

Sociology

Introduction

- The term sociology is derived from two words, of which one is Latin word ‘socius’ meaning companion and the other is Greek word ‘logos’ meaning speech or reasoning or study.

SOCIOLOGY

SOCIUS LOGOS

(Latin) (Greek)



(Companion) ↓ (Speech or reasoning) ↓

- “Logos” indicates scientific study; for example biology means science of life, geology- science of earth, anthropology-science of man, sociology would therefore mean the study or scientific study of companions, concerned with people’s relationship and interaction with one another.

SOCIOLOGY

- Auguste Comte (1789-1857), often referred to as the father of sociology named the field of study from two words. The Greek word “Logus” means speech, reasoning, or calculation, and the Latin word “Socius” means companion. The term “Logus” as a suffix indicates scientific study e.g., biology, the science of life, geology, the science of the earth, and anthropology, the science of man.
- Therefore, sociology can be defined as the study of human behavior in relation to the **group with whom he interacts.**

SOCIOLOGY

- There are three keywords in this definition **group**, **relationship**, and **interaction**.

Group

- A man does not live in isolation, but he needs physical and social closeness to other human beings to **form groups to meet their need.**

Relationship

- The word **relationship** means that every human being identifies with some persons more than he does with others and develops feelings of belonging both with them and the geographic area within which they all reside.

•Interaction

- The word **interaction means** action between and among individuals when they take each other into account and have reciprocal (two ways, give and take) influence on one another.

Sociology

- Definitions by Prominent Sociologists
- Auguste Comte: "Sociology is the science of social phenomena subject to natural and invariable laws."
- Emile Durkheim: "Sociology is the study of social facts, institutions, and structures that influence individual behavior."
- Max Weber: "Sociology is the science that attempts the interpretive understanding of social action to arrive at a causal explanation of its course and effects".
- Talcott Parsons: "Sociology is the systematic study of social systems, their functions, and interrelations".
- Herbert Spencer: "Sociology is the study of social evolution, similar to the biological evolution of species".
- Sociology is the study of interaction arising from the association of living being. (Gillin and Gillin)

Scope of Sociology

Sociology covers a wide range of topics, including:

- Social Institutions: Family, education, religion, government, economy.
- Social Groups and Interactions: Studies human behavior in groups, organizations, and societies.
- Social Change and Development: Examines how societies evolve over time.
- Social Issues: Crime, poverty, gender inequality, discrimination, and more.
- Cultural Studies: Analyzes traditions, customs, beliefs, and values.
- Urban and Rural Sociology: Investigates social structures in different environments.

Importance of Sociology

- The importance of sociology is multifaceted and far-reaching. Firstly, it offers a comprehensive understanding of society by unraveling its structure, norms, and institutions, shedding light on how societies function and evolve.

Importance of Sociology

- Secondly, sociology is crucial for addressing pressing social issues such as poverty, inequality, and discrimination. By identifying their root causes and consequences, sociologists can advocate for policies that promote social welfare and justice.

Importance of Sociology

- Thirdly, sociology serves as a champion for social justice, highlighting disparities and mobilizing efforts to challenge systems of oppression and discrimination based on factors like race, gender, and class.

Importance of Sociology

- Additionally, sociological research informs public policy decisions by providing evidence-based insights into social phenomena and the effectiveness of interventions. Furthermore, sociology fosters social change by analyzing social movements and activism and supporting efforts to create more inclusive and democratic societies.

Importance of Sociology

- Lastly, sociology enhances interpersonal relationships by offering insights into communication, group dynamics, and socialization, facilitating better understanding and empathy among individuals. In essence, sociology's importance lies in its ability to illuminate the complexities of human social life and contribute to positive social change and human welfare.

Emergence/Development of Sociology

- Throughout history, humans have tried to gain more control over their surroundings and overcome their limitations. They have always sought to learn about their environment and the many natural things around them, including non-living objects, plants, and animals.
- From this knowledge, different fields of study have developed. However, humans have also studied themselves, trying to understand their behavior and relationships with others.
- This effort led to the creation of **social sciences**, which study people and their actions from different perspectives. **Sociology**, the newest social science, focuses on understanding human behavior as a whole. It became part of social sciences when people realized that other social sciences could not fully explain human behavior.

History of Sociology

- History of Sociology Early Foundations
Ancient Philosophical Roots: Sociology has its roots in the works of ancient philosophers such as Plato and Aristotle, who explored human behavior and social organization.

