

TEACHING MATERIAL ON

**RURAL SOCIOLOGY AND EDUCATIONAL
PSYCHOLOGY**



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Unit-I: Sociology and Rural sociology: Definition and scope, its significance in agriculture extension Social Ecology, Rural society,

No man is an island unto himself.

Concept of Sociology:

In the course of time, several intellectual discipline such as theology, history, political science, economics, psychology and ethics were developed to explain different aspects of human enterprises. **Auguste Comte**(1798 – 1857), who is known as the father of Sociology, recognized the absence of a general science that deals with society as whole. It was Comte's idea that if history, economics, political science, psychology and other subjects study different areas of social phenomena, there must be a general social science to deal with society as a whole and to examine the relationship among themselves. Comte also felt that there was no science yet to deal with such institutions as marriage, family and community as well as the numerous social structure and processes. Thus, there was a definite need to create a new discipline. Comte combined two terms 'socius', latin for society, 'logos', Greek for studying, and coined 'sociology' which literally means 'study of society'.

The etymological (based on the origin of the word) meaning of sociology is thus 'the science of society'. Sociology has been referred to as systematized knowledge in the study of human social relationships. The content or subject matter of sociology is not literary writing as is assured (thought) by many people. It is a detailed and systematic study of society. There are animal societies also but sociology studies only human societies. Human beings have progressed to a large extent and therefore, sociology is used for the systematic study of the human being in group relations. Sociology is concerned with people and without people or human beings there cannot be sociology, it cannot be in isolation as its main emphasis is on their relationship with other persons. They stay in groups and therefore the sociologists study people organized in families, friendship groups, temples, schools, industrial plants and in other organizations. The fundamental process in any society is interaction or social interaction. In short sociology studies the social behavior of people, their different social groups and the intra and interrelationship of these social groups. Sociology is the web or tissue of human interaction and interrelationship.

Founding Fathers of Sociology:- Auguste Comte(1798-1857),Karl Marx(1818-83),Herbert Spencer(1820-1903), Emile Durkheim(1858-1917) and Max Webber(1864-1920).

Basic consideration regarding sociology:

1. Sociology is a science, not social philosophy: Sociology studies how people do behave without trying to influence how they should behave.

Social philosophy ----- what should be

Sociology.....what is

2. Sociology is science, not socialism: Even though the two words are similar, but they are not connected one with another. One is science of study the human behavior in group, but, the other is a political and economic movement.

3. Sociology is science, not social reform or social welfare:

Sociologist--- i. Collects information

ii. Present facts

iii. Analyze social situation

iv. Give advice for action that may serve to facilitate achievement of objectives

Sociologists create knowledge base and social reformer utilize it.

4. Sociology is not social science; it is one of the social sciences: It is the youngest of the family and has several specializations such as rural sociology, industrial sociology and political sociology. Other social sciences are political sciences, economics, psychology and cultural anthropology. All these social sciences study man in various aspects of his life. No one field of social science can fully explain man. The social science together attempts to do this to the extent they are able.

5. Sociology is not based on general impressions and points of view derived from overall experiences in working with people.

Broad content of the field of sociology:

1. It is the study of man.
2. It is the scientific study of man.
3. It is the scientific study of man's behavior.
4. It is the study of man in relation to groups with whom he interacts.

Definitions Rural sociology is a **branch** of sociology. It is made up of two terms **rural** and **sociology** that is **science** of rural society. It is the study of the sociology of life in the rural environment, which systematically studies the rural communities to discover their conditions and tendencies and formulate the principles of progress as the term implies. It is limited to the study of various aspects of rural society.

Definition:

Different sociologists have defined Rural Sociology in different ways. The tone of these different thinkers varies but the whole essence is same.

“The prime objective of Rural Sociology should be to make a systematic, scientific and comprehensive study of the rural social organisation, of its structure function and objective tendencies of development and on the basis of such a study to discover the laws of its development. Since every science social or natural, has for its aim the discovery of the hitherto hidden laws of development of a domain of nature or society, the basic task of Rural Sociology, they unanimously declare, is to discover the law of development of Rural Society.”

A.R. Desai

“Such sociological facts and principles as one derived from the study of rural social relationship may be referred to as Rural Sociology.”

T.L. Smith

“The sociology of rural life, a study of rural population, rural social organisation and the social process.”

