

Concept: The term, sociology was used by a french philosopher and one of founding father of Sociology is Auguste Comte. Sociology is a science of society of social relationship. Study of human behavior in group, form of social relationship, social group or social system.

According to Max Weber "sociology is the science which attempt the interpretive understanding of Social action".

Thus sociology is the science which studies the social relationship that happen in the process of interaction and interrelation among individuals, social group. Some major steps for scientific research enterprises are:

- Define the problem of research.
- Review of literature or extensive literature survey.
- Plan the research design.
- Analyze the data statistically & logically.

### # Nature of sociology

Sociology has developed its own concrete body of knowledge, its organization in systematic order and the reliable methodologies. The following are the main characteristic of Sociology as enlisted:

1. Sociology is social science not Physical science
2. Sociology is an ~~it~~ independent science
3. Sociology is an abstract science not a concrete science.
4. Sociology is both a Rational and Empirical science.
5. Sociology is a pure science and not an applied science.
6. Sociology is general science and not a special social science.
7. Sociology is a generalizing and not a particularizing or individualizing science.
8. Sociology is a categorical and not normative discipline

+ Sociology is social science not Physical science:  
 Sociology is social science since it deals with social group behavior, social life as whole connecting human relationship with other social science.  
 There is a provision of subjective reality in social science rather than objective reality.

- Sociology is an independent Science:

As an independent science, Sociology has its own domain of research with rich subject matter. It has developed its own tools and techniques and procedure in order to study the contents scientifically. It is independent in subject matter and its research methods.

+ Sociology is a Generalizing science not particularizing science: Sociology is concerned with human interaction and human life in general. It studies human activities in general way. It often does not study in an individual level. It generalize as a whole.

+ Sociology is relatively an abstract science, not a concrete science: This does not mean that sociology is an art and not a science: It is unnecessarily complicated and unduly difficult. It only means that sociology is not concerned with particular the form of human event and there pattern.

+ Sociology is both a Rational and an Empirical Science: There are two broad way of approach to scientific knowledge. One known as Empiricism is the approach that result from observation and experimentation. The other, known as rationalism, stages reason and the theories that result from logical inference.

+ Sociology is a pure science and not applied science. Sociology is concerned with the acquisition of knowledge about human society and it is

not bothered about the use of that knowledge. But applied science is concerned with the use of the acquired knowledge into life to deal with problem.

- Sociology is a general science and not a special social science:  
The area of inquiry of sociology is vague and wide. It studies social interaction and inter-relation in general. While other social science like political science, history, economic etc, also study society and human interaction, but they focus on specific aspects of society.
- Sociology is a categorical and not a normative discipline.
- As a science, sociology is necessarily silent about question of value. It doesn't make any kind of value-judgment. It is ethically neutral, but doesn't mean that sociological knowledge is useless. It only means that sociology as a discipline can't deal with problems of good and evil, right and wrong, and moral or immoral.

## Scope of Sociology

In order to systematize the boundary of research with concrete methodology they have prescribed some area are:

- German / Specialist / formalist school of thought
- French / Synthetic / Informal school of thought

~~Some~~ - German / Specialist / formalist school of thought:  
 This school of thought believes that sociology is a specific, pure and independent science. It has limited scope. George Simmel is the founder of this thought. It is a specific social science and it should deal with social relationships from different angles. It need not study all the events connected with social science. Other sociologists such as Max Weber, van Wise, Tonnies advocated this thought.

### Criticism

- Emphasized on merely abstract form and neglected the concrete contents of social life.
- Distinction between the form of social relations and their content is not workable.
- Conception of pure sociology is not practical.
- Social science can be studied in isolation from other social science

## ii Synthetic school:

The school of thought believes that sociology should study society as a whole and not confine itself to the study of only limited social problems.

Different scholars have given their opinions described below:

Durkheim's views: They believe in the collection of people in society. When there is collection there must be majority of people hence it will be a social fact.

Gorsberg's views: Sociology seeks to provide a classification of type and form of social relationships especially of those which have come to defined institutions and associations.

## # Subject matter of sociology

Sociology is a distinct science with its own subject matter. It has accumulated a body of knowledge about society.

The subject matter of sociology are as follows:

1. Sociological Analysis: The major concern of sociology is sociological analysis. It means the sociologist seek to provide an analysis of human

society and culture with sociological perspective.

2. Study of primary unit of social life: Sociology has given sufficient attention to study of primary unit of social life such as social act and relationship.
3. Study of basic social institutions: Sociology is attempt to understand to development, structure and function of a wide variety of basic social institution and macro-social institution.
4. Study of social process: Sociology has due concern to fundamental social processes such as co-operation, competition, differentiation, social conflict, social evaluation etc.
5. formulation of concept, proposition and theories: In order to understand social phenomena, sociological study tries to formulate concept and theories which in turn help in conducting further study.
6. Method of Research: In order to conduct scientific sociological research various methods like observation, questionnaire, interview, case study etc. are applied and considered vital.

7. Specialization in study: In trying to resolve the problem specific social aspects, sociology tries to carry out its study on specific area of social life.

## # The Emergence of sociology as a scientific

Sociology has a long past, but only a short history. The study of human society in scientific way is said to have begun with August Comte. Its emergence as a discipline can be attributed to vast changes that took place in the nineteenth century.

