups because in case of a big group to provide food was difficult. Hunting societies lived in a primary group of about forty people who belonged to one family and forefathers. Apart from primary group, no other basic institutions were in existence and only the family did all functions of religious, educational and economic institutions. Any elder of the family did the service of solving problems temporarily and generally decisions were made by discussion and the jobs and duties were assigned according to age and sex on the concept of personal property, therefore, there was no gradation due to rich and poor. Since wealth had no existence, therefore, there was no conflict. The time for getting food was very short and that is why, in that hunting society people had a spare time most of all other societies.

According to Lee and Sahalines (1972):

"Their needs are simple and easily satisfied, and they spend less time working for their living so they are among the most leisured people on Earth."

#### 2. Pastoral Societies:

"A Pastoral society is one relying for its subsistence primarily on domesticated herd animals, emerged between 10,000 to 20,000 years ago." The hunting people societies started catching animals, training and domesticating those animals. Goats and sheep were suitable for milk and meat. Therefore, people living in deserts started to domesticate those for their food. The population increased and the society began to take shape of semi-resident society. The herd of cattle became a source of wealth and spare economic sources which made some families more powerful and gradation of rich and poor started. Though these

tribes remained mostly but the geographical area became limited. A limited culture began to come into existence. Handicrafts developed and a track started to some extent and contacts among tribes. The preliminary belief of religion began to appear relating to natural phenomenon. Every tribe had their own specific beliefs based upon their observation and experience which produced a somewhat complication in the social structure and manner of culture.

### 3. Horticultural Societies:

"A horticultural society is one relying for its subsistence on the cultivation of domesticated plants."

When in the deserts and mountainous regions, pastoral societies were coming into existence, apparently during the same period from ten to twenty thousand years, the horticultural societies were coming into existence in the plains, near the banks of rivers and streams. The members of the hunting society tried to grow vegetables by conscious efforts and started cultivation and protection of plants and fruit, then from nomadic society's resident societies came into existence. In that age, herbs were destroyed to make clear the forests and ashes were used as manure (which was type of burn technology). Since the getting of increased population, spare food was stored which made some families rich and wealthy. Political and social institutions came into existence. Hereditary leadership started. Trade activity contacted different societies. Resident societies came into existence and agricultural implements were invented. Cultural activities became complicated which gave rise to cultural diversities. Beliefs began to appear in powerful rites and form to the extent of sacrifice of men. Wealth and beliefs accumulation brought about classes and class differences.

### 4. Agricultural Societies:

"An agricultural society is one relying for its subsistence primarily on the cultivation of crops through the use of plough and draft animals." Almost six thousands years back, the invention of plough brought about a revolution in agriculture which was called agricultural revolution. This increased the agricultural production. With the combination of hunting and pastoral societies, agricultural society came into existence and with the help of draft animals in the agriculture field, the societies acquired the shape of resident societies. Food production was increased which gave more food for trade purpose. Population increased rapidly because there was need of more people for agriculture. Specialization in handicrafts started and professions like blacksmith, carpenter, cobblers and cloth weavers came into existence. From village turns into town and then big cities began to come into existence. The agricultural protect was thought an alternative for buying and selling other things.

The relations between individuals and groups got promotion and this

stability increased depending. Political institutions became more functional and a clear form of state arose. The power and working sphere of a political leader became vast. Social classification became more clear part of society. Wealth went into hands of landlords and majority became farmers and handicraft men which divided the society into class distinction. With the start of a state, army and war has been started and conquests were made to make states big. Indus valley civilization, Mohenjodoro, was an exemplary agricultural culture. Culture was taking the shape of individual social life and every aspect of life and every movement had an individualistic position as culture determined. Beliefs, customs, traditions, habits and skills merged into social life and society became organized. Society had more status than that of an individual. The duties were assigned according to sex, skill, power and wealth. Social stability became a very important social value. The agricultural societies became the first human culture.

### 5. Industrial Societies:

"An industrial society is one relying for its subsistence primarily on mechanized production."

These societies came into existence when the individuals began to live their life depending on the mechanical production. Since two and a half century before, the industrial revolution began, when new scientific inventions were made and mechanical production increased due to use of machines and social activities took a different direction and as compared to agricultural societies, the social variation became very rapid.

In an industrial society, a few individuals can produce so much food and other things of need which are sufficient for many people and this increases the population in the beginning because people can get good food and work load is less than their work. Better residence facility is available and this changes rural societies into urban societies. Employment chances increase. People pass most of the time in secondary instead of primary groups. Shallow and impersonal interaction takes place. Government becomes an institution controlling the whole life. Economic circle becomes complicated, vast and overpowering. A family is unable to perform its basic functions. The influence of religious institutions descends from collective life to personal and industrial level. Educational institutions become important and knowledge of science becomes a social value. Social control becomes important duty of the political institution. Security from foreign aggression becomes a great concern of the society.

