

# Culture

## Introduction:

Culture are rules and laws which are passed from one generation to next generation. This is a basic definition from which from which culture can be explained theoretically but to define culture more precisely we have to classify and name its basic element moreover the subjected elements are needed to be explained in detail; to describe and understand the deep and real sense of the term "Culture".

## Definition of Culture:

- Social environment in which we are living. It is a complex whole all things around us languages, clothes, law, customs, moral and belief etc.
- Culture is the ideas and physical objects that represent a group or society. It means a way of life of a society.
- Culture is the tradition and custom, that govern behavior and beliefs.

## History of Culture:

- All the human societies have complex way of life that differ greatly from one another. These ways have come to be known as culture in 1871.
- Edward Taylor gave us the first definition of this concept.

## Properties of Culture:

- Culture is learnt
- Culture is social
- Culture is shared
- Culture is Continuous
- Culture varies from society to society
- Culture is universal
- Culture is based on symbols
- Culture is dynamic
- Culture is abstract

## Types of Culture:

- Material Culture:
  - Material culture consists of physical things that are created by humans.
  - Material culture refers to physical objects, resources and spaces that people use to define their culture.
  - Examples include cars, buildings, clothing and tools etc.

➤ **Nonmaterial Culture:**

- Refers to abstract thoughts and ideas that make up a culture.
- In contrast to material culture, non-material culture does not include any physical objects and things.
- Examples of nonmaterial culture include traffic laws, words, dress codes and ideology of Pakistan etc.

➤ **Ideal Culture:**

- This culture is the goal of society.
- This culture is presented as a pattern or an example to the people is called real culture.
- It can never be achieved fully because some parts of it remains out of practice.
- This culture is explained in books, speeches and guidance's.
- The part of ideal culture practiced in social life is called real culture.
- Example: Islam is our ideal culture and our claims to be true Muslim is our ideal culture, but as a Muslim we practice Islam is our real culture.
- Real and ideal culture are related together but different from each other.

➤ **Real Culture:**

- Real culture is that culture which can be observed in our social life.
- The part of culture which the people adopt in their social life is their real culture.
- The whole of the culture is never real because a part of it remains without practice.
- Example: we can say that Islam is our real culture .We all are Muslims but donot follow the Islam fully in our social life.
- It means the part of Islam which we follow is our real culture.

**Elements of culture:**

- a) Language
- b) Religion
- c) Symbols
- d) Norms
- e) Values
- f) Beliefs
- g) Cognitive elements

**Language:**

- Every culture has a particular language that is passed by the person belongs to that particular culture to the next generation and the following generation also has to learn the language. Language is a medium and an instrument which is used to express one's view and to keep forward one's opinion.
- Language is most basic and important part of culture.
- For Example; Muslim , British and Chinese culture have different languages.
- For example: A person who speaks Hindi can be judged easily to be a citizen of India.
- For Example: The national language of Pakistan is Urdu so a person who speaks Urdu can be identified easily as Pakistani but the people speaking other languages like Hindi and English are also present in Pakistan.

## **Religion:**

- A system of beliefs that answers questions about the meaning of life.
- Religion involves morals and customs and sometimes law, and a religion is definitely acquired by a human as a member of society. Therefore, religion is also part of culture.
- Examples: In Pakistan, religion of the majority of the population is Islam but the people having other religions like Hindus and Christians also exists in Pakistan.

## **Symbols:**

- The first element that exist in every culture is a variety of symbols.
- Symbol is anything that is used to stand for something else.
- Importance of symbols may differ for different people belonging to different culture.
- For example: Sign of cross means nothing for Hindus but for Christians , this is symbol of Lord Christ.
- For Example: We thumb up to like others.
- For Example: we meet each other by handshaking.
- Flags are also cultural symbols; pattern of colors and shapes.

## **Norms:**

- The very important element of a culture is this norms.
- This decides the rules and regulations of a society.
- Norms define two types of rules.
- One of which it must be followed by people of that particular society these rules are known as "Mores".
- The other rules tells the daily habits of individuals of that society it is known as "Folkways".
- Example: No smoking at public places, pay bills on time and show respect for our elders etc.

## **Values:**

- Anything or any material when collects importance in our daily life it stars having value.
- Value of some materials, sometimes, are received and thought by parents to their children.
- Some values are explained by society, in this way values of a particular society gets accumulated and move forward from generation to generation.
- Values help to shape a society by suggesting what is good and bad, beautiful and ugly.
- Values often suggest how people should behave.
- For example: Don't tell a lie and Never cheat others.

## **Beliefs:**

- The Definition of a Belief is an opinion or something that a person holds to be true.
- These refers to things or objects which you admits them without seeing them , they may be scientific or religious.
- Example: Allah is one and Hazrat Muhammad (S.A.W) is the last prophet of Allah.

### **Cognitive elements:**

- Cognitive elements are that elements of culture which deals with the management of difficult times or natural difficulties.
- Cognitive elements of culture are those through which an individual learn how to cope with an existing situation weather natural or social.
- These qualities are learned by children and taught to them by their parents so that their son or daughter can live with peace in a particular situation.
- Culture is a symbolic, continuous, cumulative and progressive process.
- For Example: How to survive and how make shelter from storm and other natural phenomenon.

### **Relationship between Culture, Crime and Law:**

- Culture is the patterned behavior resulting from social interaction to become a heritage for the succeeding generations.
- In general, the culture is not a biological phenomenon but is learnt by the members of society to follow a given way of life.
- It is the matter of adaptation in environment by people which paves their way of life in society.

### **Conclusion:**

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