SOCIAL CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT

B.A.(Sociology) – Second Year

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SOCIAL CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT

Unit - I

Basic concepts: Concept of social change and its forms; Concept and Features of Development.

Unit - II

Theories of Social Change: Linear (Spencer), Cyclical (Pareto), Fluctuation (Sorokin); Conflict Theory(Marx).

Unit - III

Factors of Social change: Technological, Cultural and Ideological

Unit - IV

Social Change in Contemporary India: Trends and Processes of Change-Sanskritisation, Westernisation, Modernisation and Secularisation.

Unit - V

Socio Cultural Dimensions of Development: Culture and development, caste and economicdevelopment.

Unit - VI

Five Year Plans and Development in India: Objectives, Strategies, Achievements, and Shortfalls.

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UNIT - I

Lesson 1.1 - Concept of Social Change

Structure

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1.1 Objectives

- Understand the basic concept of social change and its forms.
- Understand the opportunities and challenges associated with different forms of social change.
- Evaluate some of the key theories and approaches to development.

1.2 Introduction

Sociology emerged as a discipline in the early 19th century during the time of rapid social changes driven by industrialization, the emergence of new forms of political organizations, and the development

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of scientific thinking. One of the primary concerns of classical sociologists is to analyze and understand the process of social change. Social changes encompass people's changing patterns of family, occupation, and cultural adaptation. Changes happen when they adapt to new technologies, and due to migration. The population changes, technologies expand, material equipment changes, ideologies, and values take on new components, and institutional structures and functions undergo reshaping. These processes are conceptualized, lexicalized and the theories emerged to understand the same. The theories of social change emerged to find the ways and means to direct it to Development i.e. for the welfare of the people. The development encompasses a commitment to creating opportunities for the people to determine their needs and influence the making of social policies and economic initiatives. Development is understood as a set of desirable results that emerge with the help of deliberate efforts. It is important to understand the underlying process of social change that determines how society adapts to development and how development causes social change.

1.3 Social Change: An Overview

Social change refers to the alternation in society in terms of value systems, social organization, and practices. The practices which may appear to be a radical ideas at one moment in history can become a taken-for-granted norm at another phase. Women's suffrage, civil rights, and environmental concerns are all considered powerful examples of the twentieth century. Similarly, contemporary society is witnessing the normalization of new technologies, such as the Internet, smartphones, and artificial intelligence.

Earlier, the French Revolution (1789) was the root cause of a drastic social change in the West, which aimed to create a sharp break from traditional society. It created a new socio-political condition based on the Enlightenment ideals of liberty, equality, and fraternity. Thereby, social change often coincides with and is induced by the idea of a possible future for a society that will be different from the present one. In other words, the awareness of the gaps and differences between the actual social conditions and the ideal social conditions opens up. This can happen when people are confronted with other ways of handling the actions of society. A minority group of people, particularly social movements, that persistently communicate an alternative view of reality, motivates society to actualize them. The effort to bring about

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social change is successful depending on both power and a moral vision, as long as it is effectively communicated to the public.

Social changes refer to the changes in various facets of society, such as the economy, demographics, technology, politics, culture, and psychology. These changes influence people's behavior causing certain social categories to emerge, transform or disappear. Taking this context Ramkrishna Mukherjee analysed the social change and development of the Developing countries in the East. He noted the following 'alterations' can be perceived as the premises to understand social change.

- Societal arrangements may witness alterations in terms of economic, technological, political, cultural, psychological, demographic, and so on.
- Such Alterations in social arrangements will alter the behavior patterns of the people and lead to the emergence, transformation, and disappearance of the social category based on the respective social contexts.
- The altered behavior patterns will have intended or intended consequences and influence other behavior and lead to the emergence of other groups which have the potential to strategically represent the altered economic, ideological, cultural, and other patterns.
- The emergence of the new groups will represent the newly emerged behavior patterns replacing the existing group.

Social change is a continuous process in which subcultures are created and the major cultures of the society get altered or irrelevant. For example, the rise of capitalism as well as industrialization in the late 19th and early 20th centuries resulted in a shift in the dominant family system. The traditional joint family systems gave way to the emergence of nuclear families. As industrialization created new employment opportunities people had to migrate and relocate to cities to take advantage of these opportunities.

Consequently, families became smaller giving rise to the nuclear family system and continued to gain popularity over the years. New cultural norms and gendered roles were developed in the nuclear family system. It emphasized individualism and independence. This significant cultural shift has had an impact on the way the individual chooses to live. Over the years, the changing attitudes towards marriage, cohabitation, and related responsibilities, made more couples choose living together relationships.

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Moreover, financial reasons, delayed marriage, changing gender roles, increasing divorce rate, and related factors increased the rate of living together relationships. All these types of relationships get legal validation as per necessity. In India, the 'Marital Relationship' has well-defined legislation related to inheritance, succession, and restitution of conjugal rights. On the other hand, as per the Supreme Court judgment in 1978 living together in a relationship is legal but subject to the caveats like age, consent, and soundness of mind. Over time, it gained judicial attention as the cases on live-in relationships were increasing.

As per the recent judgments, women who are in live-in relationships are entitled to protection under Domestic Violence Act 2005. Second, if the couple has such relationships for a significant period, they would be presumed to be legally married and the woman is entitled to a share in her partner's property; and most importantly, the children born out of living together relationships will be considered legitimate. Thereby, the changes in the social system lead to the changes in the legal system, to provide people with protection as well as recognition.

1.4 Definitions of Social Change

Kingsley Doris "By social change is meant only such alternations as occur in social organization i.e. the structure & functions of society".

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 & whether brought about by diffusion or inventions within the group."

M.E. Jones: "Social change is a term used to describe variations in, or modifications of, any aspect of social processes, social patterns, social interaction or social organization".

Kingsley Davis: "By social change is meant only such alterations as occur in social organization, that is, structure and functions of society".

Mazumdar, H.T. "Social change may be defined as a new fashion or mode, either modifying or replacing the old, in the life of a people - or in the operation of society."

MacIver and Page: "Social change refers to 'a process' responsive to many types of changes; to changes in the man-made conditions of life;

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to changes in the attitudes and beliefs of men, and to the changes that go beyond human control to the biological and the physical nature of things".

Oxford Reference sums up the definition of social change as follows:

1. The process of altered status, values, behavior, and mode of speech and dress that accompany social mobility.
2. The alteration of a society as its level of wealth and other resources changes. This is normally a slow process from one generation to the next, documented by social historians. It may be accelerated by extraneous events, for example, the great increase in female participation in the wage-earning workforce in World War II that was accompanied by other rapid changes in nutritional status and sexual and other health-related behavior."

Characteristics of Social Change

Universal phenomenon: Social Change is universal, ubiquitous**,** and inevitable**.** It occurs in every society at different levels, from small groups to large communities.

Frequency: Social change can be sudden or gradual. Given the scientific advancement, it can happen almost every day at a different pace.

Response: Certain social changes may appear radical in the beginning phase. But over the years it can be accepted, normalized, and taken for granted. Every single social change faces opposition and resistance from one or more groups.

Predictability and Control: It can occur in a controlled or uncontrolled way. Controlled changes are generally implemented by governments. Uncontrolled changes are unpredictable and mostly influenced by nature

Impact: Social change can have a positive or negative impact. It depends on the context, pursued goals, or deliberate efforts.

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1.5 Concepts Related to Social Change

Evolution

Social evolution refers to a gradual as well as continued increase in the complexity of human society. It occurs as a result of the transmission and utilization of knowledge gained in each generation.

We witness social evolution from how people have evolved to live in a larger and more complex version of society over time. Earlier, humans used to live in small family groups or as tribes. Over time, they started to consolidate and organize themselves as a larger community and eventually developed complex civilizations. Such civilizations are characterized by social, economic, political, and scientific advancement. Today, we can explicitly see the social evolution in the form of cosmopolitan cities, global trade, and commerce, and widespread sharing of information and ideas through the internet and social media.

Transformation

Social transformation refers to the significant large-scale changes in society. It refers to the changes in an entire culture or a social system at a macro level. Such transformation may be related to social reforms or innovations. Social transformation can also be related to the process by which an individual or group shifts from the socially ascribed status of their previous generation into a socially achieved status for themselves.

In Indian society, women's empowerment is the best example of social transformation. Women were subjected to discrimination and violence for centuries. But in recent decades many social movements and governments were taking initiatives to address gender inequality. Legislation related to female infanticide, domestic violence, child marriage and sexual abuse, conjugal rights, and property rights were enacted. Welfare policies related to education, microfinance, entrepreneurship, and maternity were implemented. Undoubtedly, these initiatives have been an impetus for this positive social transformation.

Diffusion

Cultural diffusion is a social process through which the elements of culture spread from one group or culture to another. Such diffusions

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can be related to innovations, ideologies, values, concepts, knowledge, practices, fashion, material, and symbols.

For example, yoga emerged in India and spread across the world. In contemporary times, it gained popularity and recognition at the international level. Millions of people are practicing yoga for the sake of physical and mental well-being. Yoga had been adapted and customized as per the needs and preferences of different cultures. It has evolved different styles of yoga practiced by people from various countries. Now it has become a part of global popular culture.

Progress

Social progress refers to the improvement in the well-being of the people. It is measured by various indicators such as quality of life, education, health care, employment, income, and political participation.

The increasing number of women's representation in the political sphere shows the progress towards gender equality. Political leadership positions provide women's agency with a better voice in the decision-making that influences their lives and well-being.

Adaptation

Social adaptation refers to the adjustments of the individual or group to conform to the prevailing social norms and values in a given cultural, environmental, or societal condition. The process involves changing behavior patterns, beliefs, and attitudes, as a response to new social conditions.

One example of social adaptation is the climate refugees from Kiribati. It is a small island nation, in the Pacific region, suffering the malign effect of climate change such as rising sea levels and weather patterns. In response to the climatic disasters, the government of Kiribati decided to relocate the entire population to Fiji. These people will migrate as climate refugees. To ensure a smooth and successful transition, the government of Kiribati has enacted a series of social adaptation strategies. These include providing a cultural orientation to the climate refugees to integrate them into Fiji society. Moreover, community centers and schools were established to support the migrants. However, a successful adaptation needs comprehensive support from the immigrants as well as the native people of Fiji to adjust to the prevailing social situation.

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Reform

Social reforms refer to a positive change in the society. It refers to the social process in which changes are carried out in the existing system, mainly improving the condition of marginalized groups. It is similar to the concept of progress.

Successful legislative changes proposed by the suffrage movements, civil rights movements, and disability rights movements are the best examples of social reforms. In colonial India abolition of child marriages was the main agenda for the social reform movements, like Brahmo Samaj, Arya Samaj, and Self- Respect movement. Their reform agenda culminated in the Child Marriage Restraint Act of 1929.

Innovation

Innovation refers to the process of creating new or advanced ways of doing things. It could be a product, service, or process which makes lives better. Innovation is important for social change, as it capacitates individuals and organizations to develop and implement new solutions for existing social problems.

Innovation can lead to social change by bringing the development of technologies, products, and services which can transform people's way of life. For example, the invention of the internet has created a drastic change across the globe. It influenced the communication, information, knowledge as well as skills of the people. Almost everything has become digitalized and it changed the mode of many sectors including finance and education.

Innovation can also help individuals or communities for adapting to changing social conditions. For example, the development of advanced renewable energy technologies and solid waste management can help to reduce carbon emissions and mitigate the effects of climatic disasters. As society changes, innovations become essential for creating new and better versions of doing things to facilitate people's lives and social progress.

Revolution

Revolution is a significant as well as a historical change that occurs in a society's structure, resulting in fundamental changes in societal arrangements. It is often related to a radical overthrow of the existing political and social system and replacing them with newly established ones.

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The Indian Independence movement is a significant revolution in terms of Indian History. The revolution ended the imperial rule of the British and lead to the establishment of a democratic and independent nation. The movement emerged in the 1800s and lasted successfully till 1947. The independence movement encompassed various social and political movements, such as non-violent protests carried out by Mahatma Gandhi, and the formation of the Indian National Congress, which demanded more autonomy and representation for the Indian people. The movement also included the agenda of educational reforms, labor rights as well as land tenure system. It was not only a political revolution but also a social revolution that transformed India's cultures and social relationships and community consciousness. It was considered a significant step towards the emergence of an inclusive society and egalitarian society and continues to influence contemporary India.

1.6 Forms of Social Change

Different forms of social change occur in societies, some of which are discussed below:

Evolutionary Change:

Evolutionary Change refers to a gradual and continuous change in society. It is also referred to as **'organic change'**. Evolutionary changes take place because of social, economic, and political changes and technological advancements. Social evolution is a combination of historical, cultural, and environmental factors. Analyzing the evolutionary changes is one of the primary agendas of classical sociologists as it involves how societies change and develop over time. The shift from primitive societies that are barbaric and savagery, to complex civilizations can be perceived as an evolutionary change of the societies. These changes are driven by cultural diffusion, cultural convergence, inventions, discoveries, and the diffusion of ideas produced through scientific research.

Revolutionary Change:

It is a sudden and radical change that is experienced by society. These changes can be intentional or unintentional, often sparked by a crisis or a historical event. These revolutions are generally political. Revolutionary changes can take place because of social conflict. In some instances, it happens because of the state of 'anomie'.

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Anomie is a concept introduced by the classical sociologist Emile Durkheim. Anomie is defined as a state of 'chaos', 'normlessness', or a breakdown of social norms. This condition is caused when individuals could not handle the lack of social control or failure of social control, or the lack of governance, or failure of good governance. These factors can lead to social disorganization and social unrest that can ultimately create a revolution.

Sense of anomie was experienced by the youth people in Middle Eastern Countries and fueled the Arab Spring protests in 2011. The people developed anti-incumbency because of the lack of economic opportunities, corruption, and oppression. They expressed a sense of hopelessness and used social media to vent their frustration. It eventually led to organized protests and demonstrations in countries like Tunisia, Egypt, and Libya. People opposed the existing social norms and demanded better governance. Their demands were in the form of violent confrontations which ultimately led to the overthrow of the long-standing political leaders. This anomie can be a primary factor for revolutionary changes as it instills a sense of dissatisfaction and anger among the members of society. When the majority of individuals feel that the prevailing social norm and the power structure of society are failing them, they are more likely to join together and initiate the change.

Reformative Change:

Reformative changes are deliberate, planned, and gradual changes that aim for social progress. It is often initiated by social movements, governments, civil society organizations, or social groups based on community or ideology. These changes include changes in the welfare policies and social legislation to address social issues, uphold social justice and improve living conditions. Reformative changes bring a positive social transformation and socialize people to adapt to it. It is also referred to as ' **Planned Social Change** ', and **'Directed Social Change** '.

Reactive Change:

Reactive changes happen as a response to external forces, such as natural disasters, economic depression, war, or other related problems. These changes are unexpected, unplanned, and spontaneous. Reaction changes mostly occur out of necessity to resolve immediate social issues and challenges.

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In the context of Covid- 19, reactive changes refer to the changes carried out by individuals, organizations, and governments to tackle the pandemic. For instance, social distancing policies and guidelines were implemented. People across the globe were instructed to stay at home quarantine, avoid large gatherings, and maintain a safe distance from others in public places.

Another significant reactive change made for reducing the Covid cases is the 'shift from off-line mode to online mode'. Online mode was mainly adopted by educational institutions to facilitate remote working and learning. Secondly, organizations direct their employees to work from home. Thirdly, e-commerce gained popularity. It required potential individuals to adapt to the advanced technologies and work arrangements within a relatively short period.

The social distancing policies, hybrid sessions, and remote working arrangements were not part of the original plan of many government and non-government agencies. But such transformation policies became the need of the hour to respond to the crisis and to protect public health.

Proactive Change:

This is an envisioned, planned, and directed change initiated to create a desired future state. They are often led by visionary leaders, reformers, and governing bodies who have a clear vision of what society should be like and the ways for achieving them. It involves creating new social structures, norms, values, and practices.

The Paris Agreement on Climate Change was signed in 2015 by 196 countries and the European Union. This international agreement is a proactive change to tackle global warming and climate change. The agenda of the agreement is to limit global warming below 2 degrees Celsius by controlling greenhouse gas emissions. It demonstrates the power of proactive change and proves how world nations can come together to create a positive change to address the negative impact of human activities on the environment.

Analogical Social Change

This type of change refers to the impact of technology or innovations on society. Currently, we are witnessing an unstoppable analogical social

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change as the internet and social media created a massive transformation in social interaction, behavior, and relationships.

E-Commerce is a growing trend in online shopping and retailing. It has changed the way people purchase goods and services from anywhere in the world, providing more convenience and accessibility as well as wide options for consumption. Before the introduction of the e-commerce system, people had to physically visit the stores or order good catalogs. This system is relatively time-consuming. E-Commerce turned out to be a more efficient and cost-effective way for businesses to connect with consumers by providing them with greater choices as well as transparency in their purchasing decisions.

1.7 Factors Affecting Social Change

Scientific Advancement and Rational Thinking:

Scientific advancements include the development of new knowledge, technology, and tools to transform how individuals, organizations, and society operate. On the other hand rational thinking involves logical evidence-based decision-making which challenges traditional beliefs and assumptions. These two factors play a critical role in addressing social problems and improving human well-being. For example, advancements in healthcare and medicines can improve life expectancy. Likewise, rational thinking can eliminate the superstitious beliefs that are harmful to human beings and promote the agenda of social justice and equality. Rational thinking can challenge the political system which perpetuates inequality. There are essential components for any society that seeks to progress. However scientific advancement may also lead to negative consequences like environmental degradation.

Demographics:

Changes in the size and composition of the population may bring social change. An Aging population can influence the changes in terms of health care and retirement benefits. The Size of the youth population is the major factor for unemployment and related social issues such as poverty, social unrest, and an increase in crimes.

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Economy:

The Economy determines the changes in many aspects of society such as migration, brain drain, consumerism, exploitation of the labor class, poverty, and political stability. For example, economic crises and recessions can lead to deprivations, inequalities, and changes in consumerism.

Environment:

Natural disasters, climate change, and related changes in the ecosystem can influence infrastructure and government policies.

Politics:

Political changes such as democratization or autocratization can change the social policies, power dynamics, social attitudes, and the well-being of the people.

Culture:

Cultural changes in family structure, marriage patterns, gender roles, and related values can lead to significant social change.

Globalization:

It increases interconnectedness across the globe and leads to cultural diffusion, cultural convergence, and the emergence of new cultures, and subcultures.

Historical events:

Certain pivotal moments can have a lasting impact on society. Wars, revolutions, Disasters, and social movements can make long-term social change.

1.8 Significance of 'Social Change' in Sociology

Sociological studies on social change deal with various factors and dynamics that produce social change. Max Weber's work titled '**The Protestant Ethics and the Spirit of Capitalism'** elucidates the link between capitalism, religion, and social change. The study explains how the emergence of capitalism created significant social change and influenced

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social structure and institutions. It explains how religion is used to make people adapt to industrial society and the system of bureaucracy.

'The Social Construction of Reality' written by Peter Berger and Thomas Luckman explores how social norms and social institutions influence our perception of reality and facilitate social change. Peter and Luckman argue that individuals and societies continuously create and recreate the meanings of the world around them by using language symbols as well as cultural traditions.

Antony J Bennington focussed on the role and strategies of social movements towards a positive social change in his work titled '**Strategic Action for Change and Development** '. Given the findings, he proposed a collective action that is purposeful, reflexive, and strategic which aims at changing the context in which Development occurs.

'**The Modernization of Tradition: Challenges of Sustainable Development in Asia**' written by Shigeharu Tanabe and Robert W.D. Connel, analyses the complex interplay between the traditional culture and modernization in Asia and how to pave the way for social change. This work stresses the need for locally appropriate solutions to development challenges. The authors argue that sustainable development should be based on an in-depth understanding of the local culture and traditions.

Manuel Castells delineates the transformation of modern society from the industrial to the information age. He traces the impact of information technology on social change, with special reference to the rise of network communication and its effects on knowledge and power. He affirms that the network has become the new dominant organization and communication in modern society. It has taken over the power of controlling society surpassing the hierarchical and bureaucratic structure of the industrial era. According to him, network society finds information as a source of production and wealth.

The network society has a new type of social structure with four interrelated elements. There is the information technology paradigm, the network enterprise form, the culture of real virtuality, and the decentralized and flexible organization of work. Castells argue that the emergence of network society has changed social institutions like the economy, politics, and culture. It has also transformed power relations, challenging the traditional form of authority. The power has shifted to the transnational flows of information, ideas, capital, and people. It eventually reduced the

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power of the state and other traditional institutions. Castells' study is perceived as a seminal contribution to the research on the information era and the dynamics of contemporary social reality.

Social changes in post-industrial society are well documented by Luc Boltanski and Ève Chiapello in ' **The New Spirit of Capitalism'**. It is a critical analysis of the transformation of capitalism into a new socio-economic system known as 'neo- liberalism'. Neo-liberal policies advocate free-market capitalism, eliminating price control, reducing trade barriers, deregulation, and reduction in government spending. The study notes that the new spirit of capitalism emerged in the 1980s to tackle the social and economic challenges of the time. Historical developments of Capitalism are traced from the Industrial Era to post-Fordism, which includes a flexible specialization, the rise of the service sector, and the use of new technologies.

According to Boltanski and Chiapello, the new spirit of capitalism is rooted in a new set of social norms and values. These new changes emphasize entrepreneurship, risk-taking, and innovation for a successful economy. The values have been advanced and institutionalized through continuous social and political intervention. For example, advertising, updating management theories, and the privatization of public services.

The study also points out that the artistic and intellectual movements, such as the environmental and anti-globalization movements were unsuccessful in challenging the new spirit of capitalism. They did not create an alternative to the dominant capitalist system, instead, they have been co-opted by the capitalist system and integrated into its new value system.

1.9 Conceptualizing Development

The term 'Development' evolved from the Italian term *'voluper'* and the French term *'développer'* meaning 'to unfold' or ' 'unwrap'. It was later adopted into English to define economic and social progress. The concept of Development gained momentum after World War II. It is the phase of decolonization of the third-world countries and the emergence of the cold war between the United States, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. After the devastating effect of World War II, superpowers like the United States decided to concentrate on Development. Initially, the Development was projected as an agenda to help the newly independent

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countries like Asia, Africa, and Latin America to overcome poverty and to catch up with the Western countries. Development became a field of academic inquiry to understand the causes of underdevelopment and to frame strategies for overcoming social backwardness. So initially the term development was related to economic growth and westernization. The strategies and policy implementation related to economic growth sidelined the inclusiveness, environmental protection, and the degradation of natural resources placing the livelihood of future generations in jeopardy. Hence the concept of Development has undergone continuous updation, reflecting the changing global condition, and the evolving values related to inclusiveness. In the 1970s emphasis shifted from modernization and economic growth, and placed on environmental protection, sustainability, human rights, social justice, and the uplift of marginalized communities. Strategies were made with holistic and participatory approaches to achieve development. Such processes are characterized as people-centric and environmentally sustainable development. In the 1980s and 1990s, the rise of globalization and neoliberals made people focus on economic liberalization and market-based solutions for development challenges. Such development agenda included free trade policies, individualism, and deregulations.

In the present context, the term 'Development' refers to the process of attaining a meaningful and sustainable change in various aspects of human life, including social, economic, environmental, and political spheres. Overall, the meaning and the indicators of Development remain contested and subject to ongoing discussions. The Development discourse encompasses diverse perspectives and the interests of various actors who are involved in the development process.

Elements of Development

Thomas A. in his work titled ' Meaning and Views of Development ' discusses three main senses of the term Development. These are:

i. Development as a Vision, description, or measure of the state of being a desirable society

   The vision of Development is perceived as an ideal that the nations strive to achieve. As a measure of the State being a desirable society, Development is assessed through various indicators like GDP, life expectancy, and literacy rate. Government has the primary

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responsibility of having a clear vision for the Development of the nation.

ii Development is a historical process of social change in which societies are transformed over long periods

Development cannot be achieved instantaneously and requires a considerable amount of time. Since independence, India's economy has grown with an annual average growth rate of about 6 percent over the past six decades. India has transitioned from an agrarian economy to a fast-growing industrial economy.

iii. Development consists of deliberate efforts aimed at improvement on the part of various agencies, including governments, all kinds of organizations, and social movements.

Development needs deliberate efforts and strategies. For example, India has been taking a series of efforts to achieve a high literacy rate. Implementation of the Right to Education Act 2009 makes education a fundamental right. Accordingly, a scheme called Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan provides free and compulsory education to all children between the age of 6 and 14 years; National Literacy Mission concentrates on adult education; Mahila Samakhya concentrates on education and Skill Development for women from marginalized rural areas; Beti Bachao Beti Padhao aims to promote the welfare of the girl children and the importance of education; and Digital India is a flagship program that provides infrastructure for e-learning platforms and digital literacy programs. Thereby India's literacy rate is increasing and as per NSO data, India's average literacy rate is 77.70

1.10 Characteristics of Development

Sustainability and Inclusiveness:

Development should be sustainable to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the capacity of the future generations to meet their own needs. Rapid industrialization led to the extensive usage of non-renewable natural resources and environmental degradation. These issues should be controlled to maintain a sustainable development that is people-centric. Sustainability is not only related to the environmental aspects but also to the inclusiveness of people in the development agenda.

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The concept of 'social sustainability' emerged to incorporate the importance of recognizing the concerns of people. World Bank defines: 'Social Sustainability and Inclusion focus on the need to "put people first" in development processes. It promotes social inclusion of the poor and vulnerable by empowering people, building cohesive and resilient societies, and making institutions accessible and accountable to citizens. Social Sustainability includes the agenda of fair living wages, affordable housing, and universal access to healthcare and education. On the whole, the development policies should leave no one behind, especially people from marginalized communities.

Holistic and Multidimensional:

The development projects should aim at improving the economic, social, political, psychological, and environmental conditions of the individuals. Development that focuses only on economic growth and material progress, can neglect other needs of the individuals. For example, fast-paced industrialization and urbanization have led to an increase in pollution, and cause a detrimental effect on people's health and well-being. Similarly, non-intervention of the government in capitalist policies may bring profit but lead to the exploitation of labor, unequal distribution of wealth and perpetuate poverty. Hence there should be a Multidimensional Development with a holistic approach.

A holistic approach to development also needs an emphasis on ethical and moral values to encourage individuals to contribute positively to society, and to lead a life with dignity and self-respect. The cultivation of values such as empathy, integrity, honesty, and patience is just as important as professional and academic development.

Participatory, Self-Reliant, and Empowering:

Participation of all members of society, including local communities and institutions in the decision-making process is essential for a decentralized development. Such participation is required to voice out their needs. This approach helps people to consolidate and work together, and take charge of their wellbeing. This approach leads to self-reliance and sustainability. Participatory budgeting, Self- Help groups, Community Based Natural Resource Management, are a few examples of participatory Development.

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Dynamic:

As discussed earlier, Development is a continuous process that should be able to adapt to changing circumstances. The process involves adaptation to the changes in the environment, identifying opportunities, and taking advantage of them. This approach is essential to tackle the challenges of the fast-changing world. Scientific advancements, Globalization are the driving forces of charge in various sectors, and Dynamic Development is the need of the hour.

One of the most dynamic developments of recent times is the update of E-Commerce. It created more opportunities to reach a global market. It has provided more job opportunities, revolutionize supply chains and facilitate economic growth. Similarly, new inventions related to renewable energy assist the increasing number of countries investing in solar, wind, and hydroelectric power. Waste management also gets updated regularly, to recycle plastic and related non-degradable materials that contaminate the environment.

Distributive Justice:

Development should address the issues of inequality, poverty, and distributive Justice. It could be implemented by promoting equitable distribution of resources. For example, Microfinance is a financial service given as small loans to people who can't access traditional banking services. It is an effective tool to provide entrepreneurship, financial independence, and self-sufficiency. It has been a successful strategy in countries like India and Bangladesh, to emancipate millions of people out of poverty. A few other examples of distributive Justice are universal basic income, land reforms, progressive taxation, education, and skills training for the needy.

1.11 Dimensions and Indicators of Development

The perceptions towards development can be both objective and subjective. Some of the commonly recognized dimensions are summoned up under the following heads.

Economic Dimension:

This includes the comprehensive measure of the country's economic growth, development, and well-being. The following indicators help policymakers to identify the areas for improvement and frame

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policies. The agenda is economic growth and development while ensuring that the benefits of development are shared equitably among all members of society.

- Per capita income
- Unemployment and Underdevelopment
- Gross Domestic Product (GDP)
- Purchasing Power Parity (PPP)
- Poverty rate
- Foreign Direct Investment
- Currency
- Increase in exports

Social Dimensions:

It ensures people a quality education, dignified job opportunities, equal treatment, and a conducive environment with basic services like water, sanitation, and health care. The country needs policies to support individuals and families during times of vulnerability and hardships. There should be good social capital to facilitate cooperation between individuals and groups of society. Social capital includes the level of trust, civic engagement, and social networks. The indicators of social development include:

- Sex ratio
- Life expectancy
- Infant mortality rate
- Literacy rate
- Human Development Index
- Reservation Policies
- Protection of human rights
- Social insurance programs

Political Dimension:

This dimension refers to the enhancement of political institutions and processes such as equal opportunity in terms of participation and representation, accountability, and transparency. The indicators are :

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- Political Stability
- Democracy
- Rule of law
- Quality of the Government
- Corruption
- Public service delivery

Environmental dimension:

The environmental dimension of development deals with the progress toward sustainable development goals. The indicators are used to analyze the impact of economic and social activities on the environment.

- Carbon dioxide emissions
- Forest cover
- Water quality
- Energy consumption
- Biodiversity
- Waste management
- Air quality
- Environmental regulations and policies

Cultural Dimension:

Culture contributes to the development by creating a sense of identity, and belonging for the individuals and communities. It helps in social cohesion and unity, which forms as building blocks of Development. It also incorporates cultural diversity, the strengthening of cultural institutions, and the preservation of cultural heritage. Moreover, traditional knowledge plays a key role in terms of Sustainable Development. The indicators of the cultural dimension of development are:

- Identity formation
- Creativity and Innovation
- Human capital development
- Tourism and cultural industries
- Environmental sustainability
- Conflict resolution

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Psychological dimensions:

It is a complex and multifaceted concept. However, the indicators that provide some insights into the Development of a nation are:

- Gross Happiness Index
- Mental health
- Crime rates
- Human capital

Generally, the psychological dimensions are linked to its commitment to promoting development, by addressing the barriers that hold back individuals and communities.

1.12 Development Theories

Development theories are the framework to understand the forms and phases of Development and help to understand how and why countries experience certain social, economic, and political changes over time. They also offer insights, and recommendations for development and point out the barriers to the progress of the underdeveloped Nations towards achieving development goals. As discussed in the introduction part of the chapter, development as an academic inquiry emerged after World War 2 and has a framework for decolonizing nations to attain economic growth and social progress. These theories have evolved, to elucidate the changing global context and new challenges faced by the developing as well as underdeveloped countries. Some of the major theories include Modernization Theory, Dependency Theory, and Post -Development Theory.

Modernization Theory:

Stages of Economic Growth- W.W. Rostow

W.W. Rostow was one of the key thinkers in 20th-century Development Studies. He is an American economist and a government official. During that time development and modernization were defined by the Western world, i.e. the countries which were powerful and wealthier. In this context, Rostow penned Stages of Economic Growth - A Non-Communist Manifesto in 1960, for guiding other countries to model themselves after the Western style of development. Accordingly,

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he presented five stages of development through which all the nation should pass for attaining Development: 1. Traditional Society, 2. Pre-Conditions to take-off 3. Take-Off 4. Drive to Maturity and 5. High Mass consumption. This model asserted that all nations exist somewhere on this linear spectrum and move upward through each change to attain the status of a developed nation. It also claims that development is all about the transformation from an agrarian society to an industrial society.

Rostow's Stages of Growth has been influential and grounded in the historical as well as political content in which he wrote. The book was published during the Cold War between the USA and USSR. The subtitle of the book, "A non-communist Manifesto" was an explicit political statement. Rostow framed this theory after the Western capitalist nations, which have been pioneers in industrialization and urbanization. Rostow was a staff member of the US President, John F Kennedy's administration. He promoted this theory as a part of US foreign policy. This model was strategically promoted to assist lower-income countries and to get their support against communist Russia.

Modernization and Social Change - Talcott Parson

American Sociologist Talcott Parson is known for his theory of 'structural functionalism'. According to Parson, Modernization is a process of social change in which the pre-modern, traditional societies transform into industrialized, modern societies. Such transformation happens through the process of structural differentiation. The transformations proposed by Parson are, Traditional systems based on ascribed status, religious beliefs, and family ties, to institutions that are based on meritocracy, rationality, and individual achievement. These changes lead to the emergence of institutions such as schools, bureaucracies, and mass media. Parson also argued that modernization will lead to a process of 'universalism'. Accordingly, societies will become rational and egalitarian, where individuals are judged based on their knowledge, ability, and skills rather than their social status. On the whole, universalism is perceived as an advantage of modern and industrialized society.

It is important to note that Parson was very critical of India's traditional nature. He did not focus much of his research on India. However, he made a brief mention about India, in his work titled 'The Social System ' published in 1951. He discussed India as an example of a traditional society that was in pursuit of modernization. He argued that

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India followed the 'particularistic' system of social relations which treats individuals based on their family ties, caste, and other ascribed status. However, he believed that modernization would lead to a shift towards a ' universalistic system' and value individuals based on their abilities and merit. Parson further noted that modernization in India got complicated by the country's colonial legacy and the persistence of traditional norms. He stated that the success of modernization would ultimately depend on the ability of the leader of India, to balance both traditional and modern values, and to develop institutions that could support a universalistic and meritocratic society.

Parson's work on modernization was popular and influenced the understanding of social change in many countries. However, he has been criticized for being too optimistic about the prospect of modernization and for oversimplifying the complex nature of traditional society which differs from each country. His work was also criticized for ignoring the role of power and conflict in the modernization process and it asserts that all societies will follow a similar linear path.

Dependency theory:

Economist and prominent scholar, Andre Gunder Frank developed the Dependency Theory in the 1960s. This theory strongly argued that the underdevelopment of many developing countries was not a result of their traditional cultural factors, but rather a result of their relationship with developed countries. Frank believed that the developing countries were dependent on the developed countries for economic growth, and in return, the developed countries exploited the former to their advantage. On the whole, their relationship was unequal and exploitative.

Dependency Theory argued that the developed countries maintained their dominance, by controlling the economy, market, resources, and technology in the developing countries. Their strategies are: Investing in and buying raw materials and agrarian products from developing countries at the lowest price while selling the manufactured goods at the high price. This relationship restricted the improvement of independent and diversified economies in developing countries and perpetuated underdevelopment.

Frank claimed that the only solution for developing countries to break free from this dependency way is, by adopting a socialist or Marxist

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economist model, that rejected and countered the capitalist structure of developed countries. He also suggests the redistribution of wealth and resources, within the developing countries and called for the establishment of more cooperative economic relationships among them

Dependency theory has been criticized for not considering the internal factors that contributed to the backwardness of underdeveloped countries such as corruption and poor governance. Critics argue that not all developing countries are equally relying on the developed countries. Some have managed to grow, despite their unequal relationship. However, Dependency Theory has a significant impact on the study of development and the relationship between world countries.

