

# Society And Culture in India: A Socio-Legal Reappraisal of Origins, Functions, And Unity in Diversity

Ganta Satyanrayana<sup>1</sup>, Ganta Yashwant Sai<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Professor, Aditya Univestiy, Surampalem, India*

<sup>2</sup>*Research Scholar, KLARF, Kakinada, India*

**Abstract**—Aristotle the legendary Greek philosopher said, “Man is by nature a social animal; an individual who is unsocial naturally and not accidentally is either beneath our notice or more than human. The term “society” refers to anything that exists before the individual. “Even the earliest people lived in groups to avoid being eaten by wild creatures. We may not be able to tell when the first civilization was founded based on how it was developed, but we can tell that society is built for people. A complex pattern of rules of interaction that evolves amongst its members can be characterised as a complex of organised associations in which members share comparable ways of life.

While culture is what holds society together and gives it meaning, it also encompasses man's efforts to adapt to his surroundings and better his way of life. We will learn how these institutions function and how they are connected to one another in this report, as well as why they are vital to people. We will also look at culture and society, as well as their significance in the Indian setting. Aristotle’s dictum that “man is by nature a social animal” continues to frame the enduring dialogue between society, culture, and law. This article interrogates the conceptual foundations of society, tracing its origins through social contract and evolutionary theories, while critically examining their limitations. It explores society not merely as a structural entity but as a dynamic process shaped by interdependence, solidarity, and cultural transmission. Culture, in turn, is analysed as both heritage and innovation—an acquired, cumulative, and adaptive system that sustains social cohesion while responding to change. Drawing upon Indian socio-cultural realities, including joint family structures, caste solidarities, linguistic diversity, and the principle of unity in diversity, the paper highlights how law mediates between tradition and transformation. Through a socio-legal lens, the study underscores that society and culture are not static constructs but evolving frameworks that determine identity, rights, and obligations. Ultimately, it argues that the vitality of human civilization lies in the reciprocal relationship between individual agency,

collective order, and the normative structures of law, offering fresh insights into the socio-legal significance of culture in contemporary India.

**Index Terms**—Society and Culture, Social Contract Theory, Evolutionary Theory of Society, Socio-Legal Perspectives, Indian Society, Unity in Diversity, Socialization and Law, Cultural Heritage, Social Structure and Process, Law and Social Change, Identity and Community, Comparative Sociology, Human Rights and Society, Tradition and Modernity, Socio-Cultural Adaptation

## I. INTRODUCTION

In basic terms, society may be defined as a collection of individuals who are linked by long-term relationships, or a big social grouping that shares the same geographical or social region and is generally subject to the same governmental authority and dominant cultural norms. While it raises the question of whether a person can exist without society and, if so, what type of person he will become. Various sociologists have concluded that society and man exist to serve one another; without one another, neither have values nor can a society live without its members, and no man can completely grow without society. Both of them are antagonistic to one other's progress. Culture is described as a social component that bonds men together in a civilization by many scholars. It essentially gives society and its citizens with an idealised form of knowledge, practise, and belief that helps individuals grow and teaches them how to live in a social environment based on prior experience.

## II. WHAT IS SOCIETY AND HOW IT ORIGINATED?

Sociology is the science of society. Many sociologists define society in different ways.

- Lipiere defines society as “The term society refers not to a group of people but to the complex pattern of norms of interaction that arise among and between them”.
- Thomas Habbes defined society as “Society is means for the production of men against the consequences of their own untrammelled natures”.
- Malvern and Page define society as a system of usages and procedures, authority and mental aid, of mind groupings and divisions of controls of human behavior and of liberties.
- Giddings defines society as “society is the union itself the organizations the sum of social relations in which associating individuals are bound together”.

We may summarize it by saying that sociologists have described society from two perspectives:

1. In a broad sense, as a web of interconnections between individuals or groups.
2. Specifically, as a group of individuals or an organization of people

### THEORIES REGARDING ORIGIN OF SOCIETIES

A number of theories have been put forward to explain the origin of society. Some of which are

#### SOCIAL CONTRACT THEORY:

According to this theory all men were born free and equal. Individual precedes society. Individual made a mutual agreement and created society. According to Hobbes, man in the state of nature was in perpetual conflict with his neighbors on account of his essential selfish nature. He described life at that time as “Solitary poor, nasty, brutish and short.”. Every man was an enemy to every man. To protect himself against the evil consequences man organized himself into society in order to live in peace with all.

Willke JJ Rousseau in his contract social held that men in the state of nature were equal, self-sufficient and contented. They lived a life of idyllic happiness and primitive simplicity. But growth in numbers of man arising among them necessitated the establishment of civil societies. Consequently, man entered into a contract in virtue of which everyone while uniting himself to all, remains as free as before<sup>1</sup>.