History of Sociology

- Medieval Period: Thinkers like Ibn Khaldun (14th century) studied social cohesion and historical patterns. Birth of Modern Sociology
The Enlightenment (17th-18th Century): The rise of rational thought, empirical research, and the questioning of traditional authority laid the foundation for modern sociology.

History of Sociology

- Industrial Revolution (18th-19th Century): Rapid urbanization, economic shifts, and social changes led scholars to systematically study society.

History of Sociology

- Auguste Comte (1798-1857): Often regarded as the "Father of Sociology," Comte introduced the term "sociology" and emphasized a scientific approach to studying society.

History of Sociology

- Development of Sociological Thought Karl Marx (1818-1883): Analyzed class struggles and economic systems in shaping societies.

History of Sociology

- Emile Durkheim (1858-1917):
Focused on social facts,
cohesion, and the impact of
social structures.

History of Sociology

- Max Weber (1864-1920):
Introduced interpretive sociology, emphasizing subjective meanings and social actions.

History of Sociology

- Talcott Parsons & Structural Functionalism (20th Century): Explored social institutions and their roles in maintaining stability.

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whom he interacts.

Social Group

- **Social Group**

- A social group consists of two or more people who regularly interact and share a sense of unity and common identity. In other words, it's a group of people who see each other frequently and consider themselves a part of the group. Except in rare cases, we all typically belong to many different types of social groups. For example, you could be a member of a sports team, club, university class, workplace and more.

- **Elements of a Sociological Group**

- Interaction among the members.
- Members are aware of their membership in the group.
- Member shares a common cause or interest.
- Organizational structure.

Types of Social Groups:

- **Primary group and secondary group:**
- In a primary group, there is a face-to-face and intimate relationship. It refers to small groups like the family, the play group and the neighborhood.
- The secondary group may be defined as a kind of associations which is characterized by indirect, impersonal or secondary relations. The trade union, the business corporation, the political party, and the state are examples of secondary groups.

Types of Social Groups:

- **Voluntary and In-Voluntary groups:**

- A voluntary group is one which a man joins according to his own wish. He withdraws his membership at any time of his own sweet will. Political parties and youth associate are examples of voluntary groups.
- An involuntary group is based on kinship such as the family. The membership of the groups is compulsory. A man has no choice to what family he will belong.

Types of Social Groups:

- **In-groups and Out-groups:**

- In-groups are characterized by the expressions "we belong" "we believe", "we feel", "we act". We identify ourselves with our own group's family or tribe or college or occupation by virtue of our awareness or likeness or "consciousness of kind",
- The out-group is an association of persons towards which we feel a sense of difference, avoidance, dislike or competition. The out group is thus opposite of the "in group". Towards in-group a man has "we are feeling" but towards on out-group have feeling of they.

Types of Social Groups:

- **Formal & Informal groups:**
- A ***formal group*** consists of a number of persons working together for the achievement of a given goal. It functions according to a set of rules under the authority of a set. It has a definite structure. A bureaucratic group is an example of the formal group.
- An ***informal group*** consists of a number of persons working together to achieve common goal. There is no set of formal rules and regulations in it. It has no definite structure ***crowd*** is an example of informal group.

Types of Social Groups:

- **Homogeneous and Heterogeneous group:**
- The student community is a heterogeneous group, because students come from different age, sex, family, intellectual attainment and social background.
- The Indian nation is a mix of heterogeneous group, when viewed from the standpoint of national or racial origins religious pursuits. But culturally, India is a homogeneous entity.

- sociology can be defined as the study of human behavior in relation to the **group with whom he interacts.**

Social Interaction & Social Process



Social Interaction

- Social interaction is the foundation of society. Without interaction there would be no group life.
- For instance, interaction is the major processes for the socialization of an individual from birth to death, which exists in every culture.





Definition of Social Interaction

- Merrill:
“social interaction is the process of contact where the behavior modifies slightly” “Modifies slightly”.





Definition of Social Interaction

- **Dowson & Getty:**
“Social interaction is a process whereby men inter- penetrate the mind of each other”.



