

## SOCIAL GROUPS AND PROCESSES

1. Social groups and processes
2. The meaning and classification of groups
3. Primary and secondary groups
4. In –group V/s, Out-group ,class,tribe,caste
5. Economic ,political, Religious groups,Mob,Crowd,Public and Audience
6. Social Interaction and Social Processes operation, Competition, Conflict, Accomodation, Assimilation &Isolation.

### Meaning of Social groups

- In its elementary sense, a **group is a number of units of anything in close proximity to one another.**
- Social group is a **collection of human beings** who are brought in to **social relationship with one another** with a **common goal** under a **common set of codes.**
- It may be a **pair ,number of persons ore even a collection of millions** of people
- Ex.sports ,friends ,club,political party ,family, etc.
- Social relationships **needs- reciprocity- mutual awareness- consciousness of joint interaction.**

### DEFINITION OF SOCIAL GROUPS

- **William-** Social group is a **given aggregate of people** playing **inter-related roles** and **recognized** by themselves or others as a **unit of interactions**
- **Horton and Hunt-** Groups are aggregate or **categories of people** who have a consciousness of **membership** and **interaction.**
- **Ogburn and Nimkoff-** “**Whenever two or more individual come together and influence** one another , they may **be said to constitute** a social group.

- **MACIVER AND PAGE** , “social group is a **collection of human individual** who are brought into reciprocal relationship .”

#### □ **Characteristics of Social Group**

1. Collection of individual
2. Reciprocal Relations
3. Sense of Unity
4. “We” FEELING
5. Common interest
6. Similar behavior
7. Group norms
8. Mutual awareness
9. Size of the group
10. Groups are dynamic
11. Stability
12. Characteristics of Social group
13. Collection of individual :

❖ Social groups consist of persons **without individuals** there can be no group .

#### ● **Reciprocal relations**

- The member of a group are **inter-related to each other**.
- A **gathering of persons** forms a social group when they are interrelated

#### ❖ **Sense of Unity**

The members of a group are united by a **sense of unity and a feeling of sympathy**.

#### ❖ **We- feeling**

The members of a **group help each other** and defend their **interest collectively**.

### ❖ **Common interest**

The **interest and ideal** of a group are common

### ❖ **Similar behavior**

The members of a group behave in a **similar** way of behavior

### ☐ **Group norms**

- Each and every group has its own **rules and regulation**.
- All the members should **obey and follow the rules of their groups** .
- Groups norms such as **cutoms ,moral codes and laws** etc.
- Norms may be **written or unwritten**.

### ☐ **Mutual awareness**

- Members in a group should **have mutual awareness** .group life involves mutual recognition

### ☐ **Size of the group :**

- Groups may be **small in size** , as that of dyad.
- Groups may be big in size as that of political party , state , industry etc.

### ☐ **Groups are dynamic :**

- social groups **undergo changes** .
- Some groups **changes rapidly and the other slowly** .hence groups are dynamic

### ☐ **Stability**

- Groups may be **permanent or temporary in nature** .
- some groups like the **crowd , and audience are temporary** .but many groups such as **family , universal , state , are relatively permanent** and stable in nature

**Classifying groups.**

**Simmel considered size as a criterion for classifying groups.**

1. Small size groups
2. Large size group
3. Dwight Sanderson suggested a three fold classification of social groups by structure
4. Involuntary group
5. Voluntary group
6. Delegate group

**CLASSIFICATION OF SOCIAL GROUPS**

Cooley classified groups on the basis of kind of contacts

.Primary group.

.Secondary group.

F.H.Giddings classified group I to

.Genetic (involuntarily Ex: family)

. Congregate(voluntarily .Ex:Union).

Classification of social groups

George Hasen classifies groups one the basis of their relations to other group in to:

Unsocial group (doesnot participate in large society.ex:TRIBE)

Pseudo –social group ( mix with all for own gain.ex: common)

Anti-social group (destroys public property)

Pro-social group(welfare of the people).

Miller divided social groups in to

Horizontal groups

Vertical groups.

Classification of Social group

**Summer made distinction between an**

**In-group**

1. It is also known as “we” group.

2. It consist of persons who are having close social relations and belongingness.

3. In groups attitudes contain some element of sympathy and a sense of attachment to the other members of the group.

4. The groups with the individual identifies himself are his in group, his family ,tribes ,sex ,college ,occupation ,religion, caste etc.