F. Stuart Chapin

“Rural sociology is the sociology of life in the rural environment”

Sanderson

From the above definitions, it is revealed that Rural Sociology deals with the study of rural environment, rural social facts and interactions, rural populations, rural social organisations, rural social processes etc. It studies the whole structure and functions of rural social organisation and institutions.

Scope of Rural Sociology:

Rural Sociology is comparatively a new branch of Sociology which is of recent origin. It is a separate science having its own subject matter and method of study. The scope of Rural Sociology refers to what it studies. To draw attention on the scope, N.L. Sims says, “The field of Rural Sociology is the study of association among people living by or immediately dependent upon agriculture. Open country and village groupings and groups behavior are its concern.”

According to Lowry Nelson, “The scope of Rural Sociology is the description and analysis of progress of various groups as they exist in the rural environment. In the words of Bertrand and his associates: “In its broadest definition Rural Sociology is the study of human relationship in rural environment.” On account of the opinions given by Sims, Nelson and

Bertrand, it is observed that the scope of Rural Sociology covers rural people, their livelihood and social relationship in rural environment.

It studies society from the rural standpoint. But its main aim is concentrated on rural lives. The subjects that are included within the scope are very comprehensive in nature and we can blindly say that its boundary is varying large. The scope of Rural Sociology may be clear from the analysis of the following subjects.

(1) Rural Society:

Rural Sociology, as is clear by the nomenclature, is the sociology of Rural Society. As sun is the centre of solar system, in Rural Sociology, Rural Society is the centre. Rural Sociology, basically studies Rural society, its nature and basic ingredients from the structural and functional standpoints. Its main aim is to study of rural social life. Rural social life covers the behavior patterns, web of relationship, social interactions, standard of living and socio-economic conditions of the rural people. The scope of Rural Sociology, therefore, expands where the boundary of Rural Society is expanded.

(2) Rural Population:

Rural population is the basic essence of Rural Sociology. It studies the nature, characteristics, size, density and distribution of rural population from different angles. Rural Sociology aims at the study of the factors of growth of population, its evil effects of Rural Society, rural – urban migration for the greater interest of the country at large.

(3) Rural Community:

Rural community is the oldest organisation of mankind. Rural Sociology, therefore, is mainly concerned with the divine origin, nature characteristics, social attributes and human ecology of rural community. It also studies the homogenous rigid and conservative nature of hither to existing customs, traditions, folkways, mores, norms, values and so on in rural community.

(4) Rural Social Organisation:

Social organisation is the most fundamental basis of every society as well as social life. The most important function of Rural Sociology, therefore, is to provide basic knowledge about rural social organization. Rural Social organisation covers the spiritual lives, religious activities sacred relationship and divine notion of rebirth, Karmaphala etc.

Of rural folk which deeply affect the entire rural social life. Rural sociology, thus, for the betterment of rural life, studies the future prospectus of rural social organisation and governing laws for its development.

(5) Rural Social Institution:

Rural social institutions as we mean, is recognised forms of procedure governing the relations between the rural people. Rural sociology, thus, studies the structure, characteristics and functions of rural social institutions. Rural social institutions include family, marriage, kinship, religion, caste and Rural Sociology studies the sociological importance of these institutions in the rural context.

(6) Rural Economy:

Rural economy is basically known as agricultural economy. Agriculture is the backbone of rural economic life. Rural people directly depend on agriculture for their livelihood. Rural Sociology therefore studies the factors responsible for the failure of agriculture and suggests various measures for the improvement of agriculture in rural areas.

Besides, the adoption of new agricultural technology among the farming centers, modernisation of old farming methods, creation of open markets and providing agricultural training to the farmers are the important areas of the study or Rural Society.

(7) Rural social Process:

Rural Sociology mainly studies the two process of rural social interaction, namely, conjunctive and disjunctive. Rural conjunctive process includes co-operation, accommodation and assimilation. Rural disjunctive process, on the other hand, includes competition and conflict. Thus, the nature, characteristics and social importance of these processes are to be properly studied by the scope of Rural Sociology.

(8) Rural Religion:

Rural Society is basically a religion oriented society. Religion is the soul of rural people and it is regarded as the chief essence of rural life. Religion, therefore, plays a vital role in Rural Society. Rural Sociology, in this context, and studies the concept and social importance of rural religion and its impact on Rural Society.

