

## Social stratification.

### # Social Difference:

Social difference can be categorized in accordance with caste, class, age, gender & race. This is a kind of social distinction based on societal norms and values. Some social difference created by the state authority in the due course of human history and civilization. Social differences create the social hierarchy in accordance with social differences.

The societal difference separates the work of one another. It categorizes their works, professions and position according to individual's skill, knowledge, their ethnic roots, performance and so on. Differentiation within the people determines their social recognition and identity. Social differences is also depend on cultural beliefs, values, ethos, norms, and every day practices. It also determines the human behavior and their performance. Social difference can be created by both ascribed and achieved process. The social difference can be reduced through different policies like reservation, inclusion and empowerment in the modern state. Some difference causes due to birth, accident and their capacity.



## = Social Inequality

Social inequality is inherent feature of all societies. It can be observed both in primitive and modern, pre literature and literate societies. Social inequality prevails everywhere. Social inequality refer to unequal distribution of resource and opportunities. Inequality occur as per social stratification of the society. Inequality depends on unequal distribution of wealth & power.

In sociology, inequality should be studied with in the social institution which are closest to daily human experiences. The power and wealth distributed in accordance with their status. The degree of inequality differs place to place, culture to culture. It is resulting from the division of good and division of work.

### feature:

1. Social inequality is universal.
2. The determination of inequality is based partly on certain characteristic.
3. The basis of inequality may differ from society to society.
4. It appear when some people are given more importance than other.
5. It is the product of unequal access to power, prestige & privilege.



6. It is the division of people in the position of higher and lower on different basis.
7. Social inequality is manifestation of social stratification.

The social stratification of contemporary society generate the inequality which is based on the unfair rules for the distribution of resources, processes, unequal control & inheritance system. The economic inequality based on ownership labor, power.



## # Social Stratification:

The term stratification was borrowed from the geology. Geologists say that the earth is made up of a number of layers, one placed over the other. Technically each layer is called stratum. The plural of the stratum is known as strata and the system of the composition of is called stratification.

According to Ogburn and Nimkoff, "The process by which individuals and groups are ranked in more or less enduring hierarchy of status is known as strata of people in society."

## Characteristic of Stratification:

- It is universal.
- It is found from ancient time.
- It is in diverse form.
- It is source of conflict in society.
- It occurs due to the ascribed and achieved status of individuals in society.
- Inequality is vested in stratification.
- Stratification is the vertical division of society.
- The form of stratification is social in nature.



## # Caste and stratification

Caste is known as any of the hereditary hindu social classes. It is a corporate social unit which is generally defined by marriage and occupation. Caste is delivered from spanish word 'casta' which means seed. Due to caste, Hindu are divided in different categories. It creates the sense of untouchability.

According to Hoebel, "Caste is the freezing of social classes by means of endogamy and heredity ascribe status".

### feature

1. Hardly changeable, non-transferable.
  2. Defined birth.
  3. Restriction on marriage, occupation, feeding, social relationship.
  4. It helps in division of labour
  5. Social hereditary.
- Closed system: It is social stratification in which status is ascribed from birth.
  - Opened system: It is social stratification in which status is achieved through merit or effort.
  - Social mobility: The act of moving from one social position to another. This take place especially in the classed-based



society and is rigid in caste based society.

Caste system in Nepal:

- i Brahmin: The brahmin are designed as priest and scholar, transmitter of knowledge & interpreters of shastra and sutras.
- ii Chhetri: The designed role and duties of chhetri are acting as ruler warrior and protecting citizen.
- iii Vaishya: Their caste prescribed duties are to act as merchant and trader, to engage in farming as simply to fulfill the material need society.
- iv. Sudras: They are the lower caste group treated as untouchable higher caste group.

- Merit of caste
- Occupational security
- Spirit of Co-operation
- Identification.
- Endogamy
- Integration of the country
- Cultural division

- Demerit of caste.

- |                                  |                              |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| - Inequit Inequality in society. | - Racial discrimination      |
| - Untouchability                 | - lower position for caste & |
| - No mobility in occupation      | vice versa.                  |



## #1 Ethnicity

The term 'ethnicity' refers to the fact or state of belonging to a social group united by cultural aspect such as language, common heritage, traditions.

According to Moris Ginsberg, "An ethnic group is a distinct category of the population in a larger society, whose culture is usually different from other."

An ethnic group is a collection of people whose members identify with each other through common cultural aspect. The process that results in the emergence of an ethnicity is known as ethnogenesis.

### Characteristic / feature:

- A distinct collective identity.
- Communal or Political Organization.
- Own language, religion, tradition, culture and civilization.
- Traditional home land.
- Written or oral history.
- Having 'We' feeling.
- Have no decisive role in politics & government.
- Endogamous.



# Social class: Social is made up of people of similar status who regard one another as social equal. Social class described one form of stratification. Social classes refer to group in society based on economic and social status whereby people are arranged in different strata. People are treated differently by others based on social class.

### Characteristics of class

- Hierarchy of status group
- Social ranking.
- Class consciousness.
- Distinct mode of life style.
- Social restriction.
- feeling of superiority & inferiority.

### Type of social classes

- Upper class - Wealthy employers & industrialist.
- Middle class - which include white collar worker & profession
- Working class: Those in blue-collar or manual job
- Poor Peasant: People engaged in traditional types.
- Underclass: which is composed of ethnic majority



underprivileged minorities.

\* Social class is non-rigid form of social stratification. Explain.

Ans: The concept of 'social class' describes one form of social stratification. In a society, organized by social classes, it is possible for people to attain a higher status with which they started with. This mobility to higher status is possible because social classes are not based on birth but on force factor and such as education and profession success which achieved through hard works and dedication.

#1 Sex and Gender:

'Sex' and 'gender' are two different terms. Biological differences between male and female are called sex whereas socially and culturally constructed behavior is called gender. The socio-cultural phenomena determine the role and responsibilities of women. Sex role prescribe the gender-



ent ways men and women supposed to act and in Nepali different task they are expected to undertake. It is based on the anatomical structure. Sex is connected with biological definition. The term gender show the characteristic that a society delineates as female. The term gender is related to impose or adapted behavior practices.

# Social stratification vis-a-vis Management & Business environment: are part of society. In an organization most the employee are on the lower part of the hierarchical pyramid in regard to income, with only a few

# Social stratification vis-a-vis Management & Business Administration:

Social stratification is essential for the operation of the society. Like society on larger scale have hierarchical structure based on merit role. Most of employee are on the lower part of the hierarchical pyramid in regard to income. The social stratification influence the thoughts and actions of people, social values religious faith that integrate society to run business organizations in decent order.



The caste and ethnicity based society assign the separate work according to societal division that helps to fulfill the need & expectation of one another. Social stratification impacts on the consumer behavior that influences the production and growth. Stratification negatively impacts on customer performance and consuming behavior. Social stratification normally explains about the hierarchical and equal ways in which groups can be formed in society.

Social stratification provides the nature of social relationships, processes, structure and issues. It highlights the social structure. Social stratification and its unequal distributed power in the different sectors normally hinder the growth and development of society in general.