5. Usually expressed in the contrast between they and Us .

6. Every group they are communists ,We are Brahmins, they are others not my people etc...

**Out-group**

1. Its opposite of in-group., which may be formally organized or not , consist of those persons towards whom we feel a sense of indifference , audience , competition etc.

2. It is also known as they group .

3. An out group is defined by the person with relation to the in group usually expressed with contrast between they and we, every group conscious that other groups are not with us .

Classification of Social Groups

□ Charles A Ellwood distinguished among.

Involuntary and voluntary

Institutional and non-Institutional

Temporary and Permanent.

□ Leopold classified

1. Crowds

2. Groups

3. Abstract Collectives.

4. Park and Burges distinguished

5. Territorial

6. Non-Territorial

7. Primary & Secondary Groups

8. Physical proximity

- In order that relations of the people may **be close**, it is necessary that their contacts also should be close
- The concept of primary group is introduced by **CH Cooley in his book “ Social organization” in 1909.**
- Primary groups are the **nucleus of all social organization.**
- They are found in **all the societies and at all the times.** Hence they are universal .

□ **DEFINITION**

□ **Ch chooley** : “Primary group is characterized by intimate , face to-face relationship and it involves sympathy ,mutual help and identification “

- **Maciver and page** :”primary group is a small collection of persons who are having face-to-face relationships and sense of we feeling .”e.g ,Family, neighborhood, village society , peer group .

**Smelser:** “ A primary group consists of a small number of people who interact directly in a relationship that involves many aspects of their personalities .

- **Characteristics of primary group :**

1. intimacy and face to face relationship
2. Small in size
3. Physical proximity
4. Stable group
5. Shared interest
6. Spontaneous relationships
7. Necessary of human qualities and social values
8. Agent of social control
9. Secondary group
10. Secondary groups are many in modern industrial society
11. Secondary group also called as special interest groups
12. Secondary group is inevitable in modern society

- ❖ **Definition :**

- Ogburn and nimkoff “ social; groups are those which provides experience , lacking in intimacy(close family or frinds)

- ❖ **FD Watson** : “secondary groups are larger in size .formal and specialized groups in which members possess secondary relationships “

Eg. State , factory , labor union , college ,university , political party , banks ,UNO etc .

❖ **Schaefer** :”the term secondary groups refers to a formal , impersonal social group where there is little social intimacy or mutual understanding”.

**Characteristics :**

1. Impersonal and direct relationship
2. Large in size
3. Membership is voluntary
4. Fulfill specific ends
5. Contractual relations
6. Formal means of social control
7. Organized group
8. Indirect communications

**In group and out group**

**WG Sumner and AG Keller** first introduced the concept of in-group and out-group in there work “ The science of society” –

“There is a sense of solidarity , a **felling of brotherhood , loyalty ,sacrifice** , etc .In an group. **But their attitudes towards outsiders** are hostility concept and **hatred**. Things prohibited in the in-group are sanctioned or encouraged in the out-group of a man

Sumner explains that an in-group **needs internal peace accord and cohesion**.

Otherwise it cannot **exist and resist** attacks from outside”

**In-group and out-group are found in all societies** through the **interests** around which they develop **vary from society to society , in India with thousands of tribes, caste ,sub castes ,religions and races**.



❑ One has to make **adjustments** and develop a **sense of tolerance and coexistence** otherwise there will be **conflicts , tension and disturbances.**

❑ **Tribe**

❑ Tribe is a **social group** having many clans ,nomadic bands, villages and other sub groups , **living in a definite geographical area**, having **separate language** , as **separate and singular culture** and has **either a common political organization** of feeling of a common determination **against those outside their tribe .**

❑ **Definition**

- D.N Majumdar :”**A collection of families bearing a common names** , members of which occupy the same territory , speak the same language and observe certain taboos regarding marriage ,profession , or occupation and have developed a well –assed system of reciprocity and mutuality of obligation .
- Lucy mair “ A tribe is an independent political division of a population with a common culture”.
- W.J. Perry ,He defines tribe, “A group speaking common dialect and inhabiting a common territory .”