(9) Rural Culture:

Culture, as we mean, is that complex whole which includes knowledge, belief, moral law, art, custom and any other capabilities acquired by man as a member of society. Rural culture is strictly based on rigid and conservative dogmas and it is very static in nature. It includes old customs, tradition, folkways, mores, norms, values and so on. Rural Sociology studies the complexities of rural culture, its different structural organisations, cultural patterns, cultural traits and cultural lag in the rural contexts.

(10) Rural Social Problems:

Rural Society is a hell of social evils. It is basically called a hot bed of rural social problems. Its major problems are poverty, unemployment, population growth, illiteracy, casteism,

untouchability and so on. Rural Sociology, therefore, studies the causes and evil effects of these problems and also suggests measures for their eradication for the greater interests of the country at large.

(11) Rural Social Control:

Social control as we mean, is the control of society over individual. In Rural Society, social control is in formal and rigid in nature. Rural Sociology significantly studies the informal means and agencies such as religions, customs, folkways, mores, norms etc, of social control. In Rural Society, the important primary groups like family and neighborhood play a vital role in social control.

(12) Rural Social Change:

Social change is meant only such alterations as occur in social organisation, that is, structure and functions of society, Rural Society, now-a-days, is on the way of social change. Due to the impact of money modernising forces, Rural Society is undergoing tremendous changes in the twentieth century. For a better account of the speed of social change in Rural Society, Rural Sociology undertakes necessary steps. Rural Sociology also studies the various factors responsible for social changes in a systematic way.

(13) Rural Urban Contrast:

The study of Rural Society shall not be completed unless the study of rural urban contrast is done in a proper and scientific manner. Both village and city, hypothetically, are the two contrasting modes of community life. Rural Sociology studies the rural-urban contrast on the basis of social, economic, religious and cultural point of view. Besides, Rural Sociology also draws attention on the comparative study of these two societies. As a result, the concept of Rural Society and social institutions can be clear by this contrasting analysis.

(14) Rural Planning and Reconstruction:

Rural planning and reconstruction are very much essential for under developed societies. In this context, the poor and backward condition of Indian Rural Society needs rural planning and reconstruction in a systematic and planned manner. Rural Society is full of social problems. For the eradication of these problems and for the betterment of rural life, the proper planning and reconstruction should be made by the state as well Central Government.

A.R. Desai says, Rural Sociology studies all these subjects and provides proper guidelines in this direction.

It is evident from the above analysis that the scope or subject matter or Rural Sociology, no doubt is very vast. Though, it is the youngest and progressive science, yet it studies the various aspects of Rural Society as well as rural life to a great extent.

Importance of the study of Rural Sociology:

The importance of the study of rural sociology could be understood by its uses.

1. The study of rural sociology helps to understand the nature and role of rural social organizations like co-operatives, panchayas, youth clubs, self- help groups, etc. in the context of rural development. Consequently, the change agents could involve these social organizations effectively in achieving rural development.
2. The study of rural sociology is essential for framing effective policies or plans or programmes. The social plans or policies or programmes are the measures formulated and implemented for the betterment of rural people. The policy makers/planners can design effective rural development policies/ plans or programs only if they have adequate knowledge about different dimensions of rural life and this could be achieved only through the study of rural sociology.
3. The study of rural sociology helps to understand different dimensions of rural culture which influence actions, attitudes and decision-making of rural people. This helps change agents to evolve effective strategies to create favourable attitudes and right decision making among rural people towards acceptance and adoption of new technology.
4. Rural sociology helps in understanding different facets of rural leadership like qualities, functions, types, methods of locating leaders and their development functions. This helps change agents to get a comprehensive knowledge about rural leadership and thereby involve rural leaders in technology transfer or rural development process.
5. The study of rural sociology is helpful in understanding causes and consequences of rural social change. This helps change agents to understand the dynamics of rural life and thus, formulate strategies to increase positive changes to promote welfare of rural people.
6. The study of rural sociology helps in finding solutions to rural social problems. As the rural sociology generates scientific knowledge on causes and effects of rural social problems, the change agents could find suitable remedies to the social problems of rural society. This would contribute to the welfare of rural people.

Importance of Rural Sociology in Indian Context:

India is a country of villages, therefore, Rural Sociology is comparatively more important here than in any other country of the world. After independence, a systematic and scientific study of Rural Society has been felt necessary and urgent for rural reconstruction because, the real progress of the country lies in the progress of villages.