World System Theory

Immanuel Wallerstein's World System Theory categorized world countries based on their socioeconomic status. Second, it explains the unequal distribution of wealth and resources among the developed and developing nations. The theory was developed in the 1970s as a criticism of the modernization theory, which claimed that the development of these countries is essential and the poorer countries would eventually attain and catch up with the rich countries.

Wallerstein's theory is about the systematic domination of the capitalist system organized with a hierarchy of political and economic relationships, which he calls the 'World System '. This system consists of three zones: The core, periphery, and the semi-periphery.

The Core Countries: They are economically as well as politically dominant. These countries tend to enjoy the greatest benefits of the World System. They are industrialized nations with strong military power. They have advanced and imposed technologies, developed economies, and strong political influence in framing international policies. Some examples of core countries are;

- The United States
- Japan
- Germany
- France
- United Kingdom
- Australia

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These countries helm the global economy and politics. They dominate the multilateral Organisation such as the United Nations, World Bank, and International Monetary Fund. They are the major consumers of natural resources and the producers of manufactured goods across the globe. They are the big influencers of the international trade and commerce.

The Periphery Countries:

They are underdeveloped countries in terms of economy and politics. These countries are marginalized and dependent on international policies and the global economy. A few examples of periphery include:

- Angola
- Afghanistan
- Cambodia
- Democratic Republic of Congo
- Cambodia

These countries tend to have lower levels of industrialization, weaker economies, and minimal political influence in global politics. They generally depend on the exports of primary commodities such as minerals, agriculture, and oil. They have limited access to technology and capital. They are often subject to exploitation by powerful countries and multinational corporations, for cheap labor, natural resources, and agricultural goods. They tend to have seven social problems such as poverty, illiteracy, and inequality.

Semi- Periphery Countries:

The Semi- peripheral countries have the qualities of both the core and peripheral countries. They often have some degree of political and economic power, but still face the challenge in terms of economic growth and development. Some examples include:

- India
- Brazil
- Mexico
- Nigeria
- Iran

These countries are expected to be the emerging powers in the global economy and politics. They generally have diversified economies

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and are becoming industrialized. However, these countries still face the problems of poverty, unemployment inequality, and political instability. Notwithstanding the challenges, their growing importance in the global economy means that they have the potential to transform into major players on the world stage.

According to Wallerstein, it is difficult for the world system to overcome inequality and poverty. The system functions based on the continuous accumulation of wealth in the core countries at the expense of countries in the periphery and semi-periphery. He argues that the Development Aid provided by the core countries reinforces the existing peer structure to perpetuate.

Wallerstein's theory is criticized for oversimplifying the complexities of the modern global system in the era of globalization. It has a 'pessimistic view' of economic globalization and its contribution towards development and fails to recognize the opportunities provided by global trade and commerce. Nonetheless, Wallerstein's theory gives clarity and an explanation of the unequal distribution of wealth as well as the impact of the global division of labor.

Post Development Theories

Post Development Theories tries to address the limitation of the classical development theories and sets to explain the failure of modernization policies in terms of underdeveloped countries. The analyses were derived based on the qualitative and quantitative research in the developing regions, especially the ones which were receiving development aid from the core countries.

David Moose, a British anthropologist had worked extensively on the Development theories and practices. His work challenges the conventional approaches to development that generally prioritize technical solutions for the needs and perspectives of the local communities. Particularly he is critical of technocratic solutions prescribed by the international development organization which often neglects the socio-cultural context of the development. His work titled ' Cultivating Development; An Ethnography of Aid, Policy and Practice', asserted that the development policies fail because of the ignorance towards the experience, knowledge, and values of the local communities. The role of the donor agencies, NGOs, and the politics of participation are the influencing factors for the outcome of the Development projects.

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Andrew Webster emphasizes the need for the investments of development aid towards healthcare education and other social services which reduces poverty and promote sustainable development. Critical of traditional approach towards development ate being invested in large scale projects.

He has been vocal about the rate for more participatory and inclusive approaches to development aid to ensure the agency of local communities in shaping the program to meet their specific needs and priorities. Finally, an emphasis on the need for community leadership development in which the local organization's community members are empowered to take ownership of development initiatives.

Global North and South

After the split up of the USSR, the world nations were categorized as Global North and Global South. The Global North including the USA, USSR, and Europe remained with the status of Developed nations whereas Latin America and Africa were restricted to the condition of Underdeveloped Nations. The main reason behind this perpetuating inequality is the continuing domination and the impact of Neo-colonialism.

Through economic liberalization, the developing countries were attracted by the Capitalist Developed nations through development Aid. The countries which got developed aid were required to undergo Structural Adjustment Programmes. It refers to the alterations in the free market and increasing imports. Thereby the Developed nations extended their market in the developing and underdeveloped nations and maximize their profit and accumulated their wealth.

Moreover, given Globalisation, there was an increase in the international division of labor. All the capitalists across the world managed to get cheap labor, natural resources, and huge market from the global south nations. The local merchants and the cottage industries from the global south nations were unable to compete with the dominating MultiNational Corporation. On the other hand, irrelevant development policies were initiated in the global south. For instance, financial support was given in Lesotho, Africa for the cattle business. However, the traditional practices of the native people failed the program.

Such Development Aid perpetuates the economic gap between the global North and South countries. The geopolitics and the international

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liberal order had been the gatekeeper for the underdeveloped condition of the global south. The rise of China and its attempt to control the international liberal order has worsened global inequalities. China took over this normative framework which was formerly criticized as a US-led order. Initially, the United States has the maximum control over these agencies and decides upon the socio-economic policies, and has control over global politics.

For example, the US was helming the politics of Afghanistan for a significant period, with the help of political and military power. But things are gradually changing as China improves its military and economic power. Formerly China did not align with the US-led global norms like Democracy. Given its enormous growth, China seems to extend cooperation to nations that are rivals of the US and nations like India, to restrict its growth and authority.

The nations supported by China are often authoritative and violative of democratic principles. Moreover, China is gaining power in the market and geopolitics for the sake of capital goods. This will eventually lead to China getting the upper hand in the international liberal order and it will eventually jeopardize the very heart of democracy.

However, China has been trying its level best to extend its control over the Global South through development Aid and by influencing geopolitics. The Global South is going to remain the same as they will be molded to be dependent on the developed nations for financial support. In exchange, they will adhere to the policies of international relations and military actions. This kind of development Aid will foster corruption and lethargy among the Global South leaving their people in a vulnerable condition.

Thereby the categories such as Third World and global south symbolize historical subordination, marginalization, and exploitation. Such categories help to sustain the inequality in terms of Development.

1.13 Let us Sum up

- Social changes refer to the changes in various facets of society, such as the economy, demographics, technology, politics, culture, and psychology. These changes influence people's behavior causing

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certain social categories to emerge, transform or disappear. Such corresponding shifts in behavior patterns may also have a cascading effect, resulting in the formation of social groups that reflect the new or altered economic, Ideological, psychological, or political arrangements.

- Evolution is a gradual as well as a continued increase in the complexity of human society. It occurs as a result of the transmission and utilization of knowledge gained in each generation.
- Social transformation refers to the significant large-scale changes in society. It refers to the changes in an entire culture or a social system at the macro level.
- Cultural diffusion is a social process through which the elements of culture spread from one group or culture to another.
- Social progress can be defined as the improvement in the well-being of the people. It is measured by various indicators such as quality of life, education, health care, employment, income, and political participation.
- Innovation refers to the process of creating new or advanced ways of doing things. It often leads to social change and facilitates social adaptation as well
- Revolution is a radical social change that is often related to the overthrow of the existing political and social systems and replacing them with newly established ones.
- Evolutionary Change is also referred to as 'organic change'.
- Revolutionary changes can take place because of social conflict. In some instances, it is caused by the state of 'anomie'.
- Reformative changes are also referred to as ' Planned Social Change ', and 'Directed Social Change '.
- Reactive changes happen as a response to external forces, such as natural disasters, economic depression, war, or other related problems. These changes are unexpected, unplanned, and spontaneous. Reaction changes mostly occur out of necessity to resolve immediate social issues and challenges.
- Proactive is an envisioned, planned, and directed change initiated to create a desired future state.
- Analogical Social Change refers to the impact of technology or innovations on the society

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- Scientific advancements, rational thinking, economy, politics, culture, demographics, environment, globalization, and historical events are the primary factors that affect social change.
- After World War II, Development was projected as an agenda to help the newly independent countries in terms of economic growth, westernization, and modernization.
- The term 'Development' evolved from the Italian term 'voluper' and the French term 'développer' meaning 'to unfold' or ' 'unwrap'. It was later adopted into English to define economic and social progress. The concept of Development gained momentum after World War II. It is the phase of decolonization of the third-world countries and the emergence of the cold war between the United States, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.
- The strategies and policy implementation related to economic growth sidelined the inclusiveness, environmental protection, and the degradation of natural resources placing the livelihood of future generations in jeopardy. Hence the concept of Development has undergone continuous updation, reflecting the changing global condition, and the evolving values related to inclusiveness.
- In the 1970s emphasis shifted from modernization and economic growth, and placed on environmental protection, sustainability, human rights, social justice, and the empowerment of marginalized communities.
- In the 1980s and 1990s, the rise of globalization and neo-liberalism made people focus on economic liberalization and market-based solutions for development challenges.
- Development is a historical process of social change in which societies are transformed over long periods
- The concept of 'social sustainability' emerged to incorporate the importance of recognizing the concerns of people. World Bank defines: 'Social Sustainability and Inclusion focus on the need to "put people first" in development processes. It promotes social inclusion of the poor and vulnerable by empowering people, building cohesive and resilient societies, and making institutions accessible and accountable to citizens
- A holistic approach to development also needs an emphasis on ethical and moral values to encourage individuals to contribute positively to society, and to lead a life with dignity and self-respect.

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- The most dynamic development of recent times is the update of E-Commerce. It created more opportunities to reach a global market. It has provided more job opportunities, revolutionize supply chains and facilitate economic growth.
- Development should address the issues of inequality, poverty, and distributive Justice. It could be implemented by promoting equitable distribution of resources.
- The perceptions towards development can be both objective and subjective. Some of the commonly recognized dimensions are Economic, Social, Political, Environmental, Cultural, and Psychological dimensions.
- Some of the major theories include Modernization Theory, Dependency Theory, and Post -Development Theory.
- China has been trying its level best to extend its control over the Global South through development Aid and by influencing geopolitics.
- The categories such as Third World and global south symbolize historical subordination, marginalization, and exploitation. Such categories help to sustain the inequality in terms of Development.

1.14 Keywords

Social change, Economic Growth, Development, Evolution, Progress, Adaptation, Societal Shifts, Innovation, Modernization, Dependency, Development Aid, Structural Adjustment, Liberalization, Neo-Liberalism, Capitalism, Globalization, Human Development, Inclusive Development, Sustainable Development, Social Movements, Social Sustainability.

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1.15 Self-Assessment Questions

1. What is social change and how can it be explained in the context of sociology?
2. How do demographic factors such as population growth, migration, and ageing influence social change?
3. What drives society to demand and implement social reform?
4. How do societies adapt to external pressures or unexpected events? Explain with examples.
5. In what ways can reactive social change lead to proactive social change?
6. What is analogical social change? How does a society learn from each other's experiences and adopt or adapt institutions, policies, and practices?
7. To what extent does social movement contribute to social change?
8. How do global events such as pandemics or economic crises affect social change?
9. How does collective action influence social change?
10. How do social policies influence social change on various levels, such as regional, national, and global contexts?
11. How can the study of social change inform and guide social intervention and policymaking?
12. What are the key assumptions of modernization theory regarding a nation's development?
13. Discuss the politics and strategies associated with modernization theory.
14. Discuss the core Periphery relationship in the dependency theory.
15. Discuss the impact of development aid in underdeveloped countries.

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UNIT - II

Lesson 2.1 - Theories of Social Change

Structure

2.1 Objectives
2.2 Introduction
2.3 Linear Theory
2.4 Emergence of Linear Theories: A Brief History
2.5 Herbert Spencer: General Theoretical Principles
2.6 Simple-to-Compound Societies
2.7 Militant and Industrial Societies
2.8 Criticisms of Spencer's Theory
2.9 Pareto's Cyclical Theory of Social Change
2.10 Fluctuation Theory of Social Change
2.11 Karl Marx: General Theoretical Principles
2.12 Marx's Conflict Theory of Social Change
2.13 Let us Sum up
2.14 Keywords
2.15 Self-Assessment Questions
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2.1 Objectives

- Understanding the root cause of social change.
- Analyzing the patterns of social change.
- Applying social change theories to a global context.

2.2 Introduction

"I shall be content if those shall pronounce my History useful who desire to give a view of events as they did happen, and as they are very likely, in accordance with human nature, to repeat themselves at some future time - if not exactly the same, yet very similar."

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- **Thucydides, the Athenian historian**

There are a series of theories that help to understand the patterns and processes of social change. They draw from historical events to identify patterns in social relationships, interactions, organizations, institutions, and normative patterns of society. These theories help determine whether society is progressing or decaying. As discussed in the previous chapter the primary reason behind the emergence of sociology is to understand the transforming society. Theories of social change help to analyze the transforming society and the characteristics of each transforming phase. They provide frameworks for analyzing the causes and dynamics of social change, which predict future developments. The primary agendas of social change theories are:

- To understand the chronology and contextualize different historical periods and to identify the factors which contributed to the transformation of cultural power and institutions.
- To predict future development to address the potential challenges before they become a crisis.
- To provide ideological underpinnings for the social movement, Social change theories can inspire social mobilization and collective action, They provide a framework for understanding society and existing social problems
- These theories are effective tools to assist policy decisions, strategies, and sustainable solutions for development.

2.3 Linear Theory

Linear Theory of Social Change suggests that societies evolve from the primitive stage to the advanced one. Linear Theory is also referred to as ' Evolution or unilinear social change '. These sets of theories suggest that society develops predictably and linearly, progressing through predictable stages in a sequential order towards the civilized, advanced, and modern stages.

2.4 The Emergence of Linear Theories: A Brief History

The linear theory of social change has its roots in the 19th century when social scientists were observing and studying social transformations. One of the most prominent early proponents of this theory is Auguste

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Comte, the father of Sociology. The French Sociologist argued that societies move through three stages, Theological, Metaphysical, and Positive. Each stage represents an advanced level of rational and scientific thought. In the 20th century, the linear theory of social change gained popularity with the emergence of modernization theory. The linear model is generally used to emphasize the importance of economic growth, technological advancement, and cultural change. Rostow's Modernization Theory upholds the linear model and argued that the stages of development will ultimately lead to a stable, democratic, and civilized society (See Unit I).

2.5 Herbert Spencer: General Theoretical Principles

Herbert Spencer (1820-1903) was an English philosopher, biologist, and sociologist. Spencer's perspective on the social world is based on a series of general theoretical principles of biological evolution. He noted that in the early history of humankind, philosophers and scientists were unified in their efforts to analyze and understand the world. Eventually, these two different kinds of thinkers began to take on different objectives to study the functioning of the world. The philosophers focused on the 'unknowable.' and the scientific thinkers focused on that 'which can be known'. Spencer perceived his work as involving elements of science as well as religious elements and philosophy.

However, he believed in using scientific approaches to understand the world. He said that science provides a better understanding of reality than traditional philosophy and scientific knowledge should be applied to understand social issues. He believed in scientific methods, which involve the process of observing phenomena, developing hypotheses, and testing those hypotheses with experiments. Scientific knowledge should be based on empirical evidence and scientific theories should be updated and refined based on the new data. On the other hand, Spencer criticized traditional philosophy for its unconditional reliance on abstract reasoning and theories without sufficient empirical evidence. He criticizes that the philosophical approach leads to an inaccurate and incomplete understanding of the world.

Positivism

Spencer's views on philosophy and science were an important contribution to the emergence of Positivism. It is a sociological approach

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that emphasizes empirical evidence and scientific method in understanding the world. Spencer believes that it is important to have empirical evidence to understand the natural world as well as human society and culture. Positivism could help to create universal laws applied to all aspects of human life including the economic, political, and social spheres. Positivism does good help to address social problems and promote social progress. In studying societies scientifically, researchers understand and identify the conditions that led to inequality, poverty, and other problems and developed effective solutions to resolve them.

Social Darwinism

Spencer believes that society will face evolution just as the natural world and it should not be interrupted. His theory is based on Charles Darwin's theory of evolution by natural selection which proposes that species evolve through the process of variation, selection, and inheritance. Darwin believed that all living things were related and the mechanism of natural selection was responsible for the increasing diversity and the complexity of life on the earth. Darwin's idea of natural selection is that 'the individuals who are well-adapted to their environment are more likely to survive and reproduce, passing on their advantages rates to their offspring'.

Spencer applied Darwin's concept to human society and developed what is known as Social Darwinism. He believed that the laws of evolution could be applied to human societies, arguing that the strongest and the fittest individuals and the nations would succeed while weaker ones fail. This idea of 'Survival of the fittest' became popular during the late 19th and early 20th century and was used to justify a range of socially and politically conservative policies against the poor marginalized and disabled people. Spencer and Darwin both were influential thinkers with different approaches. Darwin concentrated primarily on scientific research and developed his theory of evolution and Spencer used Darwin's idea to conceptualize the broader social and political context.

Social Evolution

Spencer discussed evolution theory extensively in his three-volume work, *The Principles of Sociology* (1908a, 1908b, 1908c). Spencer

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employs four dimensions to understand the evolution of society and its major institutions. He stated thus: 'There is progress toward greater size, coherence, multiformity, and definiteness'. Accordingly, social evolution can be understood concerning the following aspects:

- Increasing integration i.e. increasing the size and coalescence of many people
- Increasing heterogeneity i.e. increasing specializations
- Increasing definiteness i.e. increase in clearly demarcated social institutions
- Increasing coherence of social groups, i.e. defined settlements and civilizations.

Spencer developed two systems for categorizing social change, inferred from the evolution of past and present.

2.6 Simple-to-Compound Societies

According to this system, evolution is based on the increasing number of members of the aggregate and the degree to which that aggregate is compounded or added to, by combining with other aggregates through such means as conquest or a peaceful merger. In other words, evolution happens when two simple societies merge as one due to war or mutual interest.

Society does not emerge as a nation or a great civilization in a single step. There is a process of compounding and re-compounding that must take place in the succession of compounding means, the joining of small societies to form a larger one. Recombining refers to the merging of larger societies. Spencer contends that this process is inevitable for growth and development as it paves the way for the formation of new institutions and the development of social relations between different groups. Through this, compounding and recommending process societies progress from small tribal groups to more complex and sophisticated nations. The development from simple to compound society is classified into four stages:

- Simple societies
- Compound societies
- Doubly Compound Societies
- Trebly Compound Societies

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Simple Societies:

Simple Societies are predominantly small with a higher degree of social cohesion and shared norms. The building blocks of the complex social structure. The primary unit of a simple society is the family, where the members live and work together nearby. Parts of a simple society would cooperate with or without a helming authority, to meet their needs. They don't have a hierarchy and they are not subjected to any authority. These Societies are nomadic and lack a stable social structure. They have minimal differentiation, specialization, and integration. They are relatively stable and static with a lower possibility of social mobility. They can evolve with the advancement of technology and knowledge.

Sociologists have used the Eskimo or Inuit societies to explain the characteristics of a simple society. Society has a relatively straightforward social structure and traditions. Eskimos have strong kinship ties and their families provide the basis for social organizations. Their livelihood is based on hunting and foraging. These are the primary means of subsistence which requires family and other units to work together to secure resources. This dependence on flora and fauna also means that Inuit society tends to be more nomadic, and mobile, following the seasonal migration of fish and animals. Such small-scale societies, traditions, and social norms tend to be well-established and transcended through the generations. They create a sense of continuity and stability. Their social hierarchies are generally limited or non-existent. Their leadership and decision-making would be more communal and informal. Eskimo societies have a complex system of skills and knowledge, which helps them to adapt to harsh environments. They have developed sophisticated knowledge about the natural environment and advanced hunting and survival technologies. No society can be truly considered as 'simple' when analyzed in detail. But Eskimo societies have stood as the best example of a straightforward and cohesive structure.

Compound Societies

Compound Societies emerge from the unification of two or more simple societies. They get merged either peacefully or violently. They are predominantly settled agricultural societies. The majority of them are mainly pastoral societies. They have a division of four or five social strata with an organized priestly group. The progress towards industrial society with increasing division of labor.

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The Teutonic people in the fifth century are considered an example of a compound society. They were a group of tribes who lived in various areas of modern-day Europe ranging from central Europe to Scandinavia. They were a diverse group with different customs, languages, and religions. They had a complex social structure with various hierarchical levels of social status. Their hierarchy is composed of mobiles and commoners and their division of labor was based on age and gender. They were also interdependent, as they rely on each other for many needs and wants such as food production and warfare. Interestingly, they also had formal institutions such as tribal laws and councils to regulate their social norms and practices.

They also had informal institutions such as storytelling traditions, which transmitted their cultural belief and value across the generations. However, it is important to note that we have limited information about the society. There were variations among these groups depending upon the tribe and region. Nonetheless, Teutonic people demonstrate the early example of compound society, where diverse groups form a societal structure.

Doubly Compound Societies

The next form is called Doubly Compound society in which political organizations become more intricate under a single head and a formal legal system. These are completely settled and integrated societies. They have a larger and definite political structure and a religion-based hierarchy. They have a more or less rigid caste system with a complex division of labor. In such societies, customs would have transformed into laws and religious observance would have grown into a definite, rigid, and complex one. With the development of towns and roadways, society would be progressing. Considerable advancement in knowledge and arts would have taken place.

Eleventh Century England can be considered the best example of doubly compound societies. The society was composed of two groups namely Anglo-Saxons and the Normans. The former were the original inhabitants of England. They had a distinct culture, language, and social structure. On the other hand, the Normans were the conquerors who came from Normandy in France. They brought their own language culture and social structure to England. These two societies merged and led to the emergence of Anglo-Saxon society.

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The Anglo-Saxon society was stratified with the king and nobility at the top, followed by freemen, who were farmers and artisans, and slaves at the bottom. The Normans, on the other hand, had a feudal system with the king at the top, followed by barons, knights, and serfs. The Normans also had a distinct language, French, and a legal system based on the principles of Roman law. After the Norman Conquest, In 1865, the two societies were forced to merge and created a doubly compound society.

The Normans became the ruling class. Their language and the legal system were imposed on the Anglo- Saxon population. Punctually these two groups started to merge and a new English society emerged. However, the social structure of the composed society was complex with the Norman and Anglo-Saxon culture intermingling and influencing each other. They had the King's Court, the church, and the feudal system. It combined the elements of both cultures. Result the society was diverse, complex, and changing with the mix of traditional customs and practices from both groups.

Trebly Compound Societies

It is defined as a great-civilized nation. The increasing overall size of the society, cultural complexity, division of labor, population density, and integration are the traits of the trebly compound societies.

The United States is an example of a trebly compound society as it is made up of three distinct groups, and each has contributed to its formation and identity. The Native Americans, the Europeans, and the Africans. The Native Americans were the original inhabitants of the land. Europeans arrived in the 16th century and brought their own culture, language, and religion from different parts of Europe such as France, England, Spain, and the Dutch. Moreover, the forced enslavement of Africans brought yet another group with their own culture, language, and identities.

Eventually, the interaction between these groups created a trebly compound society in the United States. Each group had a preferred impact on the development of the country as well as their cultural influences continued to shape American society, which continues until date. The diverse language, religions, traditions, and customs incorporated into the American National identity reflect the diversity inherent in these groups. The history of the United States including the political and social movements, battles over the land and other resources, and the assimilation

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of various groups reflect the complexity and diversity of a traveling society. The American legal system, political structure, and education are all influenced by the interaction between these groups.

2.7 Militant and Industrial Societies

Spencer offered a secondary system for classifying society. He saw a long-term evolutionary process from a militant society to an industrial society. His classification is based on the type of internal regulation within the society, and the relationship of society with other societies, given its significant environment.

Militant Society

It has only one commanding center, which exercises control over all its members. The central authority controls all spheres of their activity, not only prohibiting certain actions but also deciding on what should be done. These societies are subjected to compulsory cooperation and all organizations are controlled by the government. It has a centralized authority, and economic autonomy and upholds protectionism. The state holds the policy that individuals live for the benefit of the state. Each member of the society is assigned a position in occupation and rank in their region. Loyalty, conformism, obedience, acceptance of routine, dependency on authority, and lack of initiative are the psychological traits of the individual belonging to the militant society. These people believe that the prevailing conditions are normal and the only possible conditions.

Industrial Society

Industrial society is characterized as opposed to militant society. It functions based on voluntary cooperation rather than compulsory cooperation. It believes that the society exists for the benefit of its members. Here, the will of the citizens is supreme and the role of the government is to carry out their will. The private organization supports the economy and the decentralized structure is followed in terms of governance. Free trade is encouraged rather than the economic autonomy of the state. The ranks and occupations are assigned based on merit and the transparent administration will be maintained.

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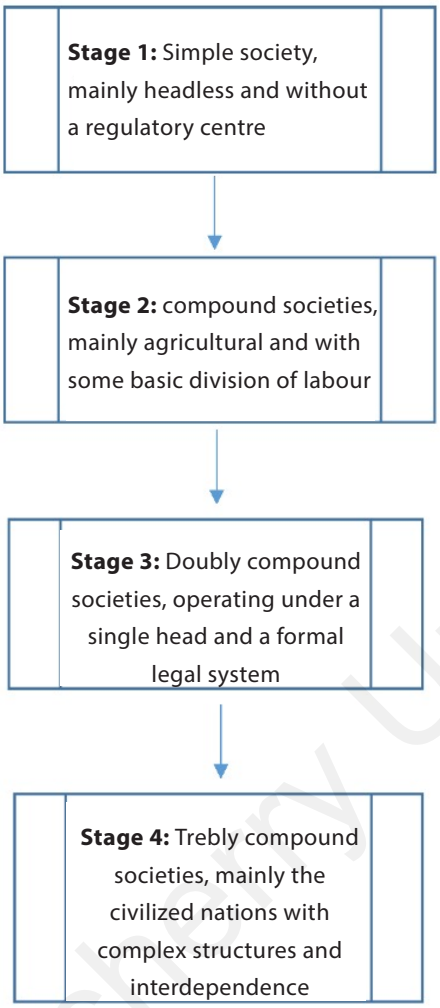

2.8 Criticisms of Spencer's Theory

- According to some social thinkers, Spencer's theory lacks practicality. It is not realistic that even today; several tribes do not show any signs of evolution.
- It is not possible to have a uniform pattern of evolution in all societies. The factors and the circumstances that are responsible for evolution differ from society to society.
- Regarding the 'survival of the fittest theory', scholars argue that meat survival is not enough for human society. It has qualities like empathy, sympathy, kindness, sacrifice, and love. These qualities are quite different from the struggle for existence.

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2.9 Cyclical Theory of Social Change

These theories suggest that human societies move through predictable cycles of growth, decline, and renewal. The theory asserts that society is a dynamic entity that changes over time. Cycles of change are influenced by a complex interplay of social economic, political, and cultural factors. The cyclical theories of social change have been proposed by many scholars throughout history. The core argument of this theory is that society moves through different changes depending upon the balance of power and resources between different social groups. They also suggest that certain phases of social development are more favorable for innovation, creativity, and growth while others are prone to stagnation, conflict, and decline. On the whole, the cyclical theory of social change gives a framework for understanding the patterns of social transformation and for explaining the factors that influence the trajectory of social development.

Wilfredo Pareto

Wilfredo Pareto demonstrated the cyclical theory in his book *Mind and Society*. He envisioned societies as social systems characterized by economic, political, and belief cycles. He referred to these types of cycles as the business cycle, the circulation of 'lions' and 'foxes' in the political sphere, and the cycle between faith and skepticism in popular belief.

Economic Cycle or Business cycle

According to Parents, the business cycle or economic cycle is driven by a combination of changes in production, technological innovation, and shifts in consumer behavior. He mentioned three phases of the economic cycle:

- expansion
- crisis
- contraction

During the phase of expansion, there will be economic activity, such as new technology and production methods which give higher output and increase consumer demand. This results in a period of prosperity, along with rising income and a growing economy. However, this period of growth inevitably results in a crisis, such as overproduction and overspending. It creates economic imbalances and a decline in the consumer's confidence.

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This leads to a contraction phase, where there are job losses, declining income, and a decreasing economy. Pareto asserts that the cyclical pattern of growth, crisis, and contraction is a basic feature of modern economies. He also notes that some societies may be resilient to economic cycles while others might be more vulnerable.

Pareto's economic cycle explains the activities that took place in diverse regions and countries. However, he was criticized for not taking into account the factors such as international trade globalization and government policies.

Political Cycle: Circulation of Lions and Foxes in the political sphere

Pareto argues that political cycles are driven by the struggle for power among various Elites within a society. He affirms that society is generally composed of two main groups: the ruling elite and the masses. The former hold the political and economic power, while the latter are the people who are governed. The ruling elite intends to maintain its power, whereas the masses attempt to challenge the power and overthrow it. In this context, Pareto proposes four main phases of the cycle:

- domination
- reforms
- degeneration
- revolution

During the phase of domination, the ruling elites are firmly in control and the masses are not politically engaged. The dominant elite utilizes its power to serve its interests to maintain the status quo.

During the reform phase, the masses transform into more politically active and demand changes in the existing political system. The ruling elite may respond by implementing reforms, but these are often limited and may be used as a strategy for maintaining the status quo.

In the degeneration phase, the ruling elite becomes corrupt and incapable of governing effectively. The masses become highly disillusioned, and the system becomes unstable.

Finally, during the revolution phase, the masses rise against the ruling elite and eliminate the existing political system. A new cycle emerged, with a new ruling elite and a new set of political challenges.

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On the whole, Pareto's theory of the political cycle suggests that political power is constantly in flux and that diverse groups within society are struggling for the power to control others. However, this theory did not consider the aspects of ideology, culture, and international relations that play a key role in influencing political changes.

Ideological Cycle: Faith and Skepticism

It is also referred to as the belief cycle. Pareto perceives these ideas as tools used by people to fulfill their interests. He argues that beliefs emerge and gain influence according to the specific needs and interests of the groups which are involved. The groups may come into conflict when those needs and interests clash. Given this context, Pareto identified the main types of belief systems:

- Dominant
- Residual

Residual ideas are old ideas that have lost their influence or usefulness. These ideas continue to exist in society. But they don't have any power to influence or shape people's behavior. Whereas dominant ideas are new ideas that have gained popularity and acceptance. They are trending ideas that are currently shaping people's behavior and attitudes. Generally, these ideas served the interest of the most influential or powerful groups in society.

Pareto argued that the dominant ideas would end up in crisis, as they become outdated and no longer serve the changing requirements of society. This led to a phase of ideological struggle when different groups put forth alternative ideas and beliefs as an alternative to the old dominant ideas In the end, any one of the new ideas becomes dominant and the cycle starts again. Overall, the theory of the belief cycle asserts that the ideas and beliefs in society are constantly changing and that they are shaped by the needs and interests of different groups. The theory did not consider the role of historical context and the related cultural transformation in shaping the ideas, to explain the cycle of belief.

