

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

Topic :
SOCIAL CHANGE



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SOCIAL CHANGE

Any alteration in pattern of culture, social structure and social behaviors over time (Robertson, 1986).

A significant alteration over time in behaviors pattern and culture include norms and values (Moore, 1996).



CULTURAL CHANGE

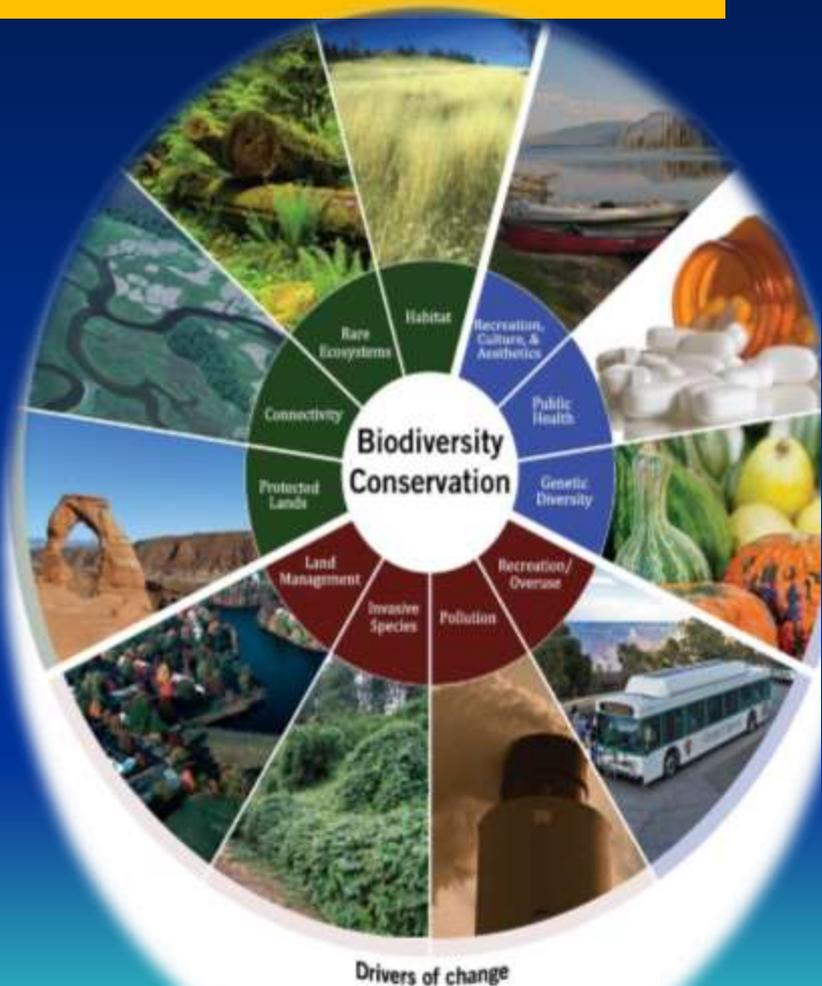
All changes occurring in any branches of culture including Art, Science, Technology, Philosophy, etc. as well as changes in the forms and rules of social organization (Kingsely Davis).

Characteristics of Social Change:

- (1) Change is social
- (2) Universal
- (3) Continuous
- (4) Inevitable
- (5) Temporal
- (6) Degree or rate of change is not uniform
- (7) Social Change may be planned or unplanned
- (8) Social change is multi-causal
- (9) Social change creates chain-reactions
- (10) Prediction is uncertain

CAUSES OF SOCIAL CHANGE

- **Natural Factors**
- **Economic Factors**
- **Industrial Factors**
- **Social Factor**
- **Cultural Factors**
- **Demographic Factors**



- **Technological Factors**
- **Political Factors**
- **Biological Factors**
- **Environmental Factors**
- **Physical Environment**
- **Psychological Factors**



Natural factors

- Natural calamities like floods, earthquakes, draughts, famines and other natural disasters always force changes in the social conditions and life of the affected people.
- The natural factors can on the one hand, cause havoc in physical conditions of social life, these may also affect the social conditions in a positive way.



Economic factors

- As the condition of an individual affects the society the same as everybody's economy affect challenges.
- The best example is the emergence of economic elite class in Pakistan from lower non-agricultural community after 1972.

INDUSTRIAL FACTORS

- Like establishment of industrial township, urbanization and trade unionism are responsible for several kinds of social changes the lives of people concerned we can find the liberalization.
- After the establishment of industrialization in most of the countries in the world and such factors influences the economy of the country.

Social factors

- The economic factors constitute an important factor of social change. The entire social structure of a society is determined by economic factors i.e. the means of production and distribution of material means of production.
- When the society graduated to agricultural stage, the social organization grew more complex.

CULTURAL FACTORS

- The cultural factors also play a role in bringing about social change. Our social life depends upon our beliefs, ideas, values, customs, conventions, institutions.
- For example, let us (consider the system of marriage. To begin with, the ceremonies were religious and people regarded marriage as something sacred and irrevocable.
- Today we hold a different view. Marriage is held be good for personal comfort. It has affected the thinking in favor of irrevocability of marriage and consequently the number of divorcees has registered a big increase.