The Government of India, has launched various programmes like community development programme, co-operative movement etc for the improvement of villages. And Rural

Sociology provides scientific knowledge, Rural Sociology is gaining importance. The importance can be analysed in brief under following heads.

(1) Village is the life and blood of Indian Social Life:

Near about 80% of the population of India live in villages. So India is a classic land of villages. Villages are the centre of India culture. Dubey has rightly remarked that “from time immemorial village has been a basic and important unit in the organisation of Indian social life.” Desai has also proclaimed in the same vein that village is the unit of Rural Society.

It is the theatre where in the quantum of rural life unfolds itself and functions. Like every social phenomenon village is a historical category the principal pivot of the Indian society only till recently.

(2) Unique nature of transformation of Indian Society:

Due to historical reasons, Indian Rural Society has become a society of societies which means, Rural Society within its frame work includes different rural societies, hence reveals a diversified cultural pattern. A careful observer can find that all the elements of traditional and modern culture are juxtaposed in Indian rural life. This simultaneous operation of traditional and modern forces makes the Rural Society an interesting field of study.

A great transformation has also taken place in a peculiar way in Rural India. Such peculiar nature of transformation may be termed as ‘traditionalisation of modernity. For a proper analysis of Indian society the study of such peculiarities is highly necessary. Therefore, Rural Sociology becomes more important in India.

(3) Agriculture nexus of the country:

Agriculture is the Indian way of life. The most predominant mode of occupation in India is agriculture. Unless, the agriculture is modernised the country’s economy cannot make a steady progress. Through the study of Rural Sociology, we are able to know about the agricultural programmes involvement of the farmers with agriculture and other agricultural mechanisms for its improvement.

If the vast majority of the rural population has to be provided with minimum basic necessities of life, like food, clothing and housing, agriculture has to be improved. This can be done when we have adequate knowledge about agriculture, and Rural Society. Hence the importance of Rural Sociology in India can hardly be undermined.

(4) For Rural Development and Solution of Rural problems:

Rural India suffers from various social evils to changes the face of Rural Society; these evils have to be removed. Rural Sociology provides us knowledge about the study of rural problems and their solutions. When the problems of rural life are solved, the country can

make tremendous progress. Further, the country can be remodeled through rural reconstruction. Rural Sociology teaches us the various methods and programmes for rural reconstruction. Desai has rightly remarked that “this systematic study of rural social organisation, of its structure, function and evolution has not only become necessary but also urgent after advent of independence.”

(5) Growing influence of Industrialisation and Urbanisation:

Although the process of industrialisation and urbanisation are taking place at a Shail’s pace in India, but Rural Society is very much being influenced by it. The changes, due to such influences at one aspect without the corresponding change in the entire system, become dangerous for Rural Society. The study of such dangerous situations becomes necessary for the smooth progress of Rural Society.

(6) Village as basic unit of study:

Microscopic studies have become necessary to understand the complexities of modern society and its multifarious problems. Srinivas has remarked that “these studies constitute, therefore, valuable contributions towards social, political, economic and religious history of our country.” Village forms as the basic unit of study for any such macroscopic analysis. So knowledge about true nature and form of village life is of prior importance in the present context.

(7) Scientific study of village community as a prerequisite for democratic decentralisation:

Through the decentralisation of power, economy and administration, the country can make real progress in a genuine democratic way. Village Panchayat, Community Development programme and Co-operative Movement are real democratic apparatus for such decentralisation.

Rural Sociology provides us knowledge about the structure and functioning of this organisation. The programmes are the three main forces of social progress. Hence, Rural Sociology which studies the structure and functions of these organisations is definitely of greater importance.

Interrelationship between rural sociology and extension

Sl. No.	Rural Sociology	Extension
1.	It is a scientific study of the laws of the structure and development of	It is informal (actually non-formal) education for the rural people with a

	rural society.	view to develop rural society on desirable lines
2.	It studies the attitudes and behavior of rural people.	It seeks to modify or change for the better, the attitudes and behavior of village people
3.	It studies the needs and interests of rural society.	It helps rural people to discover their needs and problems and builds educational programs based on these needs and wants.

“The villagers have separate hearths and common home.”