Form of social interaction

- Between individual and individual
- Between individual and groups
- Between groups and groups
- Between individual and culture

Between individual and individual



customer and shop keeper



Doctor and patient

situations for social interaction

- **Person
to
person**



Between individual and group



singer and audience

- Person
to-group



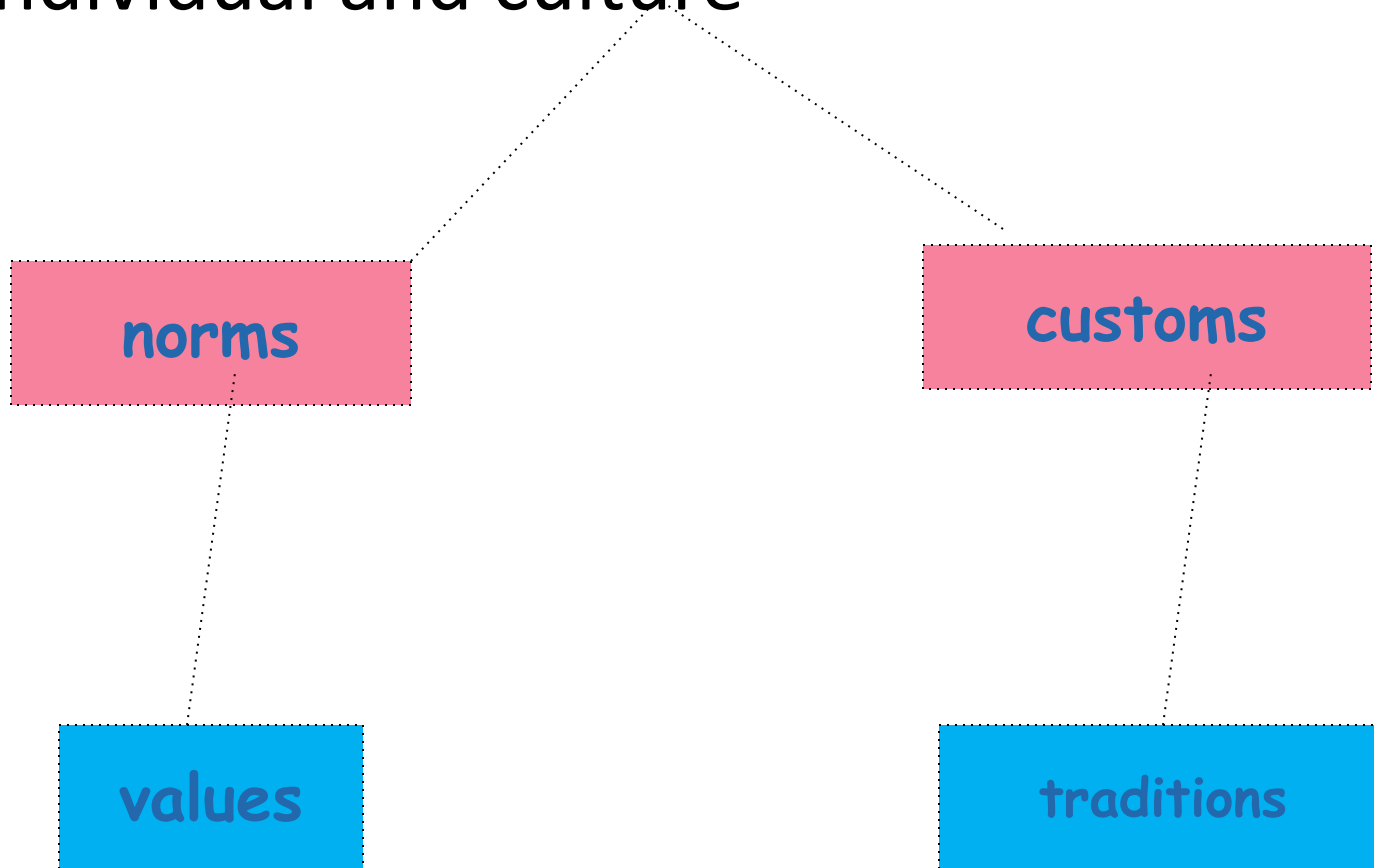
Between group and group



• Group-to-group



Individual and culture



Social processes

- **Horton & Hunt**

- “Social processes consist of repetitive forms of behavior which are commonly found in social life”.

- **Cole**

- “It also refers to a consistent pattern of social interaction which can be identified in the society”.



Types / Forms of Social Interaction / Social Process

Opposition

competition

Conflict

Cooperation

**Accommodati
on**

**Assimilation &
Acculturation**



Forms of competition

- **Personal & impersonal competition**
- **Formal & informal competition**
- **Intra & inter group competition**

Personal and impersonal competition

- **Personal competition** occurs in a society when individuals or groups compete directly with one another in a face-to-face manner. **Example:** Elections are a form of personal competition where the competitors know each other, and the competition is direct and face-to-face.

- **Impersonal competition** refers to competition where there is no direct, face-to-face interaction between competitors. **Example:** The competition for posts in the Federal Public Service Commission is an example of impersonal competition. Another example is when students compete for the top position in the Peshawar Board or similar academic rankings.