#### Evolution Theory:

The evolution theory offers a generally correct explanation of origin of society. According to it society is not made but it grows. It is result of a gradual evolution. It is continuously developed from unorganized to organized from less perfect to more perfect and various factors helped in its development from time to time. Herbert Spencer also subscribed to the theory of social evolution. August Comte said “Society has passed through stages-The theological, the metaphysical and the positive. In his view society came into being as a result of need for association, a felt need of human beings which evolved in accordance with definite laws. According to him development is inevitable, although it is gradual, slow and uneven. \

### CRITICISM OF THEORY

The mentioned above theories have their own criticism like: -

Criticism of social contract theory: -

Many sociologists believe that man's social instincts are at the root of society's formation. Force can be considered one of the main components in societal evolution, but it cannot be considered the sole factor. Other variables must have influenced the creation of the earliest society. It is the outcome of consensual union as much as it is of force or conquest. The social contract hypothesis appears to presume that man is previous to society as an individual, yet this assumption is false because man is born into society. Gradually, society became infected. It did not come into being on a specific day due to the signing of a contract.

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<sup>1</sup> Janusz Mucha, ‘ Sociology of India, Indian. sociology’,(2012) Polish Sociology Association

Evolutionary theory: -

Theories of social evolution have been subjected to two types of criticism: radical and moderate. Radical critics of the idea of social evolution express methodological concerns about the theory. They contend that because evolutionary theory cannot explain social change, it is unnecessary to use it. Theories of social evolution have been subjected to two types of criticism: radical and moderate. Radical critics of the idea of social evolution express methodological concerns about the theory. They contend that because evolutionary theory cannot explain social change, it is unnecessary to use it. Moderate criticism varies from radical criticism in that it attempts to distinguish between the concepts of evolution and progress.

Nature of society Conceptualization of the term society is influenced by the following: -

Society as structure: -

Society is a network of interconnected organizations having a recognized structure. The method in which their constituent institutions are interrelated distinguishes societies.

Society as recurrence –

The structure of societies is based on their institutionalized reproduction throughout time. The attitudes and behaviors that arise and repeat in society are referred to as these forms.

Society as abstract: -

The behavior of humans and the resulting difficulties of interactions and adaptations may be seen as society. "Society is an abstract term that connotes the complex of interrelationships that exist between and among the members of the group," according to Renter. Society exists in this way wherever there are good or terrible, right or improper human interactions. These social ties aren't obvious, and they don't stem from anything solid. Hence society is abstract.

Society as culture-

Individual relationship is organized and structured by culture. Culture is that complex whole which includes knowledge, belief, art, morals, law and customs and other traits which are made by man. It is the culture through which we can distinguish one society from

another. Culture is associated with the notion that ideas and values underpin society.

Society as process: -

Structure and reproduction are inherent in societies. Supporting power maintains stability, whereas opposing power challenges it. Human society is organized by the rules that provide stability, order, and structure. Social interaction would be difficult and chaotic without these rules, and the individual would be faced with an almost unbearable weight of decision-making.

Every society has its own distinct culture.

Elements of society: -

Sociologist Harry M. Johnson enlists the following are the characteristics of society –

Definite Territory:

The term "society" refers to a collection of people who share a common territory. The population of a civilization lives in a specific geographic region inside a well-defined territory defined by natural or man-made borders. In society, there are certain territorial groupings, such as z clans, cities, and nations.

Progeny: – A big element of how members of a community are recruited is through human reproduction within the group. Although many cultures gain members through adoption, enslavement, conquest, or immigration, reproduction within the group remains the most important source of new members.

Independence: - Society is a self-contained and integrated group that exists indefinitely. It is not a part of any other organization.

Culture: - Every society has a distinct culture. Culture refers to learned behaviors that are shared and passed down through generations. In a tangible form, culture is passed down from one generation to the next. When a person has the ability to communicate symbolically, he demonstrates cultural behavior. Man's requirements are met through culture. A civilization is culturally self-sufficient, with subcultures.

Other sociologists also added some more characteristics of society. These are: -

Social interactions: - Social connection is at the fundamental foundation of society. Human beings in society are continually acting and reacting to one another. Cultures and societies are both the result of social interaction. Mutual activity and interaction between the many members of the community generate social relationships. Interaction is a never-ending process that takes place through communication.

Function differentiation or variation – Individuals in human society do not all fulfil the same duties. They execute several duties or roles based on their status, which is defined by age, sex, interest, talents, skills, and qualifications, and each one specializes in one or more activity functions.

A Feelings of solidarity: - On the basis of common history, common belief, common geography, common cultural ethos, and common purpose and goals, a distinct sense of solidarity and oneness exists among the individuals. People consider themselves to be a part of a community since they live together and share a shared way of life.

Independence and cooperation: - Interdependence and collaboration among society's members are essential. In a society, no one is self-sufficient. Everyone is reliant on the other members. Problems will inevitably occur in society that can only be handled via collaboration and no other means. The biological interdependence of the sexes is the foundation of family, the first society with which we are all intimately involved. Because each sex is complete in and of itself, each seeks fulfilment via the help of others.