Mandelbaum

Concept of Society

The simplest definition of **society** is a group of people who share a defined territory and a culture. In sociology, we take that definition a little further by arguing that society is also the social structure and interactions of that group of people. Social structure is the relatively enduring patterns of behavior and relationships within a society. Thus, a society is not only the group of people and their culture, but the relationships between the people and the institutions within that group.

Also

Society is defined as a group of people in more or less permanent association who are organized for their collective activities and who feel that they belong together.

Differences between rural and urban societies

Rural people are different from those living in urban areas. These differences are mainly due to the environment and its consequent impact on the lives of the people-

Item of comparison	Rural community	Urban community
General environment and orientation to nature	Closely associated with nature. Direct effect of natural elements like rains, drought, heat, etc, on their lives.	Remote from nature. Predominance of man-made environment.
Occupation	Major occupation is farming. Non-agricultural occupations are	Most of the jobs are non-agricultural and specialized.

Item of comparison	Rural community	Urban community
	secondary in importance.	
Working conditions	Being agriculture work in open air.	Work in closed environment. Greater isolation from nature. Poor fresh air.
Family	Works as a unit. More unity or integrity and more contacts between members.	Work in different occupations and contact is less between members.
Density of population	Low density of population	High density of population
Material possession	Less	Different types and more
Homogeneity and heterogeneity	More homogeneous. Similarity in social and psychological characteristics in the population. Such as beliefs, language etc.	More heterogeneous. Wide variety of interests, occupations, languages etc.
Social institutions	Most of the institutions are a natural outgrowth of rural social life. Less of enacted (approved or created) institutions.	Numerous enacted institutions
Social stratification and differentiation	Less among groups and low degree of differentiation. Gap between higher and lower classes is less.	Different types of groups like professional, occupational etc, and high degree of differentiation. Gap between the higher and lower classes is more.
Hierarchy	Less in number e.g. lower, middle and upper classes.	More in number e.g. upper-upper, upper-middle, upper-lower, middle upper and so on
Social contacts and type	Less number, social interaction is narrow. Primary contacts are more predominant. Personal and relatively durable relations. Man is interacted as	Large number, social interaction is wider. Secondary contacts are predominant. Impersonal,

Item of comparison	Rural community	Urban community
	a human.	casual and short-lived relations. Man is interacted as number and address
Social mobility	Occupational and territorial mobility is less intensive. Normally the migration current carries more individuals from countryside to the cities.	Occupational and territorial mobility is found more intensive. Urbanity and social mobility are positively correlated. Only in the period of social crises migration is from cities to countryside.
Social control	Informal control i.e. more related to the values and traditions of the society.	Formal control i.e. legally.
Social change	Rural life is relatively static and stable.	Urban social life is under constant social change.
Social solidarity (unity)	Strong sense of belonging and unity due to common objectives, similarities and personal relationships	Comparatively less sense of belonging and unity due to dissimilarities and impersonal kinds of relationships
Standard of living	Low standard of living,	High standard of living
Educational facilities	Less	More
Economy	Subsistence	Cash
Communication	Less transport facilities, bad roads <i>etc</i>	Many transport facilities, better roads, communication <i>etc.</i>
Society	A simple, uni-group society	A complex, multi-group society
Culture	Sacred	Secular (all religions are equal)

Unit-II: Social Groups

Concept of Social group

Social structure is composed of groups. Organizations, institutions, community etc, are the forms of human associations. Society functions through different forms of human beings to fulfil needs and purposes. Man functions in society through different forms of groups. Man is born in a social group and his first association is with his mother. He associates with groups in some way or other. Individual nowhere lives in isolation. This tendency to unite in groups is one of the important characteristics of human beings. Social groups are the units out of which society is constructed. Study of group is of primary importance in the study of society and also important as a part of the total structure of society. Group is a medium through which we learn culture. The process of socialization takes place in groups.

Examples of social groups are family, youth club, panchayat, political party, etc.

Definition of Social group

“Social group is a collection of people, two or more, who are brought into social relationships with one another” – MacIver.

“A social group is a collection of individuals, two or more, interacting on each other, who have common objects of attention and participate in similar activities.” – Eldredge and Merrill.

According to Chitambar a social group is a unit of two or more people in reciprocal (to and fro) interaction and in communication with each other.

According to Sharif and Sharif, a social group is a collection of two or more individuals in which there are psychological interactions and reciprocal roles based upon durable contacts, shared norms, interests, distinctive pattern of collective behavior and structural organization of leadership and followership.

