

7. Social Change And Social Control

Social Change—Meaning, Characteristics, Types, Causes and Effect

Change is eternal and inevitable law of nature. Whether we like it or not, the process of change continues to go on in society. No society in the world is untouched by change. Society is a system always in flux.

Accepting this eternal nature of change Mac Iver writes, “Society is volatile and dynamic.”

Thus we can say that change is an inevitable process. Every object in this world is volatile. There is continuous change even in physical objects and other natural creations. Therefore, man made heritage of culture, that is human society, is quite natural.

What is change ?

The variation occurring according to circumstances in any object, organisation or form of structure is called change. Change is a process under which any object, organisation or structure changes with passage of time. Clarifying change, Fitcher writes, “Change is defined briefly as a variation from a previous state or mode of existence.”

Change is related mainly with three aspects—

1. Object 2. Time 3. Variation

Differences which appear in any object during two given points of time, is called change.

Meaning Of Social Change

As Sociology is the study of society, hence change which occur in society will be called social change.

We have studied that society is a changing system. If we see the development journey of human society it is clear that man loves change.

Social change has remained an important subject in the scope of sociology, from the beginning till date.

First of all in 1922, W.F. Ogburn in his book ‘Social Change’ highlighted the importance of social evolution, social change and importance of material and non-material cultures in change. It was Ogburn who clarified the differences found in them. Later,

different sociologists have defined social change in different ways.

MacIver and Page in their book ‘Society’ have analysed social change as change in social relationships. According to them society in itself, is a “web of social relationships”. Hence changes taking place in these relationships may be called social change.

In the words of MacIver and Page, “....our direct concern as sociologist is with social relationships. It is the change in these relationships which alone we shall regard as social change.”

Both of these scholars in their definitions have deeply emphasised upon social relationships.

Kingsley Davis has considered social organisation the base of social change. Davis has explained social change in the form of structural and functional aspect. Different elements of social structure e.g. group, association, institution and members have their separate functions. When there is change in different elements and their functions then it is called social change. In the words of Kingsley Davis, “By social change is meant only such alterations as occur in social organisation, that is the structure and functions of society.”

Gillin and Gillin have explained social change on cultural ground. In their words, “Social changes are variations from the accepted modes of life, whether due to alteration in geographical conditions, in cultural equipments, composition of the population or ideologies and whether brought about by diffusion or inventions within the group.”

Gillin and Gillin have analysed social change from cultural perspective. At the same time they have analysed other factors of change e.g. geographical factors, demographic and technological factors.

This is clear from above mentioned definitions that social change is associated with change in folkways, customs, values, beliefs, social relationships, behaviours, procedure, structure and functions, social organisation etc..

In brief social change is—

1. changes taking place in structure and functions of society
2. changes taking place in social relationships
3. changes taking place in life style, customs—ways of life, traditions, values and beliefs of people.

Characteristics of Social change

Wilbert Moore in his book “social Change” has mentioned the following characteristics of social change in the context of modern societies—

1. Social change is an essential rule. This does not mean that all elements of social structure should change, but there is definitely some change in one element or the other of social structure.
2. Change is more visible in modern societies than in comparison to old societies.
3. Though, change takes place in every aspect of life, but in comparison to thoughts and institutions, its pace is more in material objects.
4. Our thoughts and social structure are affected by the changes, which are natural and at normal speed .
5. One can feel only about social change, but nothing can be definitely said about it.
6. Social change is qualitative.
7. In modern societies, social change through social planning can be controlled and made active in the direction of achieving desired goals.

These are the important characteristics of social change—

1. Social change is a universal process—

There is no society in human history, which has not passed through the phase of social change. No society has the characteristics of completely being static and stable. Social change is a global and universal phenomenon. Though, the pace of change may vary in different societies, but change does take place in every society. The pace of change in primitive societies is slow, in comparison to modern societies.