Existence of sociability: - Man cannot exist without the help of society. In terms of sociability, a man who lives alone is not a sociable man. Such a guy who lives outside of society will be unaffected by human feelings such as pity, obligation, and so on. As a result, it is one of the most important aspects of society. Function of society<sup>2</sup>.

Functions of society

Recruitment of new individuals- Men may die or move, resulting in a population decline. However, society as a whole continues to survive due to reproduction. New members are also gained through voluntary immigration. In society, people are always being replaced.

Satisfaction of primary physical needs –

Living in society allows man to meet his basic requirements for food, housing, clothes, medical care, and safety from assault. Man, also need love and affection from other members of society in order to be satisfied.

Socialization A human newborn is converted into a human being through the socialization process, which involves learning about social life. This process is known as "socialization."

Human prosperity – Only a human society can achieve human prosperity and intellectual progress. Liberty is conceivable in society, but only within limited bounds. Human potential may be realized through social interaction.

Providing a sense of meaning of life: - Each society will have an ideology that explains why its way of life is important to its people. A developed human society must devote adequate resources to maintaining its members' sense of meaning and purpose in life, since without it, people's social drive would wane. The manner of life is determined by the values that are valued in the society.

Provisions of means of communication- One of the objectives of human society is to offer readily available and appropriate communication channels for its members. Because symbolical communication is a basic necessity for humans, society should develop a huge communication network<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>2</sup> Ishwar Modi, 'Society and Sociology in India: Some Reflections ',(2012) Polish Sociology Association.

<sup>3</sup> V.Jagannadham,'Social and Cultural adaption in India', (1962) Athen's center of Ekistics.

### III. WHY SOCIETY IS IMPORTANT? AND WHY HUMAN NEEDS SOCIETY?

Individuals and societies are very intently linked and related with every other. Society is the union business enterprise the sum of shaped family members wherein affiliation people are sure together. A society is a bigger organization to which any people belong. a society is a bigger organization to which any people belong. Without people, there may be no life of society. Society is abstract, independent, and organized. There is an inseparable dating among people and society as they each have two-manner feature relationships and what society does and for the man or woman and what the man or woman does to and for society. Both people and society are a praise to every other. The people and society for his or her personal survival society additionally exist due to the truth that the human is largely a social animal.

Here, are some of the reasons for why human needs society: -

1. Man is social animal by nature: -

Man is fundamentally "a sociable animal by nature," as Aristotle put it. Man cannot exist without society; he is either a beast or a god if he does. Man fulfils his aims by his experiences in society, and he discovers numerous elements in society through which he might achieve life perfection. He is a member of society from the moment he is born until he dies.

As a result, we can observe that society is by nature a social animal. Man's nature makes it impossible for him to exist alone. No human person has ever been known to have grown up in isolation.

Three examples have been described by MacIver in which children have been separated from all social relationships and have failed to develop into normal men.

- Kaspar Hauser was raised in the Nuremberg woodlands until he was seventeen years old. He could hardly walk at seventeen, had the intellect of a newborn, and could not talk, muttering only nonsensical syllables. Despite his lack of schooling, he was unable to become a regular man.
- In 1929, two Hindu children were discovered in a wolf's cave. One of the children could only move on all fours and spoke only in wolfish grunts. She was shy and terrified of others, and she could only

stroll at night. She was only able to acquire certain social behaviors after several attempts.

- Anna, an illegitimate American kid, was placed in a room when she was seven months old and discovered when she was five years old. She couldn't move or speak and seemed unconcerned about the people around her when she was discovered.

The examples above demonstrate that humans are sociable creatures by nature. Man's human nature grows only when he lives in society and shares a shared life with his fellow creatures.

2. Necessity makes a man social:

Man is compelled to dwell in society through necessity. If he does not have the participation of his fellow creatures, many of his needs will remain unmet. Every person is the result of a social interaction that exists between men and women. The youngster is raised by his parents and learns the importance of citizenship in their presence. He is completely reliant on the existence of civilization for his life. The newborn infant would not survive even a day if society did not provide him with safety and attention. There has never been a documented case of a human newborn surviving on his own or being raised by wolves, apes, or other lower creatures. A human's drive for self-preservation, which is felt by all living things, makes him sociable. As a result, man enjoys society not just because of his nature, but also because of his needs.

3. Societies determined personality:

Man exists in society for the sake of his mental and intellectual growth. Our culture is preserved by society and passed on to future generations. It shapes our attitudes, beliefs, values, and goals, and both liberates and restricts our potential as people. As federal cases indicate, a man's intellect without society is still that of a child at the age of adulthood. Our personality and identity are shaped by our cultural history. As a result, society dictates not just our bodily necessities, but also our mental capabilities.

