

Reading note by Dharma Kumari Kalakhethi
Sukuna Multiple Campus, Morang
B.Ed. ICT (2076)

Unit-II

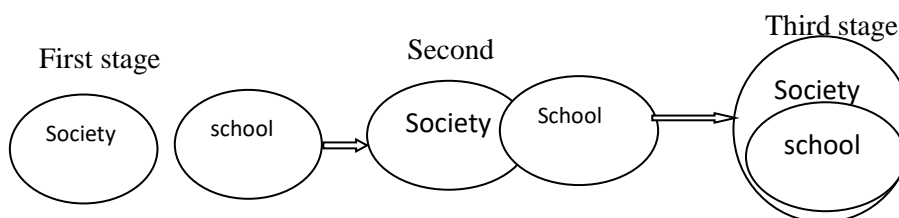
The School and Society

Schools as a subsystem of society

Schools are considered as a subsystem of society. Society is a complete system in which its members are interrelated to each other in the form of interdependency. The members of a society function connectively for the continuation and progress of society. They follow certain code of conduct for this purpose. Therefore; every society is actively involved towards the socialization of its future members. Different social agencies such as family, society, community, peers take the responsibility of socialization of future members of a society. Among them school can be considered as an agency of socialization, which functions systematically and in the formal manner.

School is the place of formal education. They are established by the society. Society looks after the schools and protects them. Society is one of the most influencing factors for determination of curriculum for school.

In the beginning of the rise of schools, they were developed independent to the society. At first, schools were developed to preserve and propagate knowledge. Scholars worked independently from society. However the knowledge developed and disseminated in schools had social importance. It developed the proximity between these institutions. Society tended to utilize schools for their welfare. With the rise of human civilization, the schools begin to play role of formal agencies of socialization, where the future members of a society were trained to be a well functioning member of the society. Now school have been developed as a subsystem of society, which act purposefully toward the socialization of the young ones. The evolution schools as a subsystem of society can be described in three stages. The following diagram can present these stages:



In the first stage, school and societies functioned independently. When societies perceived the importance of schooling and schools worked for smooth functioning of societies. Both institutions came near at the second stage developed. Now schools have become a part of society. In the absence of schools, societies cannot function smoothly and in the absence of the social assistance, schools cannot work properly. The societies of present time use schools as an agency of socialization for future generations. In this situation, schools have been turned as a subsystem of society.

The characteristic of school as a subsystem of society

1. It helps to turn society in the right direction
2. Education system emerges as a final outcome of the working and dynamics of different institutions of society
3. Educations become the essential agent in building social individualism

4. Educational institutions provide one to interact with the people from the other castes and culture

Relation between school and society

At present time, intimate relationship has been developed between school and society. This relationship has become so intimate that one can not imagine the existence of one in the absence of other. Schools are dependent on society for their preservation and societies depend on school for their continuation and development. All the societies change in accordance with the change brought by education and education cannot change itself until the cultural changes. The relationship between school and society can be highlighted with the help of the following points;

1. Relation between education and culture
2. Education as transmission of culture
3. School as social determinant
4. Education and social structure
5. Education as social interaction

2. Socialization <http://www.studylecturenotes.com/social-sciences/sociology/125-socialization>

The act of adapting behavior to the norms of a culture or society is called *socialization*. It can also mean going out and meeting people or hanging out with friends.

Learning the customs, attitudes, and values of a social group, community, or culture is socialization. Socialization is essential for the development of individuals who can participate and function within their societies, as well as for ensuring that a society's cultural features will be carried on through new generations. Socialization is most strongly enforced by family, school, and peer groups and continues throughout an individual's lifetime.

Human beings are social animals they take birth in society. They live and die in society. The existence of any individual person cannot be imagined outside the society. Society is a collection of individuals having a common culture values and feeling of unity. All these cultures, values and feeling of unity are the products of their struggle for existence. This struggle becomes successful because of their collective efforts, in which all the people play different roles in society. This relation should be continued not only for benefit of the society but also for the individuals, therefore socialization has become a must for the existence of society and individuals. Aristotle has said, "Man is a social organism who does not live in society can be only an animal or the God" The interdependence of people compels themselves to live in the society. All the people are interdependent to each other. One person cannot do all the things which are needed for his or her existence. For example, a farmer

grows food, a weaver weaves clothes, a physician cures others, a teacher teaches students but they are interdependent on each other for other needs. They cannot do all the above mentioned duties only by themselves. They are dependent on other for fulfillment of many of their needs. They provide service to others and also enjoy service of others. Therefore, all people are compelled to live in society. Their existence is not possible outside the society.