2. Social change is inevitable and natural—

Social change is inevitable in every society. It is a natural process. Human society aspires for progress and for progress there should be change in

established norms. Many times these changes face resistance, but it cannot be stopped. Sometimes these changes are brought about in a planned way and sometimes they emerge themselves.

3. The nature of social change is social—

The relation of social change is not with the changes occurring in any particular individual, group, institution, caste, race, and association. Social change is related to the changes occurring in entire community and society.

The nature of social change is social and not individual. Hence, changes taking place in entire society may be called social change.

4. We cannot predict about social change—

It is difficult to make prediction regarding social change. Nothing can be definitely predicted about when, and what change will take place in society due to impact of education. It is also difficult to predict that in future, what kind of changes will occur in beliefs, values, thoughts, ideals, customs and traditions, culture etc. of the people.

The existence of caste system will remain in future or not, inter caste marriages will increase or not, etc. changes can only be pre-assumed and not definitely predicted.

5. Social change is a complex fact—It is difficult to measure the changes taking place in society, because they are related to qualitative changes. We can not measure changes taking place in different aspects of culture, social values, institutions, thoughts and behaviour, through the language of meter, quintal or kilogram. Hence, social change is a complex matter.

6. The pace of social change is unequal and comparative—Though, social change is found in all societies, but its pace may vary in different societies. The pace of changes comparatively vary, in cities in comparison to rural societies, in modern societies in comparison to aboriginal societies, in western societies in comparison to eastern societies.

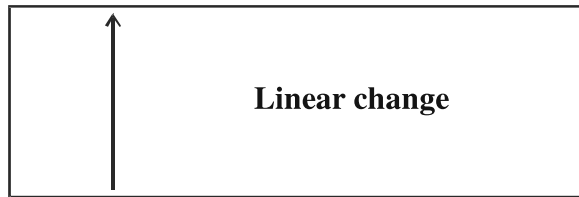
The reason of unequal pace of change is that in every society causes of bringing change are different. We can assume the pace of change by comparing different societies.

On this basis we can say that pace of change is more fast in cities, in comparison to villages.

Different Patterns or Types of Social Change

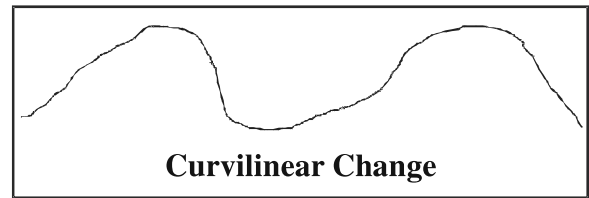
1. Linear change (First Pattern)
2. Up—down change (second pattern)
- 3 Cyclical or wave-like change (Third Pattern)

1. Linear change (First Pattern)—This is the form of social change which shows a sequence of social changes. This kind of change continuously moves in one direction, though the beginning of this change can be sudden. The changes which emerge due to inventions, are called linear change. Whenever there is a new invention in society, then sudden change takes place in society and alongwith this, a new sequence of forthcoming changes emerge. As there is corrections in inventions from time to time, so hte sequence of change moves forward continuously. We all are familiar with the invention of television. First of all, black and white T.V. came, then coloured T.V., then LCD T.V. and then latest LED T.V. was invented. As in this pattern of social change, change continuously occurs in one direction, therefore, this is called linear change.



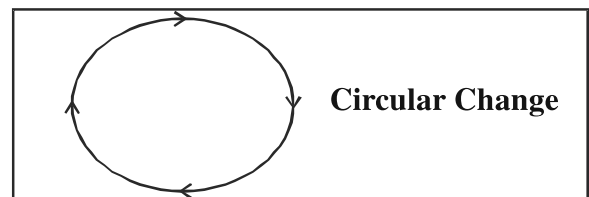
Linear change may also be observed in the means of transport. when wheel was invented, first of all bullock cart, then ekka or tanga, cycle, car, bus, train, aeroplane etc., many means of transport were developed.