Individuals and societies are linked, we can conclude. They don't have a one-sided interaction; both are necessary for understanding wither. Individuals do not belong to society in the same way that cells do not belong to an organism, and society is only a device to meet human needs. Individuals cannot flourish

without society, nor does society have any worth beyond the services it provides to its members. The society is neither hostile to the development of individuality nor does it exist in and of itself.

#### IV. CHARACTERISTIC OF INDIAN SOCIETY

- Geographical diversity: –

The Himalayas and adjacent mountain systems, the Indo genetic plains, the peninsula, climatic conditions, soil, vegetation, and wildlife are all geomorphological elements of India. India is mostly an agricultural country. It has a diverse range of grounds on which to cultivate a variety of crops, as well as river and sea-food resources, as well as commerce, forest and mountainous areas, and natural products.

- Rural life:

Indian society is based on agriculture. In villages, a high number of people work in agriculture, and personal, interpersonal, and face-to-face relationships predominate, with familial bonds playing a dominating role. Markets are held every week all around the country. Solidarities such as caste and kin group exist in some of these markets. Each community is distinguished by its self-contained nature.

- Joint family

Indian society is characterized by the institution of the united family. In a joint family, three or four people sit around one hearth, live in one house, eat meals made together, participate in communal worship, and have mutual rights and duties. Every member of the joint family is assigned labor based on his or her ability, with no common rights or duties.

- Racial division:

A race is a large band of associated people that share a unique set of physical characteristics as a result of their genetic makeup.

- Religious division:

In India, there are several religious groups. This country is home to Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Parsis, Buddhists, and other religious sects. Hinduism is the most widely practiced religion. Hinduism is their religion, yet they all share a belief in an all-powerful deity. Pity and thought purity.

- Cultural division:

Culture encapsulates conventions, traditions, and institutions. Culture is an acquired trait. Culture refers to a person's beliefs, ideals, laws, arts, and other abilities and skills as a part of society. Because of the various religious and linguistic groups, Indian culture is complicated and diverse. In India, we can see many types of culture in various sections of the country.

- Linguistic divisions

India has a multilingual population. There are around 1652 mother tongues in India. A total of 97 percent of the population speaks one of these 23 languages. There are 23 languages in all, 18 of which are recognized by the Indian constitution. The official language is Hindi, whereas the official documentation language is English.

- Unity in diversity

The Indian society has never been very homogeneous. India's variety is undeniable. India is an outlier. India's people speak diverse languages and have different cultures and customs, yet they all have a same value system. Everyone in India promotes emotional and national integration.

#### V. WHAT IS CULTURE?

The word 'culture' comes from the Latin word 'Colere' which means to cultivate till the soil. While in mediaeval times culture was referred to as a progressive refinement of corps. In eighteenth century and nineteenth century 'culture' referred to the refinement of people as we when a person was refined and well read. The person was considered cultured to aristocratic classes for their attainment of high level of life and civilization.

Many social scientists define culture in different senses in this part we will see some of the definitions of culture.

Ralph Linton defines culture as "the way of life of its members; the collection of ideas and habits which they learn, share and transmit from generation to generation".

Malinowski defines it as "Culture is the handiwork of man and the medium through which he achieves his ends."

Lundberg defines culture as the social mechanism of behavior and to the physical and symbolic products of these behaviors.”

Hindey defines culture as “culture is an ‘accumulation of thoughts values and object. It is the social heritage which is passed on to us automatically through generation.”

Joseph Pieper defines culture as culture is the quintessence of all the natural goods off the world and of those gifts and qualities which while belonging to man lie beyond the immediate sphere of his needs and wants.”

Arnold w green defined culture as “a Culture is the social transmitted system of idealized ways of knowledge, practice and belief, along with the artefacts that knowledge and practice produc3e4 and maintain as the change in time.”

We can understand that some scholars consider culture as a key social component that links man together by reading different definitions of culture. Others associate it with non-material aspects of existence. ‘In an extended form culture can be defined as sees the languages, practices, beliefs, norms, arts, knowledge, collective identities, and memories formed by members of all social groups that provide significance to their social circumstances.

In sociology, the term culture refers to an acquired habit that is initiated and passed down among society's members. Culture is a system of learnt behavior that is shared and passed down among members of a group known as society. It is not a learned skill, but rather one that is instilled in members from birth.

#### CHARACTERISTICS OF CULTURE

From the definitions we will see a number of the traits of subculture and those may be elaborated in appreciate of Indian subculture on this studies paper.

Some are

- Culture is an acquired quality: subculture isn't innate. Traits are discovered thru numerous continue like socialization, conduct and mind of human beings round us, that is why we will move on to mention that subculture is a discovered conduct. For instance, in India in Hindu society youngsters are taught to thru book if it falls down or youngsters mistakenly contact it with their toes. This due to the reality that books are visible as a representative of goddess of expertise Saraswathi do to which

youngsters are requested to difficult books toes as a mark of appreciate.

