# **CULTURE: DEFINITION**

 A pattern of basic assumptions, shared values, norms and beliefs and patterns of behavior that bind members of a society together.

## **CULTURE**

A way of life of groups of people

A society's identity

 A society's reaction and adaptation to its environment

#### **CULTURE** and **SOCIETY**

- Society: A large number of people living in the same territory who are relatively independent of people and societies outside their area and who participate in a common culture.
- Society is the largest form of human group which consists of people who share a common culture.
- A society cannot go on living without a culture and a culture cannot exist or develop without a society.

#### FACTORS INFLUENCING CULTURE

- Climate
- Geography
- Population
- Natural disasters
- Technology
- Historical events
- Religion
- Other societies

#### CHARACTERISTICS OF CULTURE

- Culture is learned
- Culture is shared
- Culture can change
- Culture provides satisfaction
- Culture is integrative
- Culture transmits

#### CLASSIFICATION OF CULTURE

MATERIAL vs. NONMATERIAL

 POST FIGURATIVE vs. COFIGURATIVE vs. PREFIGURATIVE

OPEN vs. CLOSE

## **CULTURAL UNIVERSALS**

- CALENDARS
- DANCING
- DECORATIVE ART
- FOOD HABITS
- FUNERAL CEREMONIES
- GAMES
- GESTURES
- GIFT GIVING
- HAIRSTYLES

- HOUSING
- LANGUAGE
- LAWS
- MARRIAGE
- MUSIC
- MYTHS
- RELIGION
- SEXUAL RESTRICTIONS
- TOOLMAKING
- FAMILY LIFE

#### **ELEMENTS OF CULTURE**

- LANGUAGE
- NORMS (guidelines)
- SANCTIONS
- VALUES (socially shared ideas)
- BELIEFS AND ATTITUDES
- EDUCATION
- CUSTOMS AND CEREMONIES

# **NORMS AND SANCTIONS**

	SANCTIONS	
NORMS	Positive	Negative
Formal	Salary bonus	Demotion
	Testimonial diner	Firing from a job
	Medal	Jail sentence
	Diploma	Expulsion
Informal	Smile	Frown
	Compliment	Humiliation
	Cheers	Ostracism

## **CULTURAL VARIATION**

- SUBCULTURES
- COUNTER CULTURES
- CULTURE SHOCK

 Is a general culture (society) a sum of its subcultures?

#### **SUBCULTURES**

 A general culture equals to something bigger than the sum of its subcultures.

# ATTITUDES TOWARD CULTURAL VARIATION

- **✓ ETHNOCENTRISM**
- **✓ CULTURAL RELATIVISM**