2. Curvilinear Change (Second Pattern)—Under this kind of social change, instead of moving continuously in one direction, change first goes up and then down. this is called up—down or curvilinear change. In the field of population this kind of ups and downs can be observed. Similarly, in cultural field Indians first continuously moved towards spiritualism, but now they are moving fast towards materialism. Similarly we can see economic and trade activities as emerging, developing and declining. In this pattern of change the direction of change is not fixed. social change will take place in which direction this becomes difficult to predict.



3. Circular Change (Third Pattern)—The third type of change is also known as wave like change. This kind of change goes through a cycle. In the season-cycle we see that a cycle of winter, summer, and rain goes on. In the life of humans this cycle goes on in the form of childhood, adolescence, old age and death. This kind of change is always in a flux. Sometimes like a wave it goes up and down, and sometimes like tides of sea it comes and goes. As there is no end or decay of the waves of sea, similarly changes take place one after another in a circular change.

For understanding circular change we can take the example of “Fashion World”. In the world of fashion, new fashions continue to come like waves or ripples, and after every fashion, some new change takes place. Cultural movements, decorations, ornaments, social values, customs, mores etc. are the examples of this kind of change.



Although scholars today do not accept completely the matter of circular change. The reason behind this is that circular means, we reach at the same point from where we had started. But this is not possible because we never reach at the same position. We accept that position only after some corrections or changes.

Causes and Effects of Social Change

Following are the causes of social change—

1. Natural or Geographical Factor
2. Demographic Factor
4. Technological Factor
5. Economic Factor

1. Natural or Geographical Factor—Nature is always in a flux. Nature consists of forest,

mountain, sky, moon—stars, rivers, falls, weather, sea, earthquake, flood, drought, no rain, excess rain etc. All these together create natural environment.

These natural forces play important role in bringing social change. Man has always tried to overcome nature, but he has been incapable of achieving complete success in this. Many social changes take place due to natural causes. It means nature compels society for change. For example whenever there is flood, earthquake, or no rain then, many families get ruined and their relationships get disturbed. These people meet new people and make new relationships. This brings change in institutions like marriage, family and kinship. Due to earthquake in Kutch in Gujrat and Tsunami waves in Tamilnadu, thousands of families became homeless. Many children became orphans and women became widows. People were compelled to move to new places in search of accomodation. This brought them into contact with new people and new relationships developed.

Julian Huxley is of the opinion, that climate and land are deeply associated with human relationships. Natural and Geographical factors affect our health, mental and physical capabilities, culture and civilisation, food habits, mode of life, clothes, fashion, food, architecture, and economic, social, religious, and political structure.

Geographical mobility grows due to natural calamities. As a result, people move from one place to another, and adopt the culture of that place.

2. Demographic Factor—Without population no society can be imagined. Demographic factors play important role in bringing social change. When the demographic structure of any country changes, which include population size, birth-rate, death-rate, immigration-emigration, sex-ratio, different age-groups ratio etc., then, it's social structure, social organisation and economy is also affected.

If birth-rate increases and death-rate decreases then population growth takes place. With increase in population, poverty and unemployment grows in society. Poverty gives birth to conflict and tension in society. In this regard, Malthus in his book "Essays on Population" has given his opinion that, there is geometrical increase (1, 2, 4, 8, 16.....) in population

whereas agricultural products increase airthmetically (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.....). thus, population growth rate is always higher than food grains growth rate. Therefore, in search of employment, people go to cities from villages. This increases population in cities. Due to change in residence, people of different religions, values, opinions, families, races come in close contact with each other. This generates cultural-exchanges among different cultures. Thus social change takes place.

Due to lack of better health facilities, death-rate increases. As a result, there is lack of experienced and skilled people in the country. Different government policies of the country get affected by demographic factors. For example, due to miserable condition of declining sex-ratio in India, ban has been imposed on sex-determination test. This has decreased crimes such as female foeticide.