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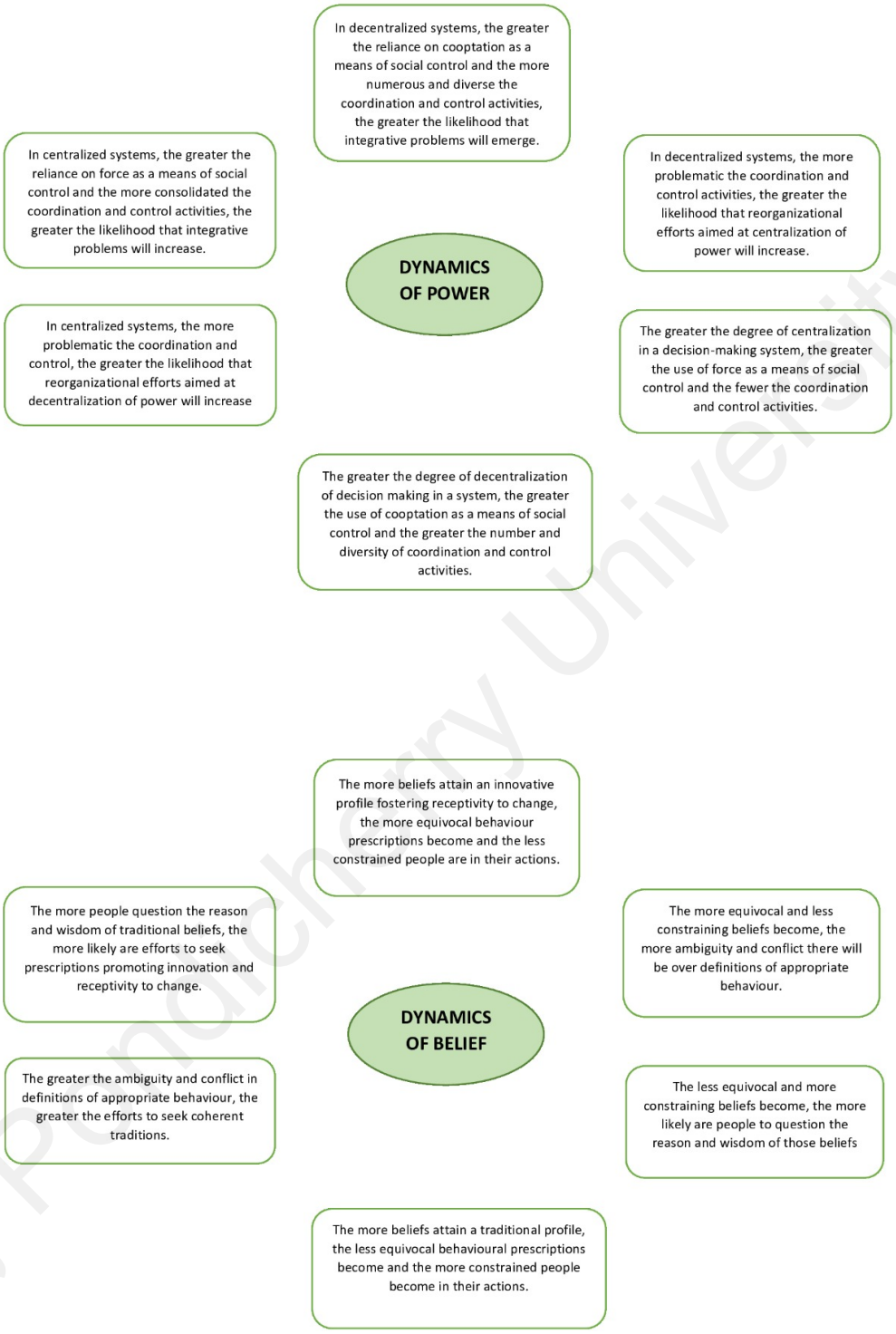
Notes



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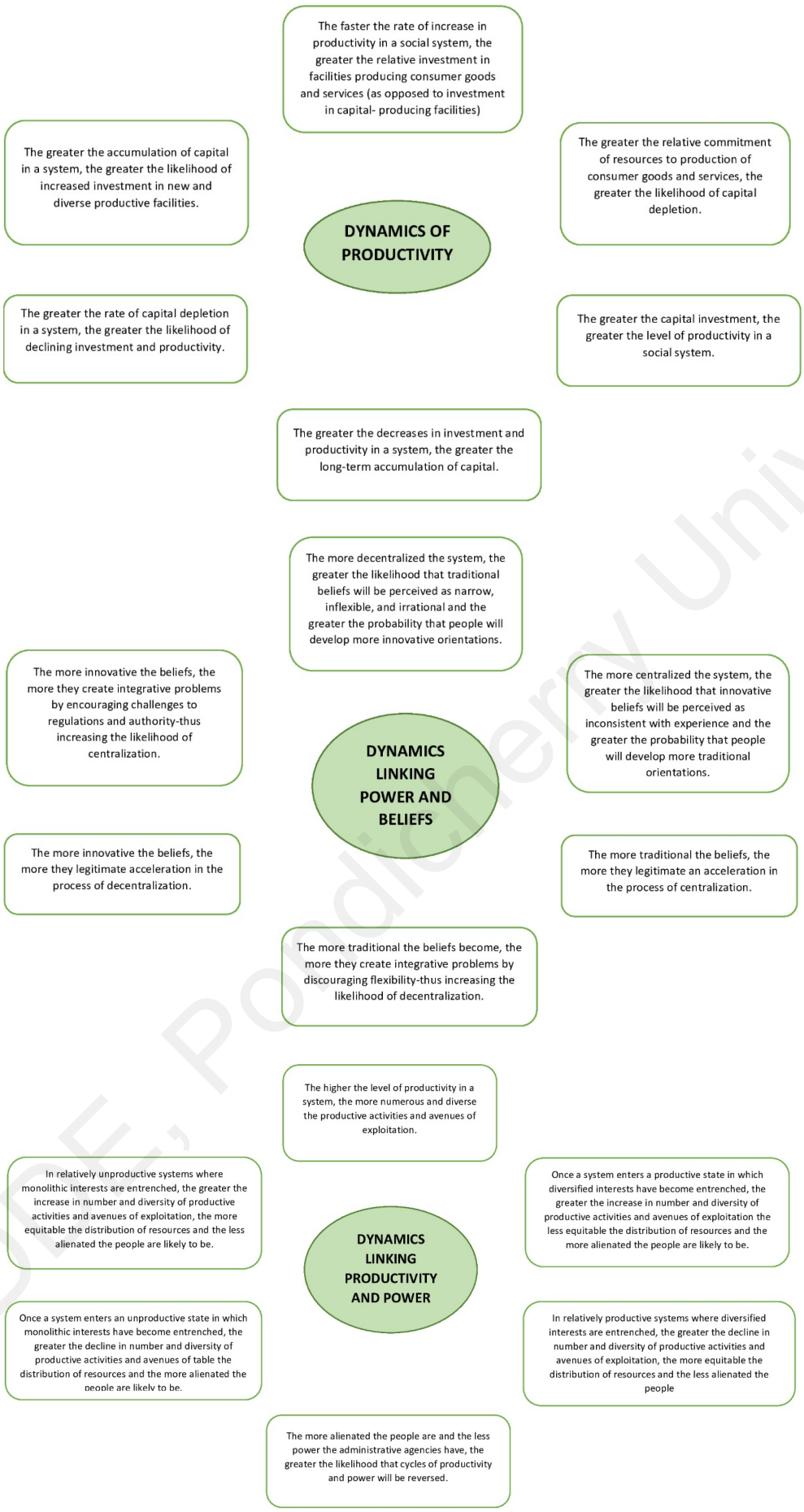

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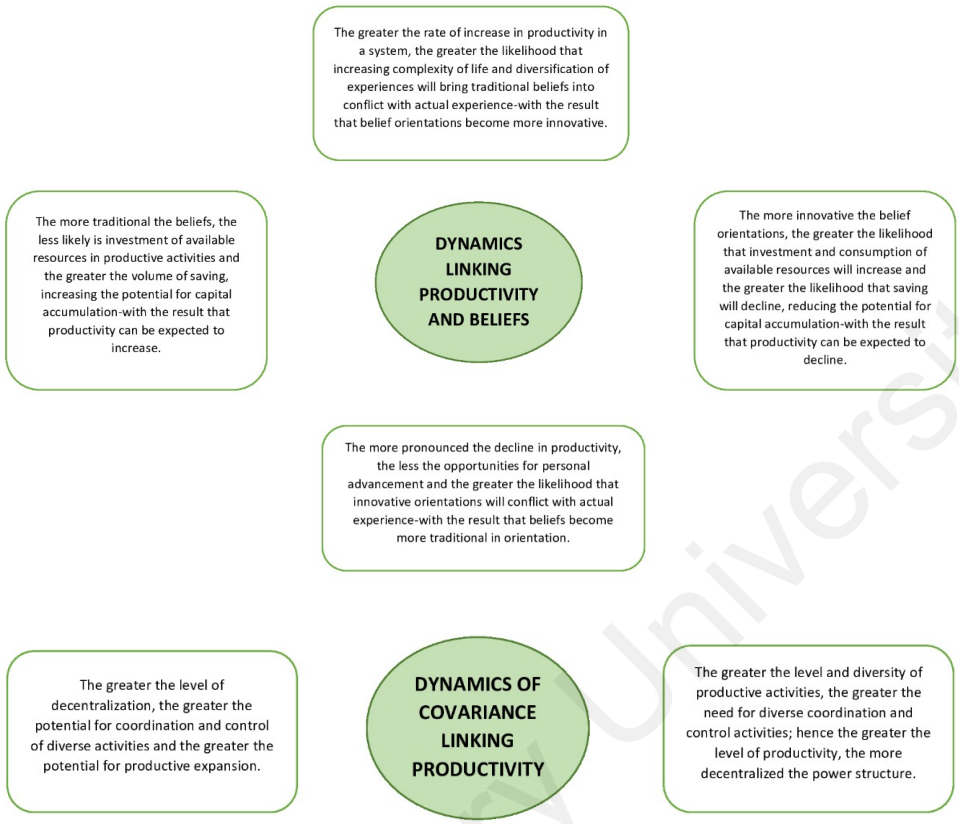

2.10 Fluctuation Theory of Social Change

It is also known as the 'pendular theory of Social Change'. This theory was proposed by Sorokin in his work *Social and Cultural Dynamics*, published in 1941. According to this theory, the course of history will be continuing, though irregular, fluctuating two basic kinds of culture:

- The 'ideational'
- The 'senate'
- The 'idealistic'

Sorokin distinguishes biological systems from the sociocultural system and elucidates the latter. He argued that civilizations cannot be compared to biological systems. They are not perfectly integrated and hence they do not 'decline' or die. However, they undergo different phases. The most crucial changes emerge from the cultural value system, rather than from the institutional factors or the action of great men. Sorokin explains these fluctuating changes, using the data on Greco-Roman. The fluctuation between the three value systems is summoned up under the following heads.

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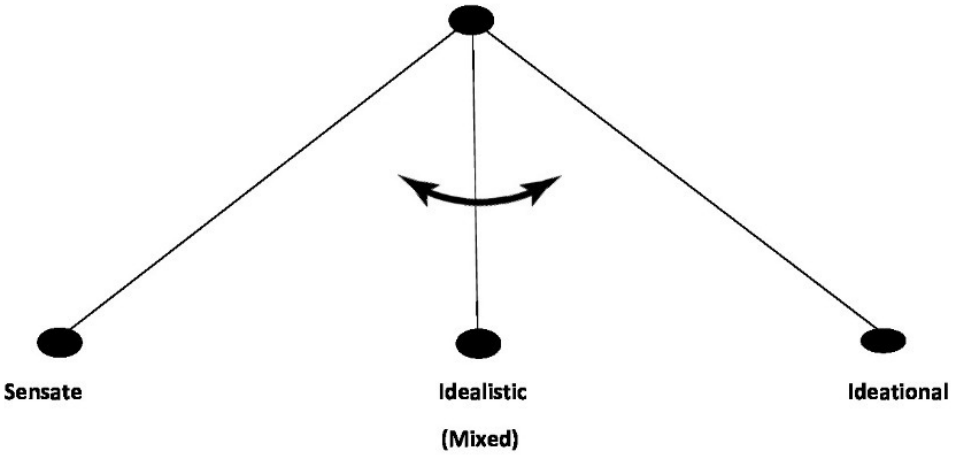

Senate Period

During this phase, all aspects of life are dominated by the materialistic worldview. The economic and scientific activities advanced and flourished. The Senate culture is characterized by an emphasis on hedonism, materialism, and individualism. This pattern of culture values the pursuit of sexual gratification, pleasure, and worldly success. These aspects tend to undermine spiritual and moral values. Within the senate period, there are the 'passive: phase and 'active' phases. Scientific advancements flourish during the active phase and hedonism is celebrated during the passive phase.

The best example of this phase is the 1920s culture of the United States. It is popularly known as the 'Roaring Twenties'. This phase is marked by a focus on materialistic independence and pleasure. The country was experiencing an era of economic prosperity that encouraged consumerism and fuelled the obsession with luxury goods. During this period, literature, arts, jazz, and fashion were innovative and celebrated. Parties, dancing, and consuming alcohol were prominent social activities that served as a form of escape as well as enjoyment. The 'Flapper Culture ' emerged that rejected traditional gender roles, and supported female liberation and sexual roles. However, this period of senate culture drew critiques and consequences. Critics argued that the focus on hedonism and materialism distanced people from moral and spiritual values. Eventually, it lead to a decline in societal morals and ethics. This, in turn, led to the development of prohibition and other social movements to restore traditional values. On the whole, the senate culture of the 1920s serves as an apt example of the fluctuation theory. Society shifts from a spiritual or ideational emphasis to a focus on materialism and pleasure-seeking.

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Ideational Period

In contrast to the senate period, the ideational period is spiritually oriented. An idealistic culture upholds spirituality and intellectual pursuits. It rejects materialistic and pleasure-seeking values. There are two subtypes of this period: active and aesthetic.

Active subsystem: It is also referred to as Practical idealism or pragmatism. This emerged as a response to philosophical systems such as Greek idealism, that emphasized abstract thinking as well as pure reasoning. It focuses on the importance of action, morality, and practicality in shaping the world. It also concentrates on the practical solution to real-world problems and placed a high value on human agency. The actor subsystem had an immense impact on many important figures including Aristotle and Thomas Aquinas.

Aesthetic Subsystem: It is also referred to as Romanticism. This subsystem marks a shift in the emphasis from reasoning to emotion and imagination. The aesthetic subsystem rejected the mechanistic worldview of the Age of Enlightenment. Instead, it emphasized the importance of creativity, individualism, and the beauty of the natural world. It influences music in literature and philosophy and places a high value on the emotional as well as mystical aspects of the human experience. On the whole, the active and aesthetic subsystems of the idealistic period represent to crucial response to the dominant philosophical system of the times. The active subsystem emphasized practicality and action. Whereas, the aesthetic subsystem emphasized individualism and the beauty of nature, and both influence the development of Western thoughts and culture.

An example of an idealistic culture is observed in medieval Europe during the middle ages. During this phase, religion, philosophy, and art were highly respected. People cultivated virtues such as humanity, compassion, and self-discipline. Medieval Europe was influenced by Christianity and institutions played a huge role in shaping the cultural and social fabric of society. Intellectual and spiritual pursuits such as literature, theology, and philosophy were highly valued and promoted. University Square was established and the theological study was considered as a noble pursuit. Moreover, architecture during medieval Europe where confused with religious themes and often considered a medium for spiritual expression and contemplation. The examples are found in the Gothic cathedral. Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris was built during the 12th and 13th centuries.

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Thereby, Medical Europe served as an example of an ideational culture where intellectual pursuits, spirituality, and moral values were highly emphasized and played a crucial role in shaping the culture of a society.

Idealistic Period

It is characterized by a focus on spiritual as well as moral ideals and values. According to Sorokin, this period reached the late middle ages and lasted until the end of the Renaissance. During this idealistic phase, there was a strong emphasis on philosophical and religious values. At the same time, importance was given to individualism and humanity as well. This period witnessed great literary contribution, intellectual creativity, and scientific advancement.

The work of Michelangelo is considered an example of the idealistic period. He was a prominent artist and sculptor during the Renaissance. His work exemplifies the values of the idealistic period. His work was deeply spiritual and he argued that the beauty was a reflection of the divine order. His work, Sister Chapel Ceiling, portrayed the idealism of this period, focusing on spiritual and divine inspirational themes.

On the other hand, the work of Erasmus dealt with the concepts of individualism, and the importance of education and critical thinking. His work substantiated humanistic values such as individual freedom and human dignity. These values were prominent during the idealistic period. The ideational-idealistic-senate paradigm is derived based on the study of the truth system, art forms, and scientific discoveries and inventions. Sorokin's data on wars, revolution, crime legal statutes, mental illness, family organizations, economic conditions, etc are more relevant to the understanding of the transition phases.

Conflict Theory of Social Change

These theories argue that society will be constantly changing and conflict plays a key role in the transition. The conflict between different social groups with competing interests, beliefs, and values takes society to a different phase. These theories suggest that, due to the unequal distribution of power and resources, social change arises from tensions and conflicts between the groups in society.

Conflict theory asserts that social change is not caused by competition or consensus but rather by conflict and struggle between two

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major groups. One group seeks to increase and maintains its power and control over society. Another group challenges the status to gain power and influence over the former. For example, the labor movement in the United States created a social change through conflict. Labor unions were formed in response to the exploited working condition of industrial workers during the industrial revolution of the 1930s. During that time the factory owners had power and control over the workers. Workers were able to challenge the dominant power structure by collectively organizing and demanding better wages and working conditions. Eventually, workers were able to achieve important economic and social changes.

2.11 Karl Marx: General Principles and Theories

Karl Marx made a significant contribution to Sociology and Economics and provided a lens to understand the political economy as well. He is considered one of the founders of modern social theory and his theories are relevant to date. Some of his key contributions pertinent to understanding social change are:

Historical Materialism: It emphasizes that political, social, and economic power are shaped by historical processes and the material condition. In other words, the dominant ideology, social relations, and institutions are shaped by the material conditions of the time. Material conditions refer to the available resources and the mode of production, and the role of people in the production. Changing modes of production and the role of people in the process change the social system.

Class struggle: Marx believed that social relations were influenced by the conflict between the social classes. The ruling class has control over the means of production and exploits the working class. In the production process, the former gets the profit and the latter gets the wage. This unequal distribution of wealth and power leads to class struggle.

The labor theory of value: This theory states that the value of a product is determined by the amount of labor that goes into producing it. This theory helps to understand how laborers are getting exploited.

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2.12 Marx's Conflict Theory of Social Change

This theory highlights the importance of the struggle between the social classes in driving historical and social change. Accordingly, societies are divided into different economic classes based on their relationship with the means of production. Hence, the ruling class controls the means of production and exploits the working class through the extraction of profit. In the process of production, the laborers get the wage, whereas the owners get the profit as it leads to a conflict between the working class and the ruling class, which Marx referred to as the class struggle.

Marx argued that the class struggle was the significant cause of historical social change. He perceived the development of new modes of production as a result of the struggle between classes, with the ruling class seeking to maintain its power and control over society while the working class tried to challenge the same. The theory also highlights the importance of social injustice and inequality in the functioning of a capitalist society. He stated that capitalist society was structured in such a way that the ruling class maintained its power by exploiting the labor of the working class. Marx's theory of social change, also known as historical materialism is generally divided into five phases:

Primitive Communism: This stage represents the earliest form of human society. The first stage of Marx's Theory of Social Change is characterized by the following features:

Absence of Private Property: In primitive communism, the property was held in common by the whole community. Individual ownership of animals, land, or other resources was decentralized. This collective ownership was based on the idea that everyone had equal rights to access and use resources that were necessary for their survival.

Absence of Social Class: There was no division between the social classes in the primitive communal society. Everyone had equal opportunities and access to resources. Decisions were made collectively based on the consensus of everyone.

Cooperative Mode of Production: Cooperative efforts made production possible, with every member of the community contributing to the well-being of the community. There was no exploitation among the groups.

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Limited Division of Labour: In primitive societies, everyone contributed to aspects of their community's well-being. There was a limited division of labor, with people typically engaging in a variety of tasks on their abilities and skills.

Communal Decision-making: Decisions were made by the community as a whole, where everyone could voice their opinions and needs. There were no formal leaders of political institutions to make decisions.

It is important to note that primitive communism is generally considered an assumption. The characteristics of this phase are hypothetical and it has not been fully realized in human history.

Slave society

In this stage, slavery is considered a mode of production. There were two distinctive classes: the ruling class had the means of production, and slaves had to produce the goods. Slave society is characterized by the following features:

Unequal Distribution of Power: Small groups of people control the majority of power and wealth. The rest of the population, specifically slaves, had little control or influence over society.

Slavery as a Primary Institution: Slavery is a fundamental feature of the social and economic structure of slave societies. A significant portion of the population was forced to work for slave masters, who controlled their lives and the benefits of their labor.

Inequality among Social Classes: Social classes were based on the ownership of slaves, with slave owners at the top and slaves at the bottom. The portion of the population that was not enslaved, such as artisans, traders, and soldiers occupied a middle ground but still lacked the power and status of the slave owners.

Extreme levels of Economic Inequality: The wealth and power of slave societies were in the hands of slave owners, who made use of the labor of the enslaved population. It led to the poverty of the majority of the population.

Limited Political Power for Non-Elite Groups: Political power was denied to slave owners and other members of the elite classes. The majority of the population had minimal access to political affairs. People were often subjected to violence and oppression.

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It is considered that slave societies have existed in varied forms throughout human history and continued to exist in some regions of the world today. The abolition of slavery in the 19th and 20th centuries represented a major shift in the understanding process of egalitarianism and social reforms as a necessary means of social progress and cohesion.

Feudalism

Feudalism is a system of social, economic, and political organization that was prevalent in Europe during the middle ages. It is characterized by the ruling class of nobles who owned the land and extracted rent from serfs who worked on the land. The characteristics of feudalism are:

Decentralized Political System: The feudal system was characterized by political authority where local lords known as feudal lords or lords of the manor, were the primary political authority in their respective lands, rather than a single central government.

Social hierarchy: The feudal system was constructed on a social hierarchy consisting of three main classes: the nobility or lords, the clergy or religious leaders, and the peasants or serfs who worked on the land and provided labor to the lords.

Land-based Economy: Feudalism was solely dependent upon land ownership. Land was the most important resource, and agriculture production was the primary means of subsistence. Peasants worked in the land and they were allowed to live in their lord's estate.

Responsibilities and Obligations: Feudalism was the operating concept of responsibilities and obligations between the lords and their vassals. The former offered land grants to their subordinates, who promised to provide military force and other forms of assistance to their lords.

Permanent Military Class: It comprises vassals who are an integral part of feudal society and was responsible for sustaining the power, maintaining order, and defending their lord's land against the invaders.

Limited Social Mobility: Individuals are restricted to the ascribed status based on their class. However, there were some exceptions. For instance, when skilled individuals demonstrated exceptional abilities, that would lead to their upward mobility.

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It is important to note that, earlier feudalism was a predominant social and economic system in Europe in the middle ages. Later, it was replaced by democracy and capitalism.

Capitalism:

In a capitalist society, the owner of the means of production exploits the workers for profit. The former is referred to as the bourgeoisie and the latter as the proletariat. Marx characterized the capitalist society as follows.

Private Ownership of the Means of Production: Capitalism is characterized by the private ownership of the means of production and resources such as factories machines and lands.

Material Motivation: Capitalism incentivizes people with material rewards such as power and money. In a capitalist society, the primary goal is to accumulate wealth and gain more material positions which creates an equal distribution of resources.

Profit-oriented Production: This system is driven by the pursuit of profits and the production is organized to maximize the profits. The capitalists seek to produce services and sell them at the highest prices even if the means exploit labor and harm the environment.

Class Division: Marx perceives capitalism as inherently divided into main classes. In the process of production, the bourgeoisie gets the profit and the proletariat gets the wage. The bourgeoisie invests the profit and gets the surplus results. Whereas the proletariat had to depend on the wage for their livelihood. Moreover, they face the fear of job security, because of automation. These aspects perpetuate the class divide.

Alienation: Marx claims that capitalism alienates the workers from the products they produce. Workers are reduced to mere commodities in the production process. The increased division of labor has restricted them to do a particular task repeatedly. Despite the years of working experience, they don't control the entire production and they don't acquire adequate skills.

Cyclical Booms and Busts: Capitalist systems are characterized by the cyclical pattern of economic activity with periods of growth (booms) followed by a recession (busts). This creates instability in the economy and leaves many people without jobs or resources during the burst phases.

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Overall, Marx believed that capitalism inevitably creates inequality and exploitation and argued that the only way to overcome this was through a socialist or communist revolution that would abolish private ownership of the means of production and create a society that serves the needs of all people.

Socialist Communism

Marks believes that the contradictions of capitalism eventually lead to a revolution by the working class and the emergence of a socialist or communist society where there is collective means of production and wealth is distributed based on need. It is worth noting that Marx did not see these stages as inevitable or deterministic, but rather as tendencies in the development of human society that could be transformed through political action. Marx believed that socialism and communism are the phases in the historical development of society beyond capitalism.

Socialism

Collective Ownership: In a socialist system, the means of production are owned collectively by the people or the state. The production and distribution of the goods are planned and coordinated by the democratically elected government.

Abolition of Exploitation: Workers produce value for society and not for the profit of capitalists.

Classless Society: Individuals are not hierarchically divided based on social or economic status.

Planned Economy: Instead of a market economy socialism emphasizes a plant economy where the resources are allocated according to the requirements of the society rather than for profitability.

Communism

Stateless society: There would be no need for a government, as the people would govern themselves.

Abolition of Private Property: In a communist system the private ownership of property is abolished and all the properties the collectively owned by the people.

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Common Ownership: All the members of society have equal rights to access and use the resources and means of production.

Individual Contribution: People are expected to contribute to society based on their abilities. But they are entitled to receive from the society according to their needs. In summary communism and socialism emphasize the collective ownership abolishing exploitation and the class society.

2.13 Let Us Sum up

- Theories of social change help to analyze the transforming society and the characteristics of each transforming phase. They provide frameworks for analyzing the causes and dynamics of social change which is used for predicting future developments.
- Linear Theory of Social Change suggests that societies evolve from the primitive stage to the advanced one.
- The linear theory of social change has its roots in the 19th century when social scientists were observing and studying social transformations. One of the most prominent early proponents of this theory is Auguste Comte, the father of Sociology.
- The linear model was used to emphasize the importance of economic growth, technological advancement, and cultural change. Modernization Theory argued that the stages of development will ultimately lead to a stable, democratic, and civilized society
- Spencer noted that in the early history of humankind, philosophers and scientists were unified in their efforts to analyze and understand the world.
- Spencer believed in scientific methods which involve the process of observing phenomena, developing hypotheses, and testing those hypotheses with experiments. Scientific knowledge should be based on empirical evidence and scientific theories should be updated and refined based on the new data.
- Spencer's views on philosophy and science were an important contribution to the emergence of Positivism. It is a sociological approach that emphasizes empirical evidence and scientific method in understanding the world.

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- Charles Darwin's theory of evolution by natural selection proposes that species evolve through the process of variation, selection, and inheritance. Darwin believed that all living things were related and the mechanism of natural selection was responsible for the increasing diversity and the complexity of life on the earth.
- Spencer applied Darwin's concept to human society and developed what is known as Social Darwinism. He believed that the laws of evolution could be applied to human societies, arguing that the strongest and the fittest individuals and the Nations would succeed while weaker ones fail.
- Evolution is based on the increasing number of members of the aggregate and the degree to which that aggregate is compounded or added to, by combining with other aggregates through such means as conquest or a peaceful merger.
- Simple Societies are predominantly small with a higher degree of social cohesion and shared norms. The building blocks of the complex social structure.
- Societies are nomadic and lack a stable social structure. They have minimal differentiation, specialization, and integration. They are relatively stable and static with a lower possibility of social mobility.
- Sociologists have used the Eskimo or Inuit societies to explain the characteristics of a simple society. Society has a relatively straightforward social structure and traditions.
- Compound Societies emerge from the unification of two or more simple societies. They get merged either peacefully or violently.
- The Teutonic people in the fifth century are considered an early example of a compound society.
- Doubly Compound society in which political organizations become more intricate under a single head and a formal legal system.
- Eleventh Century England can be considered the best example of doubly compound societies. The society was composed of two groups namely Anglo-Saxons and the Normans.
- The United States is an example of a trebly compound society as it is made up of 3 distinct groups which have contributed to the formation and identity.

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- Spencer offered a secondary system for classifying society. He saw a long-term evolutionary process from a militant society to an industrial society.
- Cycles of change are influenced by a complex interplay of social economic, political, and cultural factors. The cyclical theories of social change have been proposed by many scholars throughout history. The core argument of this theory is that society moves through different changes depending upon the balance of power and resources between different social groups.
- Wilfredo Pareto demonstrated the cyclical theory in his book Mind and Society. He envisioned societies as social systems characterized by economic, political, and belief cycles.
- The business cycle or economic cycle is driven by a combination of changes in production, technological innovation, and shifts in consumer behavior. He mentioned three phases of the economic cycle: expansion, crisis, and contraction.
- Pareto proposes four main phases of the cycle: domination, reforms, degeneration, and revolution.
- Residual ideas are old ideas that have lost their influence or usefulness. These ideas continue to exist in society. But they don't have any power to influence or shape people's behavior.
- Marx's conflict Theory of social change stresses the importance of struggle between the social class in driving historical and social change. Accordingly, societies are divided into different economic classes based on their relationship with the means of production.

2.14 Keywords

Evolutionary Theory, Social Darwinism, Struggle for Existence, Survival of the Fittest, Organic Analogy, Equilibrium, Individualism, Industrial and Militant Society, Cyclical Theory, Elite Circulation, Residues and Derivations, Lion Class, Fox Class, Social Equilibrium, Power Transition, Governing Elite, Non-Governing Elite, Social Dynamics, Speculative period, Adaptive Period, Social Mobility, Class Replacement, Fluctuation, Ideational Culture, Sensate Culture, Cyclical Change, Super-systems, Social Cohesion, Historical Materialism, Class Struggle, Alienation, Proletariat Revolution, Dialectical Materialism, Feudalism, Socialism and Communism.

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2.15 Self-Assessment Questions:

1. What are the fundamental premises of Herbert Spencer's Linear Theory of social change?
2. How does Spencer compare the evolution of society to biological evolution?
3. What are the stages of social evolution according to Spencer?
4. How does Spencer's Linear Theory explain social progression?
5. What is the role of the 'survival of the fittest' concept in the Linear Theory of social change?
6. What criticisms have been raised against Herbert Spencer's Linear Theory of Social Change?
7. To what extent, does the Linear Theory of Social Change by Spencer reflect contemporary societal transitions?
8. What are the implications of Spencer's theory on the perception and approaches of social change in the modern world?
9. What are the key elements of Pareto's Circulation of Elites theory and how does it relate to social change?
10. How is Pareto's theory used to explain changes in society over time?
11. What criticisms exist regarding Pareto's theory of social change?
12. How does Pareto's theory of social change compare to Marx's theory of social change?
13. How does Pareto's theory of social change describe the redistribution of power within society?
14. What was Pareto's perspective on economic, political, and Ideological social change?
15. How does Pitirim Sorokin distinguish between the types of cultural change such as Sensate and Ideational cultures?
16. What are some examples demonstrating Sorokin's theory in history?

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17. How does Sorokin's Theory of Fluctuation accommodate the unpredictability and non-linear nature of social change?
18. How does this theory explain the rise and fall of civilizations or social orders?
19. What critical role does culture play according to Sorokin's theory of social change?
20. What are the key criticisms against Sorokin's Theory of Social Change and how can they be addressed?
21. What is the main idea behind Karl Marx's theory of social change?
22. How does Marx's concept of historical l materialism relate to his theory of social change?
23. How does Karl Marx's theory of social change link to the idea of class struggle?
24. In what ways does Marx's theory of social change propose that economic conditions influence societal structures?
25. How does Marx's theory of social change differentiate from other sociological theories of his time?
26. Can Marx's theory of social change be applied to the 21st century's social and economic issues?
27. How does alienation contribute to social change according to Marx's theory?
28. What is the theory of historical materialism and how does it relate to Marx's theory of social change?
29. How impactful has Marx's theory of social change been on sociological and political thought?
30. How does Marx's theory explain the transition from feudalism to capitalism, and potentially, to socialism?
31. Does Marx's theory of social change suggest an eventual end point or final stage of societal development?

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UNIT - III

Lesson 3.1 - Factors of Social Change

Structure

3.1 Objectives
3.2 Introduction
3.3 Technology as a Factor of Social Change
3.4 Theoretical Underpinnings of Technology and Social Change
3.5 Benefits and Challenges of Technology in Contemporary Society
3.6 Cultural Factors of Social Change
3.7 Theories on Culture, Globalization and Social Change
3.8 Ideological Factors of Social Change
3.9 Let Us Sum Up
3.10 Keywords
3.11 Self-Assessment Questions
3.12 References

3.1 Objectives

- Understand the cultural explanation of social change.
- Analyze the technological and ideological impact of social change.

3.2 Introduction

Technology is the source of great cultural and institutional transformation. It is driven by basic human tendencies and needs: the impulse to communicate, to gather, to love, to work, to play.

Manuel Castells

> Technology is a useful servant, but a dangerous master when coupled to a misguided ideology.
>
> Theodore Roszak

> Science and technology revolutionize our lives, but memory, tradition, and myth frame our response.
>
> Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr.

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These scholarly quotes express how technology is a driving force of cultural change and vice versa. Scientific advancements can influence society, but it is not the only factor that shapes societal changes. Memory, tradition, and myth also have important roles in how people adapt to new scientific discoveries. It is clear that technology, ideology, and culture are interconnected factors of social change and shape each other in various ways. Technology drives social change by providing advanced tools, mediums, and platforms that can revolutionize the way people communicate, interact and access information. The spread of technology is influenced by ideology, which can either hinder or support technological development. Ideology shapes the way people use technology and also the way they think about it. For example, ethical considerations around the use of Artificial Intelligence and the privacy concerns related to social media are the challenges of contemporary society. Finally, culture is a vital aspect of social change, and it is molded by both technology and ideology. Technological advancement has had a profound impact on culture, changing the way people live, work, and interact. For example, the internet has become a daily essential that leads to a new form of cultural expression and social interaction. Ideology influences culture by shaping the norms and values of societies. These cultures in turn shaped the way people use technology. Overall these three interlocking factors shape the course of social change. The role of Sociologists is to understand the interplay between these factors in today's rapidly changing society.

3.3 Technology as a Factor of Social Change

The main themes of the technological factors of social change are:

a) **Innovation:**

It refers to the introduction of novel ideas, products, processes, and services which can enhance or redefine existing practices. For example, breakthroughs in medical innovation had a great impact on people's health, well-being, and life span. Life-saving inventions such as the development of vaccines, antibiotics, and disease treatments have led to a significant decrease in mortality rates and a better quality of life. With the help of these innovations, people have become more conscious of their health and have access to advanced healthcare facilities that enable them to live longer and healthier. Eventually, such advancements have shaped the family structure, career choices, and mainly lead to the population growth.

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a) **Globalization:**

Globalization is the process through which businesses, organizations, and people become interconnected and interdependent around the world. This process often results in the integration of political, economic, and cultural systems. It involves the spread of ideas, goods, and services across international borders and the development of a global economy. It has led to the expansion of international trade, the emergence of cosmopolitan cities, transnational movements, and multiple social identities.

b) **Automation:**

Automation is the technique of making machinery, a process, or a system that operates automatically. It is used to automate manual or repetitive tasks to improve productivity, efficiency, accuracy, and speed. This technological advancement has significantly contributed to social change in many ways. Since the industrial revolution, automation has been instrumental in shaping economies and societies worldwide. One of the crucial changes that automation has brought about is the creation of new job roles and the elimination of the traditional ones. As industries automate their processes, they become less reliant on human labor. It leads to the loss of jobs. However, new jobs are emerging because of automation such as testing and maintaining automated systems. This shift has caused social changes as workers seek new skills and training to be relevant in the ever-changing job market. On the other hand, automation has increased productivity and the cost of goods has become more affordable for people who have low income. Thereby it has reduced the gap between social classes, enabling access to goods and services for disadvantaged groups.

c) **Information and Communication Technology (ICT)**

ICT refers to all communication technologies, such as smart phones, wireless networks, internet, video conferencing, social media and so on. The expansion and advancement of technology have enabled us to access and utilize extensive data. In addition, it helps to communicate with people without any space or time barriers. It has facilitated the growth of business, led to a new form of communication, and allows new and diverse forms of entertainment.

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d) **Artificial Intelligence:**

AI refers to the development of computer systems that can perform tasks that typically require human intelligence such as speech recognition, visual perception, and decision-making. AI has the potential to revolutionize industries such as finance, healthcare, and transportation leading to new ways of waking and interacting with machines. For example, in the education sector, AI is being used to personalize learning and improve educational outcomes. It can analyze students' performance data and adapt teaching methods to suit individual learning styles and needs. Most importantly, AI can also enhance accessibility by providing audio descriptions and transcript services for students with disabilities. These facilities can facilitate the inclusive development of society.

3.4 Theoretical Underpinnings of Technology and Social Change

There are several prominent theories, which seek to explain the relationship between technology and social change.

- **Technological Determinism:**

This theory argues that technology influences social change and technological advancement inevitably leads to specific social outcomes. Technology is a crucial factor that determines the direction and the pace of social change with little regard for human agency or social-cultural factors. The provenance of technological determinism argues that technological advancement has the power to make a fundamental transformation of society and the social change is primarily based on the outcome of the technological progress. Technology has been perceived as an ascent independent and autonomous force that is capable of shaping the social structure and human behavior. The concept of technology has been exploding by many sociologists including:

- **Marshall McLuhan:**

Canadian philosopher and media theorist, known for his work in the field of communication theory. He is known for his contemporary concept of the 'global village' and its assertion that the 'medium is the message'. The phrase suggests that the medium through which the information has been communicated is just as important as the information. Over time certain media have become more dominant and shapes the way that information

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is presented and consumed and ultimately influencing the culture and society.

For example, the mass consumption of television had an immense impact on the communication of information. Television allowed messages to reach a larger set of audiences and had a significant impact on the culture and society as a result. The debates and political rallies could be aired live allowing people to see and hear the politicians directly. This medium has changed how political speeches were delivered and how the messages were framed.

- **Harold Innis:**

The Canadian economist and communication theorist, argue that communication technology has played a crucial role in determining the temporal and spatial patterns of social change. He emphasizes the importance of true primary communication media: Time- biased media and Space-biased media.

Time-biased media, such as stone tablets, and clay tablets parchments, were the materials which were durable and allowed for information to be preserved over a long significant period. These mediums facilitated the development of civilization and encouraged the transmission of information over long distances.

Space-biased media in contrast emphasize the rapid dissemination of information over long distances. Examples of space-biased media are paper print and radio. These mediums supported mass communication and enabled people to consume information in a more decentralized way. Innis argues that the shift from time-biased media to space-biased media had significant implications for society. The rise of space-biased media such as the printing press led to the development of the modern nation-state and the spread of nationalism. Space-based media also supported the growth of capitalism by enabling the mass production and distribution of goods and services. Similarly, television and radio accelerated cultural homogenization making it possible for people in different regions to speak the same language as well as to share the same cultural references. The use of different communication mediums influences the way people share, consume, and respond to information. It also affected the development of civilization, culture, and politics.

