Unit 3

Social Processes

Social processes are the ways in which individuals and groups interact, adjust and readjust and establish relationships and pattern of behaviour which are again modified through social interactions.The concept of social process refers to some of the general and recurrent forms that social interaction may take. The process of socio-cultural development is developed with the different types of practices. Society is not separate from different individuals and their activities who are involved in this process.For those activities, there are actions and interactions and reactions among individuals and groups.This process is continuing in a family,organizations,communities and in a nation.society is the network of relations, so various types of practices,continuity of behavior, manner of responsibility and other aspects which are involved in society to fulfill the particular aims or objectives are called social processes.

Ginsberg “Social process mean the various modes of interaction between individuals or groups including cooperation and conflict. Social differentiation and integration development arise and decay.”

Characteristics of social process

* Depend upon social interaction
* Reciprocal interaction
* Continuous process
* Helps to bring change
* Has the nature of cooperation and conflict
* Revision of social behavior
* Interaction between individuals

Acculturation

Acculturation refers to the social process in which contact between different cultural groups lead to the acquisition of new cultural patterns by one or perhaps both groups adaptation of all or parts of other cultures. It refers to the phenomena which results when groups of individuals having different cultures come into continuous contact with subsequent changes in the original cultural patterns of both cultures. It is the process where people accept the culture of others either force or by their own interest. Thus it is a two way process where the culture of one group can change or exchange their cultural patterns as the result of first hand contact with other group. Long time and continuous contact is necessary for both groups to enter into acculturation. These groups consists of changing pattern of their way of life .It starts from the cultural contact of individuals or community whose involvement in more than one culture.

M.J. Herskovits: “Acculturation is the process of combination of cultural elements from different societies into new whole.”

W.E. Moore “The term acculturation has come to mean the transfer of cultural or social elements from one society to another.”

Characteristics

1. Two way process

2. Depend upon social interaction

3. Continuous process

4. Changes in the way of life

5. Universal process

6. Changes occurs voluntary or by force

7. Initial stage of assimilation

8. Process of cultural diffusion

9. Cultural transmission process

Assimilation

Assimilation is the process whereby persons and groups acquire the culture of other group in which they come to live, by adopting its attitudes and values, its patterns of thinking and behaving in short its way of life. Acculturation is the first stage of adopting other’s culture and its assimilation. In assimilation process, one totally leaves his/her culture and other’s culture. In the process of interaction between different groups, the minority groups are affected by the activities of majority group and they adopt the culture from minority group in the long period.

Sammuel Koenig “Assimilation is the process whereby persons and groups acquire the culture of another groups.”

Bogardus: “Assimilation is a process whereby attitudes of many person are united and thus development into a united group.”

Characteristics

1. Slow and continuous process

2. Two way process

3. Universal process

4. This process starts from acculturation

5. It is a cultural learning process

Factors favoring Assimilation

Assimilation is a process in which persons and groups acquire the culture of another group and forget their own culture. So flexibility is necessary to understand and to acquire other’s culture otherwise the conflict will be created in society. On the other hand, this process appears in society willingly or unwillingly, directly or indirectly. There are some factors which makes assimilation possible is as follows:

1. Education

2. Intimate social relationship

3. Frequently cultural contact

4. Equal social and economic opportunity

5. Inter- caste marriage

6. Tolerance

7. Absence of discrimination

8. Absence of value and power conflict

9. Demographic situation

Enculturation

It is a process in which individual learns his own or particular cultural tradition. A person born anywhere begins immediately, through the process of conscious or unconscious learning and interaction with others and has the knowledge of the cultural tradition. The parents, grand parents, means of communication real life, teachers, various institutions, associations etc are the major agents of enculturation process.

Steward and Glynn: It is a process by which people acquire the beliefs, attitudes, values and customs of their culture.”

H.M. Jonson: “It is learning that enables the learner to perform social rules”

Characteristics

1. It is a learning process

2. Ti is related to time and space

3. It is the process of becoming a functioning member of society

4. It helps to develop the personality and self attitude of the individual

5. It is the adoptive and continuous process

6. It is a lifelong process where a individual learns his own culture

7. It is universal process

Conflict

Conflict is always a conscious activity or action. Individuals and groups who are involved in conflict are aware of the fact that they are conflicting. It is ever-present process in human society. It is one of the forms of struggle between individuals or groups. It is the condition of oppositional thought, feeling and opinion etc. Conflict is a continuous process of society because of unequal distribution of source and exploitation, aggression, suppression, discrimination etc. True equality is difficult to exist in society and conflict is continuous till the establishment of such condition.

A.W.Green: “Conflict is the deliberate attempt to oppose or resist the will of another group.”

Gillin and Gillin: “Conflict is the social process in which individuals or groups seek their ends by directly challenge the antagonist by violence or threat of violence.”

Characteristics

- It is continuous process

- It is universal

- Social, political, economic and psychological nature

- The main cause of conflict is opposite thoughts, selfishness and discrimination.

- The nature of conflict may local, national and international.

- It is a conscious action.

- Conflict may be both positive and negative in nature.

Socialization

- For sociology and anthropology, socialization means converting a biological being into a socio-cultural being.

- It is also referred as a process of achieving socio cultural personality to make oneself a full member of society.

-Socialization is a learning process or learned behavior.

- A person learns something from individuals, groups, or society, from his beginning to death.

- A person doesn’t become a social being while he was born, when he get interaction in his socio cultural process then only he became a social being.

- It is a lifelong process. Human learns in every stage of his life.

- It is a process makes man a social being.