Elements of Social Group

1. Social unit
2. Psychological interactions and reciprocal roles
3. Durable contacts
4. Distinctive pattern of collective behavior
5. Sharing of norms and interests
6. Pattern of leadership and followership

Factors Considered in Formation of Social Groups

The important factors considered in the formation of groups are:

1. Occupation: Farmers' association, Teachers' association, etc.

2. Caste: Dalits' association, Brahmins' association, etc.
3. Religion: Hindus' association, Christians' association, etc.
4. Region: Jharkhand Morcha, Telugu Desham, Assam Gana Parishat, etc.
5. Race: Whites, Negroes, etc
6. Income: Upper class, middle class, lower class.
7. Common interest: School, Recreational clubs, etc.

Classification of Social group

1. According to the Degree of Organization.
2. According to the Nature of the Interaction.
3. According to the Nature of Membership.
4. According to the Size of the Group.
5. According to the Territorial Limitations.
6. According to the Profession of Occupation.
7. Classification According to Duration.
8. Classification Based on Social Class.
9. Classification Based on Personal Feeling of Belonging.
10. Classification Based on the Type and Quality of Relationship.

Classification of Social Groups - According to the Degree of Organization

A well-organized group has well defined objectives. The functioning of such groups is governed by number of rules and regulations, which govern the functioning of such groups. According to this criterion a group can be classified into two types.

a) Formal Groups:

These groups have more rules and regulations to govern their functioning. The relationship of the members is governed by these rules. These groups are generally large in size and the members have many restrictions e.g. College, Government Departments, Army etc.

b) Informal Groups:

In those types of groups there are no much formalities, rules and regulations. The degree of organization is less in the sense that the members have not be undergo confinements and strict limitations for behavior and actions. The members have many liberties and very less control as exists in Friendship group. Gossip group and family group etc.

Classification of Social Groups - According to the Nature of the Interaction/relationship

In this classification the nature of the interaction or the relationship between the members of the group is taken into consideration. According to this criteria the groups can be classed into-

Primary Group	Secondary group
Small in size, often less than 20 to 30 persons	Large in size
Personal and intimate relationships among members are there	Impersonal and aloof(distant) relationships among members
Face to face association is there between the members	Less face to face contact
Permanency is there and members are together over a long period of time	Temporary in nature. Members spend relatively little time together
Members are well acquainted and have a strong sense of loyalty or 'we' feeling and a strong amount of group pressure is present	Members are not well acquainted and anonymity prevails
Informality is most common i.e. group does not have any name, officers etc	Formality prevails i.e. group often has a name, officers and a regular meeting place
Group decisions are more traditional and non rational	Group decisions are more rational and the emphasis is on efficiency
E.g. family, friendship group, play group etc	E.g. political groups, labour unions, trade unions, employees associations etc

Classification of Social Groups - According to the Nature of Membership

Here nature or type of membership is taken into consideration e.g. whether the membership is optional or voluntary or compulsory. This depends upon the mode of entrance to the members. The members limit themselves to their own interest.

a) Voluntary Groups:

In these type of groups, the membership is voluntary and members have no compulsion to participate in the activity of the group. The withdrawal from such groups is also on voluntary basis. E.g. Gossip groups, friendship group, youth organization, and library.

b) Non-voluntary Groups:

In these types of groups membership is compulsory and members have no choice. Social conversions and traditions rather than personal choice determine the relationship as observed in a family. Every one borne in a family has to function as a member of a family by compulsion E.g. Caste group, National group, Religion group, Sex group, Age groups etc

Classification of Social Groups - According to the Size of the Group

Here number of number in the group is taken into consideration. According to these criteria groups can be classified as:

a) Small Groups and

b) Big Groups/large.

a) Small Groups:

Member in this type is considerably less. Each member can identify each other and can establish close or direct relationship. In such groups feeling of co-operation and sympathy can be achieved individually. Size is limited e.g. family, Sport Club, Bhajani Mandal etc.

b) Big Groups:

This type of group is bigger in size. Number of members in a group is considerably large. i.e. 61 to 1000 e.g. University, Army etc. In larger group relationship is not direct and involves in to association.