❑ **Characteristics:**

1. Define common toography
2. Consciousness of unity
3. Common language
4. Endogamous group
5. Ties of blood relationship
6. Need for protection
7. Political organization

8. Importance of religion

9. Common name

10. Common cultures

11. Common religion

12. Organization of clans

**Economic group:**

- Economic activities have been integral to mankind through history.
- **Economy and society** moved in **cooperation** .even in the modern technological age, we spend a large portion of our working hours in the economic pursuits the concern of the sociologists with economic institutions arises from the fact that economic and other aspects of social life are **closely interrelated** ,**sociology** therefore studies economic **institutions as a part of society** .
- Economic **is a social science** that explores an entire range of issues that influence **financial decision** .
- Microeconomics and macroeconomics are the two main types of economic .
- As the name implies , **microeconomics focuses** on the **economical behavior of individuals** while macroeconomics look at economics on the **global or national scale** ,with a focus on such issues as **inflation(increase in prices)** ,**unemployment and fiscal policy** .
- Resources of the economy **natural resources** are the **gifts of god**
- They can be defined as all those things available on men's **physical environment** which help him to fulfill all his wants , these resources may be kinds

1. **Renewable natural resources:**

- which will get renewed over a period of time

- Eg: for us fisheries (a place where fish are reared for commercial purposes) , forest animal ,water

## 2) **Non renewable resources :**

Which can be used until their supplies are exhausted e.g **minerals( soiled)**.

- Economic planning
- Economic planning is a consciously and judiciously carried out process for **efficient utilization of resources** in order to fulfill some well defined aims laid down by the countries have adopted economic planning .

### **Aims of planning :**

### **Functions of planning**

### **Need for economic planning**

#### **Political group/ political system**

- The term political system as used here refers to a recognized **set of procedures** for implementing and obtaining the goal of a group
- Each society must have **political system** in order to maintain recognized procedures for **allocating valued resources** .
- In political scientist Harold term, politics is who get what when and how.
- Thus ,like **religion and the family** , a political system is a **cultural universal**.
- It is a **social institution** found in every society
- **Modern political system**
- Primitive had a **simple political system**
- It was more a **community oriented system**

- It is only in the recent years, a **scientific study of different types of political system** have been taken up.
- The **political system of man have undergone a drastic ( some) change** because in recent years .
- This is mainly because of the society has become **more complex and has undergone radial change**
- Types of political party system
- Non partisan
- Single dominant party
- Two dominant parties
- Multiple parties

**In India following types of parties :**

1. India national congress
2. Bharti janta party
3. Shiv sena behvjan samaj party
4. The samata party

**Religious group**

- Religion is a **culture system of behavior and practices , holy place ad societal organization** relate humanity to what an anthropologist has called “ an order of existence”.
- **Different religious may or may not contain various elements**, ranging from the “ divine “ scared things”, “ faith , a supernatural being “ or “ some sort of intimacy and transcendence that will provide worm and power for the rest of life .

**DEFINITION**

- Ogburn “ religion is an attitude towards superhuman powers

- Max mullex “ define religion as , “a mental faculty or disposition which enables man to apprehend the infinite .

☐ **Elements of religion :**

1. Belief
2. Religion organization
3. Emotion
4. Ritual and ceremonies
5. Scared object
6. Symbol
7. Sects

❖ **Functions:**

☐ **MOB**

- Mob is an important form of the acting crowd .Mobs have their own leaders and “are single minded in their aggressive intent”.
- They impose strong conformity on their members.
- Mob is perticularly temporary and unstable in character , the mob its own limited but immediate objectives and oncentrates on its realization

**DEFINITION**

I Robertson ,: “A mob is an emotionally aroused crowd bent on violent behaviour action”

Types :

- 1) Purposive and active mobs
- 2) The confused and random mobs

## □ **Crowd**

- The group may be defined as a collection of individuals united temporarily in close proximity to each other whose object may be of diverse kind
- The crowd represents an **unorganized group**.
- Crowd is a collectively of substantial number of individual with in a limited space to some object of attention

## □ **Definition**

- **Kimbal young** “ A crowd is a gathering of a considerable number of persons around a center or point of common attraction
- **Brit** “A crowd involves a temporary physical gathering of people experiencing much of the same reaction from the same stimuli”.