Every society has its own values, beliefs and norms. A society can only exist when all the members of it follow these rules. The process of learning these rules is called socialization process. Learning these rules is called socialization process. It is the process of changing from "I" feeling to "we feeling" when the individual accept others' existence and accepts oneself as the member of a group, only then he or she can be considered as being socialization.

All the persons take birth as a "biological organism". As a biological organism, they take birth with some fundamental needs such as hunger, thirst, pain and pleasure. They can be compared with an animal due to these needs. But when they are socialized, they identify themselves as the member of some specified group. It is called the process of socialization. This process of socialization can be defined as a process of transformation of a person from a biological organism to a social organism.

Different scholars have defined socialization in the following ways:

1. **D. Macdonald** "The life long process by which an individual becomes the proper member of society and develops human characteristics."
2. **Horton and Hunt** "It is a learning process in which groups interact and learn social norms also develop his/her self."
3. **Definition of Socialization according to Ogburn:** "It is the process of learning the norms of the group and society"
4. **Maciver:** "It is the process through which social beings develop relationships and association with each other."
5. **Bogardus:** "A process of learning to live and work together is called socialization."

In this way, socialization is a process of internalization of the value system, norms, culture and belief system of a group, which is named as the society. It is the group, to which the individuals belong. The individual socializes himself for the purpose of his existence in the society. Socialization is a process that interacts with others and shapes as well as molds his/her personality according to the prescribed norms of a **society**.

Functions of Socialization in the Society

1. It converts humans from biological being to social being
2. It contributes in personality development
3. It helps to become disciplined
4. It helps to perform different roles
5. It establishes knowledge and skills
6. It contributes in the stability of social order

7. It transmits culture from one generation to other
8. It creates right aspirations in social life

Socialization Conclusion

On the basis of the above definitions we can conclude that **socialization is a learning process through which an individual adjust himself in society and fine his role and position in society.**

Importance of socialization

Every society has its own values, norms, beliefs, tradition, discipline, rules etc. each member of the society should be acquainted with these systems of society. It is need for them to be a responsible members of the society. It is need for them to be a responsible members of the society and if is also essential for the members of the society to act advantage. Socialization transfers these values, norms, beliefs, tradition, discipline rules to the members of the society to turn them as a responsible member of it. It shapes an individual's behavior according to social expectations. An individual can contribute to the development of society only after being socialize. Social development is dependent on after being socialized. Social development is dependent on individual development of people in society and vice- versa in this way, socialization contributes both to the development of society as well as the development of individual.

Importance of socialization in our life can hardly be exaggerated. The following description makes it very clear.

1. Socialization converts man, the biological being into man, the social being.

Man is not born social; He becomes social by virtue of the process of socialization. Various instances like-that of Kaspar Hauser, Anna, the wolf children of India and others have made it very clear that only through constant training the newborn child becomes social in nature.

2. Socialization contributes to the development of personality.

Personality is a product of society. In the absence of groups or society, no man can develop a personality of his own. But socialization is a process through which the personality of the new born child is shaped and molded. Through the process, the child learns an approved way of social life. At the same time, it also provides enough scope for the individual to develop his individuality.

3. Helps to became disciplined.

Socialization is social learning. Social learning is essentially the learning of rules of social behavior. It is the values, ideals, aims and objectives of life and the means of attaining them. Socialization disciplines an individual and helps him to live according to the social expectations.

4. Helps to enact different roles.

Every individual has to enact different roles in his life. Every role is woven around norms and is associated with different attitudes. The process of socialization assists an individual not only to learn the norms associated with roles but also to develop appropriate attitudes to enact those roles.

5. Provides the knowledge of skills.

Socialization is a way of training the newborn individual in certain skills, which are required to lead a normal social life. These skills help the individual to play economic, professional, educational, religious and political roles in his latter life. In primitive societies for, example, imparting skills to the younger generation in specific occupations was an important aspect of socialization.

6. Helps to develop right aspiration in life.

Every individual may have his own aspirations; ambitions and desires in life. All these aspirations may not always be in consonance with the social interests. Some of them even be opposed to the communal interests. But through the process of socialization an individual learns to develop those aspirations. Which are complementary to the interests of society. Socialization helps him to direct or channelize his whole energy for the realization of those aspirations.