Type of Competition

1. Personal competition

involves direct
face-to-face contact
between opposing



Formal or informal competition

- Formal competition is that has **structured rules and regulations**. It has written rules to be followed, otherwise the violator will be punished. E.g. in modern societies. Like in **cricket match, or football match.**
- Informal is that competition in which there is no written rule and regulation but some unwritten set or rules are to be followed. e.g. in **primitive or folk societies.**

Intra & inter group competition

- **Intra group competition**

- The competition that occurs within the community is called intra group competition. This is within the same community or village.

- **Inter group competition**

- The competition that occurs between communities / groups is called inter group competition. e.g. the competition between two teams of different districts or provinces or the countries is the inter group competition.

Conflict

- Conflict is **universal** and occurs in **all places** and at all time. There has never been a time or a society in which some **individuals or groups did not come into conflict**. Conflict generally occurs due to
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Conflict

- individual differences,
 - cultural differences,
 - clash of interests and social changes.
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- Sometimes conflict serves as **constructive and positive ends**.
 - In corporate conflicts that is, between groups and societies, solidarity and fellow-feelings are increased.
 - But conflict in its extreme form brings war and destruction of lives and property.

Conflict

- Conflict can be defined as the deliberate attempt to oppose, resist or force the will of another or others. **Mac Iver and Page** defined conflict as that form of struggle in which “men contend against one other for any object.

Type of Conflict:

- “Conflict expresses itself in thousands of ways and various degrees and over every range of human contact. Two fundamental types of conflict are direct and indirect conflict.
- **Direct Conflict:**
 - When a person or a group injures, prevent or destroys the opponent in order to secure a goal or reward, direct conflict occurs; such as litigation, revolution and war.
- **Indirect Conflict:**
 - In indirect conflict, attempts are made by individuals or groups to frustrate the efforts of their opponents in an indirect manner. For example, when two manufacturers go on lowering the prices of their commodities till both of them are declared insolvent, indirect conflict in that case take place

Difference between competition & conflict

• Competition

1. Competition is the continuous process and it is never ending.
2. It is impersonal
3. It is unconscious and the individuals and groups are not aware of it.
4. It encourages hard work.
5. It is based on non-violence.

• Conflict

1. It is not continuous process. At some stage it must come to an end.
2. It is personal.
3. it is conscious and the individual and groups are aware and know each other.
4. It discourages hard work for law in conflict.
5. Violent methods may be used in conflict.

Cooperation

- No society can develop without cooperation. In Pakistani society we find a few examples of cooperation. **e.g.**
- In the farms the rural cooperate with their neighbors in watering the crops, harvesting the crops.
- In urban areas the people cooperate with each other in different ways. Such cooperation is found between the customer and shop keepers, teachers and students, the owner and the laborers, the doctor and the patient.

Cooperation

- Cooperation is the sharing of responsibility or the act of working together in order to achieve a common goal or vision. It is a social process where people work together to achieve a group's common objectives and share some benefits from it.

Type of Cooperation

1. Informal cooperation

characterized
as spontaneous
and involves
mutual give
and take.



Courtesy of Girl Scouts of the United States of America



2. Formal cooperation characterized as a deliberate contractual nature and prescribes the reciprocal rights and obligations of members.

Cooperation has several functions:

- It creates **social cohesion** and integration among the members of the group.
- It contributes to **social stability** and **order**.
- It fosters consensus and compromise in various **social, economic and political issues**.

Accommodation

- Adjustment of hostile individuals or groups
process of establishing temporary agreements,
compromises or negotiations
among group members to be able to work for a
particular period of time without friction.

FORMS OF ACCOMMODATION

- **DIFFERENT FORMS OF ACCOMMODATION**

- **Toleration** A deadlock or equilibrium of physical and mental strength leads to toleration, a first step in accommodation. When mental conflict is markedly unequal and the superiority of one idea or procedure is undisputed, there will be no toleration.
- **Example:** The teacher may tolerate an undisciplined student in the hope of ultimately benefiting him/her.

FORMS OF ACCOMMODATION

- **Displacement:** A process of ending a conflict using a scapegoat.
- **Example:** change of place of residence due to enmity.
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FORMS OF ACCOMMODATION

- **Compromise:** a form of accommodation where extreme demands are given up to achieve limited goals.
- **Example:** Pakistan & India compromise on water distribution
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FORMS OF ACCOMMODATION

- **Truce**

- In this form the rivalries parties are stopped for a definite or indefinite period while the issues are not settled. It means that the problem remains unsolved and the fighting parties stop their hostility for fixed period or forever.

