

Social change subject

First lecture

Instructor : Dalal Mohammed

" The concepts of social change"

Introduction:

Change is a very broad concept. Though change is all around us, we do not refer to all of it as social change. Thus, physical growth of a person from year to year or change of seasons does not fall under the concept of social change. Here we look at social change as alterations that occur in the social structure and social relationships.

Meaning of Social Change:

Social change refers to an alteration in the social structure of a social group or society which, according to, International Encyclopaedia of Social Science (IESS) are the change in the nature, social institutions, social behaviours or social relations of a society.

The alteration may occur in norms, values, cultural products and symbols in a society. This alteration in the structure and function of a social system, institutions and patterns of interaction, work, leisure activities, roles and other aspects of society can be altered over the time as a result of the process of social change.

Social change is a process of alteration with no reference to the quality of change. and changes in society are related to changes in culture. For instance, growth of modern technology as part of the culture has been closely associated with alterations in the economic structures on important part of the society. Social change can vary in its scope and in speed.

We can talk of small scale or large scale changes. As change varies in scope, it influences many aspects of a society and disrupt the whole social system.

The process of industrialisation affected many aspects of society. some changes occur rapidly but developing nations are trying to do it more quickly. They do this by borrowing or adapting from those nations which have already achieved it.

Today, anthropologists assume that change is natural, inevitable, ever present in every part of life for every society. When we are looking at social change, we are focussing not in changes in the experiences of an individual, but on variations in social structures, institutions and social relationships.

The concept of social change is central to the social sciences and ,in particular to sociology ,the work of many of the pioneers of sociology ,including the central triumvirate (Emile Durkheim 1858-1917),(Max Weber 1864-1920),and (Karl Marx 1818-1883),involves a sustained reflection upon the changes ,they believed that they were witnessing in their societies and the new social forms they saw emerging organic solidarity, modernity, bureaucracy, and industrial capitalisim .

The questions :-

- 1-There are many concepts of social change,explain that.(mention one concept).
 - 2- Focussing the light on the concept of social change according to International Encyclopaedia of social sciences(IESS).
 - 3-Did the process of industrialisation affected many aspects of society ? discuss that.
 - 4- what are the Anthropologist assume of social change ? with mention to the new forms emerging in their societies.
 - 5-The concept of social change is central to the social sciences and,in particular to sociology ,explain that.
 - 6- who are the central triumvirate pioneers of sociology ?
-

Fill the blanks:-

- 1- Change is a very **broad** concept.
 - 2- **Physical growth of a person** and **change of seasons** does not fall under the concept of social change.
 - 3- Social change refers to **an alteration in the social structure of a social group or society**.
 - 4- The alteration may occur in **norms, values, cultural products** and **symbols** in a society.
 - 5- The changes in society are related to changes in **culture**.
 - 6- Social change can vary in its **scope** and in **speed**.
 - 7- The process of **industrialisation** affected many aspects of society.
 - 8- Anthropologists assumed that change is **natural, inevitable**, ever **present** in every part of life for every society.
 - 9- The concept of social change is **central** to the social sciences and , in particular to **sociology**.
 - 10- The central triumvirate of pioneers of sociology are: **(Emile Durkheim 1858-1917), (Max Weber 1864-1920), and (Karl Marx 1818-1883)** .
 - 11- The pioneers of sociology saw new social forms emerging in their societies such as: **organic solidarity, modernity, bureaucracy, and industrial capitalisim**
-