- Culture is social and now no longer a character history of mankind: - subculture is inclusive expectancies of the individuals of the groups. It is a product that is began out with the aid of using individuals of a collection and It is a fabricated from society, now no longer an character phenomenon. It grows in society due to social contact. It is something that each man in society has. It is not possible for anybody to acquire it without the assist of others. Only amongst guys is a person a person. It aids with inside the improvement of human attributes in a social setting.
- Culture is idealistic: - Culture embodies the concept and norms of a collection. It is a sum general of perfect patters and norms of conduct of a collection. It is manifestation of human thoughts in path of history. Example we could see marriage in Hindu society is idea as a lifer lengthy bond a good way to move on for seven births in a single shape or every other. But in today’s global we see growing divorce fee so right here the subculture is idealistic that it assumes that a man and girls may be married thru their lives.
- Culture is a social history: - Culture is connected with beyond. The beyond endures as it lives in subculture. It is surpassed thru one technology directly to all other thru traditions and customs.
- Culture fulfils wishes of People: - Culture fulfills peoples moral and social wishes of the organization that are leads to themselves. It is satisfying and offer all of the possibilities for wishes and goals satisfaction. These wishes can be organic or social however it is accountable to meet it. Our wishes are food, safe haven, apparel and goals are status, fame, money, intercourse and so on are all of the examples that are fulfilled in keeping with the cultural approaches. In reality it's far described because the manner thru which humans fulfill their need.
- Culture is an incorporated system: - All of the cultural factors are connected to 1 every other. Culture evolves through the fusion of its many

components. Morality, conventions, beliefs, and religion, for instance, are all intertwined with the values system.

- Culture is non-stop and cumulative: subculture is developing complete which incorporates itself, the fulfillment of the past and gift and makes provision for the destiny achievements of the mankind. Culture is social history of guy.
- Culture is dynamic: - It stays converting however now no longer static. Cultural manner undergoes changes. But with distinct speeds from society to society and technology to technology. Here, first-class instance may be visible because the reality in advance guy become appeared as sole earner of family. While girls had been denied the possibility to study and in addition to do jobs. But as instances modified, we see how attitude of human beings is likewise modified at the same time as nonetheless a few would possibly suppose girls must now no longer paintings because it isn't suited however we will see how slowly this is converting fathers from each segment of society are actually encouraging their daughters to do jobs and study.
- Culture varies from society to society: -Every society has its very own subculture and approaches of behaving. It isn't uniform each in which however happens in a different way in numerous societies. Every subculture is precise in itself is a particular society. For instance, values, customs, traditions, ideologies, religion, belief, practices aren't comparable however distinct in each society. However, the approaches of eating, drinking, speaking, greeting, dressing and so on are differs from one social scenario to every other withinside the identical time.
- Culture is responsive: - Culture is conscious of the converting situations of a bodily global. It intervenes within side the herbal surroundings and facilitates guy from all risks and herbal calamities e.g. our homes are accountable to present us safe haven and protection from hurricane and heavy rains.

#### STRUCTURE OF CULTURE: -

All societies have culture and all cultures have some basic organization although the cultures is de by societies vary one form another. Some components of culture are:

- Cultural Traits: - Cultural traits are the single elements or smallest unit of a culture. They are the "Observation Units" that make up culture when put together. According to Hoebee, a cultural tartrate is "a repeatedly irreducible unit of acquired behaviour pattern or material outcome thereof," and each culture might have thousands of them. Cultural qualities include shaking hands, touching hands, stomping feet, kissing on the cheek as a symbol of affection, and becoming a vegetarian. As a result, traits are the foundations of civilization. These differences are what distinguish one culture from another. As a result, whereas touching feet may have cultural importance in Indian culture, it has no such value in American society.
- Culture complex: Cultural complexes are nothing more than a bigger collection of qualities grouped together around a central point of reference. Culture features do not generally arise single or independently, as we all know.
- Culture Pattern: - When characteristics and complexes are connected to one other in functional roles, a cultural pattern emerges. Each cultural complex serves a purpose in society. It occupies a distinct position inside it. A multitude of cultural complexes make up society's culture pattern. Gandhism, spiritualism, united families, and ruralism are all part of the Indian cultural pattern. Each cultural attribute is a complex made up of a number of different cultural qualities.
- Normative dimensions or norms: One of the components of culture is normative dimensions. It contains rules, exceptions, and a set of procedures. Folkways, conventions, and laws are examples of norms that influence people's behavior.
- Material traits: - As members of society, the material attribute relates to what we have or own. Knowledge rules for arranging work and instruments for human

life are provided by culture. Material culture refers to the fundamental circumstances of life, which often comprise goods that people of a society utilize on a daily basis, such as production tools, transportation, and communication.

#### EVOLUTION OF CULTURE

Every tangible or non-material cultural feature should have been developed by someone at some point and in some place. Every practice, in general, has a start time. Someone has to start it in order for it to be followed. However, because we all have limits, determining where a culture or a cultural feature originated, or why a trait originated, is a difficult, and in some circumstances, impossible endeavor.