- **Example:** Teega (stone) in Pakhton society

FORMS OF ACCOMMODATION

- **Subordination:** works only when it is impossible for one group to continue aggression against the more powerful group.
- **Example:** Slavery is an outstanding illustration of subordination; it is a form of accommodation where one person has become the property of another, where he has no or few political rights, where he is socially on a low level and where he performs compulsory labor

Assimilation

- Assimilation refers to the process where some of the majority community's cultural aspects are absorbed in such a manner that the home cultural aspects get mitigated or lost. Minority culture changes in the case of assimilation.

Acculturation

- Acculturation is a process where the cultural aspects of the majority community are adapted without losing the traditions and customs of the minority community.
- Minority culture remains intact in the case of acculturation.

CULTURE

- **Bogardus**
 - “Culture is all the way of going and thinking of a group.”
- **Lewis A. Coser**
 - “Culture is the totality of learned, socially transmitted behavior.”

Types of Culture

- There are following two types of culture:
- **Material Culture**
- By material culture, we mean things like houses, roads, vehicles, tools, machines and the manufacturing of goods and services etc.
- **Non- Material Culture**
- In non-material culture, we include non-material objects, e.g., religion, art, and norms, values

COMPONENTS OF CULTURE

- **Symbols**

- Anything that stands for (or shared meaning attached to it) is “Something to which people attach meaning, and that they use to communicate with one another” (Henslin); any word, gesture, image, sound, physical object, and event can serve as a symbol as long as people recognize that it carries a particular meaning
- Example: Class ring, the word *hello*, handshake = all symbols. Symbols vary from culture to culture.

COMPONENTS OF CULTURE

- **Norms**

- Norms are rules and expectations by which a society guides the behavior of its members. The essential norms in a culture apply everywhere and at all times. Example Parents expect obedience from children.

The basic types of norms are folkways and mores

- **FOLKWAYS**

- Folkways are simply customary, habitual, and normal ways which people perform **Example: Shaking hand Or**
- It is the Informal rules guiding everyday behavior Ex. Eating salad with a spoon “Abnormal; not illegal.”

- **MORES**

- The mores are rigid and strict than the folkways. For instance wearing of clothes is placed under mores while the fashion of clothes is folkway. There is the punishment if an individual fails to conform to mores of the society.
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COMPONENTS OF CULTURE

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- **ATTITUDE**
 - Cultural attitudes focus on emotions. They are the positive and negative evaluations of objects, people, or situations that allow us to feel and behave towards them positively or negatively. For example, drinking wine is considered negative in Pakistan society.
- **LAWS**
 - Laws are defined as codes of behavior enforced by government machinery. Their obedience is compulsory, and violation can bring punishment. Example violation of traffic signals.

CHARACTERISTICS OF CULTURE

- **SOCIAL**

- Culture is the product of society and depends upon it.

- **LEARNED**

- The members of a society learn culture through socialization.

- **SHARED**

- Culture is not the property of a single individual; all the members of the society collectively own it.

- **TRANSMITTED**

- Culture is transmitted from one generation to another.

CHARACTERISTICS OF CULTURE

- **DYNAMIC**

- Culture is not static; it is changing with the needs of society.

- **GUIDE A SOCIETY**

- It is the culture that guides the members to act according to the expectation of society.

- **HUMAN**

- Man makes culture.

- **DIFFERENT**

- Every society has its own different culture.

Cultural change

- refers to the transformation of a society's cultural elements, including beliefs, values, norms, symbols, and artifacts, over time. This process is dynamic and can be influenced by various factors such as technological advancements, economic shifts, political developments, environmental changes, and social interaction

Factors Influencing Cultural Change:

- **Technological Advancements:** Innovations such as the internet have facilitated globalization and information sharing, altering how societies function and interact.
- **Economic Changes:** Economic developments can reshape social structures and relationships within a community.
- **Political Factors:** Changes in governance, laws, and policies can redefine cultural norms and societal values.

Factors Influencing Cultural Change:

- **Environmental Factors:** Environmental challenges, like climate change, compel societies to modify their cultural practices to ensure sustainability.
- **Social Interactions and Migration:** Increased interaction among diverse groups leads to cultural exchanges, resulting in the blending or emergence of new cultural forms.

Factors Influencing Cultural Change:

- Understanding cultural change is crucial for comprehending how societies adapt and evolve in response to internal developments and external influences. It provides insight into the resilience and flexibility of human cultures in the face of ongoing global transformations.