3. Cultural Factor—Cultural factors have special importance in social change. The imagination of a society without culture is futile. Social life cannot be separated from cultural life.

Ideals, beliefs, religion, customs, institutions, mores, etc., which are part of culture, reflect our cultural life. Without them there can be neither any social interaction nor can any relationship be established. Cultural factors also affect the change in structure and organisation of society. It's impact can be clearly seen on Indian caste system and whole social life.

According to the opinion of Max Weber, with the change in cultural values not only society and culture changes, but economy changes too. He has explained the role of protestant ethics in the growth of capitalist economy in western countries. Max Weber has established a very deep relationship between religion and economic life.

It is cultural factors that determine the form and speed of technological development. Because technological development depends upon values, ideals, beliefs, traditions, and customs found in the culture of any society. American Sociologist Ogburn has explained the role of cultural factors in social change, on the basis of cultural lag. According to him there is imbalance in culture when non-material aspect of culture lags behind from it's material aspect.

This is called cultural lag or cultural backwardness. Due to this situation there are many changes in society.

4. Technological Factor—It is the most important factor of social change. Technology is the knowledge associated with those instruments, machines and tools, which man uses for fulfilling his necessities. No society in the world is untouched with technological knowledge. Man has made life comfortable through the medium of technological knowledge. Marx has given the opinion that as a result of change in technology, there is change in society. Man has developed different technological knowledge since the era of aboriginal society till modern society. Due to technology new factories open, which promote, urbanisation, increase in nuclear families and freedom of women. Due to technological factors there is increase in social mobility. This has promoted growth of means of communication and transport.

According to MacIver and Page, invention of any new machine gives birth to changes in social life. Before industrialisation, the life of rural communities was self—dependent, and the area of social relationships was limited. There were revolutionary changes due to the growth of new technology. Vast changes have taken place in different social institutions, like caste, marriage, family, religion, tradition etc., which were difficult to assume. Due to the requirement of factories and machines for production and technological development, the process of division of labour and specialisation was augmented.

Therefore, we can say that technology is the important factor of social change.

5. Economic Factor—As human body is constituted of different organs similarly economic structure consists of consumption, distribution, exchange and economic policies etc. As there is change in economic structure, change takes place in social institutions, social systems and social organisations too. As a result of industrialisation and urbanisation, there is disintegration in joint family system, relaxation in restrictions of caste system took place, spread of women education took place, inter

caste marriages were promoted, women got different opportunities for employment, mobility of population has increased. Due to this, change has taken place in different institutions of society.

Karl Marx, too, has elaborated the importance of economic factors in social change. In the words of Marx, “Changes in society are not accidental, but, like the changes occurring in external nature, they are guided by some specific rules.”

Marx in his theories has given importance to economic factors, therefore his theory is termed as economic deterministic theory. According to him, in the formation of different social, economic, cultural, and moral institutions, economic elements e.g. production and distribution processes make important contribution. In production process there has been existence of two type of classes. They are capitalist and labour. There has always been conflict among these two classes. As a result, there is emergence of new social order. On this basis only, Marx has discussed social change in history.

The impact of economic factors can also be observed on political system. Law, constitution rules etc. of any state are inspired by economic factors to great extent. State does consider the requirements of its people while framing laws and plans.

Low economic condition and desire for high living standard compel individuals to commit crimes. William Bonjer and Foren Sary DiVarsi, in their study have found that majority of criminals have committed crimes due to poverty and low economic status. Thus, as conclusion, it can be said that distribution of property, living standard, life style, production, trade, class struggle etc. depend upon economic aspects of society.

In conclusion, this can be said that, social changes taking place in any society are affected by geographical, demographic, technological, economic, and cultural factors. All these factors influence each other too. It is due to different factors of change, that changes take place in social, cultural, familial, economic, political, and religious life of individuals. Change has been found in all societies and in all eras. It is an essential fact of human life in which continuity is found.