Classification of Social Groups - According to the Territorial Limitations

Here the limit territory in which the group is functioning is taken into consideration. These groups work in defined territorial limits and they have fixed boundary.

a) Natural Territorial Group:

These are the groups where territorial limits have been fixed by nature. Those groups are formulated by their natural similarities and boundaries. Their boundaries and limits are fixed by geographic and climatic situations. E.g. Region.

b) Artificial Territorial Group:

Here the territory is fixed artificially by man on functional basis e.g. Village, Taluka, District, State etc.

c) Non- Territorial Groups:

Here the natural and artificial territorial limits do not play any part. This group has a common functioning in all most all parts of the world and they do not take into consideration any limitation of other types e.g. UNO, FAO, Red Cross, International Trade Unions etc.

Classification of Social Groups - According to the Profession of Occupation

These groups are formulated on the basis of the professional or the occupations of the members e.g. Religious, Educational Groups, Political Groups, Artisans etc.

Classification of Social Groups - According to Duration

The stabilized and relatively unorganized or short duration group can be of two types:

1. Permanent and

2. Temporary

1. Permanent:

The members remain together for great length of time and aware of the objective of the group. There are formalities and defined roles to play. The members are tied together by potential ties and formulates. The groups as a whole has permanent existence e.g. Family, Government Department etc.

2. Temporary:

Temporary groups are the mere collections of physical bodies and congregate in casual way on the street or on the stations. The size of such group is indefinite and they are unorganized. They do not remain together for great length of time. It has no division of labor and no system of statutes. The participants are all on one level because their attention is focused on one thing and interaction is uncontrolled. The individual as a member of the group is more aware of himself and his own interests and less aware of the group interests e.g. Crowd, Audience, and Mob.

Classification of Social Groups - Based on Social Class

People carry on their group relations with others influenced by class structure. Accordingly groups are classified into two types:

1. Horizontal Groups

2. Vertical Groups.

1. Horizontal Groups:

These groups often organize themselves of a personal from the same level of society. The persons are alike in the status or position in the class system of society. Farmers, blacksmith, carpenter would be the members of their respective occupations belong to a horizontal group.

2. Vertical Groups:

Vertical groups are those groups that are composed of members from different social strata. Its membership cuts vertically across the horizontal groupings in society e.g. political parties. The persons of different classes (i.e. lower and upper)

Classification of Social Groups - Based on Personal Feeling of Belonging

According to this criteria the group has been classified into

1. In-group and

2. Out-group.

1. In-group:

In group is a group either primary or secondary towards which persons have a solidarity, loyalty, friendliness and co-operation. Such groups are characterized by the expressions "We belong, we believe, we feel, we act or my family my neighborhood, my club, my association.

In-group attitude contra constrains some elements of sympathy and sense of attachment or obligation to the other members of our group.

2. Out-group:

An out group is defined by the individual with relation to the in-group usually expressed in the contrast between them and us. Every group is conscious that other groups are those to which we do not belong or not with us. We are democrats. They are Communist, we are Hindus, we are Muslims, we are Brahmins, and they are Harijans. A person has no sense of loyalty, sympathy, co-operation while they have sense of indifference even antagonism to the members of out-groups.

work together in close relationship to promote their parties interest.

Classification of Social Groups - Based on the Type and Quality of Relationship

Similar to the concept of primary and secondary groups, the group has been classified into:

1. Gemeinschaft Group

2. Gesellschaft Group

1. Gemeinschaft Group:

Here is the society which most relationship are traditional or personal or after both e.g. Zamindar system in India. In which landlords had his tenants who were personally known to him and who had obligation for their welfare and to whom tenants fulfilled certain obligations. In such groups written documents or contracts were not present while traditional pattern existed and was accepted by society.

2. Gesellschaft Group:

It is a society in which neither personal attachment nor important or traditional rights obligations and duties. Relationships are based on bargaining and clearly defined agreement. This society flourishes in urban area and business organizations or associations of whole salers.

Short Note

Reference Groups

Reference Group may be defined as a group with which the individuals feel identified, the norms and objectives of which he accepts. A reference group may therefore by any group primary formal, horizontal or otherwise and strongly influences the behavior of an individual. A family neighborhood reference group may influence a farmer to accept or reject an adoption of improved farm practice. Individual assumes his point of view and attitudes toward various aspect of life. Individual may not be a member of his reference group but he

identify with a reference group and aspire to be a member. A member of lower social class may have higher class group as his reference group, identify with it and aspire to be a member of it.