But in comparison to beginning we can nonetheless see how subculture evolves. As far as we can also additionally see our Indian subculture can be evolving proper now through overseas affects however those modifications are so gradual and takes time to grow to be noticeable that proper now we might imagine no such alternate is happening. But in fact, it's miles.

Trait is essential a part of subculture as we've got visible formerly a subculture essentially develops trait through trait. Furthermore, we are able to describe subculture as a sample of interdependent trait and complexes. A trait does now no longer evolve independently of the complete complicated which it's miles a part of nor does it function independently of the different traits. The present cultural trait affects the discovery of recent trait. An invention whether or not cloth or non-cloth is development over the prevailing cultural traits.

A new trait develops whilst a person is a discontent with a number of the numerous skinny pass round him may be essentially anything. Thus, discontent need to initiate him to discover a manner out. They should sense that matters need to now no longer be the manner there, then if they are trying to make modifications with inside the component, they're discomfited with the aid of using in a while we may also have a look at a cultural alternate. We can see instance of DR. B.R. Ambedkar he essentially attempted to alternate part of Hindu way of life which become solid gadget a component that's interwoven in shape of society he knew. He attempted his stage exceptional in converting going attitude of humans concerning supremacy views. But, we need to don't forget the reality that the way of life of a society displays its

middle values and beliefs. Attempting to regulate it is able to name into query the whole thing the enterprise stands for, although it isn't always executed on purpose.

An society's way of life is ingrained throughout its complete shape. Every small amendment has an effect on all the gadget's layers. War for truthful remedy of decrease solid become began out with the aid of using him and remains going on. People are converting however slowly and researcher hopes at some point humans absolutely apprehend and update unfair cultural trait.

#### VARIABILITY OF CULTURE

We describe culture as a group's learned habit. If this is the case, it means that the planet will have several civilizations. Culture may be defined as a trait of a country, a group, or a historical time. Migration, globalization, and colonies are all processes that have contributed to cultural variety in every community. We observe group differences in cultural behavior across individuals all around the world, as well as within the same population.

There are various reasons to why culture varies: -

- Historical Accidents: - Some of the conventions whose origins are difficult to trace must have developed as a result of some uninteresting conduct on the part of an individual or a group. A guy may have unintentionally performed a certain activity, which others emulated, and which, in turn, became a customary element of culture.
- Geographical Environment: - Nature is the source of material for culture to employ. Because various places of the world have different materials for culture to employ, distinct cultures have emerged. Geographical locations have an influence on culture, as we can observe in fertile places where people may pray to gods and perform rituals to ensure a higher crop. This feature may not exist in deserts where people are completely reliant on the outside world. So, the geographical area also reason for cultural change.
- Mobility of human organism: Cultural mobility exists because the human organism is flexible and mobile. Man has always modified himself to his

natural environment, his group, and his colleagues, and as a result of this ongoing adjustment, cultural behavior varies greatly among the same people throughout history.

- Inventions and discoveries Cultural diversity is also a result of inventions and discoveries. A country with advanced technology will have a different culture than one with advanced technology.
- Changes in the modes of production: According to Karl Marx, the method of production is the primary determinant of people's culture. Their art, morality, customs, laws, and literature, for example. Any shift in manufacturing methods has an impact on culture. The cultures of capitalist and communist countries are not the same.

Variability in culture is explained by the reasons mentioned above. They also provide us a sense of why a global uniform culture is hard to achieve.

## VI. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

(Research Question .1)

Whether one society tries to impose its culture on other or not?

Fear of strangers, or xenophobia, is a wide concept that can refer to any fear of someone who is different from ourselves. Outsider hostility is frequently a reaction to fear. In some cases this fear may extend to society as a whole and their culture Here we will take example of Red Indian tribes to reach this answer better.

During the Indian Wars of the 1870s and early 1880s, public opinion in the United States was divided. Several American reformers, who would eventually constitute the Progressive Era's backbone, began to protest the violence, suggesting that the Indians should be assisted in being incorporated into American culture through "Americanization." The pillars of this new, and ultimate, attack on Indian life and culture were individual property ownership, Christian worship, and child education. Since the 1880s, pastors, government officials, and social workers have all attempted to integrate Indians into American society. Indian children were removed from their homes and placed in boarding institutions such as the Carlisle Indian School or the Hampton Institute, where they were taught to reject their tribal customs and embrace the instruments of American productivity, modesty,

and holiness via thorough immersion. These institutions provided not only acculturation for Indian boys and girls, but also vocational training for men and domestic science lessons for women. Religious reformers, particularly evangelical Protestants and a few Catholics, targeted adults in an attempt to persuade Indians to leave their language, clothes, and social norms in favor of a more Euro-American way of life.