## □ **Characteristics of crowd**

- Crowd is gathering
- Temporary group
- Unorganized group
- Anonymity
- Narrow attention
- Highly irrational

## □ Types of crowd :

- 1) Homogeneous crowd
- 2) Heterogeneous crowd
- 3) Active crowd :1) aggressive 2) panicky 3) acquisitive
- 4) expressive crowd

## □ **Public group**

1. In common speech , the term “ public “ is often confused with the people .but in reality public is a part of the people .
2. Genrally , a faith large secretion of the people who shared some common opinions , desire or interest , but who are not organized and are scattered all called the public.
3. Thus there is different type of public among the people .
4. In other words , the word “ public” refers to an organization aggregation of persons , who are bound together by common opinions, desires but are too numerous for each to maintain personal relations with others .
5. These social areas of interaction may be occupational, recreational ,political , economical , educational , religious , etc. in nature .

### **Definition :**

- Horton and hunt “A public is a scattered group of people who share an interest in a particular topic”.
- Shelter : “The public is a group of individuals who are united together by a common interest or objective”.

### **Nature of the public :**

#### □ **Characteristics of the public :**

- A dispersed group
- A deliberate group
- A definite issue
- Lac of organization
- Disagreement
- Self awareness

**Audience**

- With the audience , there may be significant two way stimulus and response even though the situation may discourage communication
- The most successful performer prefers a two way communication which seems t make the performer a part of the group
- Definition **Prem sharma modgil** :

“An audience is an organized gathering of people at a particular place to share or enjoy some common or similar interest and give common responses following the code of conduct”.

**Elements of audience**

❖ **Characteristics**

- Specific purpose
- Predetermined time and place
- Standards form of polarization between the performer and the audience

❖ **Kinds of audience :**

- Information seeking audience
- Recreation seeking audience
- Conversational audience

**Social interaction :**

- Society is rooted in interaction
- Interaction is the basic ingredient of social relationships .
- It is the very essence of social life .
- Without interaction there would be no social or group life.



- There are sociologists like R.E Park and E.W.Burgess , who defined sociology as the study of **social interactions and social process**
- These sociologists view society as **an ongoing process** , as a series, each person stimulating another person an **interaction between human beings** and responding to the stimuli from other persons .
- Interaction refers to an **action done in response to another person’s action** . It is defined as **interpersonal action** .
- It becomes social interaction when the response occurs .

### □ **Definition**

- Dawson and Gettys “Social interaction is a process whereby men **interpenetrate the minds of each other** “
- NP Gish “social interaction is the reciprocal influence human beings exert on each through inter- stimulation and response”.
- Eldredge and merrill, “social interaction is the general process where by two or more persons are in meaningful contact as a result of which their behavior is modified however slightly .

### □ **Condition of interactions :**

### □ **Social process**

- Social process is an action performed by social actor.
- In other word’s “A social process is a group of related activates involved in the transition from one social condition to another”.
- There are five essential elements of social process
  1. Sequence of events
  2. Repetition of events
  3. Relationship between the events
  4. Continuity of events

## 5. Social result

### **DEFINITION :**

❖ **MacIver** ,” Social process is the manner in which the relations of the member of a group , one brought together , acquire a distinctive character”

❖ **Ginberg** .” Social process means the various modes of interaction between individuals or groups”.

❖ **AW Green** : “Social process are merely the characteristics ways in which interaction occurs”.

Social interaction usually takes place in the form of cooperation , competitions , conflict , accommodation and assimilation .

These forms of social interaction are also designated as social process.

### **FORMS OF SOCIAL PROCESS**

#### **Cooperation**

- Cooperation is one of the most basic , pervasive and continuous
- social process .it is the very basis of social existence .cooperation generally means working together for the pursuit for a common goal .
- The term “cooperation” is derived from the Latin words “co” means together and “operary” means to work .literally cooperation means joint work or together for common rewards .

Co-operation is mainly based on its basic elements :

1. Two or more than two person
2. Common goal
3. Joint activities

#### 4. Conscious efforts

Definition

**Merrill and Eldredge** : “co-operation is a form of social interaction wherein two or more persons work together to gain a common end”.

**AW Green** “co-operation is the continuous and common endeavor of two or more persons to perform a task or to reach a goal that is commonly cherished”.

**Types of cooperation**

1. Direct cooperation

2. Indirect cooperation

AW Green has given three types of cooperation

1. Primary cooperation

2. Secondary cooperation

3. Tertiary cooperation

**Importance of cooperation in social life .**

1. Competition

2. Competition is a process ,which occurs not only among human beings but also among all living beings .it is struggle between two or more persons for a common end .

