

# What is a Priority Queue?

- A Priority Queue is a special type of queue
- Each element has an associated priority
- Element with higher priority is served first
- Order is based on priority, not arrival time
- If priorities are same, FIFO rule is followed
- Commonly implemented using a Heap data structure

# ? Why Priority Queue is Important?

- Executes important tasks first
- Improves performance & decision making
- Used in real-time systems
- Essential for system scheduling
- Core concept in DSA & interviews
- Helps manage limited resources efficiently

# Types of Priority Queue

## **Max Priority Queue**

- Highest priority element is removed first
- Maximum value = highest priority
- Implemented using Max Heap

## **Min Priority Queue**

- Lowest priority element is removed first
- Minimum value = highest priority
- Implemented using Min Heap



# Time Complexity of Priority Queue *(Heap Based)*

- Insert:  $O(\log n)$
- Delete (Remove Highest/Lowest):  $O(\log n)$
- Peek (Get top element):  $O(1)$
- Search:  $O(n)$



# **Priority Queue Using Array or Linked List** *(Why Inefficient?)*

# Why Heap is Best Choice for Priority Queue?

# Real Life Use Cases of Priority Queue