Social Control : Meaning, Characteristics, Types and Instruments

Social control is an important concept of Sociology. The behaviour of members of society is controlled for maintaining balance and order in society. To save society from disorder and maintain its existence in future, society frames some social rules. Every society expects from its members that they will follow these rules. The society also expects that members of group will follow their culture and behave according to its behaviour pattern, customs, values, ideals, traditions, and law. This will help in maintaining stability and order in society. But some selfish, anarchist and conflict oriented elements try to spread disorder in society. To check them social control is essential.

To compel people to behave according to the accepted rules of the group, is called social control. It was E.A. Ross, the American Sociologist, who in 1901, first of all propounded the concept of social control in a systematic way. Since then social control in Sociology as an important subject, has been popular.

According to Ross, “By social control is meant all those forces, through which individuals are moulded according to the expectations of community.” In words of P.H. Landis, “social control is a process through which social system is established and maintained.” Parsons in his book ‘Social System’ has defined social control and says, “Social Control is that general process through which difference between expected and actual behaviour is minimised.”

According to him, “To nip the deviant tendencies in the bud is social control.” This is clear from these definitions, that it is the social control which can maintain unity and order in society. It is social control due to which, people in society, behave according to social norms and follow social rules. Social control brings uniformity in the behaviour of people in society.

- **Characteristics of social control**—Social control compels people of society to behave according to social patterns. It is the social norms, which control the behaviour of people of society.

- It is through social control that integrity and uniformity is brought in society. People are taught to behave according to the social rules of the society.
- Through social control uniformity and stability is established in social relationships.
- It is through social control, that tension and conflict in society is decreased and efforts are made to enhance cooperation.
- To control the behaviour and conduct of people, definite means and methods are used in social control.
- Social control operates on three levels. These are : control of group over group, control of group over individuals and control of individuals over individuals.
- Disintegrating tendencies are controlled through social control.
- In social control, reward and punishment, both these methods are applied.

Types of Social Control—In all societies, to maintain order and balance, social control is essential. But in each society, the nature of social relationships, social conditions and individual behaviours are found to be different. Due to this, forms or types of social control also change. Differences are found in the interests, thoughts, and aims of the members of society. At the same time there are different kind of societies, e.g. rural and urban, traditional, closed and open, democratic and autocratic etc. in which, behaviour of people cannot be regulated through a single kind of social control. Therefore Sociologists have mentioned different forms and types of control.

Positive and Negative Social Control—Kimbal Young has mentioned about positive and negative form of social control. That form of social control, in which, the behaviour of people is controlled through suggestion, request, education and reward, is called positive social control. In positive social control, an individual is inspired to behave in accordance with social norms, by rewarding him. This control is done through family, friends, and educational institutions. Under negative social control there is provision of activities. In this people conducting anti social and abnormal behaviour are

punished. Punishment, penalty, ridiculing, boycott, jail etc. are the means of negative control.

Conscious and Unconscious Control—

American Sociologist C.H. Cooley has mentioned about conscious and unconscious form of social control. According to him, human behaviour can be divided into two parts—conscious and unconscious behaviour. In first situation individual thinks while he is behaving. He keeps in mind that while behaving he should not commit any error. Whereas some thoughts, ideals and values become a part of personality of an individual. He follows them unconsciously. Conscious control is imposed through customs, laws and mores because these are essential for group welfare.

Direct and Indirect Control—

Karl Manheim, in his book, “Man and Society” has mentioned direct and indirect form of social control. The control imposed through the primary groups, e.g. parents, friends, neighbours, elders etc. are termed as direct social control. Impact of this kind of control is quite deep on the personality of an individual, because members of primary groups are the medium of socialisation of an individual. The control imposed through secondary groups and institutions, is called indirect control. It is through indirect control in modern societies, that individuals are compelled to behave in a specific way.