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- **Jean Baudrillard:**

He was a French philosopher and sociologist. He argued that technology has fundamentally transformed the nature of human experience and their relationship with the world. In his view, technology has created a post-modern world in which reality has become more elusive. He argued that technology has led to the emergence of a stimulating society in which our experiences are mediated by images and science rather than direct engagement with the world. He suggested that technology has transformed the nature of time and space. The creation of virtual walls and the increasing speed of communication have collapsed the traditional boundaries between reality and simulation creating a hyper-real world in which the distinction between the two has become blurred.

Baudrillard has also explored the relationship between technology and power. He suggested that technology has centralized power in the hands of a few by creating a system of control in which individuals are subjected to constant surveillance and manipulation. He argued that technology has been used to control the population in more advanced and insidious ways with machines and algorithms that are capable of monitoring and influencing our behavior. Thereby Braudrillard's work criticizes the impact of technology on society and urges us to question the assumption we make about the role of technology in life to review the complex way in which technology moulds our experience as well as the perception of the world.

- **John Thompson:**

As a sociologist, he identified three primary aspects in which communication technology shapes social interaction.

First, they alter the time and space dimensions of social life. Communication technology has transformed the way we experience time and space. Technologies such as mobile phones and the internet have created a new form of instant communication across distance, collapsing the special barriers and challenging the nature of social interaction.

Second, they create new forms of social presence and absence. Technology such as social media have created a new way of being interesting and being present with others. It has blurred the distinction between physical and virtual spaces. They have also created a new form of absence. For instance, when people are physically present but mentally

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absent scrolling down their phones instead of engaging with those around them.

Regarding the third aspect, he highlights how communication technology has changed the boundaries between different social worlds. These technologies led to the emergence of new forms of connections and relationships across the geography and the social boundaries which contributed to the global network of social interaction. Thompson's work highlights the need to understand the socio-cultural contents in which communication technologies are developed and used. We can have a better understanding of the complex relationship between technology and society by examining the social construction of technology.

- **Theory of Social Constructivism**

This theory asserts that technologies are shaped by social and cultural conditions and induce technological development. Social constructivism is a social theory that argues that social phenomena are not determined solely by objective facts but are shaped by social constructions and interpretations.

In the context of technology, social constructivists argue that technology is not simply a neutral tool but is rather shaped by social factors such as political economy and culture. They play a role in how technology is developed and used. Secondly, knowledge is not just developed by scientists and engineers in a vacuum but rather is a product of social interaction between developers and policymakers. Technology reflects the values and interests of those involved in its development and usage.

British sociologist Trevor Pinch focused on social constructivism in terms of the material and symbolic dimensions of technology. People's perception towards technology is the combination of the physical properties of technological artifacts and the social meanings that are attached to these artifacts. For example, the personal computer cannot be perceived as a mere collection of electronic components but as a powerful symbol of individualism, creativity, and technological progress.

- **Actor-Network Theory:**

This theory deals with the role of non-human actors in shaping societal change including technology. It posits that technology is a part of a network of actors that includes people, institutions, and other technology.

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All these factors work together to shape the social structure. Actor-Network Theory (ANT) gives a tactical framework to analyze the role of shaping social networks and power relations. The theory is developed by Sociologists Bruno Latur and Michel Callon which focuses on the agency of non-human objects in social relations.

According to ANT, technology is not merely a neutral tool, but a complex network of power dynamics and social relations. Technology is embedded within the culture and shapes our understanding of the world. The key concept of ANT is 'actants' which refers to both human and non-human elements of technology. These elements shape the actions of the people and influence social relations. For example, in the context of social media, the actants might include software algorithms, user-generated content and platform policies that shape how social interactions take place among the users.

- **Social Shaping of Technology**

This theory contradicts technological determinism and argues that technology is often over-simplified. Wynne argues that technological determinism overlooks the contested and complex nature of technological development and the role of human agency in shaping and utilizing technology.

He argues that a more comprehensive understanding of technology is necessary to avoid unintended consequences. It should be ensured that technology is developed and used in a socially and politically responsible way. This perspective requires engaging with a broader social cultural and political context in which technology is situated rather than simply focusing on technical details.

- **Mutual Shaping or Co-evolutionary Theory**

It emphasizes the mutual influence, dependency, and reciprocal relationship between technology and society. According to Thomas Hodges and Melvin Kranzberg, technology is not merely a scientific or technical endeavor, but is closely intertwined with social change. Hodges conceptualizes it as 'technological momentum' to refer to the idea that technologies can take on a life of their own and helm social changes, even if they are not the most efficient or effective.

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He argues that once a technology is adopted by a society it can be very difficult to deviate from the path as social and economic forces reinforce its use. He also recognizes that technology is not a technical problem to be solved. It is a social and political issue that requires a broader societal conversation.

For example, cyber security is a growing challenge for contemporary society. However, people can't be away from the internet. The government must ensure the safety and fair usage of crucial data stored on the internet.

- **Network Society: The Social Structure of the Information Age**

Manual Castells' theory of network society argues that Information Communication Technology (ICT) creates networks that replace traditional hierarchy in many domains of social life enabling new forms of social organization and a new form of social mobilization. He emphasizes the transformative power of technology and argues that network society is marked by a fundamental shift in the way we recognize and relate to each other. The shift is driven by the widespread adoption of digital communication technology. Networks, are made up of interconnected nodes which are flexible, adaptable and tend to restructure. Similarly, the social structure in this information age took the form of networks. Castells stated:

"The new society is made up of networks. Global financial markets are built on electronic networks that process financial transactions in real time. The Internet is a network of computer networks. The electronic hypertext, linking different media in global/local connection, is made up of networks of communication production studios, newsrooms, computerized information systems, mobile transmission units, and increasingly interactive senders and receivers.

The global economy is a network of financial transactions, production sites, markets, and labor pools, powered by money, information, and business organization. The network enterprise, as a new form of business organization, is made of networks of firms or subunits of firms organized around the performance of a business project. Governance relies on the articulation among different levels of institutional decision making linked by information networks. And the most dynamic social movements are connected via the Internet across the city, the country, and the world."

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3.5 Benefits and Challenges of Technology in Contemporary Society

Technology has revolutionized the way people communicate. It enabled faster, more convenient, and mainly more cost-effective methods of communicating with each other. It improves social interaction regardless of distance or location. It has democratized access to information which empowered people to learn, innovate and create new solutions to the social problem.

It has advanced healthcare education and economic activities. Eco-friendly technologies such as clean energy technology, electric vehicles and sustainable agriculture practices have improved environmental sustainability. Most importantly, it led to the empowerment of marginalized groups by providing them with great access to resources, information, and opportunities. Digital tools and social media have enabled social activism.

On the other hand, technology plays a crucial role in increasing economic inequality. Innovations and automation replace traditional occupation and forces people to migrate. It leads to unemployment as well as the problem of under-wages. People lost their jobs and most of their employment is under threat because of the growing technology which tends to replace manual tasks and work more efficiently at low expense.

With the expansion of technology, comes concerns about privacy and data protection. Individuals are at a greater risk of having their identity finances as well as personal life compromised. Social media have changed the way people interact with each other, and spend time online. Lack of in-person interaction can lead to social isolation and reduce social skills. Many people get into the trap of addiction, depression, and mental issues because of social media. Their constant need for attention and validation can also cause anxiety and poor self-esteem.

Finally, due to technological progress, the production and disposal of electronic devices continue to pollute the environment and increase greenhouse gas emissions. Overall, while innovation and social change can have many positive impacts there are malign effects that need to be considered and addressed for society's welfare.

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3.6 Cultural Factors of Social Change

Most of the concepts and theories discussed so far in this unit have been related to the fundamental cultural aspects. This section discusses the two crucial cultural elements and the related theories. The first aspect deals with 'Globalization and Cultural Diffusion '. The increased interconnectedness of the culture around the globe has led to the exchange of values, ideas, and traditions. Globalization has accelerated social change as people become more exposed to new ideas and the way of living attitudes towards gender roles, religious beliefs, family structure, and other related aspects. The second element is about 'immigration and cultural diversity'. Immigration led to an exchange of ideas and innovation, which challenged the established tradition. It has created many discourses that ultimately lead to social change.

3.7 Theories on Culture, Globalization and Social Change

➢ Five Dimensions of Global Cultural Flow

Anthropologist Arjun Appadurai emphasizes the importance of looking at the fluidity and dynamic nature of the culture rather than perceiving it as static or fixed. Appadurai introduced five dimensions of global cultural flow called 'scapes' and help us to understand the complexities of the cultural change

Ethnoscapes refer to the role of people and the flow of the human population across the world. People migrate, travel, and interact with other cultures, transmitting and exchanging cultural elements across various regions. It is the cultural landscape formed by the movement and intermingling of people, ethnic identities, languages, and cultural practices. It explains how people's movements can have a significant impact on the creation, transformation, and fusion of cultural identities.

The city of Toronto, Canada is an excellent example to explain the nature of an ethnoscape. It is often described as one of the most multicultural cities in the world. People from different backgrounds ethnicity and culture have migrated to Toronto and contributed to the city's unique cultural landscape. One can find neighbourhoods representing various cultures such as China Town, Greek Town, Little India, and Little Italy. It showcases the impact of these communities on the cities' architectural traditions and food. The ethnoscspe of Toronto is constantly evolving and

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changing and it reflexes the city's multicultural population and the nature of the contemporary globalized world.

Mediascape refers to the globally connected media landscape that includes print television radio and digital media. It helps in the creation and dissemination of images narratives and ideologies which shape cultural perceptions desires and aspirations. Traditional mediascape consists of broadcast television, radio, print newspapers, and magazines. Digital mediascape includes online news websites, social media platforms, and streaming services. Examples include Twitter, YouTube, Netflix, and The Guardian online. Mobile mediascape involves apps used through mobile devices such as tablets and smartphones. Examples include WhatsApp, Snapchat, and Instagram. There are other types of mediascape called mixed mediascape and interactive mediascape with emphasis on the user's participation and the impact of multiple mediascapes. For example, the formation of gaming communities, transnational movements, and global social forums emerged with the involvement of these mediascapes.

Technoscape refers to global technology, its infrastructure, and the way it influences social change. The concept acknowledges that technology transcends geographical boundaries and impacts societies at the global level.

The remote work revolution is the best example of technoscape. Video conferencing software, project management solutions and communication platforms like Zoom, and Google Meet have revolutionized the way people work. This global shift has allowed for more remote work and the employees can collaborate from anywhere in the world. Most importantly it has ended the importance of physical presence in an office space.

Financescape deals with the flow of money capital and economic resources on a global scale. This dimension highlights how international economic networks, investments and money exchange influence the culture and provide resources for cultural production innovation and exchange.

For instance, consider a small business startup that specializes in eco-friendly cleaning solutions. The financescape for the startup will deals with diverse aspects as follows. First, Market conditions should be assessed to know the demand for eco-friendly products. Second, financial resources should be identified such as loans or grants and investment opportunities

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to support the business growth of the startup. Third, competition analysis should be done to enhance the performance and pricing strategies. Fourth, financial regulations at the national and international levels should be assessed. Fifth, economic indicators at the micro and macro levels such as GDP should be analyzed to make informed decisions. By analyzing these aspects of financescape the startup company will be better equipped to manage its financial resources and identify new opportunities and mitigate risk in pursuit of growth and profit.

Ideascape refers to the Global flow of ideas, ideologies, and values which shape people's experiences and perceptions towards the world. It encompasses the landscape of ideas, images, and symbols that emerge from the public sphere in a particular society and helps in shaping a shared sense of identity meaning, and values.

A contemporary example of an ideascape is the global recognition of American pop culture in movies music fashion and food. This pervasive presents of American culture produce complex values related to individualism, freedom, democracy and consumerism. People across different countries consume these products and are exposed to these American values and ideas despite their diverse cultural backgrounds. Consequently, this exposure can lead to the assimilation of American cultural elements generating a common understanding and influencing the identities and the ideologies of the people worldwide.

- **Globalization and Culture: Three Paradigms**

Jan Nederveen Pieterse, a Dutch sociologist illustrates how globalization and culture interact with the help of three paradigms.

Paradigm 1:

The first paradigm deals with cultural imperialism. This paradigm views culture as an extension of imperialism. This paradigm perceives culture as an extension of imperialism. It suggests that the powerful culture controls and influences the weaker ones by imposing their beliefs values and customs. It further argues that globalization homogenized culture by imposing Western culture around the world. This paradigm is the process of this globalization happening since the pre-colonial era. This process includes the following aspects.

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Clashes of Civilization: Daniel Huntington developed this thesis called Classes of Civilization. He derived this concept and argued that cultural and religious identities as a primary source of conflict in the post-Cold War world. He further claimed that in the future there will not be a conflict between countries but there will be conflict between the cultures. He stated thus:

"The clash includes Islam's borders in Europe (as in former Yugoslavia), Africa (animist or Christian cultures to the south and west), and Asia (India, China). The argument centers on Islam: the "centuries-old military interaction between the West and Islam is unlikely to decline". "Islam has bloody borders". Huntington warns against a "Confucian-Islamic military connection" that has come into being in the form of arms flows between east Asia and west Asia. Thus "the paramount axis of world politics will be the relations between 'the West and the Rest'" and "a central focus of conflict for the immediate future will be between the West and several Islamic-Confucian states". He, therefore, recommends greater cooperation and unity in the West, particularly between Europe and North America; the inclusion of Eastern Europe and Latin America in the West; cooperative relations with Russia and Japan; exploiting differences and conflicts among Confucian and Islamic states; and for the west to maintain its economic and military power so as to protect its interests."

Similarly, Mavolis categorized the world into seven commendable civilization systems on the grounds of religious identities as follows:

i. Chinese (Confucian-Taoist Buddhist)

ii. Christians

iii. Islamic

iv. Hindu

v. Japanese (Shinto Buddhist - Confucian)

vi. Latin American syncretistic and

vii. Non- Islamic African

Scholars observe that a clash of civilizations happens based on imagined political and ideological borders. These borders are defined as 'fault lines' that change according to the restructuring of cultural, economic, and political factors.

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Cultural Differentialism or Lasting Difference:

As society evolves, one can observe a growing sensitivity towards cultural differences and awareness of the word becoming smaller. It is interesting to note how the nature of cultural difference itself has changed its form. Initially, it was only about national identity. But now identity politics have many agendas. A few examples of identity politics are:

i. Gender

ii. Minority rights

iii. Indigenous people

iv. Ethnicity

v. Religion

Huntington notes that cultural differences are immutable and tend to generate rivalry and conflict. He further claims that we are currently experiencing a clash of civilizations.

Paradigm 2

Cultural Convergence and Growing Sameness.

Cultural convergence is the process through which different cultures adopt similar characteristics, practices, or ideas. The global blending of music preferences standardization of sports rules for international sporting events and the popularity of a cuisine are a few examples of cultural convergence. This aspect has been taken up by George Ritzer and he conceptualized a term called McDonaldization. McDonald's is renowned for its strategy and process of making the fast food industry dominate across the world. Ridzer used this term to describe the idea that the world is becoming more predictable, standardized, effective, and homogenized, just as the McDonald's restaurant operates.

Earlier McDonaldization is used to refer to the process of modernization, westernization and the spread of capitalism across the world. Since 1950, this process has been called Americanization and since 1960 multinational corporations have been viewed as a harbinger of American modernization and this process is defined as cultural imperialism. In 1970, this process is referred to as 'Cocacolization' in Latin

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America. According to Ridzer, McDonaldisation comprises four main characteristics.

i. **Efficiency:** In a McDonaldised society everything should be done in the quickest and more efficient way possible. The use of technology and automation facilitates the process.

ii. **Calculability**: This feature refers to emphasizing quantifiable measures of success such as size, speed, and cost. The value is often measured by how much product or service one gets for the money.

iii. **Predictability**: It refers to the standardization of products and services which makes them easily recognizable and reduces the need for decision making. In terms of a McDonaldized society, everything feels the same and there is very less room for individuality or spontaneity

iv. **Control**: This refers to the common centralized rules and regulations implemented to maintain order and conformity. In a McDonaldized society, there is generally a strong emphasis on following rules and procedures even if they don't make sense or go against individual desires.

Undoubtedly, this process has brought about many financial benefits such as increased efficiency and affordability. However, it is criticized for its negative impact on personal freedom diversity, and creativity.

Paradigm 3

Cultural Hybridization or Ongoing Mixing

The cultural hybridization paradigm perceives culture as a dynamic and constantly changing process. Accordingly, the globalization of culture results in the blending of cultures giving rise to the new hybrid or fusion culture. It defines globalization as a mutually transformative exchange between cultures. This process may lead to the emergence of a new unique culture. Language and music are the most common examples of hybridization.

A hybrid culture emerges when two or more cultural backgrounds interact, merge and influence one another, creating a distinctive blend of

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traditions, customs, and social practices. This often occurs in societies with diverse populations or in countries where there has been significant immigration or exposure to different cultures.

For example, Spanglish in the United States is a hybrid culture. The languages of English and Spanish have intermingled in various communities throughout the country, primarily in the regions with a high Hispanic population. The United States is home to a large number of immigrants from the Spanish-speaking countries. These immigrants have brought their customs and traditions with them and created a unique cultural blend with elements from Latin America with American influences. Other than language, the hybrid culture is explicitly seen in different aspects of American life. Music like Latin pop, Salsa, and the fusion of Mexican and American cuisine arts, and fashion. This cultural blending helps to create a multicultural society in which traditions and customs can co-exist and interact with one another. This cultural complexity paradigm suggests that culture is a complex and diverse phenomenon that is triggered by globalization. The theory also asserts that a homogenized or unified global culture is not possible, instead, there will be greater diversity than ever before.

Thereby these three paradigms give a context for understanding cultural change and the emergence of cultural identities concerning Globalization

- **Glocalization: Time-Space & Homogeneity-Heterogeneity**

The term 'Glocalisation' emerged with the combination of the words 'globalization' and 'localization'. The term is used to note a product or service that is developed and distributed globally but is also customized to accommodate the user or consumer in a local market. In other words, globalization is the adjustment of global products and practices to fit regional cultures and preferences. For example, pizza is an Italian-based food and it is served with Indian flavours and ingredients.

This term was popularized by the sociologist Ronald Robertson. According to him, glocalization projects include the following aspects:

i. **Relativization** is the process of understanding and interpreting a global phenomenon from the perspective of a regional cultural and social setting. This aspect involves the recognition of global concepts or issues, which have implications for various reasons.

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These implications in different contexts may lead to different outcomes. Relativization is very important to allow global initiatives to be more responsive and sensitive to the local context and avoid cultural imperialism.

ii. **Accommodation** refers to modifying and adapting global products or practices to meet the specific preferences, expectations, and needs of the local communities. This may encompass making adjustments to a product design packaging marketing and distribution strategies in relevant local content. It is essential for the business which intense to expand internationally. This localization strategy helps to ensure that the product and service resonate with the local customers and comply with the norms and regulations.

iii. **Hybridization:** It is the process of combining local and global elements to create unique products or practices, which reflex the cultural diversity of a region. This merging of elements could take place in various ways such as combining traditional and modern practices mixing materials and ingredients or merging artistic styles. Hybridization can result in creative solutions which are both globally recognizable as well as locally relevant promising a cross-cultural understanding and cooperation.

iv. **Transformation** involves the process of using global influence to speed up change in the local practices or structure. It can result in the modernization and improvement of local practices, helping the community to adopt and stay competitive in the globalized world.

Globalization projects take various forms and serve different purposes. For example, Barbie dolls are customized with regional clothing. Similarly, multinational companies, advertize and market their brands using the regional language and celebrities.

Glocalisation and Social Change

The positive impacts of glocalization are as follows:

i. **Preservation of the local culture**: Glocalisation increases the integration of local customs and practices and traditions into the global system which eventually preserves and promotes the sense of cultural relativism.

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ii. **Empowerment of the local community:** It encourages the participation of local communities in decision-making and planning processes. This can boost social and economic development and empowerment. These aspects can lead to greater self-reliance and resilience.

iii. **Knowledge-sharing:** It enables the diffusion of innovative ideas and best practices across traditions leading to the improvisation of social and economic conditions in various societies.

iv. **Encouragement of cooperation:** Glocalization fosters dialogue and collaboration among different societies and cultures as they share their distinctive unique perspective and experiences.

The negative impact of localization on social change includes:

v. **Cultural homogenization**: Glocalization accommodates the local communities but it can sometimes result in cultural homogenization and may result in the loss of cultural diversity.

vi. **Threat to traditional cultural identities**: Global influences can challenge traditional values and norms. It triggers resistance from cultural groups who feel that their identities are jeopardized.

vii. **Economic disparities:** Glocalization could lead to economic inequality as more developed and prosperous countries often dominate the local market and undermine local enterprises.

viii. **Consumerism and environmental concerns:** Glocalization promote consumerism and provides a range of choices and varieties of goods and services. This can drive materialistic values and also contribute to environmental degradation.

On the whole, glocalization is a complex process that can bring both benefits and challenges to social change. It has the potential to make the market, inclusive, diverse and cooperative. However, it is also a risk to the cultural identity and the environment. Hence, society needs to find the balance between the global and local elements through healthy dialogue, cooperation and mutual understanding.

3.8 Ideological Factors of Social Change

British literacy theorist, Terry Eagleton stated: 'Ideology is a system of concepts and views which serves to make sense of the world

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while obscuring the social interests that are expressed therein, and by its completeness and relative internal consistency tends to form a closed system and maintain itself in the face of contradictory or inconsistent experience.' An ideology is constructed by beliefs, values, and norms, which shape the way people think, behave, and interact with one another and influence the course of social change. Here are some of how ideology influences social change:

- **Ideological Conflict:**

Conflict emerging from ideological differences between social groups can lead to social change at the micro or macro level. Such conflicts can range from political struggles for power, religious disputes, and class-based or racial base conflicts. For example the ideological conflicts between:

i. Colonizer versus colonized

ii. Peasant versus landlords

iii. Industrialists versus labor

iv. Monarchy versus democracy

v. Theism versus Atheism

These conflicts encourage proponents to challenge the existing norms and engage in activism and fight for policy changes. As the following historical events have shown, ideological conflicts can provoke the mass people to fight for progress.

i. **The American Civil Rights Movement (1954- 1968):** It was a struggle for social justice that aimed to end racial segregation and discrimination against African Americans in the United States. There was an ideological conflict between those who believed in equal rights for all races and the supporters of white supremacy, and then existing segregation policies. After the series of demonstrations, rallies, and protests, legislation such as the Civil Right Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 was implemented. These legislative measures created a legacy.

ii. **The French Revolution (1789-1799):** French Revolution happened due to the conflict between the ideals of enlightenment and the autocratic role of the French monarchy. It is the conflict

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between rational thinking and dictatorship. The proponents of the Enlightenment era campaigned for constituting a government that upholds liberty equality and fraternity. On the other hand, the aristocrats and clergy resisted the social changes caused by the Enlightenment era. The revolution led to the fall of the monarchy, and the rise of radical political groups. Along with the numerous political and social changes caused by the Enlightenment era, the French Revolution had an inspiring legacy for the future democratic movement and other revolutions at the global level.

iii. **Feminism and Women's Rights Movement:** Feminism has been evolving through various phases such as liberal feminism, radical feminism, Marxist feminism, and Black feminism. These are different versions of the conflict between patriarchal ideologies and the call for gender equality. The sustained efforts of the feminists lead to significant social change and continuing social reforms. For example, in the first wave of feminism during the 19th century, women's voting rights were the primary agenda. The campaigns and changing social attitudes, helped women to attain suffrage rights in many countries starting with New Zealand in 1893 and followed by other countries over time. The following waves of feminism have continued to challenge gender norms and promote equality between men and women. These efforts led to the advancement of women's rights such as workplace equality and legislative changes to protect against gender-based discrimination and violence.

iv. **The Fall of communism and the Soviet Union (1989-1991):** The ideological contradiction between communism and capitalism during the Cold War era culminated in the fall of the Soviet Union. The tension between the Eastern communist regimes and Western democratic capitalism along with the internal struggles and economic stagnation eventually caused the disintegration of the Soviet bloc. The former Soviet States transform into a more democratic system, adopted a market economy, and experienced a shift in political and cultural attitudes. As a result, many social changes occurred in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

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- **Ideas and Innovation:**

Innovative ideas and inventions have the potential to transform society. 'Social innovation' refers to designing and implementing new solutions to improve the well-being of the people. It deals with the process of developing and implementing new effective solutions to solve social and environmental issues. Social innovation comes in the form of national policies, governmental or nongovernmental entities. Such solutions should address the current social needs better than it has been done before. For example, Indian social entrepreneur Arunachalam Muruganandam, invented the world's first low-cost machine for producing sanitary napkins and employed women in the industry. He has given a solution for women from low-income groups to lead dignified and healthier life.

- **Social Movements:**

Ideology-based moments such as feminism environmentalism civil rights and LGBTQ movements have reformed society through activism and proposing legislative measures. These movements challenge unjust norms and beliefs and demand social justice and equality. Rapid globalization has facilitated the emergence of transnational movements and global communities to address social issues.

- **Economic Ideology:**

Capitalism, communism, socialism, and neo-liberalism are important economic ideologies that drastically changed the social relations and the power structure in society. The rise of capitalism in Western Europe during the 18th and 19th centuries transformed the agrarian society into an industrial society. In contemporary times, the rise of neo-liberalism has created a radical social change and influenced the development policies and welfare measures. The choices for the people have increased and to meet the demands of the new-liberal society, the people had to adapt to the changes accordingly.

For example, 'Thatcherism' emerged from the ideals and practices of Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister of the UK from 1979 to 1990. The ideology encompasses a holistic approach to governance, i.e. economy, polity law and order. Thatcher gave a new impetus to the fundamental change in the economy. She believed in the primacy of the free market and paved the way for the resurrection of liberal economic

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exchange. Thatcherism created a new alignment of power, by relaxing the control of the government in terms of marker as well as gripping the power to maintain law and order. This approach influenced domestic and international politics and Thatcherism is becoming a global norm in the present context. Conveying the popular notion of Thatcher's policy implications, Tony Health, a British journalist observed; "It will be argue that teachers are members of a profession which must not be influenced by political considerations. With the curse of Thatcherism spreading across the land that is an extravagant that just the careless can manage". He noted that, despite the political differences in the role of the state, the policy shift towards neo-liberalism was the need of the hour. The policy decisions effectively tackled economic recession, which had many underlying dynamics, including the post-war condition of the big powers like Britain, the negative impacts of protectionism on the British economy etc. Since Thatcher stepped down from office in 1990, many conservatives became the Prime Ministers of the UK and acknowledged her economic reforms. Conservative British Prime Minister Tony Blair perceived Thatcherism as "ideological, at times so" while making an important statement that "a lot of what she wanted to do in the 1980s was unavoidable, a result out of ideology but rather of social and financial change". Taking it as a cue, the following sections theoretically examine how Thatcherism remade Britain.

During the initial days of Thatcher's reign, Britain entered a phase of financial stagnation and industrial downturn. Especially several traditional industries such as coal, railways, shipbuilding and heavy metal industries suffered a slowdown. They did not perform well and were unable to compete within Europe as well as in the international business. The major reason is that Britain's public welfare services have their roots in the twin tradition of Keynesian financial aspects and Beveridge's ideals of social protection. Keynesian model suggests the high investments from the government and Beveridge policies concentrated on social insurance for the people who need financial assistance such as the unemployed, the sick, retired and the widows. These policies were implemented in the 1960s. Such practices expressed the principles of universalism, fairness and free access at the place of utilization. On the other hand, the model asserted that free-market does not have any self-mechanism to ensure employment. As aggregate demand determines economic activity, the decrease in demand will lead to a recession and mounting unemployment. Hence, the Keynesian model suggests Sticky Wage Theory that upholds job security

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even in terms of falling demand for labor. Britain formerly adapted to this model to tackle the economic recession in the 1930s, to ensure that market uncertainties should not affect people's welfare. However, due to the lack of industriousness, these approaches eventually lead to bankruptcy. Britain's recession reached a 'climax' when it sought help from International Monetary Fund in 1976. Consequently, stagnation, the coincidence of high inflation and unemployment, posed a serious problem to Britain's economy which followed the Keynesian model. Thatcher's market drove approach brought about a far-reaching privatization. Welfare reforms were structured and a clear distinction was made between rich and poor. It should be noted that Thatcher was described as a 'school mistress', as she showed minimal comprehension of the existence of ordinary individuals and less sympathy for the cause of poor people. Her attitude created much bitterness and social division. All these reforms were inevitable. Accordingly, under the 'Right to buy', 1.7 million social lodging units were offered at limited cost to their inhabitants somewhere in the range of 1981 and 1995. The arrangements for new social housing were made. It was transferred from the local advisors to non-profit housing associations and some current properties were moved to them. In 1978, 32 per cent of housing in Britain was possessed by local authorities and it came down to 19 per cent by 1995. One of its notable 'cost-cutting strategies' of Thatcher was regarding educational institutions. She although giving priority to academic needs, ended up encouraging the privatization of education. On the whole, there was a drastic decrease in assets going to the public sector.

Nationalized industries like British Aerospace and British Cable and Wireless were owned and operated by the state. Thatcher privatized them and tackled the government's debt. After 1982 her government decided to privatize large utilities like Britoil Oil Company and British Gas Company. During Thatcher's second and third terms in office, the public authority sold British water and electric utilities. It further privatized nearly fifty companies that included Jaguar automobile company, British Steel and British Airways. Earlier, though Britain appreciated huge upgrades in material well-being, UK GDP per capita was a relative decrease in comparison with other capitalist nations. The investments drop reflected an almost undesirable reach of countries whose institutions made the right type of investment climate. By the end of the 1970s US GDP was forty per cent higher than UK's and other mainland European nations were ten to fifteen per cent ahead. It is important to note that, Thatcher did not give

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up her stand on the European currency issue which angered the members of her cabinet and the European leaders. Given her unpopular stand, she chooses to resign from her office. Following her, in 1990, John Major, a member of Thatcher's cabinet, was sworn in as Prime Minister. The abolition of the poll tax was his significant move. Thatcher's strong will gave her a mixed legacy. Unemployment, poverty, and home foreclosures reached recorded highs during her years as Prime Minister. Public spending reached a record low. The labor movement in Britain has never recovered from her government's control. House-buying and private-area administration occupations boomed under the administration. The party certainly had the legacy of Thatcherism. The party was successful though she did not handle the inflation successfully. Her administration denoted a change for the UK, or maybe a final turning point.

The significant credentials of Thatcher's neo-liberal holistic strategy contained: First, liberalization i.e. displaying a complementary market instead of a monopolistic type, as it is the most proficient reason for market influence. Second, it carried out deregulation. Economists were given more independence from state control and lawful limitations. Third, privatization and diminishing the public area's portion in the direct or indirect arrangement of labor. Fourth, re-commoditization of the public sector was made to advance the job market. Fifth, the internationalization of labor and capital was encouraged. Finally, this economic model diminished direct taxes to support the market. Similarly, Thatcher had her legacy on labor market based on the following factors. Deindustrialization weakened the trade union. Legislations were implemented to restrict the trade union's rights and liberties.

Finally, it popularized the de-regulation of labor market and the improvement of the neo-liberal 'welfare system to work the system'. The changes implemented by Thatcher were timely and significant to offer a trajectory to reclaim the glory of the British Empire and envisage a developmental framework for the society. Notwithstanding the drawbacks, she envisioned a radical and pioneering policy and it became a global framework for pure capitalism. She had clarity about maintaining law and order and had control over the agencies which may be a potential threat to the nation. Her 'signature' governance in terms of internal and external affairs formed as a guideline for the upcoming leaders. It became evident when the majority of nations which claimed themselves as 'communists' eventually adapted to capitalism.

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- **Conflict Theory:**

Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels theorized the role of competing ideologies in creating social change. The struggle between the bourgeoisie and the proletariat, based on their respective ideologies, led to the eventual transformation of the societies. They studied the shifts of economic ideologies i.e. primitive communism feudalism, capitalism and socialism. Societies change because of dissatisfaction with the existing economic system. Consequently, counter ideology arises and replaces the existing one.

- **Symbolic Interactionism**

George Herbert Mead and Charles Cooley developed this theory. This theory holds that individuals create and interpret meaning through their interactions with others. Given the change in ideas and beliefs, the meanings ascribed to various symbols and social interactions evolve leading to social change. Symbolic interactionism approaches social change, as people strive to exchange notions with each other to become a part of society. Generally, social change is perceived as occurring through the environment or individual factors. However, symbolic interactionism explains these shifts as taking place because of how people want themselves and their society to develop. In short, social changes happen through people's interaction and the development of new thoughts and meanings.

- **Theories of Modernization and Development:**

These theories deal with the translation from traditional society to advanced and modern ones. The ideological drivers of social change proposed by these theories include the adoption of new ideas, orientations and values, which promote modernization, growth and development. Earlier the development was connected with the process of westernization and industrialization. Traditional norms, religious values, and tribal culture of Asian and African countries were perceived as a quality of underdevelopment. Development aid was provided to the underdeveloped nations on these grounds. Later it was realized that the theories related to modernization were the strategies to sustain the growth of the Developed Nations. In response, development as a concept was approached with more clarity by incorporating the concerns of the marginalized community,

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individual rights and liberties, and environmental concerns. Thereby the ideology related to development is getting diverse approaches to date.

- **Postmodernism:**

This theory argues that social change is caused by the breakdown of traditional narrators and values. As a society, moves from the colonial era to the post-colonial era the existing ideologies are scrutinized and sometimes rejected leading to a new way of approaching global politics. Postmodernists perceive social change beyond the functionalist-conflict debate. They contradict the grand theories of social change proposed by Karl Marx and Talcott Parson. For example, the feminist approach is one of the postmodernist approaches, which emphasizes the centrality of gender in social change. According to the feminist sociologist, social reality is perceived differently by the two sexes. Rising awareness regarding rights, feminization of the workforce and the women's movement is the new dimension of social change. Jacques Derrida and Michael Foucault laid the foundation for post-structuralism and post-modernism. Foucault related the emergence of modern institutions like prisons, hospitals in schools to a sign of increasing surveillance and society. Postmortem society is not destined for socialism as Marx predicted. It is likely to be more multicultural and diverse. Jean Baudrillard rightly noted that it will be dominated by science and images controlled by the mass media.

- **Feminist theory:**

Feminist theory is related to the development of changes concerning the ideology towards gender inequality. For example, the development strategies for women's rights began with the WID and WAD approach which treated women as beneficiaries. Later GAD approach emerged to treat women as clients. There was a shift in power dynamics from the colonial to the post-colonial era. There was a shift in the status of women in the political sphere. Women did not have the right to vote and they did not have agency in the political sphere. After the series of legislations, women were able to voice out their opinion in the public sphere as well as in the political arena. This political change led to reforms in the policies related to people's welfare.