Here, we can see how tribal were asked to get converted and lose their culture just so that they can fit in a perspective of American society and become one of them. We can see how one may try to change culture of others and if they have powers they might do this with force. Like in this case. But what was the damage caused the damage was various tribes in who were recognized as red Indians lost their own culture and forget their own way of life. In, today's world also this is a damage towards collective cultural heritage of world. This is one of the many examples of when one society tries to impose culture on other.

(Research Question .2)

Whether foreign influence change outlook of Indian society?

Influence of western culture began in India during the 19th century when the British created a colony in the country-western culture, which is regarded as the most sophisticated civilization on the planet, began to take on an Indian flavor. The creation of a westernize subcultural pattern through a limited segment of Indians who first came into touch with the western culture was one type of westernization. The effects of westernization were mostly felt in metropolitan areas. However, some villages have a higher level of westernization than metropolitan regions. Humanism, equality, and secularism have all made inroads into Indian value systems. Our criminal justice system has been overhauled. Untouchability was outlawed, and evil traditions such as sati were banned.

The welfare state idea was developed, and as a result, the government's welfare-related activities have grown. When the British colonial rulers first came into touch with tribal, they began to Westernize them. Not all tribes were exposed to modernization initiatives. Many of them remained to exist in their traditional forms till India's independence. Traditional tribal material culture and styles were to be 'kept' in museums as museum specimens. It was attempted to

combine traditional and contemporary legislation. The objective of all of these endeavors was to modernize the tribal.

Even in modern days we can see some positive changes in society like earlier women education past class 12 was mainly not considered important but to compete in today's world. Society is understanding the importance of teaching their girls child and even are allowing them to do jobs which was a far cry for women before. As, we have seen in this research paper that society changes happen slowly and they may be positive or negative and some of the change is in reality an output of foreign influence.

## VII. CULTURAL LAG

W.F. Ogburn developed the term "cultural lag" in his treatise "Social Change." In everyday life, the term lag refers to being behind schedule. As a result, we might define cultural lag as the flattery of one part of culture at the expense of another.

"The pressure that exists between two correlated aspects of culture that evolve at differing rates of speed may be viewed as a lag that is changing at a slower pace for the one that lags behind the other," Ogburn said in detail.

The motor vehicle was clearly catastrophic for railway firms, since many went bankrupt as a result of their capacity to compete with motor trucks for moving freight over short distances, according to Ogburn. Causes of cultural lag

- Ideology: -

Ideology has an impact on non-material culture. Ideas investigate if they are correct or incorrect, good or evil, efficient or inefficient, and eventually some are approved and dubbed ideology. An ideology is a set of beliefs that are backed by a set of rules. We are encouraged to accept this because of societal assumptions. Ideology has influenced them, and they have fallen behind. Occasionally, technologies are referred to as technological reforms or simply technical differences across societies.

- Technologies

Technologies are an integral element of aa society's culture.

Technology advances at a quicker rate than non-material culture, and the rate of change in technology

is not uniform. For example, the lack of technology in rural areas compared to metropolitan areas may have contributed to cultural lag.

- Psychological Dogmatism

Old customs, dogmas, and morals are often respected by men. He prefers to walk in the footsteps of his forefathers. In other fields, such as religion, originality is not only frowned upon, but also seen as a sign of depravity. As a result, one of the key causes of cultural lag is man's dogmatism

### Criticism

- Some sociologists do not like to include material objects under the idea of culture because culture consists of abstract thinking or that it has a significance only when it has been internalized and has become an usual element of the behaviour of members of society.
- Some criticize Ogburn for not making a clear difference between material and non-material.
- A key flaw in theory is that the same phrase has been used to describe all of the disequilibrium's that occur during the process of social transformation.

Despite substantial criticism in some restricted parts, the researcher believes that this hypothesis has aided us in understanding why cultural transformation takes so long.

### Importance of culture

Why culture is important to a individual?

For the individual culture has got a great value. It forms an important element in a person's life. The following are some advantages of culture for individuals:

- Culture makes a man a human being: - Culture is what transforms a guy into a human being: - Culture is what transforms a human animal into a man. It governs his behavior and prepares him for life in a group. It offers a comprehensive living space design. It teaches a person basically what to do . It teaches individuals how to eat, how to conduct themselves in public, and how to display themselves to others. In a nutshell, people learn the traits they need to live a social life from their culture.
- Culture provides solution for complicated situations: - Even under difficult times, culture

supplies man with a set of behaviors. His acts become automatic, implying that he has been trained to deal with particular challenging situations. For example, a person may be perplexed by crowds in stores and find themselves unsure of what to do in even the most basic scenarios. Even if we ask a man without culture what he wants to eat, he will be perplexed by the myriad possibilities accessible to him. He will struggle to understand the possibilities and will finally feel frustrated.