Organised, Unorganised and Natural

Control—Gurwitch and Moore have mentioned three types of social control—organised, unorganised and natural. Organised social control impacts human behaviour through many big and small agencies as well as extensive rules. This social control is very much organised. The rules imposed through the institutions of marriage, family, school and office come under organised control. The control imposed through rituals, folkways, traditions, mores etc. which affect our day to day life foremost, is called unorganised control. The basis of third form of control is self-inspiration of individual. In different circumstances an individual decides on his own discretion, which are based on his requirements and experiences and controls his own behaviour.

Formal and Non-Formal Social control—

Some Sociologists have mentioned about two forms of social control which are formal and non-formal. Formal control is imposed through definite written laws. Behind them there is power of state and government. Formal controls are compelling upon individual and society and there is provision of punishment if they are not followed. To establish formal control there is system of formal institutions e.g. state, law, police, jail, courts etc.

Non-formal control is not associated with state. It is associated with society and groups. These are non-written and unorganised. Behind this kind of control there is no authority of state and government. The development of non-formal control is spontaneous with the passage of time. Customs, folkways, social norms, religion, morality, humour, satire, public opinion etc. are the means of non-formal social control. Social rules are essential and useful from group and social welfare perspective. Therefore individuals accept non-formal control because they do not want to displease their group. This kind of control is more effective in rural, aboriginal and simple societies. In non-formal control the members of group and society act like alert watch—men who monitor so that members of group follow social rules.

Distinction between Formal and Non-formal social control—

- There are definite and written laws in formal social control. On the contrary, in non-formal social control rules are unwritten and vague.
- In formal social control the act of punishment is done by government and state, where as in non-formal social control punishment is fixed by society, group and community itself.
- Formal social control is the characteristics of modern, industrial, complex and comprehensive societies, whereas non-formal social control is the gift of simple, small and traditional societies.
- In formal social control laws are made in a planned way by the state and administrative organisations. On the contrary, in non-formal social control rules develop slowly and spontaneously, the source of which is society itself.

- Laws, courts and police are the means of formal social control which determine the punishment. Whereas in non-formal social control social norms, traditions, religion etc. control human behaviour through criticism, condemnation and boycott.

Agencies of Social Control

In this chapter above, we have studied about different forms of social control. We also know that through which medium the behaviour of individuals is controlled in society, are called the means or agencies of social control. These means by controlling the behaviours of individuals, through direct-indirect, positive-negative, organised-unorganised, and informal-formal ways establish social control—

1. Family—The role of family in social control is very important. From birth itself, a child is member of some or other family. Through the process of socialisation parents teach their children about right or wrong behaviour. An individual, as a member of the family, gets acquainted with social values, traditions, beliefs, ideals, customs, rules etc. and internalises them. In this way his behaviour is determined. Members of family, parents, husband-wife, brother-sister etc. control the behaviour of individual according to the rules of society, through the means of love, affection, emotional support, scolding and ignoring.

2. Primary Group—Primary groups play important role in the process of social control. Family, friend-circle, play-groups, neighbours etc. come under primary group. A person in his childhood, comes in contact with his neighbours and play-friends and participates in different interactions. During this, a child learns about the basic things of life and knowledge about sexual difference indirectly. In play-groups it is necessary to follow the rules of the game. When a child violates these rules, he is scoffed and scolded by the group. In this way his behaviour is controlled.

3. Folkways, Mores and Customs—Social norms are the important agency of social control. Sumner has said about the folkways that folkways are like natural forces. People follow them unconsciously. Folkways are the recognised and

accepted norms of behaviour in society. A person may be deprecated and criticised for ignoring them. Folkways or mores are important means of social control. Feeling of group welfare is inherent in folkways, therefore a person cannot ignore it's compliance. To comply with them is also considered right from moral point of view. Mores are positive as well as negative. Under positive mores an individual is instructed to do some work, e.g. always speak the truth, be honest, obey the orders of elders etc. Negative mores prevent us from doing some works, e.g. don't lie, don't steal, don't involve in violence etc. A person has to face satire, criticism, jokes etc. if he violates them. Accepting the importance of mores Davis says that there is no court greater than mores, in the minds of general individuals.