DEMOGRAPHIC FACTORS

- The population increase or decrease always brings social problems. When the birth-rate in a society exceeds death-rate, population begins to rise.
- A constantly rising population gives birth to poverty, unemployment, disease and several other related problems.
- Population always influences social institutions, relations, social structure, values and ideals.
- Demographic factors have large and profound bearing on the society as well as on the process of social change

Technological factors

- The form of society is undergoing change as a result of the development and invention of electric, steam and petrol driven mechanism for production, the means of transport and communication.
- Mechanism bring changes in economic system. This leads to a change in old values, norms and ideas.



POLITICAL FACTORS

- Society is based on rules and regulations, customs which are built or prepared by government ,so politics affect on society.
- Political leaders are products of society. Any political party or person change something in state or contributes in changing in something in society which definitely brings a social change e.g. partitions of India in 1947.

BIOLOGICAL FACTORS

- Biological factors also affect social change. Biological factors are those factors which determine the structure, selection and hereditary qualities of generations.
- New generation is different from previous generation. It is different in form, ideas and in many other ways from the one gone before.
- Those persons survive in the struggle for life who are fit and are able to live, or those, in other words, who have the ability to face the physical conditions.



PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

- Human misuse can bring very rapid changes in physical environment which in turn change the social and cultural life of a people. Deforestation brings land erosion and reduces rainfall.
- Many human groups throughout history have changed their physical environment through migration.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

- Due to floods, earthquake, excessive rain, drought, change of seasons etc.
- Imbalance in population which directly affects the social relationship among the members of a society and these are modified by such natural occurrences.

PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTORS

- The cause of social change is the psychology of man himself. Man is by nature a lover of change. He is always trying to discover new things in every sphere of his life and is always anxious for novel experiences.
- A human being is able to apply new customs and methods to replace the old traditional customs are being formed.

RESISTING FACTORS OF SOCIAL CHANGE

- Lack of inventions
- Rejection or non-acceptance of new Innovations
- Imperfection of new inventions
- Fear towards the new
- Traditional and reverence for the past
- Ignorance
- Habit
- Economic disparity
- Intellectual laziness and administrative defects
- The power of vested interests

SOURCES OF CULTURAL CHANGE



Invention



Discovery



Diffusion

DISCOVERY V/S INVENTION

- DISCOVERY



- INVENTION



INVENTION

An invention may be defined as a new combination or new use of existing knowledge

INVENTION

- A new, useful
- process, machine, improvement, etc., that did not exist previously and that is recognized as the product of some unique intuition or genius, as distinguished from ordinary mechanical skill or craftsmanship



GROWTH LEAD BY INVENTION

- BIGGER, BETTER, FASTER
- 1900: The only way to view the Olympic games in Paris is in person. News about the games travel to America via telegraph and is printed in newspaper.
- Today: Millions worldwide will watch the Olympics on television, transmitted instantaneously by satellite. The news will spread as well as by radio, newspaper and the world wide web.



DISCOVERY

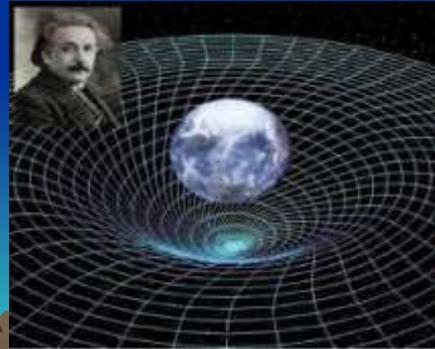
A discovery is a shared human experiences of an element of reality which already exist

DISCOVERY

- **Discovery** is the act of detecting something new, or something "old" that had been unknown
- It is the process of learning something that was not known before, or of finding someone or something that was missing or hidden.

EXAMPLES OF DISCOVERY

- The concept of black holes in outer space.
- Einstein introduces the general theory of relativity.
- Apollo astronaut land on the moon.
- Columbus discovered America



DIFFUSION

Most of the social changes in all known societies develop through diffusion, the spread of culture traits from group to group

THEORIES OF SOCIAL CHANGE

Evolution
Theory

Conflict
Theory

Cyclical
Theory

Equilibrium
Theory



Evolutionary theory of social change

- According to evolutionary theory, society moves in specific directions. Therefore, early social evolutionists saw society as progressing to higher and higher levels. As a result, they concluded that their own cultural attitudes and behaviors were more advanced than those of earlier societies



CONFLICT THEORY OF SOCIAL CHANGE

- Conflict theorists maintain that, because a society's wealthy and powerful ensure the status quo in which social practices and institutions favorable to them continue, change plays a vital role in remedying social inequalities and injustices.



CYCLIC THEORIES OF SOCIAL CHANGE

- This theory posits that every society undergoes a phenomenon of cyclical change.
- Ibn-e-Khuldun



EQUILIBRIUM THEORY

- Changes in one aspect of society require adjustments in other aspects. When these adjustments do not occur, equilibrium disappears, threatening social order. Parsons' equilibrium theory incorporates the evolutionary concept of continuing progress, but the predominant theme is stability and balance





Thank you