7. Contributes to the stability of the social order.

It is through the process of socialization that every new generation is trained acceding to the Cultural goals, ideals, and expectations of a society. It assures the cultural continuity of the society. At the same time, it provides enough scope for variety and new achievements. Every new generation need not start its social life a fresh. It can conveniently rely on the earlier generation and follow in cultural traditions. In this regard, socialization contributes to the stability of the social order.

8. Helps to reduce social distance.

Socialization reduces social distance and brings people together if proper attention is given to it. By giving proper training and guidance to the children during their early years, it is possible to reduce the social distance between people of different castes, races, regions, religions and professions.

9. Provides scope for building the bright future

Socialization is one of the powerful instruments of changing the destiny of mankind. It is through the process of socialization that a society can produce a generation of its expectations can be altered significantly. The

improvement of socialization offers one of the greatest possibilities for the future alteration of human nature and human society- Kingsley Davis.

In short, the importance of socialization can be presented as below:

1. It teaches fundamental abilities needed for an individual in society.
2. It installs the social aspiration into the thoughts of an individual.
3. It teaches about the skill needed to an individual to be an important member for society.
4. It teaches the individuals different behavior needed for the fulfillment of their role in the society.
5. It teaches the individual to accept and act according to societal needs. It transforms the individual from biological beings to social beings.
6. It inculcates democratic behavior among individuals. It develops the feeling of coexistence among the members of the society

2.3 Agencies of education and socialization

Agents of socialization, or institutions that can impress social norms upon an individual are **family, religion, peer groups, economic systems, legal systems, language, media**, etc.

In general, it may be said that the total society is the agency for socialization.

Each person with whom one comes into contact and interact is in some way an agent of socialization. Socialization is found in all interactions but **the most influential interaction occurs in particular groups which are referred to as agencies of socialization.**

There are various agencies, which play important roles in socialization. The agencies are:

According to sociologist Brown

1. Formal agencies

- School
- Museums
- Libraries
- Religious institutions
- Art galleries

2. Non formal agencies

- Home and Family
- Play Group
- Society and communication

3. Commercial Agencies or Group

- Radio
- Television
- News Paper and Magazine
- Dancing Hall
- Theatre

4. Non – commercial agencies

- Dramatic club
- Sports club
- Social welfare agencies
- Youth welfare agencies
- Adult education society

There are mainly two type of agencies of socialization

1. Active Agencies

- Home and Family
- School
- Religious institutions
- Peer group
- Play Group
- Society and communication

1. Passive Agencies

- Radio
- Television
- News Paper and Magazine
- Dancing Hall
- Theatre
- Media

1. Family

Family is the primary agent of socialization. It is here where the child develops an initial sense of self and habit-training—eating, sleeping etc. There is no better way to start than to talk about the role of family in our social development, as family is usually considered to be the most important agent of socialization. As infants, we are

completely dependent on others to survive. Our parents and family members are responsible for teaching us to function and care for ourselves. Along with the rest of our family, they also teach us about close relationships, group life, and how to share resources. Additionally, they provide us the system of values, norms, and beliefs - a system that is usually a reflection of their own social status, religion, ethnic group, and more.

2. Schools

The next important agent of childhood socialization is the school. Schools socialize children by teaching them their formal curricula but also a hidden curriculum that imparts the cultural values of the society in which the schools are found. In school, we also learn social skills through our interactions with teachers, staff, and other students. Schools also socialize children by teaching them about citizenship and national pride

3. Peers

Besides the family and school, the peer group (the people of their own age and similar social status) and playmates highly influence the process of socialization. Peer groups give us an opportunity as children to form relationships with others on our own terms. Peer groups are formed as a playgroup. This playgroup includes the children of the same age group and they have the relationship of equal status. So it has the vast effect on the behavior of child.

There are different types of peer group which influence the behavior of the child

-Early child group 2-6 (child learns first social behavior)

-Child hood stage (6-12)

-Adolescence (13-18)

They learn to compete, to co-operate, to follow the discipline, to lead (for leadership).

4. Mass media:

Media refers to medium. The early form of media is **print media (newspaper, magazines and books)**.

Later came electronic communication (radio, TV, mobile etc.) media. The media is playing a central role in shaping the personality of the individuals. Since the last century, technological innovations such as radio, motion pictures, recorded music and television have become important agents of socialization.

They are helpful in creating public opinion. They have become a great medium for spreading cultural effects.

They are changing the culture of modern people to a large extent at present time.