4. Religion and Morality—Religion and morality are mutually related concepts. They are important means of social control. Religion provides individual the ideal of 'what to do' and 'what not to do'. His opinions, beliefs, traditions, festivals etc. are associated with some or other religion. Religion is associated with belief in supernatural powers. A person follows the rules of religion to avoid something unwelcome incurred by the supernatural forces. August Comte has said that religion is the basis of morality, which means that without religion morality can't emerge. Morality teaches individual about right or wrong and prohibits him from doing wrong acts. By fixing the accepted norms of behaviour morality controls his judgement. Morality teaches individual about the merit of truth, honesty, non-violence, equality and justice. The feeling of group welfare is inherent in morality. Morality, instead of religion, is an important means of social control, today.

5. The role of state in social control—State is an effective agency of social control. State controls anti social elements and criminals through it's powers. State prohibits individuals from indulging in disintegrative acts. State establishes social control through many mediums e.g. police, courts, laws and jails etc. State establishes the system of punishment for people, indulging in unlawful acts and rewards people for following social rules and laws. The role of

state has been enhanced due to rising social complexities in modern society. State develops the feeling of security among people, through the medium of many welfare plans alongwith, providing internal and external security, in it's territory. Thus, state controls effectively, the behaviour of people.

6. Law—The role of law in social control is important since primitive time. Social control is done in two ways through law, that is positive and negative. If people behave while keeping in mind the laws, then society makes the arrangement of medals, rewards, certificates etc. for such people. This is called positive social control. On the contrary, if people do not act in accordance with laws and violate them, then these delinquents are punished by the courts. This is negative way of social control. Through laws, not only the behaviour of individual and society is controlled, but different social problems are also controlled. For example, it is through laws, that efforts have been made to control the problems like custom of Sati, untouchability, child-marriage, thefts, corruption, rape etc. People in society are always ready to follow deviant behaviour, to fulfil their self-interests. In this situation, it is the law which can be important agency of social control.

Socialisation and Social Control

There is mutually very close relationship between socialisation and social control. Both these processes continue to move together. Through socialisation a person is taught to behave according to social values, norms and ideals, so that, he becomes a functional member of society by internalising the values and ideals of society. In the process of socialisation a person learns to behave in a socially approved manner. As a result, system is maintained in the society and social control is established.

Ogburn and Nimkoff have the opinion, that, it is through the internalisation of social norms by the individuals, that social system is maintained. Through socialisation, old generations teach new generations to behave in a definite manner. This helps in maintaining order in society. In this way the process of socialisation does the job of social control, too. The way in which, the process of socialisation does

the job of social control, similarly, social control also helps in the process of socialisation. Through social control, people are compelled to follow social rules and perform their roles according to social expectations.

Ogburn and Nimkoff have the view that social control prevents the failure of socialisation. The means of social control and institutions of socialisation, both of them, instruct individuals to act according to the socially sanctioned customs, traditions, and social norms. In this way, socialisation and social control are closely related. If socialisation is successful, social control is also effective. In this matter Fitcher has the opinion that “Social control is an extension of the socialisation process”.

The Necessity of Social Control—

Social control is essential for maintaining existence and continuity of any society. Man's anarchist and individualistic tendencies are checked for maintaining balance in society. Paul Landis has the opinion that, “Man is man due to control”. Social control is essential for making the society systematic and organised, as well as for achieving social ideals. If there will be no control in society, then the existence of society itself will be in danger. People will not cooperate with each other. Social norms will be violated. From these kind of behaviour, maintaining unity and organisation in the society will be difficult.

By keeping society, systematic and organised, we can achieve social values and preserve our cultural legacy.

It is through social control, that organisation, unity and order can be maintained in society. Hence, social control is also a major requirement of the society.