- i. Ancient philosopher contribution (प्राचिन दर्शनिकहरूकी योगदान)
- ii. Reformation movement (सुदूर गुरुदी आनंदेश्वर)
- iii. French Political Revolution (फ्रेंच राजनीतिक क्रांति)
- iv. The Enlightenment Movement (रोशनका काली)
- v. Industrial Revolution (अर्थविकास काली)

i. Ancient philosopher's contribution: The ancient Greek philosopher like Plato, Aristotle and others described the very nature of society and emphasized the solution of problems of the society in order to make society a better place to live in.

ii Reformation Movement: New ideas in religion to attempt to reform the.

ii Reformation Movement: A reform movement advocate changing some norms or law while a radical movement is dedicated to changing value system in some fundamental way. It created an environment to change old ideas with the philosophy of religion.

iii French Political Revolution: During the French Revolution, which began in 1789, France's class system changed dramatically. Aristocrats suddenly lost their money and status while peasants who had been at the bottom of social ladder, to more powerful & influential position. The French revolution brought remarkable change to family after the Declaration of Human Right.

iv. Industrial Revolution: Industrial Revolution refer to the major transition of the world that took place in 1760 to 1830, from a completely agrarian, manual and handicraft economy to completely mechanized modern one dominated by technology. It brought rapid urbanization or the movement of people to cities. Almost overnight, small towns around coal or iron mines mushroomed into cities. A society driven by the use of technology

machinery to enable mass product, supporting a large population with a high capacity for division of labour. With the advancement of social science, it was acknowledged that these existing social problems could be studied under the methods of social survey, which is adopted by sociology.

### - Relationship of sociology with psychology

Social psychology deals with mental processes of man considered as a social being. It studies particularly the influence of group life in the mental development of individuals. On the other hand, sociology studies the various kind of groups which compose the society.

Social psychology has to depend on sociology to understand properly human nature and behaviour as it is sociology which provide the necessary mate of societies to which individual belong. As a result of the close relation between sociology and social psychology Karl Pearson does not accept the two as separate science.

Some differences between sociology and social psychology are as follows:

## Sociology

## Ph. Psychology

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|---|---|
| - It is general science.  | It is special science   |
| - It studies social relationship social institution or all aspects of man and society.  | It is the science of human mind and mental process is the subject matter of psychology. |
| - Primary concern of Sociology is group behaviour.  | Primary concern of psychology is individual behavior.                                   |
| - It used questionnaire method  | It used experimental method   |
| - It is young science.  | It is older than sociology.   |
| <p>- Relationship of sociology with Anthropology:</p> <p>Sociology and anthropology are so closely related sciences that they often appear as two names for the same field of enquiry. Sociology is the science of society and anthropology is the science of man. Without the help of anthropology the study of sociology can't be complete. Sociology has borrowed many concepts like cultural area, culture traits, cultural pattern from socio-cultural anthropology. Sociology is greatly benefited by anthropological studies. Both study human society and both are concerned with all kind of social groups like families, friends. Many of ideas and concept are</p> |   |

used in both the discipline. Hence both are interrelated and interdependent.

## Differences between Anthropology and sociology.

Anthropology	Sociology
1. Anthropology is the study of whole society. It studies its political, legal problem, art, industries & occupation.	Sociology studies only its particular aspects. The main focus of sociology is social interaction.
2. It studies the primitive society.	It does not study only primitive society but studies modern society too.
3. Anthropology studies culture which are small and static.	Sociology studies civilizations which are vast & dynamics.
4. Anthropology is the study of man and his culture as they developed in time long past.	Sociology studies the same phenomena as they are at present.
5. It participates observation method.	It employs sampling method

6. Anthropology is not concerned with social planning. It does not make any suggestions for future

sociology is concerned with both social philosophy & social planning.

## # Relationship of sociology with economic

Economics is the study of production, distribution, consumption, demand and supplies of goods and services. Economics studies that the economic activities objectively. It supplies the economic data of society to sociology as sociology aim to empower the community through material welfare. They exchange their knowledge and work for economic welfare of society.

### similarities:

- Economic relation is an aspect of social relation; this point of view explains that both sciences are inter-dependent with each other.
- The fact that society is influenced by economic factor while economic processes are largely determined by the social environments clearly proves that the relationship between sociology and economics

## Sociology

## Economics

- Sociology studies the social relationship.
- Sociology studies all the aspects of social life.
- Sociology is a general science. Economic is a special science.
- Sociology deals with the group.
- Sociology is a science of only recent growth.
- Economics studies the social economic relationship.
- Economics studies only the economic aspect of social life.

### # Relevance of sociology in management and business administration.

Sociology is a general social/behavioral science. It has an important practical relevance in management and business administration. It can contribute to reform in management and business administration in several ways. It provides self-enlightenment offering individual and group as increased opportunities to alter the condition of their own. Sociology provides social background to understand relationship between administrator and customer.

However, the relevance and importance of sociology in business management can be described as follows:

- a. Enhance Analytical capability: Sociology is an academic discipline help to develop our analytical thinking & capabilities. This analytical method of thinking helps those in business with the ability to research market scenario & eventually draw conclusions from that data.
- b. Handling Employees: The business leaders and human resource manager with background in sociology give an advantage when dealing with employee in the workplace. Sociologist study the cultural and social aspects that shape an individual.
- c. Market Opportunities: Sociologist are aware of, and understand that an event can influence larger population.
- d. Public Relation: In order to enhance public relation, the business company can hire a PR officer with background in sociology because they will aware the fact that certain actions of the company can affect its customers as the customer in area unharmed.

e. Career opportunities in Business and Management sectors.  
It is also worthy to mention that there are many possibilities in the business world for those with sociology degree. It is advisable that student interested in business careers with private or non profit firms can take major in Sociology.