5. Political, religious and economic groups(Association media):

There are many external agencies, which can influence the socialization process of a child in direct or indirect manner. Among these agencies, political, religious economic groups are the prominent agencies. They deeply affect socialization process. Political group spread ideologies (राजनीतिक विचारहरू फैलाउछन् ।) and unite people based on it. They also influence the behavior of an individual to a large extent. When political parties give political or ideological education to the children, the children are directed to follow a political line. Along with the politics, the children are indirectly being socialized. Similarly, religious doctrine - शिद्धान्त) is a binding thread (मानिसलाई एकआपसमा बाँध्ने धागो हो) for a group of people. It also influences the behavior of an individual. People of the religious groups are also teaching people/ children to socialize.

2.1 Educational system and the environment

1. Home and family influence on school

The home environment provides the foundation for learning. This factor highly affects grades the students education and his/her grades. It is said that education success is positively impacted by home learning opportunities such as parents reading to their children, trips to the library, and resources encouraging play with letters and numbers.

When a child misbehaves or fails to meet expectations at school, the child's home and family life should be considered. There are many cases in schools which have direct relation with their home. Several family factors can affect a child's behavior and ability to perform in the classroom. These include **economic stability, changes in family relationships, parental attitudes toward education and incidents of child abuse and so on.**

Economic Stability

Poverty can affect school readiness in many ways. Children from lower-income homes often experience carelessness, a lack of supervision, poor nutrition and poor role-modeling. Studies have shown that children from impoverished families tend to score lower in communication and vocabulary skills, knowledge of numbers, ability to copy and recognize symbols, concentration, and teamwork and cooperative play. Another research has shown that children from low-income families receive less positive parenting and lower levels of cognitive development.

Changes in family relationships

Divorce has long been linked to behavior problems, anxiety and depression in children. This is often because single-parent homes are struggling with their own feelings of depression and anxiety.

Parental attitudes towards education

Children learn first by mimicking (imitating) behavior of parents. They see model for them. Studies show a positive correlation between the parents' level of education and their child's attitudes toward academic achievement (अध्ययनहरूले देखाएअनुसार अभिभावको शिक्षाको स्तर र बच्चाको शैक्षिक उपलब्धीका बीच सकारात्मक सहसम्बन्ध

हुनन्छ). Children who have parents who encourage academic success are more likely to develop their own aspirations for higher education. In this way, parent education is a good predictor of a child's academic success.

- Parents are responsible for ensuring that their children are well-fed, well-rested, happy and calm. So, creating a positive physical and mental atmosphere in the home helps prepare students to be ready and able to learn. Parental overprotectiveness, authoritarianism, disapproval and punishment often have a negative correlation with student learning.

Child abuse

Child abuse can happen by way of physical abuse (child labor), emotional abuse, neglect, sexual abuse or substance abuse in the home. It is said that victims of child abuse are known to be at high risk for engaging in risky behaviors and acting out in school. They might have problems socializing with other children and adults and completing on assignments.

2. Influence of religion on school

Simply said, religion describes and shapes the social order . Shaping occurs through a fusion of practiced rituals and interactions between men. Men come together in religion for a common purpose with shared beliefs. Shared beliefs and knowledge become important for interactions.

Historically, leaders from Muslim, Christian, Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish, and Catholic faiths have urged for humanity to live in harmony and respect .They have advocated for peaceful interactions. For instance, Gandhi began created communities for people of different backgrounds and beliefs to come together and collaborate. He also regularly dialogued with people from various belief systems. Pope John Paul II also advocated for peaceful interactions between people associated with different religions.

Historically, religion and education have a close relationship. Historians and social scientists have written about this relationship. They have also written about how the two may influence each other. In many instances, facilities are built by religious leaders and organizations to promote learning and spread the faith. In India, the most educated men (and sometimes women) of ancient times were residents of Buddhist and Hindu monasteries. In the Middle East and Europe, Christian monks built libraries. In many cases, these religious monasteries evolved into universities.

Islam

Experts note that the first word of the Quran, as it was revealed to Prophet Muhammad, is “Iqra!” which means “Read!” or “Recite!”. Early Muslims made original intellectual contributions in such fields as

mathematics, astronomy, philosophy, medicine and poetry. They established schools, often at mosques, known as *katatib* and *madrasas*. Nowadays, Islamic religious leaders and religious schools still have great influence on education in some Muslim-majority countries. In Nepal, there are madarsa (Muslim religious schools) which are giving education to the Muslim children.

Christianity

In the view of some scholars, the 16th-century Protestant Reformation was a driving force for public education in Europe. Protestant reformers promoted literacy. They said that everyone needed to read the Bible. Motivated by this theological belief, religious leaders supported the building of schools and the translation of the Bible into local languages.