Important Points

- Change is eternal and inevitable law of nature.
- Any variation occurring according to circumstances, in the framework of any object, organisation and structure is called change.
- MacIver and Page in his book, ‘society’ has explained social change as changes taking place in social relationships. According to them, society in itself is “network of social relationships”.

- Changes in modern societies is more clearly visible than in comparison to ancient societies.
- It is difficult to guess about social change.
- These are the causes of social change—
 - ▲ Natural or geographical factor
 - ▲ Demographic factor
 - ▲ Cultural factor
 - ▲ Technological factor
 - ▲ Economic factor
- Due to population growth, poverty and unemployment emerge in society. Poverty gives birth to conflict and tension in society.
- In culture our collective ideals, beliefs, religion, customs, institutions, mores etc are the reflection of our cultural life.
- Karl Marx has emphasised that economic factors are important in social change.
- The behaviour of members of society is controlled for maintaining balance and order in society.
- It was American Sociologist, E.A. Ross, who first of all, propounded the concept of social control in 1901, in his book 'Social Control'.
- It is through social control, that tension and conflict is decreased in society and efforts are made to increase cooperation.
- Reward and punishment, both methods are applied in social control.
- That form of social control, in which the behaviour of individuals is controlled through suggestion, request, education and reward, are called positive social control.
- For establishing formal social control, there is provision of formal institutions like state, law, police, jail, court etc.
- Customs, folkways, social norms, religion, morality, humour, satire, public opinion etc. are the means of non-formal social control.
- Folkways are the socially approved ways of behaving in society. A person is criticised and condemned for neglecting them.
- Morality teaches individual about the merit of truth, honesty, non-violence, equality and justice.
- State through it's forces, controls anti social elements and criminals.
- State, establishes social control through the agencies of police, courts, laws, jails etc.

Questions for Practice

Multiple Choice Questions

1. According to MacIver and Page Social Change is—
 - (a) Change in culture of society
 - (b) Change in social relationships
 - (c) Change in functions of society
 - (d) Change in social life
2. Which condition among these is responsible for change?
 - (a) Object
 - (b) Time
 - (c) Variation
 - (d) Above all
3. Which scholar gave the theory of Cultural Lag for social change?
 - (a) Ogburn
 - (b) Durkheim
 - (c) Webben
 - (d) Malthus
4. This is not the type of social control among these ?
 - (a) Conscious and Unconscious
 - (b) Formal
 - (c) Nature
 - (d) Positive
5. "To nip the deviant tendencies in the bud is social control". Whose statement is this?
 - (a) E.A. Ross
 - (b) Parsons
 - (c) Kingsley Davis
 - (d) Karl Manheim
6. Which among these is the means of formal social control—
 - (a) Family
 - (b) Law
 - (c) Customs
 - (d) Folkways

Very Short Answer Type Question—

1. Who is the author of the book, 'Essays on Population'?
2. How does urban population grow ?
3. What is the meaning of Technology ?
4. Which scholar has mentioned about conscious and unconscious form of social control ?
5. What are the means of non-formal control ?
6. What is positive social control ?
7. 'There is not any court greater than mores, in the minds of general people'. Whose statement is this ?

8. Name the change that takes place in straight line ?
9. How many form of social control has been discussed by Gurwitch and Moore ?
10. Write the means of formal social control.

Short Answer Type Question—

1. Define social control.
2. Write a short note on the demographic factor of social change.
3. Write any three characteristics of social change.
4. Differentiate between formal and non-formal control.
5. How does social control take place through law ?

6. “Religion and Morality are the effective means of social control”. How? Explain.

Essay Type Questions

1. Define Social change. Write it's characteristics.
2. Discuss main causes of social change.
3. Write the types of social change.
4. Which are the formal agencies of social control? Describe them.
5. Describe in short the non-formal agencies of social control .

Answer Key :

1. (b) 2. (d) 3. (a) 4. (c) 5. (b) 6. (b)