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3.9 Let us Sum Up:

- Technology drives social change by providing advanced tools, mediums, and platforms that can revolutionize the way people communicate, interact and access information.
- The technological factors of social change are Globalization, Automation, Information and Communication, Artificial Intelligence, Theoretical Underpinnings, and Technological Determinism.
- Canadian philosopher and media theorist, McLuhan is known for his work in the field of communication theory. He is known for his contemporary concept of the 'global village' and its assertion that the 'medium is the message'.
- These mediums facilitated the development of civilization and encouraged the transmission of information over long distances. Space-biased media in contrast emphasize the rapid dissemination of information over long distances. Examples of space-biased media are paper print and radio.
- The use of different communication mediums influences the way people share, consume, and respond to information. It also affected the development of civilization, culture, and politics.
- Social Constructivism asserts that social phenomena are not determined solely by objective facts but are instantly shaped by social constructions and interpretations. Sociologist Trevor Pinch focused on social constructivism in terms of the material and symbolic dimensions of technology.
- The actor-Network theory deals with the role of non-human actors in shaping societal change including technology. It posits that technology is part of a network of actors that includes people, institutions, and other technologies.
- Social Shaping of Technology theory contradicts technological determinism and argues that technology is often over-simplified.
- Mutual Shaping theory is also known as co-evolutionary theory. It emphasizes the mutual influence, dependency, and reciprocal relationship between technology and society.
- Technology plays a crucial role in increasing economic inequality. Innovations and automation replace traditional occupation and

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forces people to migrate. It leads to unemployment as well as the problem of under-wage.

- Mediascape refers to the globally connected media landscape that includes print television radio and digital media. It helps in the creation and dissemination of images narratives and ideologies which shape cultural perceptions desires as well as aspirations.
- Technoscape refers to the Global war Technology, its infrastructure, and the way it influences social change.
- Financescape deals with the flow of money capital and economic resources on a global scale.
- Ideascape refers to the Global flow of ideas, ideologies, and values which save the way people experience and understand the world.
- Jan Nederveen Pieterse, a Dutch sociologist elucidates how globalization and culture interact with the help of three paradigms.
- Daniel Huntington developed this thesis called Classes of Civilization. He derived this concept and argued that cultural and religious identities as a primary source of conflict in the post cold War world.
- Since 1950 this process has been called Americanization and since 1960 multinational corporations have been viewed as a harbinger of American modernisation and this process is called cultural imperialism.
- In 1970 this process is referred to as 'Cocacolization' in Latin America. According to Ritzer, Mcdonalization comprises four main characteristics.
- The term 'Globalization' emerged with the combination of the words 'globalization' and 'localization'. The term is used to note a product or service that is developed and distributed globally but is also customized to accommodate the user or consumer in a local market.
- 'Social innovation' refers to designing and implementing new solutions to improve the well-being of the people. It deals with the process of developing and implementing new effective solutions to solve social and environmental issues. Social innovation comes in the form of national policies, governmental or nongovernmental entities.

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3.10 Keywords

Innovation, Technology, Digitalization, Automation, Information, Connectivity, Advancement, Internet, Artificial Intelligence, Communication, Cultural Values, Norms, Traditions, Customs, Belief, Identity, Diversity, Socialization, Cultural exchange, Cultural heritage Idea, Beliefs, Politics, Philosophy, Social movements, Ideologies, Worldviews, Equality, Justice, Change agents, Inter-cultural interactions, Glocalization, Language and Communication, Education, Religion, Democracy, Equality and Equity, Feminism, Environmentalism, Neo-liberalism, Socialism

3.11 Self-Assessment Questions

1. How does technological determinism affect society?
2. Give examples of Hot and Cold media.
3. Give examples of time-biased and space biased-media.
4. Explain the concept of 'Network Society'.
5. Discuss some examples of social changes driven by technology in the last decade.
6. Discuss the concept of Glocalization.
7. Explain the dimension of global cultural flow.
8. What is hybridization?
9. Discuss the characteristics of McDonaldization.
10. Evaluate Huntington's study of 'Clashes of Civilization'.
11. Analyze how culture serves as both a catalyst and a barrier to social change.
12. What are some cultural factors that can resist social change?
13. How have technological advancements changed our social interactions and relationships?
14. How do ideologies play a role in defining societal norms and hence, social change?
15. How does the advancement of technology affect society's attitudes and beliefs?

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16. How do ideological shifts contribute to social changes?
17. Analyze how culture serves as both a catalyst and a barrier to social change.
18. How can ideological beliefs shape or influence social policies and practices?
19. Can technology create social inequalities? Discuss with examples.
20. How can changing ideologies influence diplomacy and international relations?
21. How do changing ideologies affect ongoing social movements?
22. How do factors such as technology, culture, and ideology interact and interplay in bringing about social change?
23. How does ideological conflict contribute to social change?
24. How might future technological developments influence social change?

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UNIT - IV

Lesson 4.1 - Social Change in Contemporary India

Structure

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4.1 Objectives

- Understand the motivations behind the adoption of upper-caste rituals and practices by lower-caste families and individuals.
- Understand the changes that occurred in the social hierarchy.
- Evaluate the factors that contributed to social progress.

4.2 Introduction

India is going through a cultural renaissance with old traditions being rediscovered and new ideas taking hold. There is a growing sense of

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pride in Indian culture and a renewed interest in the diversity and witness of our heritage

- Sudhir Kakar

> The modernization of India has brought with it a gradual change in cultural values. Some traditional practices and customs have been abandoned while others have been adapted to suit the needs of a changing society.
>
> - MN. Srinivas

> The process of cultural change in India is ongoing and complex as it involves not only the adoption of new ideas and practices but also the preservation and adaptation of established traditions.
>
> - Veena Das

Social Mobility: A Driving Force of Social Change

Social mobility and social change are interrelated factors that are essential for learning the dynamics of societies. Social mobility is the moment when individuals are grouped within or between the various social strata in society, and people from a lower social status move up into a higher social status or vice versa. This mobility creates a blending of values, ideas, and experiences that can generate social change. Upward mobility generally increases innovation as individuals from diverse social backgrounds bring new perspectives and problem-solving approaches. On the other hand, downward mobility can alter how people perceive social hierarchy and equality. For instance, a rigid social hierarchy or discrimination can restrict the extent to which individuals experience mobility, thereby hindering social change. However, social mobility and social change form a 'feedback loop', where the improvement in one aspect influences the other. Increasing social mobility can lead to an emergence of an inclusive and progressive society, which alternately animates a positive social transformation. A meaningful social change can create a favorable condition for social mobility, which allows people at all levels to benefit from societal progress. In the Indian context, as a diverse and rapidly changing society, the country has witnessed a series of changing trends till the contemporary time. On one hand, globalization and the spread of technology are shaping contemporary India. Along with these processes Sanskritization, westernization, modernization, and Secularization have been influencing Indian society and its social fabric.

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4.3 Sanskritization

Sanskritization is a concept used in Indian sociology and social anthropology. It is used to define the process through which members of the lower caste, tribes, or other marginalized groups adopt the customs, beliefs, rituals, language patterns, and accents of the higher caste to improve their social status and mobility within their communities. This phenomenon is observed throughout the history of Indian society. The concept of Sanskritization was first proposed by Mysore Narasimhachar Srinivas in his book titled *Religion and Society among the Coorgs of South India* published in 1952. This book discusses how the lower caste or tribes imitate the customs and beliefs of the upper caste Hindus, based on the ideals of Brahmanism. This process involves the aspiration of lower castes and tribes to change their social status by emulating the everyday life of the upper castes.

4.4 Characteristics of Sanskritization: The Perspectives of M.N. Srinivas

He was a pioneering Indian sociologist, renowned for his research on the dynamic of caste mobility and social change in India. Srinivas took the context of the Coorg community of South India. Coorg has an indigenous tribal group in the region. They adopted the clothing style, customs, and rituals of the upper caste, to enhance their social status. Srinivas noted that their efforts to Sanskritize, were intended to enhance their social status, occupation, and religious belief. It was mainly carried out to raise their status within the rigid caste hierarchy. He stated thus: "By Sanskritiation, It means the process by which a 'low' or 'middle' cast or tribal Hindu group changes its customs, rituals, ideology, and way of life in the direction of high and frequently Brahmanical Hindu caste." He characterizes the Sanskritization as follows:

- **Emulation of Brahmins:**

Sanskritization is the process whereby the low and the middle ranking castes imitate the higher caste, mostly the Brahmins. First, changing dietary habits. It involves adopting vegetarianism and emulating the Brahmin diet that excludes non-vegetarian food. Dietary change is a strategy to bring the community closer to the ideals of ritual purity based on Brahmanical ideology. Second, adopting Brahmanical rituals. Community centers adopt Brahmin rituals and practices such as wearing the sacred

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thread, observing the ideals of purity and pollution, and performing Brahmin rites and ceremonies. Third, changing occupational patterns. As the caste system is mainly constructed based on occupational segregation of society, the non-Brahmin communities tend to change their occupation or take up the occupation that is associated with the Brahmins such as teaching, priesthood, or astrology, to improve their socio-economic status. Fourth, restructuring of social relations. The marginalized communities attempt to order their social practices to resemble those of the Brahmins. This strategy involves describing or prohibiting inter-caste marriages and refraining from the practices labeled as impure or degrading. Fifth, communities attempt to learn the Sanskrit sacred text such as Vedas, Upanishads, and other scriptures typically associated with the Brahmins. Finally, the practice of worshipping religious icons and symbols that are predominantly celebrated by the Brahmin caste. The whole Sanskritization is a complex as well as controversial process in Indian society. These strategies of Sanskritization are criticized for perpetuating the hierarchical caste system and incentivizing the communities to discard their distinctive unique cultural identities.

- **Economic and Socio-Political Upliftment**

MN Srinivas noted that Sanskritization has both material, social and political components. Socially it influences the interaction of different caste groups and changes everyday life practices within the community. Subsequently, the group, which aspires to move up the caste hierarchy, mainly aims to acquire wealth land, and occupational patterns resembling those of the higher castes.

During the Pre-British days, the marginalized groups had no chance of aspiring to anything related to financial stability and high social status. The social mobility that was sluggish in the pre-British period was speeded up considerably in the British period. But the changes were only quantitative. Economic betterment was one of the important agenda for the people who pursued Sanskritization. In some cases, a group may move upward in the status hierarchy by acquiring political power, which may lead to economic betterment and Sanskritization. However, this does not mean that economic betterment necessarily results in Sanskritization. What is important to note here is the collective desire to raise high in the esteem of friends and neighbors. Hence, they follow the method by which the status of a group raises. It is interesting to note that such desire or agenda

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is preceded by the acquisition of wealth. For example, the untouchables of the Rampura village in Mysore state were getting increasingly Sanskritized. This situation happened because of the political support and the fact that young men are in more contact with the outside world than their parents and community. Srivinas notes thus:

"Rampura Untouchables are being egged on by Untouchable leaders from outside to change their way of life. Whether the economic position of Untouchables has improved during the last seventy years or so is not easy to determine, though it is likely that they also have benefited from the greater prosperity which resulted when the area under irrigation increased nearly eighty years ago. '

Political upliftment due to the Sanskritization can be observed in the case of the Ezhava community from Kerala. Historically the community was treated as a part of the lower caste hierarchy. It limited their economic, social, and political opportunities. However, the community actively participated in the Sanskritization process by imitating the Brahminic customs rituals, languages, and attires in the early 20th century. Social reformer and a prominent Ezhava leader, Sree Narayana Guru played an important role in this transformation. He advanced the principles of unity, equality, and the significance of education to elevate the social status of the marginalized caste. After the series of reform movements, the Ezhava community witnessed an increase in literary rates, contributing to overall socio-economic development. In terms of the political sphere, the Ezhava community formed the SNDP movement. Sree Narayana Dharma Paripalana Yogam was started in 1983, aimed at promoting the welfare of marginalized communities. The movement became a successful platform for their political representation. R. Sankar, from the Ezhava community, became the Chief Minister of Kerala in 1956. As the community gained broader recognition, they played a pivotal role in Kerala's political landscape.

The significant aspect of Sree Narayana's praxis was his emphasis on education. He propagated that education was essential for the empowerment of the lower caste and the development of their future generations. He established schools and educational institutions exclusively for the lower caste people thereby challenging the exclusively of the educational institution controlled by the upper caste. Another important reform agenda of Sree Narayana Guru's praxis was his emphasis on ritual reforms. He criticized the rituals and practices of the upper

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caste Hindus and perceived them as a medium for perpetuating caste-based discrimination and exclusion. It is interesting to note that he did not reject Sanskrit rituals altogether. Instead, he sought to reform the rituals by eliminating caste-based exclusivity and making them accessible to all the castes. He emphasized his followers to adopt the upper caste practices. However, it is not intended for caste mobility, but as a way of asserting their agency and challenging caste-based discrimination in Kerala. Sree Narayana Guru's approach to Sanskritization challenged the traditional perception of the terms. His desire is not to emulate social mobility. Instead, it was a political act of countering cast discrimination and exclusion by appropriating the Sanskrit rituals for the mass number of lower caste people.

- **Sanskritization is a continuous process with variability in the reference caste:**

This process tends to unfold over generations, as they try to improve their social status. Srinivas notes that the process does not occur overnight. It usually takes at least a couple of generations before others recognize certain changes. Moreover, the process of Sanskritization is not solely based on the emulation of Brahmins. It could also involve the imitation of the dominant non-Brahmin castes that are in a good socio-economic position in the hierarchy.

The group which intends to be Sanskritized must claim a particular caste or varna. They alter their customs, diet, or the way of life suitable for them. If there are any inconsistencies within the process, they must try to justify them, by inventing an appropriate myth. Moreover, the group must be content to wait an indefinite period and during this time, it must maintain continuous pressure regarding the explanation and justification given earlier and pass it on to the next generation.

- **Sanskritization and the Great Tradition**

Sanskritization is closely linked to the great tradition which refers to the legitimate form of cultural and religious practices of the upper caste Hindus such as orthodox Brahmins. However, Sanskritization does not refer only to the process itself but also encompasses the cultural values that are transmitted through it. For instance, in the pilgrimage centers, *Harikartan* which is religious storytelling can be considered as a channel for transmitting the cultural values associated with the great tradition.

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Lucy Caroll noted that the Lingayats and the Arya Samaj are the religious moments that promoted these values and played a role in Sanskritization. The primary agenda of these movements is religious revivalism.

- **Impact of Westernization**

The modernity and exposure to Western values accelerated the pace of Sanskritization in India. Lower-caste people pursued Western education just as the upper caste did. The exposure to Western education led them to emancipate from the caste hierarchy and acquire higher social status. Westernization leads to the erosion of Brahmanical practices. It diluted the rigid caste-based social order. The dilution of Brahmanical practices eventually led to the weakening of the Sanskritization process. People from the lower caste began to challenge the caste hierarchy and sought upward social mobility through other means such as education, political participation, and occupation. Subsequently, the spread of modern education facilitated Westernization and replaced Sanskrit-based education. Including the upper caste people, most of them started to choose Western education over traditional Sanskrit education. The scientific and secular education system was the primary choice of the people who seek to progress. The Western education system empowered the lower caste and diminished the importance of Sanskritization. This was encouraged by many social reform movements since the colonial period. Reform women such as the Brahma Samaj, Arya Samaj, the Theosophical Society, and Self-Respect movement, and the SNDP movement were striving to fight caste discrimination and create a society based on merit. Moreover, Westernization led to industrialization and Urbanization and prioritized individual rights. These aspects devalued Sanskritization and had a multifaceted impact on India.

4.5 Criticisms on Sanskritization

This process perpetuates inequality rather than addressing the fundamental cause of social discrimination. Lower caste may knowingly or unknowingly support caste supremacy by adopting the lifestyle of the higher caste. Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, a prominent jurist, politician, and social reformer expresses their opinion on the caste system and social mobility in India. His statement can be associated with criticism of Sanskritization. He stated:

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"Caste is a social system that holds that some individuals are inherently superior to others based on their birth and social ranking. This belief has perpetuated the wrong idea of purity and pollution, in the minds of the people, presenting a deep-rooted prejudice that affects the daily interactions, choices, and decisions".

4.6 Sanskritization in Contemporary India

Notwithstanding the significant social economic and political changes, the concept of Sanskritization is still relevant in contemporary India. The people who belong to the lower caste aspire to study Sanskrit and Vedic-related subjects. They tend to adopt a more refined language or dialect or an accent to show their social upward mobility and to mingle with the higher caste people. Marriage practices have also been a site of Sanskritization in contemporary India. By emulating the traditional and more orthodox customs of marriage and related rituals of the upper caste, people from the lower caste tend to show their better social status and gain acceptance from society. The process of Sanskritization is restricted by rapid globalization, westernization, and the advancement of secular ideals.

4.7 Westernization

In the Indian context, Westernization refers to the impact that Western cultural ideas and values, have on Indian society. This is significant because the adoption of Western ideas and practices has undoubtedly led to substantial social transformation. MM. Srinivas discusses the process of Westernization and its impact on society. According to him, the term Westernization encompasses three wide ranges of changes occurring at various levels: i. Technological, ii. Institutional and iii. Ideological

4.8 Technological Westernization:

During the colonial period, India underwent significant Western-style technological changes that facilitated economic growth and overall social development. Most of these Western influences can be attributed to the imperial rule of the British. Some examples include:

- The first railway line in India was established in 1853 running between Bombay and Thane. These extensive railways not only

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revolutionized transport but also played an essential role in the socioeconomic development of India.

- The telegram system was introduced in India in the 1850s. It modernized communication and increases the efficiency of administration. By the end of the century, India had one of the biggest telegraph networks in the world.
- In the 1850s, several educational institutions were established in colonial India including the University of Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras. These institutions helped to advance English education and Western disciplines such as engineering, science, law, and medicine
- European architectural styles including Gothic and Victorian styles wear introduced as a part of modern architecture in India. These styles were used in many buildings, train stations, Universities, and throughout the country.
- Notable industries such as Bengal jute mills, the Tata Iron and Steel Company, and cotton mills in Bombay were established during the colonial period. The introduction of these measures kick-started the process of industrialization in India.
- Vaccinations and modern surgical techniques were introduced to enhance public health. Hospitals, medical colleges, and research institutions were established to implement the same.
- In 1854, a modern postal system was introduced connecting various reasons of the country which facilitated the efficient exchange of information as well as goods.
- Large-scale channel projects such as the Ganges Canal laid more productive agriculture in arid regions of the country. Such modern irrigation techniques were used to promote agriculture.

4.9 Institutional westernization

Institutional Westernization refers to the adoption and integration of Western institutional models, and value systems into Non-Western societies. It influenced the public policy and functioning of many social institutions in India.

Parliamentary System

- Under the imperial rule of the British, the Legislative Councils Act of 1989 was established to ensure an impression of representative

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governance. A limited number of Indians were allowed to participate as non-official members.

- The Indian Councils Act of 1989 also known as the Minto-Morley reforms was implemented to deal with the resolutions regarding budgets and policies.
- The Government of India Act of 1919 also known as the Montagu Chelmsford reforms expanded the scope of the parliamentary system in India. It crusaded governance of the provinces and created a dual government structure and the Indians administered few sectors. Indian ministers governed the sector of education, agriculture, and health. Whereas finance, revenue, law, and order were taken care of by the British ministers.
- The Government of India Act of 1935 was the culmination of decade long series of constitutional conferences and discussions that aimed to secure the concept of responsible government in India. The act provided the bicameral system with the Central legislative system with the Council of States as the Upper house and the Legislative assembly as the Lower house. Moreover, a degree of the provisional economy was expanded to preview and abolish the diarchy rule.
- Finally, the Independent Act of 1947 declared the end of British rule in India and paved the way for the dominion of India and the dominion of Pakistan.

Thereby the parliament system in colonial India witnessed a gradual but significant process of westernization and culminated in parliamentary democracy in independent India.

Banking and Currency:

The Indian financial system and the economy were highly influenced by colonial rule. Some significant changes demonstrated the banking and currency reforms were a part of institutional Westernization. These changes enhance the financial management business and trade but also increase India's dependency on the economic policies of the British.

- The first modern bank in India, the Bank of Bengal was established in 1989 to finance colonial trade and administration. It was established as a joint-stock institution, modeled after the British East India Company.

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- Subsequently, many Presidency Banks were formed such as The Bank of Bombay in 1840 and the Bank of Madras in 1843.
- Paper currency was issued in India through The Paper Currency Act of 1861. This was fully regulated by the Indian government. Earlier, the private banks were allowed to issue notes, which were not standardized and resulted in confusion. This change centralized the currency system and investment across the country.
- Presidency Banks were merged in 1921 and a single entity was formed called the Imperial Bank of India. This consolidated and strengthened the financial network.
- In 1898, the Indian currency system was tied to the gold standard. It helped to stabilize the value of the Indian Rupees and facilitated international trade.
- In 1935, the Reserve Bank of India was established, based on the recommendation of the Hilton Young Commission. RBI was set up to manage the banking regulation and monetary policy.
- Indian Coinage Act was implemented in 1906 to replace the existing currency denominations and introduced a new system with Rupees as the primary Unit.

Education Institutions:

Western-style educational institutions were established to shape and transform Indian society according to Western values and norms. The colonial period was marked by the introduction of various educational institutions, which has a legacy to date.

- In 1835, the British politician, Lord Macaulay penned the historical minute on Indian Education emphasizing the need to educate the Indian elite class in English language and literature. This policy laid the foundation for the widespread Westernization of Indian education which undermined the medium of traditional Indian languages.
- Wood's Dispatch 1854 recommends a network of universities, teacher training institutes, and grant-in-aid systems to ensure quality education
- The establishment of the University of Madras, the University of Bombay, and the University of Calcutta facilitated the evolution of Indian intelligence, bureaucrats, and professionals.

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- Indian Civil Service (ICS) was introduced in 1922. It fostered the Westernization of intellectual and governing elites in India.
- Western curricula and textbooks were imposed to replace indigenous knowledge.
- Initially, western education was catered primarily to the male population and marginalized women in formal education. With the advent of the reform movement, efforts were made to encourage girls' education in the Western model.
- English replaced the traditional medium of instruction in schools and colleges and fueled the spread of Western ideas throughout the country.

Judicial and Legal System

Systems implemented during colonial rule continue to have a legacy in the contemporary Indian judicial system. Some significant judicial measures implemented during the British period were:

- The Regulating Act of 1773 brought judicial reforms such as the establishment of the Supreme Court in Calcutta, the post of Governor-General, the Council to exercise control over the British territories, and the provision to address corruption.
- In 1793, Cornwallis Code separated the judiciary from the executive system. Accordingly, separate District Courts were set up and implemented the Western rule of law.
- In 1860, The Indian Penal Code was drafted by Lord Macaulay. It was modeled on English criminal law and Western jurisprudence. It served as the foundation for the modern criminal code in independent India.
- Indian Evidence Act of 1872 provided a comprehensive set of rules and regulations regarding admissible evidence in Indian courts. It replaced the traditional Indian system of proof.
- Indian Contract Act of 1872 laid down the principles for the valid contract and considered it the cornerstone of contract law in India.
- Indian High Court Act 1861 and the establishment of High Courts in India modeled on the English Supervisor Courts system.
- Western-style legal education was introduced by the British through the establishment of law colleges in India. Many Indians pursued law in England and became Barristers. This education exposed

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Indians to Western jurisprudence and facilitated the fusion of Indian customs and practices and Western legal concepts.

Bureaucracy and Civil Service:

As a part of the British administrative model, the Indian Civil Service was conducted only in England. It included positions in police, administration, revenue, and judiciary.

- ICS also known as the Imperial Civil Service was established by the British in 1857, following the acquisition of administrative power to the British crown. ICS facilitated the British to impose Western policies and practices in India.
- Indian Council Act of 1861 expanded the admission to a provisional level consisting of British officials. Indians were also appointed as additional members. This system bridged the bureaucratic structure.
- The introduction of the Indian Police Service (IPS) in 1861 replaced the traditional local police system. It laid down the groundwork for modern policing in India.
- Indian railway service was part of the colonial strategy to control the country and make a profit. However, this service attracted many educated and skilled Indians to be a part of colonial administration in managing the complex rail network.
- The introduction of competitive exams such as ICS and IPS gave a chance for Indians to achieve high social status on merit. This created a chance for Indians to have social mobility in a society where social and economic status is ascribed in the birth itself, based on their caste. These competitive exams allowed Indians to enter the top level of the colonial bureaucracy.
- In 1854, Lord Dalhousie introduced Woods Dispatch envisioning a class of ' Indian with a Western outlook', and the people who could fill subordinate positions under the colonial administration.
- Civil services were Indianized during the 20th century and allowed greater access for Indians in administration. Demands for a higher proportion of Indian officials increased particularly after 1919 and these reforms enhanced Indian participation in the government.

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Infrastructure Development and Urban Planning

Projects such as the railways, telegraph system, and modern ports, facilitated trade mobility and commutation and aligned Indian social and economic progress with the Western nations.

- The railway system integrated the Indian economy with the world economy by transporting passengers and goats across vast distances. It promoted trade and created a transformation in the market economy.
- The British India postal System was established in 1854 and implemented the first postage stamps and the telegraph system. Infrastructure facilitated administrative efficiency improved trade and enhanced interaction between regions and countries.
- Highways and bridges were built to improve connectivity within the country. For example, the Howrah Bridge in Calcutta built during British rule, eased transportation for the people.
- In 1851, the first telegraph line connected Calcutta and Diamond Harbor. Telegraph lines were expanded and connected major cities and enhanced coordination among the governing institutions.
- Sanitation and water supply were westernized through the construction of underground sewer networks, public baths, and drinking water pipelines. These systems were based on European designs.
- Urban planning is a breakthrough in the history of India which was predominantly a rural area. The British introduced modern urban planning in Indian cities resulting in a distinct partition of urban spaces for commercial residential and administrative purposes. Areas like New Delhi, Lutyens' Delhi, and various ' cantonment ' twos are the outcome of the British efforts towards urbanization. The British targeted these cities to impose their ideas and values.
- The introduction of European architectural styles in the building as colleges, railway stations, municipal buildings, and museums features the urban planning of colonial India.
- The 'Civil lines' concept was introduced in cities to maintain a distance between British people and Indians. They were planned, separate and affluent residential areas occupied by the British and other European officials who are often away from the native residents.

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- Remodeling of the rural system was carried out by the colonial administration. A gridiron pattern to urban road networks was introduced. It replaced the traditional organic layouts of the towns. The facility allowed for better control and surveillance of the cities.
- Regulation for land uses and buildings was imposed by the British to control and segregate urban landscapes according to the British social hierarchy.
- Beautification and landscaping were also carried out as a part of Western-style public spaces like parks, gardens, and recreational centers. They served as a symbol of British authority. These plans return the rapid urbanization and provided the consequences like social segregation over crawling and deepening economic disparities.

Military Organization

The British restructured the Indian armed forces and established a Western-style organization that included new regiments' training and uniforms. The British army was a well-organized and disciplined force structured on British military lines. The military organization played a crucial role in the process of institutional westernization of colonial India.

- The British East India Company created a native Indian army, known as the Sepoy Army, which was dominated by British officers. This army was trained, disciplined, and organized based on European military strategy, training, and principles, leading to greater discipline and an advanced level of training among Indian soldiers.
- Military academies were launched in Dehradun and Chennai to produce skilled officers and soldiers well-versed in modern warfare techniques and strategies.
- British introduced new weapons such as advanced rifles artillery and modern military equipment that revolutionize the way the Indian army fought. Moreover British integrated the statics and strategies of the Western style allowing the Indian army to adapt and evolve in terms of operational efficiency
- Indian military adopted an advanced logistical system for transportation, supply chain management, and communication. They enhanced the operational efficiency of the troops during warfare.

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- The British divided India into many military zones and encouraged the Indian soldiers to administer their armies. This strategy controlled the traditional military power centers and reinforced centralized British power.
- Indian soldiers were organized based on their ethnic and regional affiliation. This helped the British to capitalize on the distinct martial traditions while reinforcing their divide-and-rule policy and the prevention of organized resistance towards imperialism.
- Recruitment of Non- Commissioned Officers (NCO) was introduced by the British to provide a hierarchy of command, and to make loyal soldiers to the British officers.

Thus the military institution restructured by the British rule help them to continue their imperialism for years in India. However, this process also helped to define an Indian national territory and paved the way for Indian nationalism in the long run. Similarly, Indians were well-informed about the updated military strategies that helped them during the post-independent era.

Health Services

The British introduced Western medical practices and established hospitals and medical schools. Public health awareness programs for vaccinations, sanitation, and disease control were also conducted during this period. Some examples of Health Services established during this period are:

- The Indian Medical Service was established in 1764 to admit health services and research.
- Calcutta Medical College and Madras Medical College were established in 1835. Grand Medical College was established in 1845 in Bombay.
- Lady Dufferin Hospitals were initiated in 1887 to provide service specifically for women. They promoted Western medical practices in gynecology and obstetrics. It gave a significant break from the traditional Indian practice of female family members assisting in childbirth.
- Smallpox vaccinations were introduced in 1802. By 1850 the British government had developed an extensive vaccination program to curve the smallpox epidemic.

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- Plague and Malaria eradication was carried out through fumigation, rat extermination, and mosquito control. Quinine and drugs were used to treat the malaria outbreak.

These examples of health services reflect the westernization of the Indian medical landscape since the colonial period and continue its dominance till contemporary times. On the whole, infrastructure development in colonial India played a significant role in promoting and facilitating institutional Westernization.

4.10 Ideological Westernization

Colonialism and globalization in India created a conducive environment for Western ideas to permeate Indian society. These aspects influenced governance, education, religious identities, social reforms, and popular culture. Some important examples of Ideological Westernization in India include:

Indian Constitution

It was adopted in 1950 and it is recognized as the longest constitution in the world. It upholds the Western Democratic system that gave a framework for a secular and democratic nation. It is inspired by various Western constitutions such as:

- **British Constitution:** Parliamentary System of Democracy, rule of law, the process of amendment, Bicameral legislature with Lok Sabha (House of People) and Rajya Sabha (Council of States).
- **United States Constitution:** Federal Structure of government with centralized authority, the division of powers among legislative, executive, and judiciary branches, concept of judicial review, and the ideology of fundamental rights.
- **Irish Constitution:** The Directive Principles of State Policy.
- **French Constitution:** Ideals of liberty equality and fraternity, Preamble of Indian Constitution on social justice.
- **Canadian Constitution:** Federal Structure of Government and Distribution of Power between Centre and State.
- **Australian Constitution**: Concurrent power for State and Center, independent and impartial judiciary.

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The fusion of these Western constitutions allows the Indian Constitution to amalgamate the best practices from these countries to serve the diverse and unique requirements of the society.

Social Reforms:

- India has enacted a series of social reform measures inspired by the western countries. They are supported by social movements since the colonial period and culminated as legislation. These reforms were inspired by the Western notion of gender equality and prioritizing the rights of women.
- Abolition of Sati 1829, Lord William Bentinck enacted this legislation to outlaw the barbaric practice of sati. Sati is a voluntary or non-voluntary act, where the widow burns herself alive on her husband's pyre. Both social movements and the colonial government strived to abolish the practice.
- The Female Infanticide Prevention Act of 1870, the Bengal Regulatory Act XXI of 1975, and The Regulating Act of 1802 were passed by the East India Company.
- The Age of Consent Act of 1891, raised the age of consent for sexual intercourse for all girls (unmarried or unmarried) from ten to twelve years.
- The Child Marriage Restraint Act 1929, aimed to prevent the practice of child marriages.

Individual Liberty and Secularism

India is a multicultural nation with diverse religious, ethnic, and linguistic groups coexisting for centuries. The Indian constitution which came into effect in 1950 adopted the principles of liberty and secularism, inspired by the Western countries. For Example, Fundamental rights, freedom of speech and expression, personal laws for different religions, protection of minority rights, and so on.

Popular Culture

Western music, television shows, and movies have found a large number of audiences in India. The English language press including magazines and newspapers exemplifies the impact of Western culture and thought. Here are a few examples across various categories:

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- Music: International pop stars such as Madonna, and Michael Jackson, and the brands like Led Zeppelin and Metallica. Electronic dance music has gained popularity with many DJs.
- Fashion: Today's formal and party wear are inspired by Western fashion. Examples are Jeans, sneakers, T-shirts, Suits, and so on
- Hollywood movies have spread popularity in India and many of them are dubbed into the regional languages.
- Reality shows sitcoms, and soap operas have the Western legacy.
- Global fast food chains like McDonald's have drastically influenced India's food business.
- Western sports like soccer have gained considerable traction, with the English Premier League, Lakiga, and UEFA. Cricket is a classic example of Western influence. The England-based sport gained massive popularity in India and is being celebrated to date. With the emergence of IPL, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has become the wealthiest cricket governing body in the world.

It is important to note that while India has absorbed and adopted many features of Western ideology it has not entirely forsaken its cultural roots. As Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam points out, westernization does not mean adopting a new culture it means blending the best of both worlds to create a progressive India.

4.11 Modernization:

In the sociological context, modernization refers to the transformation process of society from the pre-modern age to a more advanced and contemporary one. This transformation featured significant changes in various aspects of social, economic, political, and cultural life. Key features of modernization include organization, industrialization, secularization increased literacy, rationalization, enhanced communication and transportation technology, and the development of democratic institutions.

The emergence of the Concept:

The concept of modernization emerged in the late 18th and 19th centuries as the world started to experience rapid changes driven by organizational, and political transformation and industrialization. The

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term modernization gained momentum in the mid-20th century as the process of social change accelerated and emerged as more relevant in both developed and developing countries. Researchers and social scientists note that the countries undergoing these transitions exhibited certain common characteristics and were subjected to debate. During the 1950s and 1960s, modernization theory emerged as a dominant paradigm in Social Science to explain why and how society evolved and developed.

Definitions of Modernization

Daniel Lerner, in his seminal work, *Passing of traditional society: modern icing the Middle East,* defined Modernization as ' the transformation of traditional societies into an advanced one through economic and social development, political change, and the adoption of new technologies. He believed that this process leads individuals and societies to engage in a "psychological revolution" characterized by empathy, aspiration, and participation. Lerner postulated that modernization results in increased literacy rates, urbanization, and communication, which in turn fosters economic growth, social mobility, political democratization, and overall societal progress.'

Neil Smelser, in his work titled *Essays in Sociological Explanation,* provided a definition:

"Modernization, in its widest sense, refers to those processes of change, whereby agrarian, undeveloped, or traditional societies become modern, technically efficient, bureaucratized, and industrialized. This transition entails significant changes in the social organization, cultural values, economic institutions, and political structures, accompanied by psychological and emotional transformations – all directed at creating conditions of life compatible with the complex requirements of a rational and rationalized industrial order."

Syed Hussein Atlas stated: "Modernization is the process whereby a non-modernized society is transformed into a modern society. It is the emergence from a traditional and agricultural society to a technological one and the replacement of myths and beliefs by science and reason."

American economist and political theorist WW Rostow, in his classic work, The Stages of Economic Growth: A Non-Communist Manifesto stated: "Modernization implies the progressive transformation of traditional economies into modern economies, involving changes not

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only in technology and patterns of production, but also in values, social attitudes, political institutions, and culture."