- It is universal process

-It is applied on all level, class and age group of the people.

- From this process a person identifies his identification, positions and responsibility.

Definitions of Socialization

Lundberg: “Socialization consists of the complex process of interaction through which the individual learns the habits, skills, beliefs, and standard of judgment that are necessary for his effective participation in social group and community.”

Talcott Parsons:”Socialization is a process making system of lifestyle of a person by adopting norms and values of society.”

Agents of Socialization

Primary and Informal Agency

1. Family
2. Peer group
3. Neighborhood
4. Kin group
5. Marriage

Secondary and Formal Agency

1. Educational institutions
2. Political institution
3. Economic institution
4. Religious institution
5. State
6. Communication
7. Cultural institutions

Stages of Socialization

1. Oral Stage: ( 0 – 18 month)
2. Anal Stage: ( 18 month – 4 year)
3. Opeipus/ Identification stage ( 4 Y. – 13)
4. Adolescence stage ( 13 – 19)
5. Young stage( 19 -35)
6. Adult stage ( 35- 50)
7. Old stage ( 50 +)

Significance of socialization

* Socialization converts man, the biological being into a socio-cultural being
* It contributes to the development of personality
* Helps to become disciplined
* Helps to enact different role
* Provides the knowledge of skill
* Contributes to the stability of the social order
* Provides scope for building the bright future

Helps to develop right aspiration

**Social and cultural change**

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**Social and Cultural Change**

* Change is the law of nature.
* Society and culture also not at all static phenomenon, but it is a dynamic entity.
* Society and culture of today is different from the society and culture of before.
* The social system, sub-system, structures, functions and the setting all are changing due to various causes.
* Every society and culture, no matter how traditional and conservative, is constantly undergoing change.
* Social change is that change which takes place in the change of human interactions and interrelations.
* Society is a web of social relationship, thus social change obviously means a change in the pattern of social relationship.
* The term social change is used to indicate the alterations or change in social interaction, social relations, social process, social organization, social structure, function, problem etc.
* The way of entire livelihood system of human is culture which is manmade part of the environment
* The changes which occur on particularly on particularly on social values, beliefs, tradition, customs, art, technology, mode of production, laws, moral grounds, etc are called cultural change.
* The structure of health system and the process were also adopted and have been changed with the development means and demand of time.
* Health Care practice or self medication practice was reducing because of the health institutions came with various package and programme.

**Definitions**

Kingsley Davis: “By social change is meant only such alterations as occur in social organization that is structure and functions of society.”

M.E. Jones: “Social change is a term used to describe variations in or modifications of any aspect of social processes, social patterns, social interactions or social organizations.”

MacIver: “Social change is change in human relationship.”

Kingsley Davis: “Cultural change embraces all changes occurring in any branch of culture including art, science, technology, philosophy, etc as well as in the forms and rules of social organization.”

**Nature or Characteristics of social change**

1. Social change is continuous.
2. Impossibility of prediction.
3. Planned and unplanned in nature.
4. Lack of uniformity in speed.
5. Result from interaction of numbers of factors.
6. General law.
7. Chain change.
8. Universal phenomena.
9. Social in nature.

**Nature or characteristics of cultural change**

1. Regular process.
2. Change in whole life style and behaviour.
3. Broad change
4. Material and non-material change.
5. Change in art, law, literature, language, civilization, philosophy, custom, norms, values, and belief system.
6. General law
7. Change in fording and dressing.
8. Mainly affected by diffusion, adaptation, developmental activities and acculturation.
9. Helps for social change.

**Factors of Social and Cultural Change**

1. Demographic Factor
2. Technological ,,
3. Geographical ,,
4. Economic ,,
5. Political ,,
6. Psychological ,,
7. Ideological ,,

**Consequences of social and cultural change**

* Change in social relation.
* Change in custom and tradition
* Change in whole life style and behavior
* Change in material and non material culture
* Change in social problem
* Change in the form of social interaction
* Change in medical sector
* Industrialization
* Urbanization
* Modernization
* Development of Means of Transport and Communication
* Changes in norms and values
* Technology and war
* Change in social institution

Caste/ Ethnicity based Stratification

The Nepalese caste system is the traditional system of social stratification of Nepal. The Nepalese caste system broadly borrows the classical Hindu Chaturvarnashram model consisting of four broad social classes or varna: Brahmin, Kshatriya, Vaishya, Sudra.

Gender based stratification

masculine and feminine can mean different things. It refers to the biological differences between male and female. ;enders refers to the comple# of social meaning that is attached to biological se#. ;ender is a part of social structure! a set of social and cultural practices thatreflect assumption about differences between male and female. ;ender is a social institution as itaffects the role man and women play in the society. ;ender involves differences in power i.e.gender assigns in ways that afford women fewer opportunities and privileges than men enjoy.;ender is a cultural construct as gender shapes the e#pectations of men and women differently.;ender role is based on inequality of se# i.e. boys are more physically active than girls, girls tendto be more verbal than boys, boy tend to be aggressive and girl tend to be more compliant, menvalue independence and achievement and women value intimacy and attachment, men are actionoriented and women are people oriented. In no society males and females do the same thing ,occupy the same statutes, share identical interests, conforms to the same norms, aspire to thesame &ind of achievement. It is wrong to assume that se#ual differentiation is basically a biological and not a cultural one. There are some communities where women are dominant andthey possesses the power i.e. matriarchy.

The functionalist view

=unctionalist maintain that gender stratification is rooted in the biological differences betweenthe se#es. Throughout the history, preg

Religion based stratification

Ecological based stratification