Army, police and bureaucracy become very much organized. Culture takes a new direction. Social norms appear in the form of laws instant of complimentary attitude. Acquired status takes the place of quality status. Modern life is liked very much instead of old values and traditions. According to grading, the middle class

emerges as the biggest class. In the beginning of the industrial society, the poor are in majority but afterwards poverty ends and the poor becomes a minority in the society. Division of work becomes complicated and regard of sex, age and status ends and knowledge, skill, and technical expertness count which makes the life complicated and seriously detached. Rapid social variation gives a feeling of danger of disintegration, complication and social structure.

In the words of Robertson, 1987, "Rapid social change threatens to disorganize the existing social structure."

#### **Social Needs:**

The society has to fulfil certain needs to keep itself alive to which the functionalists give the name of Functional pre-requisites. Its detail is given here:

##### **1. Subsistence Needs:**

The completion of physical and subsistence needs is necessary for men to live. Physical needs include air, water, residence, sleep are called biological needs and psychic needs are love, avoidance from excessive stress, participation in system of shared belief etc. These physical needs help to complete the subsistence needs which enhance the effort for residence and getting food.

##### **2. Distribution Need:**

Subsistence sources are required to be distributed away the individual of a society but it happens less that this division is equal and because of this, elders of a family arrange for food and residence of their children and young people.

##### **3. Need of Biological Reproduction:**

It is necessary to keep the society alive and to ensure its survival. Most of the members of the society should do this duty of biological reproduction.

##### **4. The Need of Transmission of Culture:**

It is necessary for the survival of the society to transmit the present culture to the next generation, so that the new generation may be able to sustain the culture and society.

##### **5. The Need for Protection:**

It is a must for a society that its individuals avoid to ruin one another. By this activity, the society can be divided into two basic kinds. The German sociologist Ferdinand Tonnies has told as Rural (Gemenichafft) and urban (Gaseochafft) societies.

**Question: What are Rural and Urban Societies? Give their characteristics.**

**Ans: Rural Societies**

The German sociologist used for a small and illiterate settlement the word Rural (Gemenichafft) and described its characteristics briefly as:

"Gemenichafft; to describe a small, traditional society where people have personal face to face relationship with each other and where they value social relationships as ends in themselves."

A French sociologist Emile Durkheim has explained these characteristic as follows:

#### **Salient Features**

##### **1. Population:**

The population of rural society is small, of a few hundred people and belongs to the same ancestors. When a hunting and agrarian society thought a place easy for the supply of subsistence needs, it made its residence permanently there. In this way, rural societies came into existence but in the twentieth century a canal system was set up to promote agriculture and villages were formed of the societies, where there were to a limit independent settlements economically and socially and consisted of limited population.

##### **2. Shared Common Economic Activities:**

The residents of villages had commonly shared activities. According to Durkheim, these societies depend upon generally one economic activity. They are attached to agriculture, fishing or cattle grazing and depend upon these. They start their life from this activity and remain attached to it for the prime of their years and spend their old age in the memory of these activities.

##### **3. Traditionalism:**

Rural societies pass their activities of life under the influence of tradition and rituals. They abide by their traditions very strictly and any deviation from those is strongly disliked by the society. Tradition with all traits like religion, customs, belief and norms dominate and keep the society united and harmonious as the biggest effective forces.

##### **4. Trends of Social Interaction:**

In the rural society, interaction is face to face and the people know each other by names and castes. The profession of an individual in the rural society is important for his recognition and status and determines the nature of relations. In a rural society, interaction is intense, secret and informal. Religious rites, marriages and deaths are an important source of making the interaction more deep and intense. The relations are of personal type in a rural society. Friendship is deep and durable but enmities are long and revengeful extending to many years and even agrarian races.

##### **5. Social Change:**

Rural societies are a changed form of agrarian societies of the past. The life in rural societies, is under the influence of traditions which present a serious

hindrance to any social change. People are satisfied with their lives and there is no competition among them, exchange of information with others is often hesitated willfully and is thought injurious to the stability of the society. The rate of progress in social change is slow. However, the rapid means of communications have sped up this even in the rural societies and as a result of this changes in agriculture, fishing and cattle grazing have occurred. Raw material production and rapid transportation is a tendency to reach the market. Better standard of living and social status mobility consciousness is being promoted and all these changes are bringing the rural societies quite near to the urban societies.

