

# COMMUNITY

## MODULE 1

# WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY COMMUNITY?

- A **community** is a social unit (a group of living things) with commonality such as norms, religion, values, customs, or identity. Communities may share a sense of place situated in a given geographical area (e.g. a country, village, town, or neighbourhood) or in virtual space through communication platforms. Durable relations that extend beyond immediate genealogical ties also define a sense of community, important to their identity, practice, and roles in social institutions such as family, home, work, government, society, or humanity at large group.<sup>1</sup> Although communities are usually small relative to personal social ties, "community" may also refer to large group affiliations such as national communities, international communities, and virtual communities etc. In **other sense, Community is a** broad topic within **sociology**, the social sciences generally, and indeed even in the natural and physical sciences. ... First, a **community is a** group of people who interact with one another, for example, as friends or neighbors living in a particular territory or group in a society where they have "WE-FEELING" "WITH EACH OTHER". Where they share their emotions, sentiments and live in a particular group to form a society.

# Basic elements

- **Basic Elements of Community – Sociology Notes**
- The basic elements of community are discussed as under
- **Locality**
- Locality means a community occupies a territorial area permanent or changing. The people are having belonging to their locality and develop “we” feeling with each other.
- **Sentiments**
- The community sentiment is the social coherence, which the people inculcate within themselves. This sense of belonging together and to the residence is the real sentiment of community. Hence a common way of life of people along with its awareness on a common territory is a community.
- **Wider Ends**
- Everyone in community share some of their interest. They combine not for the execution of a specific end. The ends are wider and people work in group to accomplish some interests.
- **Group of People**
- Community is the totality of individuals with similar conditions of life. Thus it is a group of a people living together similarly.

# FROM WHICH WORD IT DERIVED?

- The word "community" is derived from the Old French *communauté* which is derived from the Latin *communitas* (*cum*, "with/together" + *munus*, "gift"), a broad term for fellowship or organized society.

# DEFINATIONS

- Definitions
- By, MacIver and Page
- “ Whenever the members of any group , small or large live together in such a way that they share, not this or that particular interest, but the basic conditions of a common life, we call that group a community.”
- By, Ogburn and Nimkoff
- “A community may be thought of as the total organisation of social life within a limited area.”

# DEFINATIONS

- “A society that inhabits a definite geographic
- area is known as a community”(by Max Weber)

# DIMENSIONS

- Dimensions of Community
- Community has three Dimensions:
  - 1. Geographical: Communities are settlements, they can usually be located on maps.
  - 2. Psychological Psychological: The people of an ideal community share a common culture: a common set of beliefs, values and norms.
  - . 3. Organizational: Societies and institutions within them are collections of norms and roles that govern and channel social interaction. Community members are expected to be familiar with the entire system of norms and roles.

# ELEMENTS

- Elements of Community
- 1. Territory: The group of people forms a community when it begins to reside in a definite locality. A community always occupies a territorial area. The area need not be fixed forever.
- 2. We-Feeling: We – feeling means that members of a community have a feeling feeling of belonging belonging together, together, it also refers of the awareness gives them a degree of toleration about others' sentiments.
- 3. Commonness: Community means people sharing a common way of life. As a result of collective participation in the affairs and the prevalent mode of life in the community, there grows a sense of mutual identifications of hopes and aspirations among members.
- 4. Ideology: The members of community share a common ideology in their mind.



# FEATURES

- . Features of Community
- .1 Group of People: Group of people share the basic conditions of common life. Group members can act collectively in an organised manner
- . 2. Permanency: Includes permanent group life in definite place community is relatively stable.
- 3. Naturality :Community is established in a normal and natural way, they are not made or created by an act of will or by planned efforts. Individual become members of the group by birth. Community is spontaneous in their origin.
- 4. Likeness: Language, practices, customs, traditions, folkways, mores are common. People share the common way of life and works through customs and traditions.
- Wider Ends: People associate not for the fulfillment of a particular end, they are natural and wider but not artificial. The membership of community is of wide significance.
- Particular name: Each community will have its own specified name indicating the reality in individuality and describes the total personalities.
- 7. Legal Status: Community has no legal status.

# CONCLUSION

- Traditionally a "community" has been defined as a group of interacting people living in a common location. The word is often used to refer to a group that is organized around common values and is attributed with social cohesion within a shared geographical location, generally in social units larger than a household. So, Community is a people living within a geographical area in common inter-dependence. It exists within the society. It is bound by the territorial units. It is a specific group while society is abstract. "Community living is natural to man".