

Social Change in India

Presented

By

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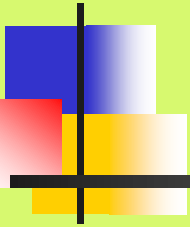
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Introduction



- The term social change is used to indicate the changes that take place in human interactions and interrelations. Society is a web of social relationships and hence social change means change in the system of social relationships. These are understood in terms of social processes and social interactions and social organization.
- Auguste Comte the father of Sociology has posed two problems—the question of social statics and the question of social dynamics, what is and how it changes. The sociologists not only outline the structure of the society but also seek to know its causes also.



Meaning and Definitions

Social change refers to an alteration in the social order of a society. Social change may include changes in nature, social institutions, social behaviors, or social relations.

- **Kingsley Davis**, “By Social change is meant only such alterations as occur in social organizations, that is, structure and functions of society.”
- **According to MacIver and Page**, social change is a change in social relationship.
- **Gillin & Gillin** "Social changes are variations from the accepted mode of life, whether due to alteration in geographical condition, in cultural equipment, composition of the population. Or ideologies.

Characteristics of Social Change



1) Social change is universal

- It means that social change is not confined to a particular society or group.
- It occurs in every society, sociologically, speaking an unchangeable society.
- Thus, no society is free from the impact of social change.

2) Social change is related to time factor

- The speed of social change is not uniform.
- It differs from period to period.
- In modern society the speed of social change is rapid or faster than traditional society.

3) Social change is un-equal and comparative

- It is slow in traditional society whereas it is rapid in modern society.
- In urban areas the speed of social change is faster than the rural areas.

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4) Social change is an essential law

- Essential law means a law which occurs and over which we have no control.
- It may be planned or not, it must occur.

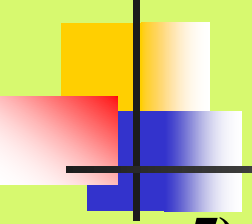
5) Social change may be planned or unplanned

- Planned changes are those which occur by some deliberate or conscious effort.
- deliberate effort like earth-quake, war, political revolution and other natural calamities.
- Thus, social change occurs both in planned and unplanned manner.

6) Social change may be short term or long term

- Some change brings immediate change which is known as short term change, like fashion, behavior of the individual etc.
- But other changes take years to produce result which is known as long term change.
- Custom, tradition, folkways, mores etc. are long term changes.

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7) **Social change is a community change**

- Social change does not refer to the change which occurs in the life of an individual or life pattern of individuals.
- It is a change which occurs in the entire community and that change can be called social change which influences a community form.

8) **Social change is the result of the interaction of various factors**

- It is always associated with other factors such as Cultural, Biological, Physical, Technological and others.
- It is due to the material interdependence of social phenomena.

9) **Social change is human change**

Factors of Social Change

1) 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.

2) Geographical Factors of Social Change:

- The geographical conditions always affect the social system and act as factors of social change. The cultural life of the people depends upon the physical environment. Progress also depends upon the availability of natural resources.

3) Biological Factors:

- The human element is ever changing. Each new generation is different from previous generation. It is different in form, ideas and in many other ways from the one gone before.

4) Demographic Factors:

- The Demographic factors always influence the process and nature of Social Change. The population increase or decrease always brings social problems. A constantly rising population gives birth to poverty, unemployment, disease and several other related problems.

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5) Socio-economic Factors:

- The joint family system suffered a decline and the nucleus family came to be the basic social unit. Women also became a work force. Male-female relations got changed when women also started working in factories, offices and shops.
- The economic factors constitute an important factor of social change. When there are changes in the means of production i.e the material productive forces of society, it is always changes the social organization.

6) 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 and the like. When there is a change in these, it influences the social life.

7) Science and Technology as factors of Social Change:

- In contemporary times science and technology happens to be the most important factor of social change. New scientific inventions and technologies always greatly influence the social life.

8) Mass media and Social Change

Thanking You All