Buddhism

Scholars of Buddhism note that Siddhartha Gautama, the religion's founder, often is called "teacher" because of his emphasis on "the miracle of instruction." He considered learning essential for attaining the Buddhist goal of enlightenment. "In many ways, Buddhism is particularly dedicated to education.

From around the fifth century onward, Buddhist monasteries emerged as centers of education, not just for monks but also for laymen (सर्वसाधारणकालागि समेत). Several monasteries (गुम्बाहरू) became so large and complex that they are considered examples of today's universities. In India, the most famous of these educational centers – Nalanda, in what is now Bihar state – is said to have had 10,000 students from many different countries. They are offered courses in philosophy, politics, economics, law, agriculture, astronomy (ज्योतिष विज्ञान), medicine and literature.

Hinduism

Education has been highly valued in Hinduism since ancient times. Hindu scriptures (धर्मग्रन्थहरू) advise devotees to search knowledge through dialogue and questioning, and to respect their teachers. Learning is considered as a good and a meaningful life. Since ignorance is regarded as a source of human suffering. In the same way, the solution to the problem of ignorance is knowledge or learning. The most authoritative Hindu scriptures are the Vedas, a word that comes from the Sanskrit root word *vd*, which means knowledge. Hindus regard two types of knowledge as necessary and worthwhile. The first, *vidya*, is **everyday knowledge** that encourages us to earn a honest and noble life. The second, *jnana*, is knowledge or wisdom that brings awareness of the divine. This is achieved by reading and meditating on Hindu scriptures.

3. Financing of schools

Financing has a great influence in education in schools. Some schools have good buildings, furnitures but some schools do not have such facilities. The implementation of the right to education requires funding in order to build schools, pay teachers' salaries and training, provide teaching materials, etc. According to international law, states/ countries have the obligation to use the maximum of their available resources to realise the right to education (राज्यले शिक्षाको अधिकारलाई साकार पार्न बढि भन्दा बढी आफ्नो स्रोतलाई प्रयोग गर्नुपर्ने अन्तराष्ट्रिय कानुनी बाध्यता छ). Even when a state's resources are very limited, it is compulsory to give priority to certain obligations, such as the introduction of **free primary education** and to **guarantee education for all without discrimination**. It is also good to provide progressively free secondary and higher education and to continuously improve the quality of education. This means that it must take immediate and progressive steps to fully realise the right to education.

To implement the right to education effectively, states should ensure that a **sufficient amount of the national budget to education financing** and that the money is used effectively and equitably to guarantee education for all, as well as **redress inequalities**.

International Declarations, such as the [2011 Jomtien Statement](#), recognise that states should spend at least **6% of their GDP and /or at least 20% of their national budgets on education** in order to achieve quality education for all. In some states, the national education budget is guaranteed by the constitution .

4. Influence of political and legal institution on schools

Political institutions are the organizations in a government which create, enforce, and apply laws. They often mediate conflict, make (governmental) policy on education and social systems. The political institutions are those bodies—parties, legislatures, and heads of state—which make up the whole mechanism of modern governments.

Parties, Trade Unions, and Courts

In addition, political institutions include political party organizations, trade unions, and the (legal) courts. The term 'Political Institutions' may also refer to the recognized structure of rules and principles within

which the above organizations operate concepts as the right to vote, a responsible government, and accountability.

Influence of community on schools

The school is a social institution and agent of socialization. It needs to have a good relationship with immediate and far communities. Two way relationship always exists between the school and the community which leads to the success of the two. School-community relationship is a two-way symbiotic arrangement through which the school and community cooperate with each other for realization of goals of the community and vice versa. Therefore, a school is a mini society that needs a good relationship with the community for it to function effectively. On the other hand, the community also needs school for its survival and progress.

The responsibility of influencing and shaping the behavior of youths is a collective responsibility of both the school and the community where the school is situated. The exchange of ideas between the school and the community on educational plans, policies, programmes, means and ends is necessary if accomplishment of educational goals is to be possible. The school head and staff need to have a good working relationship with the community in order to effectively achieve the general and specific objectives of the school. School-community relationship can take place between the school and the school parents' teachers' association, old students association, school committees. To realize the importance of school community relationship, government of Nepal has made some legal regulations to the schools such as forming school management committee, parent teacher association, etc.

<https://www.livestrong.com/article/217996-factors-affecting-early-child-development/>