4.12 Difference between Modernization and Westernization

Modernization and Westernization are two distinct concepts that tend to be interchanged due to overlapping characteristics. Westernization refers to the adoption of norms and values of countries belonging to the West like the USA, Britain, and the European Nations. Whereas modernization is the adoption of advanced and progressive values and practices. Westernization means not being advanced or progressive all the time. In terms of scope, modernization does not necessarily affiliate with any culture or region. It focuses on broad social progress and can manifest in various forms across the world. On the other hand, in Westernization, non-western countries are restricted to the influence and adoption of Western values and practices. It is limited in scope, as it does not encompass the influence of the non-Western countries. Modernization is often perceived as a desirable process to enhance the quality of life to drive social progress. It is based on the integration of technological advancements, and the improvement in governance, education, and communication system. Most importantly, westernization is more ethnocentric and can be controversial. Critics argue that it often leads to cultural homogenization and the dilution of local customs, values, and traditions. The scholars who support the Western model of modernization argue that the adoption of Western ideas and knowledge will lead to innovation and development. The underlying motive behind modernization is the desire to update and improve societal systems to serve the needs of the community or nation. Whereas westernization is often associated with the impact and the spread of Western, culture and values either intentionally through colonial or political influence or unintentionally through globalization and media access. Overall modernization is a broader concept that extends holistic social progress without being tied to a specific cultural identity while westernization is particular about the adoption and influence of the Western culture and practices.

4.13 Modernization of Indian Tradition

Yogendra Singh is a renowned Indian sociologist who has contributed to the theories of social change and modernization in the Indian

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context. Arguments on modernization can be found in his influential work titled *Modernization of Indian Tradition* published in 1973. He primarily discusses how traditional Indian societies are influenced and react to the modernization process. His perception of modern discussed with the contemporary examples as follows.

Modernity and Tradition Coexist

Singh argues that tradition and modernity do not exist as mutually exclusive entities. Instead, they coexist with Indian society. India with its diverse and rich cultural heritage provides various examples of how modern traditions co-exist within the family system. Family in India reflects different religious geographic, linguistic, and ethnic backgrounds leading to a mixture of traditional and modern values in various aspects of life. For example, Indian society comprises both joint families and nuclear families. In terms of marital choices, arranged marriage and endogamy have been cultural tradition that is still practiced in India. There is also an increasing trend of love marriages and inter-caste marriages and live-in relationships. This indicates the blend of traditional and modern values when it comes to long-term relationships and life partnerships. Similarly, gender rules and financial planning have changed in many families while others still hold on to conventional norms. Finally, when it comes to cultural preservation and adaptation, many families uphold their traditional customs and rituals while embracing modernity. For example, during celebrations and festivals, families continue to follow the ancient practices and pass them on to the next generation. Simultaneously, they also incorporate modern practices like exchanging gives connecting with relatives through technology and having themed parties. These aspects show that the Indian family system strikingly displays the coexistence of modernity and tradition across various aspects of life demonstrating the ability to adapt to contemporary changes while preserving the basic aspects of their respective cultural values.

Modernization is Multidimensional:

Modernization is a complex and multidimensional process that includes technological improvement, economic development, and political mobilization on the changes in the cultural and social system. These aspects are explained with the following examples:

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Economic modernization: It is a process of transitioning a nation or a region from a traditional agrarian-based economy to a more industrialized, technology-driven, and service-oriented economy.

- Economic liberalization in 1991 - liberalized the Indian market and allowed foreign investments.
- Information Technology revolution- increased employment opportunities contributed to India's GDP.
- Goods and service tax (GST) - eliminated multiple indirect taxes and created a unified tax structure to improve transparency.
- Make in India Campaign 2014 - aim to encourage domestic products and promote them at a global level
- Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana -to provide affordable access to financial services like bank accounts, credit, insurance, and pension for the marginalized population.
- Skill India Mission 2015 - aims to equip youth with industry-relevant skills to increase employability and productivity.
- Startup India 2018 to Encourage Entrepreneurship
- Self-reliant India Campaign 2020 provided financial support to the sectors affected by Covid pandemic.

Infrastructure Development:

- Golden Quadrilateral Network - a highway network connecting four major cities in India Delhi Mumbai Kolkata and Chennai
- Smart Cities mission launched to create 100 smart cities across India that encourage organizations with good infrastructure services such as waste management, efficient transportation, and digital connectivity.
- Sagarmala project to encourage coastal shipping.
- Bharatmala Projects to connect remote villages and towns with highways and bridges.

Technological advancements

- The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)
- Aadhar - biometric identification system
- National Knowledge Network (NRV) -connects all educational and Research institutions in India.

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- Bharat Net project - Aim to connect villages in India with high-speed broadband connectivity.
- Digital Payment System - unified payments, UPI, Bharat bill payment system (BBPS)

Political modernization

- Abolition of the Zamindari system
- Implementation of reservation policies
- Establishment of Panchayati Raj institutions for a decentralized governance
- Introduction of electronic voting machines for transparency
- Right to Information Act
- Women's political participation
- Secularism

An example demonstrates that modernization in India spans diverse sectors from economic, technology, and cultural changes.

Structural - Functional approach

Yogendra Singh employed a structural-functional approach to examine the process of modernization. He divides Indian tradition into four subsystems ecological, social-structural ideal logical technological/ material. Through this functioning of the sub-systems, society attains transformative changes.

Western Influences: As discussed earlier, the Western value system and practices are an inevitable aspect of modernization in India. India adapts to modern and simultaneously sustains traditional cultural values and practices.

The Emergence of the Middle Class: The Indian middle class operated as a form of power and a force in promoting modernization. They act as the agents of social change to adapt and diffuse modern ideas and values. The middle class is defined as educated and urban dwelling who work in fields such as medicine, engineering, law, or management. They also include entrepreneurs benefiting from globalization and economic liberalization. Yogendra Singh further notes that the middle class is stratified on the lines of education, occupation, and income. This stratification limits that ability to act with solidarity and advocate for common interests.

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Ideological Modernization and Social Justice

As discussed earlier policies and legislations were implemented to address the caste, class, and gender-based inequality

- Reservation policies in the education, employment, and political sphere are based on class, caste, and gender.
- Gender-sensitive policies such as Beti Bachao Beti Padhao - education for Girl children campaign, Jan Dhan Yojana -a financial inclusion program, Domestic Violence Act 2005, and so on.

Resistance to Modernization

One cannot ignore the fact that the process of modernization often tends to have resisting force. The modernization process can be restricted on the grounds of preserving the cultural identity, rights, and liberties of the native people and in some instances preserving the environment. However, there is continuity between the two sanely contradictory entities of tradition and modernity.

4.14 Secularism

Secularism is a complex term that has different receptions across the world. In terms of India, secularism refers to the principles of maintaining impartiality towards all religions by the state. It is a secular nation and the Constitution guarantees the freedom of religion to all citizens. It is mentioned in the preamble of the Constitution. The preamble states that India is a socialist, secular, democratic, and republic nation. The term secular was added to the preamble by the 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 to assert India's commitment to secularism and prevent any religious discrimination or dominance in the functioning of the state. India does not have an official religion. The inclusion of secularism in the constitution reflexes the vision of the founding fathers of the Indian constitution to establish a multicultural pluralistic society where people of different religious faith can live together harmoniously and without any fear of discrimination or persecution. The Secular nature of India can be understood with the help of the following aspects:

- **Equality before the law:** The Indian Constitution guarantees equality before the law to all its citizens irrespective of their religious faith or caste.

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- **Freedom of Religion**: Indian Constitution provides freedom of religion to all citizens, which means that everyone has the right to follow and practice the religion of their choice.
  - Freedom of religion is established in articles 25 to 28 of the Indian Constitution
  - Indian Penal Code section 295 A prohibits the deliberate and malicious ask intended to outrage the religious sentiments of any class by insulting their religion or religious beliefs.
  - Right to Freedom of Religion, Act 1976 prohibits possible conversion through inducement or allurement
  - The National Commission for Minorities, 1992 established a statutory body to protect the interest of the five notified religious minority communities in India such as Muslims Christians 6 Buddhists, and Zoroastrians.
  - The Protection of Civil Rights Act of 1955 provides a penalty against those who practice untouchability based on caste or religion.

- **Protection of Minority rights:**

Article 29 of the Indian Constitution guarantees the right to conserve the language script and the culture of minorities. It states that any section of citizens having a distinct language culture script shall have the right to conserve the same. Citizens cannot be denied admission into any educational institutions maintained or aided by the State on the grounds of religion, race, caste, or language.

- **Civil Marriages:**

India does not have any special legislation for atheists. They have special laws for marriage, which were implemented for the cause of inter-religious marriages. Secularizing marriages can be defined as the process of eliminating the legal value of religion and customary practices in giving legal sanction to a marriage.

The history of legislating civil marriages in India has four phases. The first phase begins with the implementation of the first civil marriage law during 1851-52. The colonial government, formed by the British, extended its Marriage Act of 1836 to India. It was only meant for Christians in Britain and so was the case in India. The second phase was brought

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about by the Brahmo Samaj. The colonial implementation of the Special Marriage Act in 1872, in response to the Brahmo's requisition to declare them as a distinct community, resulting in the legal recognition of the Brahmo marriages and all non-religious marriages adopted by the Hindus, Muslims, Parsis, Buddhist, Jains, Christians, Sikhs and the Jews under the legislation. However, the concerned couple had to declare that they do not profess any religion. The legislation led to the official excommunication of the couples by forcing them to renounce their religion. They could not adopt or inherit property as per the respective personal laws.

The fourth phase of the implementation of the Special Marriage Act was in the 1950s. After the Independence, the Special Marriage Act of 1954 was passed to replace the earlier Act implemented in 1923. On one hand, legislating civil marriages became necessary for the new government as it symbolically represented Article 25 of the Indian Constitution, which ensured freedom of conscience, and Article 44, which assured the Uniform Civil Code. On the other, the Special Marriage Act was perceived as a means to encourage non-extravagant marriage ceremonies. Legislators not just believed it to be a progressive step, but that which would contribute to national integration if inter-caste and inter-religious marriages were encouraged. These aspects characterize secularism in India.

4.15 Let us Sum Up

- Social change can create a favorable condition for social mobility which allows people at all levels to benefit from societal progress. In the Indian context, as a diverse and rapidly changing society, the country has witnessed a series of changing trends in the contemporary time.
- The concept of Sanskritization was first proposed by Mysore Narasimhachar Srinivas in his book titled Religion and Society among the Coorgs of South India published in 1952
- Sanskritization is the process whereby the low and the middle ranking castes imitate the higher caste, mostly the Brahmins. First, changing dietary habits.
- MN Srinivas noted that Sanskritization has both material, social and political components. Socially it influences the interaction of different caste groups and changes everyday life practices within the community.

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- The social mobility which was sluggish in the Pre-British period got speeded up considerably in the British period but the changes were only quantitative.
- Sanskritization is closely linked to the great tradition which refers to the legitimate form of cultural and religious practices of the upper caste Hindus such as orthodox Brahmins.
- Lucy Caroll noted that the Lingayats and the Arya Samaj are the religious movements that promoted these values and played a role in Sanskritization.
- Lower-caste people pursued Western education just as the upper caste did.
- The scientific and secular education system was the primary choice of the people who seek to progress. The Western education system empowered the lower caste and diminished the importance of Sanskritisation.
- Caste is a social system that holds that some individuals are inherently superior to others based on their birth and social ranking.
- Westernization refers to the impact that Western cultural ideas and values have on Indian society. This is significant because the adoption of Western ideas and practices has undoubtedly led to substantial social transformation.
- In 1854, a modern postal system was introduced connecting various reasons of the country which facilitated the efficient exchange of information as well as goods.
- The Government of India Act of 1919 also known as the Montagu Chelmsford reforms expanded the scope of the parliamentary system in India.
- The Indian financial system and the economy were highly influenced by colonial rule. Some significant changes demonstrated the banking and currency reforms were a part of institutional Westernization.
- Western-style educational institutions were established to shape and transform Indian society according to Western values and norms.
- In 1835, the British politician, Lord Macaulay penned the historical Minute on Indian Education emphasizing the need to educate the Indian Elite class in English language and literature.

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- Wood's Dispatch 1854 recommends a network of universities, teacher training institutes, and grant-in-aid systems to ensure quality education
- The Regulating Act of 1773 brought judicial reforms such as the establishment of the Supreme Court in Calcutta, the governor-general, and the council to exercise control over the British territories, and the provision to address corruption and establish legal procedures.
- The British army was a well-organized and disciplined force structured on British military lines.
- The British introduced Western medical practices and established hospitals and medical schools. Public Health awareness programs for vaccinations, Sanitation, and disease Control were also conducted during this period.
- India played a significant role in promoting and facilitating institutional Westernization
- Abolition of Sati 1829, Lord William Bentinck enacted this legislation to outlaw the barbaric practice of sati. Sati is a voluntary or non-voluntary act, where the widow burns herself alive on her husband's purity.
- The Age of Consent Act of 1891, raised the age of consent for sexual intercourse for all girls, unmarried or unmarried from ten to twelve years.
- The Indian constitution which came into effect in 1950 adopted the principles of liberty and secularism, inspired by the Western countries. For Example, Fundamental rights, Freedom of Conscience, Personal laws for different religions, Protection of Minority Rights
- The English language press including magazines and newspapers exemplifies the impact of Western culture and thought.
- The term modernization gained momentum in the mid-20th century as the process of social change accelerate and emerged as more apparent in both the developed and developing countries.
- Modernization is the process whereby a non-modernized society is transformed into a modern society. It is the emergence from a traditional and agricultural society to a technological one and the replacement of myths and beliefs by science and reason.

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- American economist and political theorist WW Rostov, in his classic work, *The Stages of Economic Growth: A Non-Communist Manifesto* has discussed the western form of modernity.
- Secularizing marriages can be defined as the process of eliminating the legal value of religion and customary practices in giving legal sanction to a marriage. The process is analyzed in the context of the Special Marriage Act 1872 & 1956; mandating the registration of Hindu marriages and envisioning the implementation of the Uniform Civil Code, as they give scope for a civil marriage.

4.16 Keywords

Social mobility, caste hierarchy, Sanskritization, Upward mobility, Customs, Westernization, Imperialism, Cultural nationalism, Great Tradition, Modernization, Advancement, Rationalism, Social Justice, and Religious tolerance.

4.17 Self-Assessment Questions

1. What are the main trends and processes that have brought about social change in contemporary India?
2. How has Sanskritization played a role in shaping Indian society in contemporary contexts?
3. In what ways has Westernization affected traditional Indian cultures and societies?
4. How can we understand the impact of modernization on India's socio-political structures today?
5. How does secularization contribute to the transformation of social dynamics in contemporary India?
6. Can you explain the relationship between Sanskritization, Westernization, and modernization in the context of societal changes in India?
7. How did the process of secularization shape the contemporary religious landscape in India?
8. Do you think Westernization has a positive or negative impact on Indian society?

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9. How has Sanskritization contributed to the caste system and social mobility in modern India?

10. How has the process of modernization affected rural and urban life in contemporary India?

11. How does secularization impact equality and individual freedoms in India?

12. What are the potential conflicts among Sanskritization, Westernization, Modernization, and Secularization in India?

13. Can you give examples of the trends and processes of change in modern India such as Sanskritization, Westernization, Modernization, and Secularization?

14. Comparatively speaking, which among Sanskritization, Westernization, and Modernization has had the most significant impact on contemporary India's social landscape?

15. In your perspective, how might these processes and trends continue to shape the social dynamics of India in the future?

16. Can you detail the specific social or cultural changes in India that can be ascribed directly to Westernization?

17. How has modernization influenced India's standing in the global arena, concerning both its domestic affairs and international relations?

18. What are the implications of secularization on religious diversity within contemporary India?

19. How have these four processes: Sanskritization, Westernization, Modernization, and Secularization, influenced minority groups in India?

20. How has the caste system in India been affected by these processes: Sanskritization, Westernization, Modernization, and secularization?

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UNIT- V

Lesson 5.1 - Socio-Cultural Dimensions of Development

Structure

5.1 Objectives
5.2 Introduction
5.3 Key Concepts and Definitions
5.4 Cultural Dimensions of Development
5.5 Economic Dimensions of Development
5.6 Social Capital
5.7 Caste and Economic Development
5.8 Caste: A Barrier to Economic Development
5.9 India's Lag in Economic Transformation: A Comparative Analysis
5.10 Initiatives Towards Social Justice
5.11 Let Us Sum Up
5.12 Keywords
5.13 Self-Assessment Questions
5.14 References

5.1 Objectives

- nderstand the culture as a facilitator of development
- Analyze the culture as a barrier to development.

5.2 Introduction

Culture is a way of life of people and is the powerful force that shapes the attitudes, aspirations, and behavior of individuals and communities

- Kofi Annam

When the culture of a society and the development of the people are in harmony, extraordinary progress is possible.

- Nelson Mandela

Culture is the foundation upon which all human development rests.

- UNESCO

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Culture and development are closely related as the former provides the framework for the latter. Culture shapes the values, norms, and beliefs of individuals and communities. It helms their perception of the world, their behavior, and their interaction with other individuals and communities. Culture is inevitable for sustainable development that is inclusive, equitable, and respectful of diversity. It plays a critical role in economic and social development including education, health, gender equality, and environmental sustainability. Culture is also an essential aspect of preserving communities' lifestyles, identity, and heritage. Cultural policies and programs are important for the promotion preservation and Development of cultural diversity and heritage. Provide a platform for individuals and communities to express and celebrate their cultural identity. Eventually, it promotes mutual understanding and respect among different cultures. On the whole, perspectives on culture and development are essential to creating a more inclusive, sustainable, and equitable society that values and respects diversity.

5.3 Key Concepts and Definitions

Culture: Culture refers to the shared values, beliefs, practices, and transitions that feature a group or society. It includes all aspects of human life such as religion, language, music, clothing, and cuisine.

Cultural Identity: It refers to the sense of belonging, connection, and pride that people feel towards their cultural heritage based on shared values and beliefs. It plays a crucial role in molding individuals' perception of the world, their motivations, and behavior. Cultural identity is a powerful force to encourage or restrict development, depending on how it is perceived and leveraged.

Cultural Diversity: It refers to the coexistence of a variety of cultures in a society, nation, region, or world. It encompasses the differences in religion, language, ethnicity, and social norms among others. Cultural diversity is important for promoting innovation, creativity, and mutual understanding. However, it can also place challenges towards development such as marginalization, exploitation, and discrimination.

Cultural Exchange: It refers to the mutual understanding, sharing, and shaping of different cultures. It can take place through forms such as education, travel, tourism, and communication. Cultural exchange

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improves people's knowledge, openness, and respect. Also advances cooperation, tolerance, and peace, which are important for sustainable development.

Multiculturalism: It is a social and political policy that increases and values the presence of diverse cultures within society. It promotes the preservation of cultural differences through implementing legislations policies and practices that facilitate equal rights opportunities and recognition for all cultural groups. It gives emphasis on respect tolerance and understanding among various cultural identities and it aims to create and includes society by addressing the issues of discrimination marginalization and prejudice.

Cultural pluralism: It is a broader concept that refers to the acknowledgment appreciation and celebration of cultural diversity within society. It allows for the coexistence of multiple cultural groups and facilitates maintaining their distinct values, traditions, and practices. In a pluralistic society, each group is allowed to sustain its unique identity while contributing to the larger fabric of the society. It differs from multiculturalism by focusing predominantly on the idea that diversity enriches society than on emphasizing specific policies or protection to maintain equity. The focus is on social harmony and cultural exchange with equal treatment for all cultures.

Ethnocentrism: It is the attitude or belief that one's culture is superior to others and judging other cultures from the perspective of one's own culture. This often leads to the judgment of other cultures misunderstanding and prejudice. People who have ethnocentric attitudes tend to evaluate other cultures based on the values norms customs practices of their own culture. This can hinder cross-cultural interaction and understanding and reduces the ability to respect and appreciate the diversity and richness of other cultures.

Xenocentrism: It is a social phenomenon in which people consider the cultural values, customs, and practices of other societies as superior to their own. This sense of preference and admiration can lead individuals or groups to adopt the ways of foreign cultures and neglect or undermine their traditions. Xenocentrism is the opposite of ethnocentrism. Xenocentrism can have both positive and negative impacts on cultural exchange and understanding.

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Cultural relativism is a concept in anthropology and cultural studies that suggests that the values, beliefs, customs, and practices of a particular culture should be understood and evaluated in the context of that culture itself, rather than against external, universal, or absolute standards. This perspective encourages appreciation of cultural differences and fosters tolerance and respect for other cultures. This phenomenon emerged as a response to ethnocentrism and xenocentrism. The key elements of cultural relativism are:

- Each culture is unique and should be valued and respected as such.
- One cannot judge another culture based solely on the standards of one's own culture
- Cultures are neither fixed nor static. They tend to evolve and change over time
- It is essential to avoid imposing cultural values on others.
- Upholding cultural relativism does not mean endorsing every aspect of culture but rather promoting, understanding, and respect for cultural diversity.

Critics of cultural relativism argue that it can lead to moral relativism, which can be problematic in the situation where human rights are being violated. They suggest that they should be a global set of values to address these issues. However, cultural relativism remains an essential concept in anthropology. Sociology and development studies help to promote cultural understanding of development.

5.4 Cultural Dimensions of Development

- **Identity, Unity, and Tolerance:**

Culture plays an important role in the development of individual and collective identities. It creates a sense of belonging to a community based on shared practices and knowledge. Language, religion, music, arts, and customs all contribute to the formation of a recognizable cultural identity. A stronger cultural identity elevates people's understanding of themselves and enables them to engage with others with confidence. The best example to explain the importance of culture and development is the status of indigenous people in contemporary times.

Indigenous people also known as first people or first nations or native people are the ethnic groups or original inhabitants of a particular

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region or a country. They often have unique cultural, social, economic, and political traditions that have developed over a period. They are separate and distinct from other cultures. Indigenous people have a deep connection with the territories, lands, and natural resources, which often play a central role in their beliefs and cultural practices. Over the last few decades, Indigenous people are often marginalized in development because of a range of factors: historical industrialization, unequal access to resources, and systemic discrimination. One of the primary reasons for this marginalization is the loss of cultural identity, as the indigenous people are forced to adopt the practices, customs, and language of the dominant culture. This process of cultural assimilation was driven by colonialism and other forms of imperialism, which the indigenous people witnessed throughout history. Many indigenous cultures possess rich and complex traditions that reflect their distinct history and values. These aspects are central to their identities and vital for the well-being of indigenous communities.

However, westernization had serious negative impacts on the cultural identity of the indigenous people. They can experience an erosion of their native language and cultural practices, which results in a loss of historical connections. Erosion also can cause a decline in mental health sense of community and overall social and economic well-being. Moreover, the loss of cultural identity tends to manifest as a lack of political representation land rides, and economic opportunities. Indigenous people may be excluded from the sphere of decision-making and can be denied access to critical resources such as health care, education, and economic opportunities. Although the indigenous people are unique and diverse, they often face similar challenges such as human rights violations, land acquisition, and environmental degradation as a result of government policies and economic development projects among other factors.

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People culminated in 2007. It is an international standard for the treatment in the protection of the indigenous people's rights and domestic people's rights. Legislative and policy initiatives attempted to improve living conditions and preserve their cultural practices. Movements advancing the ideals of indigenous people emerged across the world to asset, preserve, and protected culture and their rights. Overall, the marginalization of indigenous people in development is perpetuated by the loss of cultural identity and historical subordination. It is the vital role of the government,

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civil society, and development organizations to promote and acknowledge the cultural identity of the indigenous people to ensure their voices are heard in decision-making spheres. It is essential to make a just and equitable world.

Unity in Diversity

It is important to foster harmony and cohesion within the societies. People who share common cultural values and practices can come together to celebrate, communicate and collaborate. Festivals, rituals sporting events, and community activities allow people to bond over the share conditions and contribute to a sense of social harmony. In a multicultural landscape, enhancing and respecting different cultural practices can promote social solidarity and cooperation contributing to the development of a stable prosperous society. Unity in diversity is a dimension of national development that refers to the ability of individuals from wearing cultural, social, and economic backgrounds to collaborate as one. It is a concept that emphasizes the importance of whole systems of different identities within the community, with a common aim of promoting stability, peace, and progress.

In addition, unity in diversity can speed up economic growth and development. It encourages the seamless flow of investments, trade, and movement of people within and outside the countries. This quality can lead to an increase in productivity income levels and a better livelihood for the citizens. With the increasing pace of globalization and neo-liberalism, people need to show tolerance towards the marginalized sections of the community and indigenous populations, and migrants. Unity in diversity requires tolerance, respect, and mutual understanding among individuals.

The government must provide education, create awareness and adopt policies that support diversity and inclusion. For example, India runs the National Foundation for Communal Harmony (NFCH) since 1992. It is an autonomous organization under the administrative control of the Union Home Ministry. It organizes Communal Harmony Week every year to highlight India's diversity and create harmony among different communities.

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Tolerance:

Tolerance can be promoted by encouraging people to be exposed to different worldviews and cultures. In a globalized world, interaction among people from various cultural backgrounds has become common. Embracing cultural diversity influences individuals to develop empathy and open-mindedness is essential to create an inclusive society. Exploring and celebrating different cultures through education can break down barriers and foster an environment of acceptance and respect for all.

For example, tolerance towards migrants is an essential factor in a nation's development and a vital component of global unity. As we witness a world struggling with the issues of migration, displacement, and forced displacement the United Nations has taken up the cause of promoting tolerance towards the migrants and their integration into the society. Migrants are bringing unique perspectives, skills, and cultures that can enrich a nation's collective identity. However, discrimination against them can limit their potential, which may lead to the loss of intellectual diversity in our societies. The United Nations recognized the importance of respecting the human rights of migrants and aims to promote their economic and social inclusion. This agenda can be achieved through measures such as supporting education, promoting access to health care, providing legal protection, and giving greater social awareness. The United Nations has addressed the rights and interests of migrants under several international frameworks and declarations some notable initiatives are:

- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948. The UDHR provides a fundamental awareness about human rights that must be protected for everyone regardless of their nationality and migration status.
- The international convention on the Protection of Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (ICRMW) was adopted in 1990 to protect and promote the rights of migrant workers and their families. It promotes the importance of equality of treatment with nationals of the receiving country.
- Global Compact for Safe, orderly, and Regular Migration (GCM) was adopted in 2018. It is an inter-government organization that provides a cooperative framework for holistically addressing international migration. It emphasizes the importance of considering the human rights and humanitarian needs of migrants regardless of their migration status.

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- In 2015, sustainable development agendas for 2030 were framed with 17 goals. It includes poverty alleviation, protection of the earth, and ensuring prosperity for all. The main targets and the SDGs are relevant to migration such as SDG 10 and 7 which envisages safe working environments for all workers including the migrants.

These international frameworks and declarations promote the importance of protecting the rights and dignity of all migrants including migrant workers while considering their social, economic, and cultural contribution to both their countries of origin as well as destination. For global unity and advanced society, the states must strive for a world where all people regardless of their nationality or origin, are treated with respect and dignity. Promoting tolerance towards migrants is not just a moral imperative but an essential step toward enacting a more just and equitable future for all.

5.5 Economic Dimensions of Development

- **Entrepreneurship**

Culture is one of the notable catalysts that facilitate entrepreneurship which in turn contributes to the development of a nation. Entrepreneurship is the process of inventing and developing a new business idea, product, or service. The culture facilitated entrepreneurship through various aspects.

- **Cultural Heritage Entrepreneurship:**

One of the positive aspects of culture is that it gives a source of inspiration for entrepreneurs. Sacred texts, crafts, music, dance, and other forms of cultural heritage can inspire the business to create products and services based on traditional practices. This in turn can promote the conservation of traditional resources and the economic development of the region. International organizations have provided communities the cultural heritage assets such as UNESCO World Heritage sites. They attract tourists interested in experiencing and learning about the region's history and culture. Taking this opportunity the cultural heritage entrepreneurs can create a business that caters to these tourists. In Peru, Machu Picchu, a UNESCO World Heritage site, gained popularity as a tourist destination. They have created businesses such as hotels, door companies, and restaurants to cater to the tourists who visit Machu Picchu.

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As a classic heterogeneous nation with a rich cultural heritage, India has provided a wide range of opportunities for entrepreneurial ventures. India has renowned for its handicrafts and they are an integral part of the country's cultural heritage. From weaving to embroidery crafts such as Banarasi sarees, Pashmina shawls, Kashmiri carpets, and Kanchipuram silk sarees have a global reputation. Individuals and groups have started to produce and sell these handicrafts creating job opportunities and boosting the economy. Similarly, Ayurveda a traditional Indian system of medicine that has been practiced for over 5000 years has led to the emergence of many startups. The demand for ayurvedic ingredients and treatment has created a new market for entrepreneurs.

Yoga and meditation are the traditional practices that emerged in India and have gained popularity worldwide. Several startups in India are catering to the global demand for practices offering yoga retreat classes and teacher training programs. These ventures have created new employment opportunities and contributed to India's economic growth while preserving its cultural heritage. In terms of cultural tourism, the Havelis in Rajasthan have converted its Heritage hotels and created a niche market for entrepreneurs, such as selling handicrafts, offering guided tours, and providing accommodation.

- **Culinary Entrepreneurship:**

The food and beverage business is one of the most successful forms of entrepreneurship which create and sell foods and beverages that reflects the culture of the region or a community. For example, in Italy, pasta-making has been a culinary tradition for centuries and the Italian entrepreneurs have capitalized on this culinary experience by starting a business that sells authentic handmade pasta such as Eataly which is now a global brand.

- **Fashion and design entrepreneurship:**

Entrepreneurs leverage cultural symbols fabrics and designs to create unique and distinct fashion products. For example, African prints and fabrics have become a popular trend in the global fashion industry entrepreneurs from Africa have made use of these cultural designs by creating fashion labels that incorporate traditional patterns with modern styles such as Maxhosa Africa.

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- **Eco-tourism entrepreneurship:**

Some regions and communities have unique ecosystems and distinct cultural practices that can attract tourists. Eco-tourism entrepreneurs can leverage these cultural and natural assets to create businesses that offer sustainable tourism experiences. For example Masai Mara game reserve in Kenya is popular among tourist who wants to explore African wildlife and cultural practices, such as the traditional way of life among Maasai tribes. The significance of these types of experiences is that they maintain the region's ecological and cultural sustainability.

On the whole, entrepreneurs can utilize the prevailing cultural heritage for their economic benefit. They can pull out innovative ideas from a diversified society, identify Sustainable business opportunities and unique selling points to increase their profit and contribute to the nation's GDP.

5.6 Social Capital

Social capital refers to the connections lobbies, networks, norms, and values that facilitate corporation among individuals groups in societies. Social capital is perceived as a resource that individuals can draw on to attain their goals and to be an important factor in the development of societies. It plays an important role in creating social capital as it facilitates to share norms, values that enable people to cooperate. For example, in India, the culture has a high value on respect for elders and hospitality towards suggest which helps to create social connections and a sense of community among people. This social capital contributes to economic development. Connected social networks can be used to get financial support by providing access to financial services offering business advice and creating opportunities for the trade. Many communities in India have created a network of financial institutions that offer loans to businesses and individuals enabling them to have economic growth in their region. Such social capital can also contribute to solidarity and political development by creating a shared sense of civic responsibility for having political representation. Thereby culture creates social capital by providing shared norms and values to promote cooperation and community. Social capital can contribute to the nation's development by supporting economic growth, social stability, and political development.

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Education and Skills:

In Indian contacts, culture influences the education system and skill development in myriad ways. First, India's rich cultural heritage provides a diverse and vibrant environment for learning. This vast pool of knowledge including ancient scriptures traditional art forms, dance and music, and languages contribute to the education and skills of the Indians. Second, the inclusion of regional languages. India is a multilingual country and the education system accommodates diverse regional languages in the curriculum. This helps in skill development by making education more accessible and familiar. Children can learn their mother tongue boosting their confidence and accelerating the literacy rate of the nation. Third, the availability of customized education. Given the rich cultural fabric, Indian education prioritizes catering to regional socio-economic and religious diversity. Customized education programs help to ensure better delivery and understanding which facilitate the skill development of the population. Fourth, the traditional knowledge system can be referred to create a modern education system to excel in the areas like mathematics, science, literature, arts, and philosophy. Integrated elements of age-old rational practices can promote critical thinking problem-solving and inculcate a sense of ethics. Fifth, cultural education in the forms of music arts, and dance help in evolving a well-rounded personality. They tend to provide cognitive emotional and social development. Sixth, the inclusion of religious and moral education. It may foster equality and tolerance among the students and provide essential life skills that contribute to personal and social development. Seventh, community engagement in educational institutions through various festival cultural events, and workshops facilitate the sharing of knowledge and skills which foster social questions and cultural understanding. Right, Vocational Training including cooking, weaving, pottery, and carpentry forms an important part of India's cultural heritage. Encouraging these vocations in the skill development system preserves its legacy and also contributes to economic development. Finally, indigenous education promotes sustainable living and environmental conservation that contribute to the nation's sustainable development. In conclusion India's diverse cultural presence distinctive opportunities for the education system to leverage and promote skill development among its population. By integrating and preserving these traditional aspects India can ensure a holistic and inclusive development and new economic and social spheres.

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Conflict resolution:

Culture can facilitate understanding the differences and foster dialogue among various communities within a nation. Promoting tolerance and respect for diverse cultures can foster a peaceful society which is essential for national development. It can contribute to conflict resolution in the following ways:

- **Enhancing Understanding and Empathy:**

Cultural understanding can help the conflicting parties to acknowledge and appreciate each other perspectives, values, and traditions. Understanding can lead to empathy promoting a willingness to work together towards common goals and eventually resolving conflicts. For example, International NGO mediators who are culturally sensitive can help better in the resolution of cultural disputes by understanding local nuances.

- **Communication and Dialogue:**

Culture has an impact on the communication styles and being aware of the cultural differences can tomorrow affect dialogue during the negotiations. By considering and acknowledging the cultural background communication can be mutually satisfying minimizing misunderstanding which can perpetuate peace. For example, the Camp David Accords of 1978 got a success due to the mutual respect and open dialogue among Egyptian, Israeli, and American leaders. The attitude of cultural relativism allowed them to address long-standing grievances and frame a peaceful resolution.

- **Inclusive Development:**

Equitable development can decrease the tension within communities and nations. As development addresses the social economic and political inequality it can contribute to reducing the grievance that generally leads to conflict. For example, the post-apartheid reconciliation commission in South Africa exemplifies this idea. Encouraging the communities to confront the past and promote social development the commission help to create a platform for conflict resolution.

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- **Culturally Sensitive Policies:**

Development plans should take cultural values into account to avoid exacerbating tensions and conflicts. For example, a development project that ignores indigenous people's right to land or natural resources mainly leads to disputes and riots. Recognizing these rights and integrating them into the planning process can help to avoid conflicts. Hence, cultural aspects should be incorporated to have holistic development.

- **Peace education and training:**

The programs can promote conflict resolution by teaching people to acknowledge different values and recognize common ground and develop problem-solving. For example, UNESCO has developed a comprehensive peace education framework to address disarmament, displacement, human rights, democracy, tolerance, and cultural diversity.

Similarly, the Alternative to violence project (AVP) runs an international organization that conducts conflict transformation programs. Soft-trained AVP facilitators organize experiential workshops to develop participants' ability to resolve conflicts without resorting to manipulation violence or coercion. These workshops promote non-violent resolutions to conflict, empathy, and active listening.