- Culture provides traditional interpretations to certain situations: - Culture of a person provides for traditional interpretations for many situations according to which he determined his behavior. Traditional interpretations differ from culture to culture.
- Culture molds national character: - Culture provides man with a set of habits and standards that enable him to act in a certain way. The current social culture informs the rules, conventions, and governmental legislation. For example, Indian culture teaches us that the entire globe is a giant family, which is reflected in our foreign policy, which are nonviolent instances of our live-and-let-live motto.
- Culture keeps a man bound to society norms: Culture keeps man connected inside society by keeping the deep depth of every human being attached to wild existence in chains.

#### Importance for the groups

Culture is a crucial aspect of every community, just as it is for individuals. It is solely due to culture that a group or society has progressed thus far. We'll look at how culture affects a group in this section: -

- Culture keeps social relationships intact: Culture is significant not just for men, but also for individuals. There would have been no group life if there had been no culture. Culture is the formulation and application of a set of guiding ideas and ideals. It has proven possible to keep the group alive by regulating people's conduct and providing their basic

needs for food, housing, and sex. If there had been no cultural regulation, life would have been impoverished, ugly, brutish, and short. Because there were no cultural constraints, people behaved as they did in society. People act the way they do in society because their actions are not frowned upon. Irrigational behaviour and suggestibility have been subjected to a number of cultural tests. Cultural help, such as education or scientific training, reduces the likelihood of a man acting irrationally or recklessly.

- Culture broadens the vision of the individuals: - Individuals have been given a fresh perspective by culture, which has provided them with a set of principles for individual collaboration. He considers not just himself, but also others; culture has taught him to see himself as a part of a larger whole. It gives him the conceptions of family, state, nation, and class, as well as the ability to coordinate and divide work.
- Culture creates new needs: - Culture generates new wants and drives them, such as a need for knowledge, and organizes for their fulfilment. It meets the aesthetic, moral, and religious desires of the group's members. In this sense, culture has a significant impact on a group. Any shift in cultural values will have a significant impact on an individual's personality and group structure.

#### VIII. CULTURE AND SOCIETY

Society and culture are inextricably linked; there is no society without culture, and no society can live without culture.

Human culture is a byproduct of human society. As we've seen, culture is passed down from generation to generation, even in the oldest communities. Each individual community has its own distinct culture, which is so intertwined that it is impossible to treat them independently. They are opposites, as though they are two sides of the same coin. A certain level of cultural characteristic integration is required for society's survival<sup>4</sup>. A lack of cultural system

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<sup>4</sup> Hannah Arendt, 'Society and Culture', (1960) MIT press on behalf of American Academy of Arts & Sciences.

integration causes people to become confused and society to lose efficiency<sup>5</sup>.

Silent futures of Indian culture

These are some of the features of Indian culture: -

- Tolerance – Indian culture respects the diversity of reality and assimilates a wide range of perspectives, behaviors, rituals, and institutions. Through tolerance, Indian culture's slogan is 'Viswa shanti.'
- Emphasis on duty: - The stress on responsibility or moral obligation in Indian culture emphasizes that one should execute one's duty without regard for the outcome.
- Sacrifice and Altruism – Those who sacrifice their own interests for the good of society and the goal of 'sarvaj sukhanobhavat' are respected in Indian culture.
- Change with continuity: - In Indian culture, gradual change within continuity has always been welcomed. It embraces the synthesis of old and new in place of old and does not promote sudden or instance change.
- Theory of karma: The notion that an individual's future is related to previous 'karma,' and that one cannot avoid karma, was ingrained in Indian society. One must suffer the consequences of his actions.
- Respect towards elders and learned.

## IX. CONCLUSION

We have gone over several questions that many social engineers come up with when thinking about the issue of society and culture in this research paper. And, as a result of this voyage, we have gained a better understanding of numerous aspects of society and culture, such as how culture and society evolved or came into being.

The most important thing I learned was that society and culture are inextricably linked. Without culture, civilization would have ceased to exist in its current form. Society will continue to exist, albeit in the shape of ant or human communities. Culture provides civilization with a collection of ideas, values, and shared items. As a result, people of society become

more connected to one another and work together for the advancement of society and the preservation of culture. Without culture, society will be nothing more than a collection of individuals. Furthermore, through writing this research paper, I was able to comprehend how Indian society and culture promote beliefs that differ from those of other nations, such as the fact that they believe the world is a family and many other fascinating facts. About Indian culture and society.

Society and culture are inseparable forces that shape human existence, identity, and progress. While theories of social contract and evolution offer competing explanations of origin, both affirm that man cannot exist outside collective life. Culture, as the social heritage of values, beliefs, and practices, provides meaning and continuity, while law mediates between tradition and transformation. The Indian experience—marked by diversity of language, religion, caste, and family structures—demonstrates how unity in diversity is sustained through cultural adaptation and legal frameworks. Ultimately, society is not a static entity but a dynamic process, and culture is its living spirit. Together, they ensure that individual freedom, social solidarity, and legal order remain balanced, reaffirming Aristotle's insight that man is truly a social animal whose fulfillment depends on the reciprocal relationship between self, community, and law.

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