#### 6. Commitment to Customs:

Rural society is thought as the birth place of traditions because these take root deep in the rural society and in all the functions, these are abided by strictly, more expenditure is done to fulfil their requirements and it is thought as an honour. It is thought a guarantee of unity and harmony and there is a thinking that learning the traditions is a rebellion against the society which will make social relationship impossible. The intense desire to remain attached to the society has a serious presence on the individuals to observe the customs and traditions of the society. Therefore all the individuals abide by the traditions automatically in the matters of marriage, death, religious rites and cultural rites and this keeps this continuity of customs and traditions to the new generation in a very safe manner.

#### 7. Basic Needs:

The central institution for providing basic needs in a rural society is family and its structure is arranged according to the provision of needs. That is why, extended family is the successful and popular form of the rural society. The family arranges for basic needs like food, provision of family and conjugal relations where as in matters of marriage, death and rites, the family requires mutual cooperation and this provides a social security also by stability of the social discipline. In the modern age, for the completion of modern needs like schooling, hospital, telephone and electricity availability are becoming a cause of changing the nature of basic needs of the rural society.

### Urban Societies

A German sociologist, Ferdinand Tonnies gave the name of urban individual society or 'Geerellchafft' to a society of a large population where the people have impersonal and formal relations for the achievement of some aims.

"F. Tonnies characteristic urban industrial society as a Geerellchafft. People in such societies has more impersonal, distant relationships with each other and lived to use social relationships as a mean to an end. Individualism is valued more than group solidarity."

### Salient Features of Urban Societies:

#### 1. Population:

August Comte in "The Progress of Civilization Through Three Stages", have given the detail of coming into existence of the urban society like this: "When handicraft took the form of industry and a need arose to increase the industrial production and to make it available to the people, the people of rural society started to reside near industrial set ups which increased the population and because of strangeness, which made this free environment more charming for the people to come there."

#### 2. Economic Activities:

Urban societies are the centre of different economic activities. Here industry provides their production which increases trade activities. Rural societies bring their raw material to sell which gives rise to markets, means of communications, exchange house, business and shapes to be established. Services become a source of earning and employment and the large population has to do many jobs of labourers, managers and skilled men etc.

#### 3. Trends of Social Interaction:

According to Max Weber: "Social interaction in an urban society is impersonal and the relations depend upon personal qualities instead of traditions." There is no importance of social tradition and cultural values in an urban society. Profession, education, economic resources and authority have importance in relations. Instead of family relations, formal organizations, clubs and associations provide a social stability system. Customs are of no importance and interaction is based upon informal and professional matters. The most of the division of work is due to relation and social interaction and status which increase the interaction to more informal and objective-oriented aims.

#### 4. Social Change:

According to Neil J. Smelser: "Urban societies came into existence because of social change and the speed of social change remains constant." Urban societies give importance to modernization instead of traditionalism and adopting a modern life is thought a value. That is why that the family becomes nuclear, egalitarian and non local instead of an expanding family. Economic activities shift from agricultural to educational activities and social stratification is the basis of education professional skill, power, authority and economic resources instead of sex or racial status. The strong consciousness of keeping the standard of life makes the competition rapid and because of this a continuous action of social change in the urban societies goes on.

### 5. Basic Needs:

Individualism is given more importance in an urban society in place of group and collective stability. That is why, there are regular organizations to provide basic needs in urban societies. Though family is a centre for providing basic needs but for education, health and for employment, the schools, hospitals, social institutions and police etc. are working. Marital relations depend upon personal liking and suitability instead of families. Recreations manners are informal and economic. The needs of friendships and relationships are satisfied by associations with professional organization or formal organizations instead of neighbours or family relationships.

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## Chapter 3 SOCIAL INTERACTION AND SOCIAL PROCESS

1. Social Interaction
  - i. Definition and its components
  - ii. Forms of social interaction
  - iii. Measurement of social interaction
2. Social Action
  - i. Definition and its components
  - ii. Difference between social interaction and social action
3. Social processes: cooperation, competition and conflicts
  - i. Kinds of cooperation
  - ii. Kinds of competition
  - iii. Kinds of conflict

### Social Interaction:

While presenting the theory of beginning of society, John Locke says: "Man is peace-loving from the very beginning and because of his weak instinct it was in his very nature to depend on others for which he established relations and group and social life came into existence." These contacts and relations were the cause of social interaction and are still present in the social life by social interaction. Emile Durkheim thinks that: "An individual has no place or position and all of his progress is due to relation and interaction with other people."

Social interaction is the most important source of bringing about a society. Man is obliged to live with others and being separate from society his personality can not grow. When a man lives with others, he is either impressed by others or he impresses others. That is why it is said that "Social interaction is a continuous and a two-way relation which is established between two or more individuals."  
F.E. Merrill

### Definitions of Social Interaction

#### A.W. Green:

"Those mutual influences which groups or individuals exert on each other"