Global Positioning:

A strong cultural identity can elevate a nation's global position by inviting global attention, influence, and respect. Perceptions of the nation's culture can encourage International cooperation trade opportunities and investments from foreign countries. India gained Global Positioning by capitalizing on the culture in the following aspects:

Promotion of cultural tourism: As discussed earlier India has a rich cultural heritage that attracts millions of tourists every year. The country's heterogeneity including its cuisines, folk dance, music, and art forms contribute significantly to cultural tourism. They generate income as well as promote intercultural exchanges and foster understanding between people from different backgrounds. According to the World Economic Forum travel and tourism development index 2021, India ranks 54th out of 117 countries in terms of travel and tourism. In 2019, the contribution of travel and tourism to GDP was 6.8 percent of the total Indian economy.

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Preservation of traditional knowledge: India's traditional knowledge has contributed significantly to the country's GDP, especially in the area of healthcare and agriculture. In the state of Kerala, traditional knowledge of Ayurveda has been preserved and promoted through the establishment of the Traditional Knowledge Digital Library. TKDL has the compilation of over 2.3 million medical formulations which are used in the Ayurveda, Unani, and Siddha systems of medicine. This digital library has enabled India to protect its traditional knowledge from exploitation by multinational corporations and has also facilitated patterns in traditional medicines as well as agriculture practices. So far, India has been able to generate income and revenue from licensing its traditional knowledge to companies and organizations around the world. For example, the US-based cosmetics company has used traditional Indian medicinal plants such as turmeric and ashwagandha in skin care products.

The agriculture sector in India has also preserved inspirational knowledge of farming practices through the agriculture knowledge management unit (AKMU). The AKMU documented many traditional farming practices said varieties and other information regarding agriculture that has been used for generations. Information has been utilized to develop new crops and improve agriculture practices leading to increase productivity as well as income generation for the farmers.

Promotion of cultural products and services: Styles of handicraft and jewelry have global recognition for their exquisite craftsmanship. The promotion of these products has generated income and contributed to the growth of small-scale industries providing employment opportunities for many people. Commoners as well as various organizations took efforts to promote these cultural products and services in India:

- The Make in India campaign launched in 2014 promoted cultural products like handicrafts, textiles, and jewelry.
- National Handicrafts and handlooms museum in Delhi displays India's traditional handicraft excise and promotes them to visitors.
- State Emporia has been set up by various state governments to serve as a platform for artists to sell their products such as textiles, handicrafts, and jewelry.
- The National Institute of Fashion Technology is a premier institute for fashion technology that promotes Indian traditional textiles and crafts through its educational programs as well as research.

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- The national cultural fund was started by the government to provide financial support for cultural activities and the promotion of traditional crafts.
- Indian International Trade Fair is organized annually in New Delhi to showcase India's cultural products and services to attract bios and visitors at the global level
- National Film Development Corporation was launched to promote Indian cinemas including regional works to support the filmmakers in promoting their films.
- Indian Council for Cultural Relations promotes Indian culture at a global level through cultural exchanges festivals and events.
- Kadhi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) promotes Khadi and other village industries such as handcraft and handlooms and provides training and financial support to the artisans.

Branding through cultural icons: India has a significant presence on the Global stage because of its rich cultural icons like Mahatma Gandhi. These icons have symbolized India's values traditions and culture and have contributed to the country's Global image

Promotion of secularism:

India has a diverse culture with many religions, languages, and traditions. The nation's secular ethos promotes unity and harmony reinforcing its image as tolerant and diverse at the global level.

Work Ethics:

The priority given to work and productivity varies across different cultures. In some cultures, work is perceived as a means of Survival while in others it is pursued as a way to achieve social and economic success. This cultural attitude towards work can affect productivity as well as economic growth in different regions. This impact of culture on the work environment was captured by Max Weber in his work titled *Protestant Ethics and the Spirit of Capitalism*. It has extensively discussed how religious norms and bureaucratic values affect the work culture in the era of industrialization and capitalism.

Similarly, some cultures may have low tolerance towards corruption while others may see it as a casual part of doing business. A culture that allows corruption can hinder entrepreneurial activities and discourage

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foreign investments. In summary, culture plays a significant role in economic development and growth. Understanding cultural differences and how they affect the economy, can help policymakers to create policies and strategies that align with the cultural norms and values.

5.7 Caste and Economic Development

So far we have been discussing how culture plays a significant role in the nation's development and we have discussed a few examples from India as well. However, one cannot ignore the factor the Indian culture includes the perpetuation of the caste system which has been a big challenge for the inclusive development of the nation. The caste system in India has been in existence for centuries and it is deeply imagined and rooted in Indian culture. The caste system device people into different social groups based on their birth and occupation. Brahmins as priests and scholars occupy the top position in the caste hierarchy followed by the Kshatriyas who were warriors and rulers, Vaishyas are traders and merchants acquired the third position and the Shudras served as servants and laborers. The Dalits are treated as untouchables and considered outside the caste system. They are considered socially and economically the most disadvantaged. The caste system restricted social mobility and occupational mobility by practicing endogamy. Because of this system, economic development was also restricted for the disadvantaged caste groups. Secondly, certain occupations are traditionally associated with specific caste groups. For Example, the Brahmin caste was expected to be scholars and religious priests while the Shudhra caste was restricted to being laborers. This practice is also a form of caste perpetuation. The caste system was perpetuated by adopting social customs and traditions such as celebrations of different festivals and by following the caste hierarchies. For example, in some communities, only the upper caste individuals were allowed to participate in the most important religious practices and ceremonies. These practices were instructed by religious texts and teachings such as *Manusmriti* and had been used to justify the caste system. These texts perpetuate the idea that the caste system is a part of India's religious and cultural heritage. Importantly, many rural and urban communities in India practice untouchability and discrimination where the list is considered impure and they were not allowed to enter certain spaces or participate in public forums. Thereby the caste system remains a tough challenge in India with its deeply imagined practices and beliefs.

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Real social and inclusive development is still a dream for India because of this existing and haunting caste system. Dr. B.R.Ambekar stated:

"India cannot rise unless the masses in India are free from the bonds of caste. The caste system is not nearly a division of labor it is also a division of laborers"

He rightly pointed out that the caste system hindered economic development as it restricted people's ability and access to choose their profession based on their skills talents and interests. The caste system imposes traditional occupation on the people according to their caste without any opportunity for advancement or social mobility. This restricted the potential of human resources and prevented the country from attaining rapid economic growth and development.

5.8 Caste: A Barrier to Economic Development

Caste stratification was officially recorded during the colonial period. The first systematic attempt to classify the castes in India was carried out through the Decennial Census of India in 1872. However, it was only during the 1881 census carried out under the direction of British officer WC Plowden, the caste was more comprehensively categorized playing a crucial role in the formation of present-day cause identities. It is important to note that the stratification of castes during the British rule solidified the caste system which was earlier more fluid and less rigidly defined. After independence caste services in India were conducted to collect democracy and socio-economic data about the car system which has ended historical roads within the country. This service identifies the status and the social economic conditions of various caste groups helping the government to formulate development policies to uplift marginalized communities.

- The Census of India conducted by the national government is the primary source of caste-related data. The senior census has traditionally gathered data on scheduled castes (SC) and scheduled Tribes (ST) which are the most deprived sections of society.
- The Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC) was conducted in 2011 and collected data on the social economic status of the household across India. It was the first time since 1931 that elaborated and detailed the caste data on a large scale.

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- National Sample Survey (NSS) is administered by the national service survey office (NSSO). It has been in operation since 1950 and has been periodically collecting information on various social economic indicators including caste.
- The National Family Health Survey (NFHS) is being conducted by the International Institute for Population Science (IIPS). The NFHS collects important data on a range of indicators including cause information. Round having conducted till date (1992-93, 1998-99, 2005-06, and 2015-16)

This survey attempts to provide a holistic understanding of caste dynamics. The method and accuracy of these data have been subject to debate. The vast diversity and complexity of Indian society coupled with the reluctance among certain respondents to disclose their caste identities makes the car survey a challenging task. They remain indispensable for understanding and addressing the social-economic disparities among the population. The following aspects at times discuss the role of caste in restricting development.

- **Lack of Social Mobility**

The lack of social mobility induced by the caste system has numerous malign effects on individuals and societies at large. The following effect stems from the deeply imagined social hierarchies, rigid division between the social groups, limited opportunities for upward economic and social mobility, and the related discriminatory attitudes and practices. Caste has caused multiple disadvantages for the communities categorized as Scheduled Castes (SCs,), Scheduled Tribes (ST)s), and Other Backward Classes (OBCs).

- Education: According to the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) 2018, the percentage of SC and ST children aged 6 to 14 who completed grade 5 a significantly lower (SC- 72.3%, ST- 65.8%) than the children from the General category (81.3%). Minimal literacy rates kinder the ability of these individuals to improve their social economic status and mobility.
- Employment: According to the periodic labor force survey (IPLFS) 2018-19, the workforce participation rate of the SC and ST population is lower (53.7% and 52.2% respectively) compared to the general population moreover SCs and STs are predominantly

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engaged in casual labor and menial job with lower wages reinforcing their marginalized status in the society.

- Income Inequality: The Socio-economic and Caste Census (SECC) 2012 data show that around 45.9% of SC households and 47.1% of SC households were engaged in manual or wage-based labor. Such occupations are typically under-waged which in turn maintains the economic Inequality among different caste groups.
- Land ownership: It plays a critical role in improving socio-economic conditions. In India, land distribution is highly slowed along the lines of caste. According to the National Sample Survey, 70th round (2012-13), SCs and STs constituted 22% of the total rural population but owned only 14.8% and 8.7% of rural agricultural land respectively. This deprived them of an asset that could have improved their economic status.
- Entrepreneurship: Caste groups that were already in control of trading and the industrial sector resisted the entry of others. Even those groups who had an economic surplus in farm sectors couldn't invest in non-agrarian modern sectors. Inequalities have mounted barriers to the economic transition due to which the agriculture capital could not move into the modern sector. Entrepreneurship is still dominated by the traditional merchant castes.
- Representation in Politics and Governance: Lower caste groups particularly they are often underrepresented in the politics and the governing bodies. Its condition restrains its power and influence in bringing about change. These examples show how caste based system in India created persistence in social economic and political disparities eventually leading to a lack of social mobility for the marginalized communities.

5.9 India's Lag in Economic Transformation: A Comparative Analysis

To assess the economic transformation of India, it is essential to compare it with its counterparts like China and South East Asian countries based on the three parameters: Land equity, access to education, and access to entrepreneurship. These parameters influence the trajectory of the country's development and explain why India has lagged in terms of economic growth and development.

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Land Equity: Land reforms and related legislations play an important role in assuring an equitable distribution of resources and addressing income disparities. On one hand, China underwent a comprehensive land reform program in the early 1950s striking large land holdings and redistributing the land to poor peasants. Whereas India followed a more conservative approach where the rigid caste-based social structure and complex land tenure system slow down the progress of the land reforms. Consequently, India's land equity has remained relatively less favorable than China's resulting in persistent rural poverty and income inequality.

Access to education: The primary reason for the discrepancy in the economic growth life in each country's investment is education. China and other East Asian countries heavily invested in basic education during the initial stages and gradually shifted the focus towards higher visiting in a significant rise in their literacy rate. On the contrary, India's investment in education has been inadequate which lead to the rising disparity in literacy rate and educational access between the states and the social groups. Consequently, India's human capital formation has suffered negatively influencing its ability to engage with the value added economic activities.

Access to Entrepreneurship: China's priorities towards transforming itself into a manufacturing house have led to an increase in rural entrepreneurship on a massive scale. By investing in human capital China paved the way for the agrarian capitalist to diversify their operations into urban enterprises. In comparison, the efforts of India have been predominantly focused on high-level technology jobs leaving a gap in low and manufacturing jobs. This focus on the service sector has not transformed into widespread economic growth or job creation at the grassroots level.

However, the role of British colonial intervention should not be underestimated in explaining India's divergent trajectory from China and the Southeast Asian countries. These interventions restricted India's progress in areas like access to capital and land reforms. Addressing these issues and creating an environment that promotes equity education and entrepreneurship will be essential for India to catch up with its neighbors in terms of economic growth and overall development.

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5.10 Initiatives Towards Social Justice

It should be acknowledged that continuous efforts have been taken to address the deep-rooted caste issues. The Indian Constitution's registration and policies have been implemented to address caste discrimination and to promote social justice.

The Constitution of India:

The constitution itself plays a pivotal role in addressing discrimination based on caste and strives to create social understanding among diverse communities.

- Article 15: article prohibits discrimination based on religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth. It further empowers the state to make special provisions for the socio-economic empowerment of vulnerable groups including scheduled caste and scheduled tribes.
- Article 16: It ensures equal opportunity for all the citizens in the issues related to public employment and provides for the reservation in the appointment for ST and SC.
- Article 17: Abolition of untouchability is explicitly mentioned making any act of promoting or supporting or practicing untouchability punishable by law.
- Articles 46 and 335: these articles mandate the state to promote the educational and economic interest of the vehicle section, particularly the SC and ST, and maintain their representation in public services.

Legislative Measures

A series of legislations have been enacted to codify the constitutional safeguards and to ensure effective implementation against caste-based discrimination.

- The Untouchability (Offence Act, 1955; this act is renamed the Protection of Civil Rights Act in 1976. It makes any ad supporting or promoting untouchability as a punishable offense does ensure that the constitutional provision in Article 17 is enforced strictly.
- The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989: legislation was designed to combat caste-

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based violence towards SC and SC and outlines specific offenses and punishments for those who commit atrocities against them.

- The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Act 2015. This Amendment strengthened the original act by expanding the definition of the atrocities establishing special courts for quick trials and providing victims relief measures.

Policies and programs

Many policies and programs have been implemented in India to address the systemic disadvantages faced by marginalized caste groups. Policies can be recognized as a part of protective discrimination and affirmative action. These are grounded on the principles of Social justice and aim to uplift communities including ST, SC, and OBC.

- Reservation policy was introduced in India (through the constitution Schedule caste) order 1950 which provided reservation of seats in Lok Sabha and state. Legislative assembly for SC and ST. Since then significant policies have been implemented in India.
- Scheduled Caste are provided 15% reservation of seats in educational institutions and government jobs
- Scheduled Tribes are allotted 7.5% reservation of seats in educational institutions and government jobs.
- The Other Backward Classes are allotted 27% reservation seats in education and government jobs.
- Economic Support: Financial assistance scholarships and subsidies are provided to equip the marginalized community with access to education skill development programs and self-employment opportunities.
- Social awareness campaigns are conducted by both government and non-government organizations to generate awareness about caste-based discrimination and promote social harmony through various initiatives.

A Way Forward:

India should take strategic efforts to compete with the development of the world Nations. India can draw lessons from the developed nation's successful implementation of human Development policies low-end job

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creation as well as rural development strategies. By focusing on these aspects India can boot the economic transformation and improve the livelihood of millions of people.

Secondly, rationalization of reservation policy is required to speed up inclusive development. The reservation policy in India aims to give adequate representation for various communities and cases in the employment and education sectors. However, there have been debates and respiratory concerning the distribution of these reservations. According to the 2019 study by the National Sample survey office, only 23% of the total reservations allocated to the country reached the intended beneficiaries. Ensuring equitable distribution of reservation opportunities may improve equal access for all communities and foster a socially just system.

India's growth and development have to be recorded and analyzed regularly to keep track of the development rate which helps in effective policy making and to identify the issues in the implementation. In 2019 India ranked 143rd out of 162 countries in the commitment to reducing the inequality index highlighting inadequate policy measures in addressing income inequality and poverty. Conducting state-level audits of existing initiatives may ensure that these programs are effectively delivering the expected outcome and addressing the needs of underprivileged communities. By recognizing the loopholes and gaps in policy making the government can carry out a better allocation of resources for getting maximum impact.

Moreover, it is essential to understand the social-economic needs of the rural population to design affect welfare program. It is important to note that in 2016 about 73% of India's multidimensional poor population reside in rural areas. Hence conducting a comprehensive ground-level service may provide crucial insights into the actual situation faced by the rural community. By having a clear understanding of the rural dynamics the government can draft efficient blueprints for welfare programs and support economic transformation in a significant way. Collaborating efforts among the state and the central government NGOs and the local communities will help in addressing the rural issues and ensuring sustainable development.

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5.11 Let Us Sum Up

- Cultural policies and programs are important for the promotion preservation and Development of cultural diversity and heritage
- Culture refers to the shared values, beliefs, practices, and transitions that feature a group or society.
- Cultural identity is a powerful force to encourage or restrict development, depending on how it is perceived and leveraged.
- Cultural diversity is important for promoting innovation, creativity, and mutual understanding. However, it can also pose challenges to development such as marginalization, exploitation, and discrimination.
- Cultural exchange improves people's knowledge, openness, and respect.
- Multiculturalism promotes the preservation of cultural differences through implementing legislations policies and practices that facilitate equal rights opportunities and recognition for all cultural groups.
- Cultural pluralism allows for the coexistence of multiple cultural groups and facilitates maintaining their distinct values, traditions, and practices
- People who have ethnocentric attitudes tend to evaluate other cultures based on the values norms customs practices of their own culture.
- Xenocentrism can have both positive and negative impacts on cultural exchange and understanding.
- Cultural relativism is a concept in anthropology and cultural studies that suggests that the values, beliefs, customs, and practices of a particular culture should be understood and evaluated in the context of that culture itself, rather than against external, universal, or absolute standards.
- cultural relativism argues that it can lead to moral relativism which can be problematic in the situation where human rights are being violated.
- Indigenous people also known as first people first Nations or Native people are the ethnic groups or original inhabitants of a particular region or a country

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- More than 370 million indigenous people can be found in over 90 countries across the world. They represent about 5% of the world's population but account for around 15% of the poorest people in the world.
- The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People culminated in 2007. It is an international standard for the treatment in the protection of the indigenous people's rights and domestic people's rights domestic is legislative and policy initiatives attempted to improve the living conditions and to preserve their cultural practices.
- Tolerance can be promoted, by encouraging people to get exposed to different worldviews and cultures.
- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted by the United Nations general assembly in 1948. The UDHR provides a fundamental awareness about human rights that must be protected for everyone regardless of their nationality and migration status.
- Global Compact for safe orderly and regular migration (GCM) was adopted in 2018.
- In 2015 sustainable development agendas for 2030 were framed with 17 goals. It includes poverty alleviation, protection of the earth, and ensuring prosperity for all.
- one of the positive aspects of culture is that it gives a source of inspiration for entrepreneurs Is cultural heritage entrepreneurship
- Yoga and meditation are the traditional practices that emerged in India and have gained popularity worldwide.
- The food and beverage business is one of the most successful forms of entrepreneurship which create and sell foods and beverages that reflects the culture of the region or a community.
- Eco-tourism entrepreneurs can leverage these cultural and natural assets to create businesses that offer Sustainable tourism experiences.
- Connected social networks can be used to get financial support by providing access to financial services offering business advice and creating opportunities for the trade.
- Culture can facilitate understanding the differences and foster dialogue among various communities within a nation. Promoting tolerance and respect for diverse cultures can foster a peaceful society which is essential for national development.

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- As Development addresses the social economic and political inequality it can contribute to reducing grievance that generally leads to conflict.
- The Alternative to violence project (AVP) Aisa volunteers run an international organization that conducts conflict transformation programs. Soft-trained AVP facilitators organize experiential workshops to develop participants' ability to resolve conflicts without resorting to manipulation violence or coercion.
- According to the world economic forum travel and tourism development index 2021, India ranks 54th out of 117 countries in terms of travel and tourism. During 2019 the contribution of travel and tourism to GDP was 6.8 percent of the total Indian economy.
- The AKMU documented many traditional farming practices said varieties and other information regarding agriculture that has been used for generations
- impact of culture on the work environment was captured by Max Weber in his work titled protestant ethics and Spirit of Capitalism.
- The caste system restricted social mobility and occupational mobility by practicing endogamy.
- Caste stratification was officially recorded during the colonial period. The first systematic attempt to classify the castes in India was carried out through the Decennial Census of India in 1872.
- The Census of India conducted by the national government is the primary source of caste-related data. The senior census has traditionally gathered data on scheduled castes, SC and Scheduled Tribes, ST which are the most deprived sections of society.
- The national family health survey (NFHS) is being conducted by the International Institute for population science (IIPS).
- Caste has caused multiple disadvantages for the communities categorized as Scheduled Castes (SCs,), Scheduled Tribes (ST)s), and Other Backward Classes (OBCs).
- China underwent a comprehensive land reform program in the early 1950s striking large land holdings and redistributing the land to poor peasants. Whereas India followed a more conservative approach where the rigid caste-based social structure and complex land tenure system slow down the progress of the land reforms.

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- Policies can be recognized as a part of protective discrimination and affirmative action. Aap is grounded on the principles of Social justice and aims to uplift communities including ST, SC, and OBC.

5.12 Keywords

Caste System, Social Structure, Cultural Dynamics, Cultural Heritage, Tradition, Social Change, Cultural Diversity, Social Norms, Social Mobility, Cultural Adaptation, Social Inequalities, Caste-based Discrimination, Cultural Capital, Social Integration, Economic Inequality, Traditional Economy, Cultural Impact.

5.13 SelfAssessment

1. How do cultural factors play a role in economic development?
2. Can you describe the relationship between culture and the sustainable development of a society?
3. How has the caste system influenced economic progress in a society, specifically in areas like India?
4. Can a region's development be hampered by the socio-cultural dimensions of the people?
5. How can cultural values impact entrepreneurship and innovation in a developing society?
6. How do traditional beliefs and practices impact socio-economic development?
7. How has the caste-based occupational division impacted economic growth in India?
8. To what extent are the socio-cultural factors responsible for the economic disparities within a society?
9. How can cultural diversity contribute to the economic development of a community?
10. How can the elimination or diminishment of the caste system contribute to economic development?
11. What are the particular measures that could be taken to ensure the involvement of all castes in economic development?

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12. How can governments address socio-cultural barriers to development?
13. How have certain societies overcome socio-cultural barriers to economic growth?
14. What are some historical examples showcasing the influence of culture on economic development?
15. How do social hierarchies, like the caste system, affect economic activity and labor market outcomes?
16. What is the role of education in neutralizing the socio-cultural barriers hindering development?
17. Can a culturally diverse society provide economic benefits? If so, how?
18. How does the caste system affect the economic mobility of its constituents?
19. Can improper understanding or disrespect of local culture have a detrimental effect on development efforts?
20. How can the socio-cultural dimensions of society be harnessed to promote economic development?
21. What are some socio-cultural challenges that globalization might bring for economic development?
22. How can cultural heritage contribute towards the socio-economic development of a region?
23. Does the modernization of culture positively or negatively affect socioeconomic development?

5.14 References

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UNIT - VI

Lesson 6.1 - Five Year Plans and Development in India

Structure

6.1 Objectives
6.2 Introduction
6.3 India: A Mixed Economy
6.4 Objectives of the Five-Year Plans
6.5 NITI Aayog
6.6 Let Us Sum Up
6.7 Keywords
6.8 Self-Assessment Questions
6.9 References

6.1 Objectives

- Evaluate the Development strategies of the Indian Government.
- Analyze the social changes influenced by development policies and practices.

6.2 Introduction

The basic objective of the five-year plan is to lay the foundation for self-sustaining growth that would combine rapid increase of material production with the enhanced standard of living and social services while maintaining a high level of defense preparedness.

- Jawaharlal Nehru

The emergence of India's five-year plan can be traced back to the country's struggle for economic development followed by the independence from the Imperial rule of the British in 1947. The planning commission of India was established in 1950 with the primary agenda of fostering economic development in the country. It played a significant role in shaping India's economy which served as the comprehensive blueprint for the investment policies and strategies to achieve particular agendas.

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The idea of a five-year plan was first implemented by Joseph Stalin in the Soviet Union in 1928. It was implemented in the Soviet Union assembly to accelerate industrialization and modernize the economy. The first prime minister of India Jawaharlal Nehru was inspired by Stalin's plan for the Soviet Union's rapid transformation. Consequently, the mero sort adapters concept to India's unique circumstances which included a mixer economy accountancy of public and private sectors. The first five-year plan was launched in 1951. It Focused on agriculture infrastructure development and energy production to support the foundation of India's economy. Since then, several five-year plans have been implemented emphasizing various sectors and priorities over time to achieve the country's development goals. Later in 2014, the planning commission was replaced by the national institution for transforming India Niti Aayog as a part of an effort to shift the focus from a centralized economy towards a more decentralized cooperative federal structure. That's a series of strategies that lead the nation towards development, and it is essential to analyze these development plans to enhance future policymaking.

6.3 India: A Mixed Economy

India is referred to as a mixed economy, as it has elements of both socialism and capitalism. It should be noted that the Indian Constitution mentions Socialism as one of the guiding principles. But India's economy has become increasingly market-oriented since the liberalization in 1991.

While certain sectors of the Indian economy remain under the ownership of the government, many others have allowed private enterprise and foreign investments. India is characterized by a blend of public and private ownership, government regulations, welfare activities, and a diverse range of social policies. Hence, it would be more suitable to describe India as having a mixed economy. It has socialist principles rather than a purely socialist economy.

Characteristics of a Mixed Economy:

A mixed economy combines elements of both capitalism and socialism, and it allows the public and private sectors to coexist in the economy. Though the government may regulate various industries and own some vital resources or industries, private ownership is still a predominant feature. In a mixed economy, market forces primarily

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determine prices and production levels, but the government can intervene to correct market failures, promote social welfare, or achieve other goals. In the case of a mixed economy, wealth distribution is more balanced, with the government providing social welfare programs and supporting vulnerable segments of society. Hence economic efficiency and stability might be higher, as the system balances the need for social welfare with the incentives of profit-seeking.

6.4 Objectives of the Five-Year Plans

The Five-Year Plans were introduced in India to promote economic development and achieving self-reliance. The country adopted the planned economic approach to foster growth and address prevalent socio-economic challenges. The specific aims behind the emergence of the Five-Year Plans in India include:

The primary goal of these Five-Year Plans was to ensure rapid and balanced economic growth, enhancing India's national income and per capita income. The second motive of these five-year plans was to modernize various sectors of the economy, including industry, agriculture, and infrastructure, by implementing new technology and practices to boost productivity. The third objective was to make the economy self-reliant by strengthening domestic production and reducing dependence on imports, promoting self-reliance and economic independence. The fourth objective was to generate employment. These plans pursued to generate employment opportunities in the country to reduce unemployment and increase the standard of living for all citizens.

The fifth objective was to reduce Socio-Economic Disparities by minimizing inequalities in wealth, income, and social status and working towards social justice for all citizens. The sixth objective was to promote Balanced Regional Development by encouraging equitable regional growth to ensure that economic benefits are widespread and address regional disparities. The objective also included agricultural and industrial development. The first five-year plan is intended to achieve food self-sufficiency by modernizing agriculture, increasing productivity, and implementing measures to address food security. And the second and third five-year plans sought to increase industrial production, diversify industries, and promote the growth of the public and private sectors, ultimately contributing to national wealth and employment opportunities.

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Apart from the agricultural and industrial development, these five-year plans also focused on Infrastructure Development: Improving transportation, communication, and power infrastructure has been a primary objective in all Five-Year Plans to support economic activities and connect remote areas. These plans also had objectives of providing social Services and Welfare which intended at providing access to education, healthcare, housing, and other essential public services and improve the overall quality of life for the Indian population. Overall, the Five-Year Plans have been beneficial in shaping India's growth trajectory. These plans, with constantly evolving objectives, have guided the nation towards improved living standards and a stronger economy.

Five-Year Plans in India

India has implemented 12 Five-Year Plans. The first Five-Year Plan began in 1951 and the twelfth ended in 2017. After that, India shifted its approach from Five-Year Plan to a three-year "Action Agenda" that is part of a broader 15-year vision for the country under the guidance of the National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog). Keep in mind that this information may change over time, and you should verify the answer with updated sources.

- **First Five-Year Plan**

The first five-year plan was presented by Jawaharlal Nehru -India's first Prime Minister and the plan period was between 1951 to 1956. This plan was based on the Harrod-Domar model of growth and focused on the primary sector to address the food shortages in the country. The plan focused on agriculture, price stability, power, and transportation. This plan targeted a 2.1% increase in national income and had a total outlay of Rs.2069 crores.

Objectives:

This was the first plan after independence, and it provided a road map for the economic growth and development of the nation. The major aims of the first five-year plan were to enhance agricultural productivity, build the required infrastructure, and also to promote industrialization. Hence the major objectives of the plan were to increase the national income through industrialization and modernization; it also intended at achieving self-sufficiency in food and raw materials for the industries

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to reduce the dependency on imports. It is also intended at generating employment opportunities to reduce poverty and also to increase social welfare. Another objective of this plan was to reduce regional and social disparities across the various sections of society and also to promote equitable distribution of wealth and opportunities.

Strategies:

The various strategies adopted by the First five-year plan to achieve the objectives mentioned above include the following. Foremost emphasis was given to agricultural development through introducing new technologies and irrigation facilities. That'll significantly allocate resources to develop infrastructure and transportation and communication facilities across the country. The plan also emphasized the development of key industries namely iron and steel, textiles, and chemicals. There were also public sector investments in education, healthcare, and housing to improve the living standards of people and for the promotion of social welfare. Overall, there was a focus on balanced regional development and equitable allocation of resources across various regions that strived for achieving balanced regional development and also reduce income disparities.

Achievements:

The major achievements during that first five-year plan include the achievement of self-sufficiency in food grain production and the establishment of new industrial units that led to the increased industrial capacity of the nation and increased production. This plan also achieved a growth rate of 3.6% in national income which was quite higher than the targeted 2.1%. Several infrastructure projects like Bhakra Nangal Dam, Hirakud Dam, and Rourkela Steel Plant, came into life during this first five-year plan. There were many opportunities created in the education and healthcare sector that resulted in the economic and social progress of the nation.

Overall, India's first five-year plan gave a strong foundation for the economic growth and development of the country though it fell short in some areas. Major achievements were noted in the primary and secondary sectors along with infrastructural development, though there were various shortfalls in poverty reduction, income inequality, and unbalanced growth across various sectors that were taken up by the later plans.

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➢ Second five-year plan

The second Five-Year Plan in India spanned from 1956 to 1961. This plan focused on rapid industrialization based on the Mahalanobis model that was intended towards achieving long-term growth. Public sector industries were developed in critical sectors required for development. Here are the objectives, strategies, and achievements of the second Five-Year Plan. It targeted a 25% increase in national income and had a total outlay of Rs.4800 crores and this plan set up the planning commission that would oversee and implement the five-year plan.

Objectives:

The plan intended to increase agricultural productivity by modernizing and improving agricultural practices, increasing irrigation facilities, and enhancing productivity to ensure food security and reduce dependence on imports. It also intended to promote industrialization and build a strong industrial base, focusing on sectors such as steel, chemicals, machinery, and infrastructure development. The plan intended to achieve infrastructure development and improve transportation, communication, and power infrastructure to support industrial growth and regional development. The second five-year plan is also intended to reduce regional disparities, address social inequalities, and improve the standard of living, particularly in rural areas. It also focused on generating employment opportunities through industrialization and agricultural development to alleviate poverty and unemployment.

Strategies:

The various strategies to achieve these second five-year plan's objectives were to focus on public sector-led industrialization (where the plan emphasized the role of the public sector in promoting industrial development through the establishment of new industries and expansion of existing ones); agricultural reforms (where the focus was on land reforms, irrigation development, and the introduction of modern agricultural techniques to increase agricultural production); infrastructure development (where the plan allocated significant resources for the development of transportation, power, and communication infrastructure to support industrial growth) and focus on human capital development (where the plan emphasized investments in education, healthcare, and

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skill development to improve the overall well-being and productivity of the population).

Achievements:

The significant achievements of the second five-year plan were industrial growth, agricultural development, infrastructure development, employment generation, and achieving social welfare. The second Five-Year Plan witnessed a significant increase in industrial output, with industries such as steel, chemicals, and machinery showing substantial progress. The plan led to improvements in agricultural practices, resulting in increased food production. The Green Revolution was initiated during this period, which led to a significant increase in wheat production. The plan also saw the development of critical infrastructure such as road networks, railways, power plants, and communication systems, contributing to the overall economic growth and connectivity of the country. The plan created employment opportunities in both the industrial and agricultural sectors, reducing unemployment and poverty rates. And the plan made efforts to reduce regional disparities and improve living standards. Several welfare programs were implemented to provide healthcare, education, and basic amenities to marginalized sections of society.

Overall, the second Five-Year Plan in India made significant strides in industrial development, agricultural productivity, and infrastructure expansion. It laid the foundation for future economic growth and social progress in the country.

- **Third Five-year plan**

The third Five-Year Plan in India was implemented from 1961 to 1966. It focused on industrialization with more emphasis on self-sufficiency. This plan targeted a 5.6% increase in GDP growth rate and had a total outlay of Rs.9475 crores. It introduced import substitution to reduce dependency on imports. Here are the objectives, strategies, and achievements of the third Five-Year Plan:

Objectives:

The plan aimed to reduce dependence on foreign aid and achieve self-sufficiency in key sectors such as agriculture, industry, and technology. The plan also aimed to address poverty by promoting employment generation,

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rural development, and social welfare programs. The plan also focused on industrial growth and diversification, expanding the manufacturing sector, and expanding the industrial base. It aimed to increase agricultural productivity, improve rural infrastructure, and introduce land reforms to uplift the farming community. It also significantly involved human capital development and emphasized investments, in education, healthcare, and skill development to improve the overall well-being and productivity of the population.

Strategies:

The plan emphasized the development of domestic industries to replace imports, promoting self-sufficiency and reducing foreign exchange outflows. It indirectly imports substitution industrialization (ISI). The plan also focused on modernizing agriculture, increasing agricultural credit, promoting cooperative farming, and improving rural infrastructure such as irrigation facilities and rural roads. It aimed to strengthen the public sector's role in the economy through the establishment of new public-sector enterprises and the expansion of existing ones. The plan allocated resources for the development of infrastructure such as power generation, transportation, and irrigation to support industrial growth and rural development. The plan also implemented various poverty alleviation programs, including the expansion of social welfare schemes, rural employment programs, and housing initiatives.

Achievements:

The third Five-Year Plan witnessed significant industrial growth, with industries such as textiles, steel, chemicals, and heavy machinery showing progress. The plan also led to the establishment of industrial estates and growth centers to promote regional development.

The plan contributed to increased agricultural production and productivity through the adoption of high-yielding crop varieties, expansion of irrigation facilities, and the implementation of land reforms. It also resulted in the Green Revolution spreading to more regions. The third five-year plan saw the development of infrastructure such as power plants, highways, and irrigation projects, enhancing connectivity, and supporting industrial and agricultural growth. It implemented various poverty alleviation programs, including rural employment schemes and

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social welfare initiatives, which helped improve the standard of living for marginalized sections of society. It also focused on expanding educational institutions, improving access to healthcare, and enhancing vocational training programs, contributing to human capital development.

Overall, the third Five-Year Plan in India made significant strides in industrialization, agricultural development, and infrastructure expansion. It aimed to promote economic self-reliance, reduce poverty, and improve the well-being of the population. While the plan achieved notable progress, it faced challenges due to external factors like wars and a severe drought in 1965, which impacted its overall success.