3. People compete for the possession of material and non-material rewards like money ,goods, status ,power love ,etc.

**DEFINITION**

• Biesanz and Biesanz :competition is “ the striving of two or more person for the same goal which is limited so that all cannot share it.”

• Park and Burgess: “competition is an interaction without social contact”.

- Sargent and Williamson, "competition implies rivalry or struggle between two or more persons for the purpose of obtaining a non-divisible goal".

### **Types of competition**

1. Economic competition
2. Political competition
3. Social competition
4. Cultural competition
5. Personal competition
6. Impersonal competition

### **Functions or role of competition**

1. Assignment of individual to proper places
2. Source of motivation
3. Competition is extremely dynamic
4. Competition leads to frustration
5. Failure leads to disintegration
6. Competition may lead to conflict
7. Competition is impersonal
8. Social economic progress accelerated
9. Competition is universal
10. Competition is continuous
11. Competition is always governed by norms

12. Competition is cause and effect of social change

13. Competition follows rules

### **Conflict**

- It is an ever-present process in human relations .
- It is one of the forms of struggle between individuals or groups .
- When the interests of a person or a group are incompatible with those of the others and if they make an attempt to achieve their goals by applying sanctions and by using or by threatening to use violence they can be considered to be in a situation of conflict .
- Definition
- AW Green:” Conflict is the deliberate attempt to oppose ,resist or coerce the will of another”.
- Gillin and Gillin :”conflict is the social process in which individuals or groups seek their ends by directly challenging the antagonist by violence or threat of violence”.
- Davis : “conflict is a modified form of struggle”.

### **Characteristics**

1. Conflict is conscious action
2. Conflict is a personal activity
3. Conflict lacks continuity
4. Conflict is universal
5. Conflict is a deliberate
6. Conflict is personal and direct
7. Conflict is individual process

8. Conflict is temporary and intermittent
9. Conflict is mostly violent
10. Conflict is cumulative
11. Conflict may emerge
12. Conflict is both disintegrative and integrative
13. Conflict is direct and indirect

**Causes of conflict**

1. Individual differences
2. Cultural difference
3. Clash of interest
4. Social change
5. Limited resources
6. Selfish and vested interest

**Types of conflict:**

1. War
2. Feud
3. Litigation
4. Conflict of impersonal ideas
5. corporate and personal Conflict
6. Class conflict
7. Racial conflict

8. Caste conflict
9. Group conflict
10. International conflict

### **Accommodation**

1. Accommodation is a form of social process .professor JM Baldwin was the first to use the concept accommodation .Adjustment that people do continuously to pull on with other persons and situations can be called accommodation.
2. For eg husband and wife may quarrel for some petty or serious things at one time or another but most of the times live together with mutual love and affection this state is known as accommodation

### **Definition**

- MacIver : “the term accommodation refers particularly to the process in which man attains a sense of harmony with his environment
- Ogburn :”Accommodation is a term used by the sociologist by the describe the adjustment old hostile individuals or groups”.
- According to park and Burgess: “Accommodation is a natural resolution of conflicts”.

### **❖ Characteristic**

1. Universal
2. Natural result of conflict
3. Continuous
4. Conscious or unconscious
5. Reduce conflict
6. Accommodation may or may not provide permanent solution

7. Accommodation involves changes in habits ,attitudes etc.

8. Types of Accommodation

1. co-ordinate accommodation

2. Super coordinative and subordinate accommodation

## **Methods of Accommodation**

1. Compromise

2. Toleration

3. Conversion

4. Sublimation

5. Rationalization

- Assimilation( understanding information or idea ,adjustment)
- It is a type of social process like accommodation ,Assimilation is also a form of social adjustment , Assimilation refers to the absorption of one culture by another person or assimilation requires more fundamental changes than accommodation .
- Individuals or different groups becoming similar and identifying with the other groups is known as assimilation .

### **Definition**

- According to Young and Mack , “Assimilation is the fusion or blending of two previously distinct groups into one”.
- Bogardys ,: “ Assimilation is the social process whereby individual or groups come to share the same sentiments and goals .

### **Characteristics**

1. Assimilation is an unconscious process



2. Assimilation is a two-way process
3. Assimilation is a slow and gradual process
4. Assimilation is a complex phenomenon

### **Factors**

1. Toleration
2. Social relationship
3. Inter caste marriages
4. Culture similarity
5. Education
6. Equal social and economic opportunity .
7. Isolation