- **Fourth Five-year plan**

The fourth Five-Year Plan in India was not implemented as originally intended. The plan period was supposed to be from 1966 to 1971, but due to prevailing political and economic circumstances, it was interrupted. Instead, a series of annual plans were implemented during this period. These are an overview of the objectives and strategies that were envisioned for the fourth Five-Year Plan: It targeted a 5.7% increase in national income and had a total outlay of Rs.22227 crores. It introduced the green revolution to increase food grain production.

Objectives:

The plan aimed to increase agricultural productivity and achieve self-sufficiency in food production to address food shortages and reduce dependence on imports. It also promoted industrial growth and diversification, particularly in sectors such as heavy machinery, engineering goods, and chemicals, to support economic growth and reduce import reliance. It also aimed to implement poverty alleviation programs, generate employment opportunities, and improve the living standards of the poor and marginalized sections of society and aimed to invest in the development of infrastructure, including transportation, power, and irrigation, to support industrial growth and regional development. The fourth five-year plan also emphasized the importance of education, healthcare, and skill development to enhance human capital and improve overall productivity and well-being.

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Strategies:

The fourth five-year plan focused on expanding the Green Revolution initiatives, which involved the adoption of high-yielding crop varieties, expansion of irrigation facilities, and the use of modern agricultural practices to boost agricultural production. The plan aimed to reduce imports by promoting domestic industries and encouraging import substitution through the expansion of manufacturing capabilities. The plan also emphasized the role of the public sector in industrial development and called for the establishment of new public sector enterprises and the expansion of existing ones. The plan aimed to generate employment opportunities through industrial and agricultural development, as well as through the implementation of rural employment programs.

Achievements:

The plan achieved growth rates in agriculture and industry. It also reduced poverty and increased self-reliance. Overall, the Fourth Five-Year Plan attempted ambitious objectives and strategies but had mixed results. While it succeeded in bringing self-sufficiency in food grains and improved some core industries, it fell short of achieving its targeted growth rate and reducing income inequality. There was a tremendous increase in food grain production and during this plan, the National Dairy Development Board was established.

It is important to note that the annual plans implemented during this period focused on specific economic and developmental objectives, such as stability and recovery, and laid the groundwork for subsequent Five-Year Plans. The country faced various challenges during this period, including political instability, economic fluctuations, and external factors such as wars and global events, which influenced the course of economic planning and development in India.

- **Fifth Five-year Plan**

The fifth Five-Year Plan in India was implemented from 1974 to 1979. This plan emphasized poverty alleviation, self-reliance, and social justice. It targeted a 4.4% increase in national income and had a total outlay of Rs.46000 crores. This plan introduced a 20-point program to address the basic needs of the poor. Here are the objectives, strategies, and achievements of the fifth Five-Year Plan:

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Objectives:

The plan aimed to eradicate poverty, reduce inequalities, provide more opportunities, and promote social justice through targeted interventions and inclusive growth. The plan aimed to further strengthen agricultural productivity and achieve self-sufficiency in food production by increasing agricultural inputs, improving land and water management, and promoting sustainable agricultural practices. It also aimed to promote industrial development, with a focus on modernization, technological upgradation, and diversification of industries to support economic growth and employment generation. The fifth five-year plan aimed to develop infrastructure, particularly in sectors such as power, transportation, and communication, to support industrial growth and regional development. The plan also emphasized investments in education, healthcare, and skill development to enhance human capital and improve the overall well-being and productivity of the population.

Strategies:

The fifth five-year plan focused on implementing agricultural reforms such as land reforms, increasing agricultural credit, expanding irrigation facilities, and promoting cooperative farming to boost agricultural productivity and income of farmers. The plan also aimed to promote industrial growth through the expansion of the manufacturing sector, encouraging private investment, and improving access to credit and infrastructure for industries. The plan emphasized the generation of employment opportunities through the expansion of industries, particularly labor-intensive sectors, and the implementation of rural employment programs. It also emphasized the adoption of advanced technologies and modernization in both agriculture and industry to enhance productivity and competitiveness. The plan also implemented various social welfare programs and targeted interventions to uplift marginalized sections of society, including programs related to education, healthcare, and housing.

Achievements:

The fifth Five-Year Plan witnessed significant growth in agricultural production, particularly in food grains, contributing to improved food security and a reduction in dependence on imports. The plan led to the expansion and modernization of industries, including steel, chemicals, engineering goods, and consumer goods. The plan also promoted the

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establishment of small-scale industries and village industries. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development was established during this plan. It also established the Rural Electrification Corporation. It saw notable progress in infrastructure development, including the construction of power plants, expansion of transportation networks, and improvement in communication facilities, enhancing connectivity and supporting economic activities. The fifth five-year plan implemented various poverty alleviation programs, including the introduction of rural employment schemes and social welfare initiatives, which aimed to uplift the poor and marginalized sections of society. The plan also focused on enhancing human capital development, leading to improvements in literacy rates, healthcare outcomes, and skill levels of the population.

Overall, the fifth Five-Year Plan in India made significant progress in agricultural development, industrial growth, infrastructure expansion, and poverty alleviation. It contributed to the overall socio-economic development of the country and laid the foundation for subsequent plans and policy initiatives.

- **Sixth five-year plan**

The Sixth Five-Year Plan in India took place from 1980 to 1985. It was designed by the Indian government to accelerate economic development, strengthen the agricultural sector, reduce poverty, and improve the standard of living. It targeted a 5.2% increase in national income and had a total outlay of Rs.144500 crores. Here is an overview of the objectives, strategies, achievements, and shortcomings of the Sixth Five-Year Plan.

Objectives:

The sixth five-year plan achieved a minimum annual GDP growth of 5.2% to accelerate economic development. The plan focused on self-reliance by strengthening the domestic economy and minimizing import dependence. It increased agricultural production to provide self-sufficiency in food grains and reduce hunger. The plan improved education and training to create a skilled workforce. It also enhanced industrial growth by promoting small and large-scale industries and strengthened infrastructure for energy, transportation, communication, and irrigation. It reduced poverty and unemployment, improved healthcare services, and

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enhanced family planning programs to control population growth. The plan also developed backward regions to help achieve balanced regional growth.

Strategies:

The sixth five-year plan optimized the use of available resources by minimizing waste and maximizing efficiency. It emphasized the importance of agriculture and irrigation to boost productivity and ensure food security and develop Rural Employment Programs to create job opportunities for rural workers and alleviate poverty. It strengthened public sector industries and encouraged private investments for industrial growth. The plan implemented economic reforms to enhance economic efficiency and reduce inflation. It addressed social and economic inequalities through targeted developmental programs and implemented measures, such as Minimum Needs Programme (MNP), to bring basic amenities to the underprivileged.

Achievements:

The average annual GDP growth rate reached 5.7%, exceeding the target of 5.2%. The plan caused increased food grain production, moving closer to self-sufficiency and reducing hunger. Progress was made in infrastructure, including power generation, highways, rail networks, and telecommunication. Development in rural areas was evident through the implementation of Rural Employment Programs. Initiatives like Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) were launched to reduce poverty. This plan led to the establishment of the Small Farmers' Development Agency and Rashtriya Mahila Kosh which promoted microfinance for women. The plan provided education and healthcare services which yielded improvements, positively impacting the quality of life.

In conclusion, while the Sixth Five-Year Plan in India helped achieve notable progress in terms of GDP growth, agriculture, education, healthcare, and infrastructure, it still faced challenges in addressing poverty, unemployment, and regional imbalances. However, the plan had a significant impact on India's economic and industrial landscape and set the foundation for future progress.

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- **Seventh Five-year plan**

The seventh five-year plan was between 1985-1990. It focussed on improving productivity and modernizing industries. It targeted a 5% increase in GDP growth rate and had a total outlay of Rs.487000 crores. It introduced concepts of appropriate technology to achieve production efficiency and reduction in costs.

Objectives:

The plan aimed for an annual GDP growth rate of around 5% over the five years. It created more opportunities for people to find work and eradicate unemployment. Modernization of industries and technology increased productivity, making them more competitive in global markets. The plan aimed to improve living standards and reduce poverty levels across the country. The plan also enhanced the domestic production of energy and reduced dependence on imports, which was another critical goal. It balanced regional development, and the plan aimed to minimize regional economic disparities by promoting infrastructural growth and investment in backward districts. The plan also sought to improve the quality of India's human resources through better education, healthcare, and social services.

Strategies:

The plan focused on key sectors such as agriculture, industry, energy, and infrastructure to propel overall economic growth, it also encouraged private investment, both domestic and foreign, to usher in modern technologies and drive economic growth. The plan stressed the importance of research and development for improving the agricultural and industrial sectors. A push for Integrated Rural Development Programs (IRDP) and other similar initiatives was aimed to improve rural infrastructure and services. The plan involved NGOs and voluntary organizations to implement various social and developmental programs effectively. It focused on macroeconomic stability where the plan emphasized maintaining fiscal discipline and controlling the persistent inflation that had affected the country in the past.

Achievements:

Economic growth was wide during the Seventh Five-Year Plan in which India achieved an annual average GDP growth rate of 6%, surpassing

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the plan's target. The Green Revolution saw massive advancements, resulting in increased food grain production and self-sufficiency in the food supply. The plan witnessed new initiatives in telecommunications and information technology, laying the groundwork for these industries in the future. Additionally, there was progress in the steel, chemicals, and manufacturing sectors. The plan showed significant improvements in literacy rates, primary education enrolment, and life expectancy. The period saw massive investments in infrastructure projects such as roads, ports, and telecommunications, contributing to India's economic growth. Measures taken during the Seventh Five-Year Plan contributed to a significant reduction in poverty levels, even though challenges remained.

Overall, the Seventh Five-Year Plan played a vital role in accelerating economic growth, improving various sectors, and shaping India's future development trajectory. It focused on technology development and establishment of the Technology Development Board and also the initiation of the National River Conservation Plan.

- **Eighth Five-Year Plan**

The Eighth Five-Year Plan in India was a strategic economic plan that spanned from 1992 to 1997. This plan played a significant role in shaping the country's socio-economic policies and development during those years. The emphasis was on liberalization, privatization, and globalization (LPG) policies. It had a target of a 6.5% increase in national income and had a total outlay of Rs.825000 crores. It introduced economic reforms to open up the Indian economy to foreign investments and encouraged entrepreneurship. The main objectives, strategies, and achievements of this plan are as follows:

Objectives:

The major objectives of the eight five-year plans include economic liberalization and structural reforms, poverty alleviation and social development, sustainable development, human resource development, and infrastructural development. The plan intended to initiate economic liberalization measures and implement structural reforms to promote private sector participation, attract foreign investment, and enhance competitiveness in the global market. The plan focused on poverty alleviation, improving access to basic services, and promoting social development through targeted interventions and welfare programs. The

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plan emphasized the importance of sustainable development, including environmental conservation, natural resource management, and ecological balance. The plan intended to invest in education, healthcare, and skill development to enhance human capital, promote social well-being, and increase productivity. The plan intended to develop infrastructure, including transportation, power, and communication networks, to support economic growth, regional connectivity, and quality of life.

Strategies:

The various strategies for this plan were to implement economic reforms, increase private sector participation, social welfare programs, environmental conservation policies, and also to implement infrastructure development programs. The plan intended to initiate economic reforms, including liberalization of trade and investment policies, deregulation of industries, and reduction of government control over the economy. The plan emphasized the role of the private sector in economic development and sought to create a conducive environment for private investment through policy reforms and incentives. The plan intended to implement social welfare programs targeting the poor, including poverty alleviation schemes, employment generation programs, and improved access to education and healthcare. The plan emphasized the need for environmental conservation and sustainable development, including measures to protect natural resources, reduce pollution, and promote ecological balance. The plan intended to allocate resources for the development of infrastructure projects, including roads, railways, power plants, and communication networks, to support economic activities and regional development.

Achievements:

The various achievements of this eighth five-year plan included drastic economic reforms, poverty reduction, industrial growth, infrastructure development, agricultural growth, etc. The Indian economy obtained significant growth during this period (~6.8% per annum), resulting from far-reaching reforms, including liberalization, privatization, and globalization policies. The number of people living below the poverty line declined substantially due to inclusive growth and increased agricultural productivity. Continuous industrial expansion led to the diversification of the industrial base and the emergence of new sectors, such as the IT and services industries. India saw substantial improvements in roads, energy,

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telecommunications, and water supply, which contributed to overall development. Increased access to education led to an increase in the literacy rate, while improved healthcare resulted in higher life expectancy. Considerable progress was also made in agriculture and food production was achieved, enabling India to maintain self-sufficiency in food grains. Environmental policies, including waste management, pollution control, and afforestation, gained momentum during this period.

Overall, the Eighth Five Year Plan in India marked a departure from the earlier plan periods and focused on comprehensive economic reforms, resulting in significant achievements in various areas of development. Various economic reforms were successfully implemented during this plan period like liberalization and globalization and it was also a period when SEBI (Stock Exchange Board of India) was established.

- **Ninth Five-year plan:**

The ninth Five-Year Plan in India was implemented from 1997 to 2002. The focus of this plan was human development, poverty alleviation, and infrastructure development. It targeted a 7% increase in national income and had a total outlay of Rs. 162759 crores. It introduced the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan to provide universal primary education. Here are the objectives, strategies, and some of the achievements of the ninth Five-Year Plan:

Objectives:

The main objectives of this plan included accelerated economic growth, poverty eradication, employment generation, infrastructure development and human development, and sustainable development. The plan intended to achieve a higher rate of economic growth, enhance productivity, and improve the overall competitiveness of the Indian economy. The plan focused on poverty alleviation through employment generation, promoting inclusive growth, and implementing targeted programs for the upliftment of marginalized sections of society. The plan intended to develop and strengthen infrastructure, including transportation, power, communication, and irrigation, to support industrial growth, regional connectivity, and agricultural development. The plan emphasized investments in education, healthcare, and skill development to enhance human capital and improve the overall well-being of the population. The plan intended to promote sustainable development

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by addressing environmental concerns, conserving natural resources, and ensuring ecological balance.

Strategies:

The various strategies adopted in the ninth five-year plan were to accelerate industrial growth, agricultural and rural development, infrastructural development through investments, human resources development, and improvements to social welfare. The strategies like

The promotion of private sector investment, the adoption of advanced technologies, and the creation of a favorable business environment were implemented. The plan intended to promote agricultural productivity, implement rural development programs, improve irrigation facilities, and enhance agricultural marketing and credit mechanisms. The plan allocated significant resources for infrastructure development, including the construction of roads, railways, power projects, and communication networks to support economic activities and regional connectivity. The plan emphasized investments in education and healthcare, including the expansion of educational institutions, skill development programs, and the improvement of healthcare facilities. The plan also implemented various poverty alleviation programs, including rural employment schemes, social welfare initiatives, and programs targeting the upliftment of women, scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, and other marginalized communities.

Achievements:

The achievements of this ninth five-year plan were that it witnessed a significant acceleration in economic growth, with the annual GDP growth rate averaging around 6.8% during the plan period. It also contributed to a reduction in poverty levels, with the percentage of people living below the poverty line declining from 36% at the beginning of the plan to around 26% by the end of the plan period. The plan saw substantial progress in infrastructure development, including the construction and improvement of highways, the expansion of power generation capacity, and the modernization of telecommunication networks. This plan also led to an expansion of educational institutions, increased enrolment rates, and improved access to healthcare facilities, contributing to improvements in literacy rates and healthcare outcomes. The plan led to the implementation of various employment generation programs, including the Mahatma

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Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), which provided rural employment opportunities and contributed to poverty reduction.

It is important to note that while the ninth Five-Year Plan made significant progress in several areas, some challenges and areas required further attention. However, the plan contributed to the overall socio-economic development of the country and laid the groundwork for subsequent plans and policy initiatives.

- **Tenth Five-Year Plan**

The 10th Five Year Plan (2002-2007) in India was developed by the Planning Commission, aiming to focus on important inclusive growth, social, economic, and political objectives to stimulate the country's overall growth and development. It targeted to achieve an 8% increase in national income and had a plan outlay of Rs.877000 crores. This plan introduced numerous strategies to facilitate progress in key areas and resulted in significant achievements.

Objectives:

The various objectives included balanced and inclusive growth, infrastructure and human development, public sector and governance reforms, and agricultural and rural development. The plan aimed to achieve balanced regional development and promote inclusive growth by addressing regional disparities and focusing on sectors with high potential for job creation and poverty reduction. The plan aimed to develop and upgrade infrastructure, including transportation, power, communication, and irrigation, to support industrial growth, regional connectivity, and agricultural development. The plan focused on human capital development through investments in education (Universal primary education), healthcare, and skill development, with a particular emphasis on improving access and quality of services. The plan aimed to enhance agricultural productivity, strengthen rural infrastructure, and implement rural development programs to improve the socio-economic conditions of rural areas. The plan aimed to improve governance practices, enhance efficiency and transparency in the public sector, and promote public-private partnerships for better service delivery.

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Strategies:

The plan intended to promote economic growth through market-oriented policies, attracting foreign investment, and encouraging private sector participation in key sectors. The plan allocated resources for the development of infrastructure projects, including roads, railways, power plants, and telecommunication networks, to support economic activities, regional connectivity, and quality of life. The plan emphasized investments in education (Universal primary education), healthcare, and skill development to enhance human capital, promote social well-being, and increase productivity. The plan also aimed to promote agricultural productivity, implement rural development programs, improve irrigation facilities, and enhance agricultural marketing and credit mechanisms. The plan intended to implement governance reforms, including decentralization of power, administrative reforms, and measures to improve transparency, accountability, and efficiency in the public sector. Strategies for tourism, healthcare, and education were introduced to foster growth in the services sector.

Achievements:

The major achievements of this plan were economic growth as high as 7.6%, industrial growth at 8.9%, primary education for children below 14 years of age, and improvements in health. The 10th Plan saw an average annual GDP growth rate of 7.6%, which was closer to the target of 8%. Industries registered a growth of 8.9%, and the IT sector in particular experienced remarkable development. Some progress was also accomplished in the power generation sector, road development, and the Golden Quadrilateral Highway project. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan initiative helped improve enrollment and retention rates in primary education. Significant advancements were witnessed in reducing the infant mortality rate, increasing life expectancy, and spreading awareness about sanitation and hygiene.

Of course, while there were accomplishments and successes in the 10th Five-Year Plan, the Indian economy also faced various challenges. Some important aims, like poverty reduction and infrastructure development, did not achieve their desired levels. But the 10th Five-Year Plan exhibited India's commitment to holistic development and set the stage for further reforms.

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➢ Eleventh Five-Year Plan

The Eleventh Five-Year Plan was a planning document formulated by the Government of India under the Planning Commission to outline its vision for the country's development during the period 2007-2012. This plan targeted a 9% increase in GDP growth rate and had a total outlay of Rs.3644000 crores. The plan emphasized inclusive growth, social justice, reducing inequalities, and achieving faster and more broad-based economic development. The objectives, strategies, and achievements of this plan are as follows.

Objectives:

The major objectives of this plan include inclusive growth, increased rate of growth, poverty reduction, employment generation, quality education, and health improvement. It also focused on environmental protection and infrastructure development. The plan intended to ensure that the benefits of economic growth and development were shared across different sections of society and various regions of the country. It aimed to accelerate the GDP growth rate to an average of 9% per year during the plan period and focused on reducing poverty by 10 percentage points, targeting around 20 million people. It also intended to create 58 million new job opportunities to reduce unemployment and expand access to quality education, especially focused on underprivileged and marginalized groups. It also aimed to provide affordable and accessible healthcare to the masses, focusing on the eradication of communicable diseases. It tries to address infrastructure bottlenecks, including power, transport, and communication sectors, and to promote environmental sustainability and protect natural resources and ecosystems.

Strategies

The various strategies adopted during this plan were to encourage private sector investment by boosting public expenditure in agriculture, infrastructure, and social sectors, and infrastructure financing through public-private partnerships. It empowered the agricultural sector through productivity enhancement, crop diversification, and better marketing and storage facilities. It expanded access to education, improved the quality of education, and promoted skill development to enhance employability. Through the National Rural Health Mission, Universal Immunization Program, and other initiatives were implemented. This plan also saw the

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implementation of various welfare schemes for scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, other backward classes, minorities, and women and focused on economic development in regions with growth potential and bridging regional disparities.

Achievements:

The various achievements of this plan were that India's GDP growth rate averaged 7.9% during the plan period, lower than the targeted 9%, but still notable given the global financial crisis in 2008-09. Poverty declined by around 7.5 percentage points, less than the targeted 10 percentage points, but it was a significant improvement compared to previous decades. During this plan period, around 52 million new job opportunities were created against the target of 58 million. The access to primary education increased during this plan period, and dropout rates reduced significantly, particularly among girls. There were also improvements observed in maternal mortality rates, infant mortality rates, and life expectancy. Increased investments in power, roads, airports, and ports, improving overall connectivity led to infrastructure development, and this plan period also saw the introduction of the National Food Security Act, which intended at ensuring food security for vulnerable sections of society.

Despite the global economic slowdown during the Plan period, the Eleventh Five-Year Plan of the 2008-09 global financial crisis, India saw considerable progress in reducing poverty, expanding education, improving healthcare, and investing in infrastructure development. There was the establishment of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), the National Solar Mission, and the expansion of the National Rural Health Mission. However, some shortfalls like income inequality and uneven regional development, persisted and were carried forward to the next plan.

- **Twelfth Five-Year Plan**

The twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-2017) in India is intended at achieving faster, inclusive, and sustainable growth while addressing all sectors of the Indian economy. This plan targeted an annual average growth rate of GDP at 8%. It had a total outlay of Rs.5500000 crores. It identified numerous key areas for enhancement, including infrastructure, education, healthcare, poverty alleviation, and more.

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Objectives:

The major objectives of this plan were inclusive growth, sustainable development, faster growth, strengthening of infrastructure, education and skills development, improvements in health and wellbeing, and poverty alleviation. The plan is intended at achieving inclusive growth by lowering income inequality and safeguarding more employment opportunities for the socially and economically disadvantaged segments of society. The plan focused on the sustainable use of natural resources, environmental conservation, and adopting low-carbon technologies for energy production. It targeted an average annual growth rate of about 8% for the Indian economy. It also focused on the development of infrastructure in sectors such as transportation, power, and urban facilities to promote growth and facilitate the linkage between rural and urban areas. It emphasized improvement in primary, secondary, and higher education along with skill development to bridge the skill gap and provide better employment opportunities. It focuses on improving the healthcare sector by expanding the reach of healthcare services, improving service quality, and addressing major health challenges. There were initiatives to lift millions of people out of poverty by focusing on areas like employment, food security, and social welfare schemes.

Strategies:

The various strategies adopted during this plan to achieve the above said objectives included high investments in key sectors, encouraging PPP, and others. There were significant investments in the key growth sectors and attracting foreign direct investments. The plan encouraged public-private partnerships to address infrastructure development and financing. The government also promoted policies and incentives to support innovation and technology transfer and enhanced social safety nets to provide financial security to the vulnerable sections of the population. There was also the implementation of responsive governance and efficient decision-making through e-governance and decentralization. The government also adopted an outcome-based, performance-oriented approach while executing and monitoring the initiatives. There was also coordination among various sectors, stakeholders, and government institutions to safeguard synchronicity and optimal resource utilization.

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Achievements:

The significant achievement during the twelfth five-year plan was the implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) in 2017, which streamlined taxation and improved revenue generation. There was also the introduction of the Jan Dhan Yojana, which was a financial inclusion scheme steering the opening of millions of bank accounts across India. The plan also led to the launch of the Clean India (Swachh Bharat) campaign, which facilitated cleanliness and improved sanitation across the nation. There was also the expansion of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) to provide guaranteed employment to the rural population. There was also the establishment of several state-level skill development missions and institutions that led to improved employability and productivity.

There were some significant achievements made during the 12th Five-Year Plan, but it was not without its challenges. The Indian economy experienced slower growth than anticipated, averaging around 6.2% according to World Bank data, due to external factors like the global economic slowdown and internal constraints such as policy implementation bottlenecks. Despite this, the 12th Plan set the foundation for continued growth and improved the overall well-being of the nation.

Drawbacks of five-year plans and their replacement of NITI Aayog

The decision to replace the five-year planning system with NITI Aayog in India was influenced by several perceived drawbacks of the previous planning approach. Some of the drawbacks that led to the establishment of NITI Aayog included centralized planning, lack of flexibility, slow decision-making, lack of stakeholder involvement, fragmented implementation, and focus being on inputs rather than on outcomes.

The five-year planning system in India was criticized for its centralized nature, where the Planning Commission played a dominant role in setting targets, allocating resources, and formulating policies. This top-down approach was seen as inflexible and less responsive to the diverse needs and aspirations of different states and sectors. The fixed five-year planning cycle was also often seen as rigid and unable to adapt to changing economic and social dynamics. Rapid changes in technology,

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global markets, and other factors necessitated more flexible and dynamic policy frameworks that could respond effectively to emerging challenges and opportunities.

The lengthy process of formulating and implementing five-year plans often resulted in delayed decision-making. This led to a slower response to changing priorities, emerging crises, and the need for timely policy interventions. The previous five-year planning system faced criticism for the limited involvement of stakeholders, including state governments, industry representatives, and civil society organizations. The top-down approach resulted in less consultation and collaboration, which limited the effectiveness and inclusiveness of the planning process.

The implementation of five-year plans often faced challenges due to coordination issues between the central and state governments. The lack of effective coordination and cooperation hindered the smooth execution of plans and programs. The five-year planning system was also often criticized for its emphasis on input-oriented targets, such as investment expenditure, rather than outcomes and results. This led to a focus on quantitative targets rather than the quality and impact of development initiatives.

NITI Aayog was established to address these drawbacks and introduce a more decentralized, flexible, and inclusive approach to policy formulation and implementation. It aims to foster cooperative federalism, promote evidence-based policymaking, encourage stakeholder participation, and provide a platform for strategic thinking and innovation. NITI Aayog's approach allows for greater adaptability, responsiveness, and efficiency in addressing India's developmental challenges.

6.5 NITI Aayog

NITI Aayog, short for the National Institution for Transforming India, is a policy think tank and a government institution in India. It was established on January 1, 2015, to replace the erstwhile Planning Commission. NITI Aayog functions as a catalyst for policy formulation, fostering cooperative federalism, and promoting sustainable and inclusive development. Here are the objectives, strategies, and notable achievements of NITI Aayog:

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Objectives:

Several objectives of NITI Aayog include fostering cooperative federalism, long-term strategic planning, policy innovations, knowledge sharing, monitoring and evaluation, engagement with stakeholders, visionary thinking and bottom-up approach, collaborative federalism, and others. NITI Aayog aims to promote cooperative federalism by facilitating and strengthening the collaboration between the central government and state governments in policy formulation, implementation, and monitoring. NITI Aayog focuses on formulating long-term development strategies, setting goals, and monitoring progress toward achieving sustainable and inclusive growth. It also strives to promote policy innovation, knowledge exchange, and best practices across various sectors to drive socio-economic development in India. NITI Aayog also plays a crucial role in monitoring and evaluating the implementation of government programs and initiatives, identifying bottlenecks, and suggesting corrective measures. NITI Aayog aims to engage with diverse stakeholders, including state governments, industry leaders, civil society organizations, and experts, to gather inputs, gather feedback, and foster partnerships for development.

Strategies:

The various strategies followed by NITI Aayog include visionary thinking, a bottom-up approach, data-driven policy making, and others. NITI Aayog focuses on formulating long-term strategic plans and policies that address India's developmental challenges and foster sustainable growth in various sectors. NITI Aayog encourages a bottom-up approach, emphasizing the active participation of states, local governments, and stakeholders in the planning and implementation process. It also promotes cooperative federalism by fostering dialogue, coordination, and cooperation between the central and state governments, aligning their efforts towards shared developmental goals. NITI Aayog emphasizes evidence-based policymaking by leveraging data and research to identify development gaps, evaluate performance, and guide decision-making. And it also promotes innovation and entrepreneurship by supporting startups, fostering a conducive business environment, and encouraging the adoption of new technologies.

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Achievements:

Several achievements of NITI Aayog are discussed here.: NITI Aayog launched the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) to promote innovation and entrepreneurship among students, researchers, and startups. It has established Atal Tinkering Labs in schools across the country, fostering a culture of innovation from a young age. NITI Aayog has also developed the Composite Water Management Index (CWMI) to assess and improve water resource management across states, promoting efficient water utilization and conservation. NITI Aayog has been instrumental in aligning India's development agenda with the United Nations' SDGs, monitoring progress, and recommending policies for achieving the targets.

NITI Aayog played a key role in implementing reforms to improve India's business environment, contributing to India's significant improvement in the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business rankings. NITI Aayog has initiated several programs to address gaps in healthcare and education, such as the National Nutrition Mission and the School Education Quality Index, to improve health outcomes and quality education.

It is important to note that NITI Aayog's work is ongoing, and its achievements are diverse and evolving. The institution continues to play a crucial role in policy formulation, strategic planning, and monitoring progress toward India's development goals.

6.6 Let Us Sum Up

- The planning commission of India was established in 1950 with the primary agenda of fostering economic development in the country.
- The idea of a five-year plan was first implemented by Joseph Stalin in the Soviet Union in 1928.
- Later in 2014, the planning commission was replaced by the national institution for transforming India Niti Aayog as a part of an effort to shift the focus from a centralized economy towards a more decentralized cooperative federal structure.
- A mixed economy combines elements of both capitalism and socialism, and it allows the public and private sectors to coexist in the economy.

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- The Five-Year Plans were introduced in India to promote economic development and achieve self-reliance. The country adopted the planned economic approach to foster growth and address prevalent socio-economic challenges.
- India has implemented 12 Five-Year Plans. The first Five-Year Plan began in 1951 and the twelfth ended in 2017. After that, India shifted its approach from Five-Year Plan to a three-year "Action Agenda" that is part of a broader 15-year vision for the country under the guidance of the National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog).
- The first five-year plan was presented by Jawaharlal Nehru -India's first Prime Minister and the plan period was between 1951 to 1956.
- The major achievements during that first five-year plan include the achievement of self-sufficiency in food grain production and the establishment of new industrial units that led to the increased industrial capacity of the nation and increased production.
- The second Five-Year Plan in India spanned from 1956 to 1961. This plan focused on rapid industrialization based on the Mahalanobis model that was intended towards achieving long-term growth
- The plan intended to increase agricultural productivity by modernizing and improving agricultural practices, increasing irrigation facilities, and enhancing productivity to ensure food security and reduce dependence on imports.
- The second five-year plan is also intended to reduce regional disparities, address social inequalities, and improve the standard of living, particularly in rural areas.
- The third Five-Year Plan in India was implemented from 1961 to 1966. It focused on industrialization with more emphasis on self-sufficiency.
- The plan emphasized the development of domestic industries to replace imports, promoting self-sufficiency and reducing foreign exchange outflows. It indirectly imported substitution industrialization (ISI).
- The fourth Five-Year Plan in India was not implemented as originally intended. The plan period was supposed to be from 1966 to 1971, but due to prevailing political and economic circumstances, it was interrupted.

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- The fourth five-year plan focused on expanding the Green Revolution initiatives, which involved the adoption of high-yielding crop varieties, expansion of irrigation facilities, and the use of modern agricultural practices to boost agricultural production.
- The fifth Five-Year Plan in India was implemented from 1974 to 1979. This plan emphasized poverty alleviation, self-reliance, and social justice.
- The plan aimed to eradicate poverty, reduce inequalities, provide more opportunities, and promote social justice through targeted interventions and inclusive growth.
- The plan also promoted the establishment of small-scale industries and village industries. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development was established during this plan. It also established Rural Electrification Corporation.
- The Sixth Five-Year Plan in India took place from 1980 to 1985. It was designed by the Indian government to accelerate economic development, strengthen the agricultural sector, reduce poverty, and improve the standard of living.
- Development in rural areas was evident through the implementation of Rural Employment Programs. Initiatives like Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) were launched to reduce poverty.
- The seventh five-year plan was between 1985-1990. It focussed on improving productivity and modernizing industries.
- The plan involved NGOs and voluntary organizations to implement various social and developmental programs effectively.
- The Eighth Five-Year Plan in India was a strategic economic plan that spanned from 1992 to 1997. This plan played a significant role in shaping the country's socio-economic policies and development during those years.
- The ninth Five-Year Plan in India was implemented from 1997 to 2002. The focus of this plan was human development, poverty alleviation, and infrastructure development.
- The 10th Five Year Plan (2002-2007) in India was developed by the Planning Commission, aiming to focus on important inclusive growth, social, economic, and political objectives to stimulate the country's overall growth and development.

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- The Eleventh Five-Year Plan was a planning document formulated by the Government of India under the Planning Commission to outline its vision for the country's development during the period 2007-2012.
- The twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-2017) in India is intended at achieving faster, inclusive, and sustainable growth while addressing all sectors of the Indian economy.
- Some of the drawbacks that led to the establishment of NITI Aayog included centralized planning, lack of flexibility, slow decision-making, lack of stakeholder involvement, fragmented implementation, and focus being on inputs rather than on outcomes.
- The five-year planning system in India was criticized for its centralized nature, where the Planning Commission played a dominant role in setting targets, allocating resources, and formulating policies.
- NITI Aayog was established to address these drawbacks and introduce a more decentralized, flexible, and inclusive approach to policy formulation and implementation. It aims to foster cooperative federalism, promote evidence-based policymaking, encourage stakeholder participation, and provide a platform for strategic thinking and innovation.
- NITI Aayog functions as a catalyst for policy formulation, fostering cooperative federalism, and promoting sustainable and inclusive development.
- NITI Aayog launched the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) to promote innovation and entrepreneurship among students, researchers, and startups. It has established Atal Tinkering Labs in schools across the country, fostering a culture of innovation from a young age.

6.7 Keywords

Five Year Plans, Industrialization, Agricultural Development, Infrastructure Development, Social Welfare, Poverty Alleviation, Education, Healthcare, Employment Generation, Rural Development, Urbanization, Public Sector, Private Sector, Investment, Economic Growth, Resource Allocation, Governance, Monitoring, and Evaluation

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6.8 Self-Assessment Questions

1. What are the objectives of the Five Year Plans in India?
2. What strategies are adopted in the Five Year Plans for development in India?
3. What are some of the achievements of the Five Year Plans in India?
4. What are the shortfalls or challenges faced in the implementation of the Five Year Plans in India?
5. How does economic planning contribute to the development of India?
6. How has industrialization been promoted through the Five Year Plans in India?
7. What measures have been taken for agricultural development in the Five Year Plans?
8. How has infrastructure development been addressed in the Five Year Plans in India?
9. What initiatives have been taken for social welfare and poverty alleviation in the Five Year Plans?
10. What efforts have been made to improve education and healthcare in the Five Year Plans?
11. How have the Five Year Plans contributed to employment generation in India?
12. What measures have been undertaken for rural development through the Five Year Plans?
13. How have the Five Year Plans addressed the challenges of urbanization in India?
14. How has the public sector been strengthened through the Five Year Plans?
15. What role does the private sector play in the Five Year Plans and development in India?
16. What strategies are adopted for investment promotion in the Five Year Plans in India?

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17. How has economic growth been achieved through the Five Year Plans?
18. How are resources allocated and utilized in the Five Year Plans?
19. What is the role of governance in the implementation of the Five Year Plans?
20. How are the progress and impact of the Five Year Plans monitored and evaluated?

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