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SOCIOLOGY (TEST CODE : 2215)

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Medium Eng/Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	1195934
Center	ONLINE	Date	7/08/22

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1 (a)	10	
(b)	10	
(c)	10	
(d)	10	
(e)	10	
2 (a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	
3 (a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	
4 (a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	
5 (a)	10	
(b)	10	
(c)	10	
(d)	10	
(e)	10	
6 (a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	
7 (a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	
8 (a)	20	
(b)	20	
(c)	10	

Total Marks Obtained:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
2. The Candidate should **attempt FIVE Questions out of EIGHT questions** strictly in accordance with the instructions given under each question printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.
5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
6. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

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All the Best

SECTION - A

1. Write a short note on each of the following in not more than 150 words.

10 x 5 = 50

(a) It is argued that the scope of sociology has evolved through the epochs of time. Discuss the change in scope of sociology with specific reference to pandemic period.

Sociology is the study of social structures, social institutions, social continuity and social change.

Scope of sociology is not bound by subject matter as it can study micro individual based phenomena (Eg Durkheim: suicide) to macro societal structures (Eg Marx: capitalism).

It is defined more by 'how' it studies than what it studies.

Evolution:-

Earlier discussion on scope was debated ~~with~~ between 'formalist' and 'synthetic' school. The former focussing on form & essence of phenomena

(Eg Simmel, Weber) while latter wanted to study all subjects within sociology (Eg Hobhouse, Durkheim)

With spread to America, micro approach & interactions got added to scope (Eg Mead, Blumer)

Further 1960s saw addition of feminist & reflexive methods of critical theory.

In the 21st century we are focussing on power, war, globalisation, secularisation & so on. In the pandemic period, sociology studied bureaucracy, role of state, private sector, cultural cultural response to vaccines in different communities giving a wide & in depth picture.

Sociology keeps on evolving as per changing needs of time.

1. (b) Absolute Objectivity is an idea which is regarded as obsolete in sociological research. Discuss.

Objectivity refers to conducting sociological research free from own biases based on one's social, cultural & political background.

Early sociologists like Auguste Comte, Emile Durkheim gave utmost importance to researcher's training, avoiding values & common sense and treating social facts as 'things' to bring objectivity.

However, later scholars showed how absolute objectivity is neither possible nor desirable.

Weber's interpretivist approach focussed on maintaining as much objectivity as possible but accepted importance of values.

Phenomenological approach of Alfred ~~Schutz~~ Schutz focussed on understanding world view created by common sense keeping objectivity at bay.

Later feminist & critical theorists called for uncovering bottom layers of truth beneath superficial objectivity to see dominant ruling class/male values & use sociology as an emancipatory discipline.

Eg Ann Oakley brought feminist method of interview moving beyond objective 'masculine' structured interviews.

Objectivity must remain a goal to keep away biases but with the realisation that sociology deals with live human consciousness and

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1. (c) Though all valid data is reliable, but reliability alone does not ensure the validity of an experiment. Discuss.

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1.

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1. (d) One of Mead's most significant contributions to social psychology is his distinction between the "I" and the "Me". Elaborate.

G.H. Mead was a doyen of symbolic interactionism, meeting point of sociology and Psychology.

To Mead, self is evolved in a societal context via play stage and game stage. This evolution takes place in form 'I' and 'me' part of self.

Distinction between the two :-

<u>'I'</u>	<u>'me'</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">·) <u>dynamic, creative</u> unpredictable part of self·) Brings <u>novelty</u> by discarding societal norms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">·) <u>Predictable</u> and uniform, with a static response·) Conforms to expectations of <u>'generalised others'</u>

) We know about
'I' after it has
acted

) Leaders, rebels,
etc. have higher
proportion of 'I'

) 'me' is much
more conscious &
deliberate

) General public,
the so called 'followers'
have higher proportion
of 'me'

Both 'I' and 'me' together
interact with mind to play role
in a social situation

'I' facilitates innovation and
continuous evolution of society.

Eg → Raja Ram Mohan Roy didn't
conform to societal idea of 'sati'

On the other hand, 'me' facilitates
social continuity.

Mead brought a paradigm
shift with his 'micro' approach to
sociology in Chicago school

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1. (e) "No society can be absolutely open or absolutely closed". Comment.

Classical scholars like Louis Dumont created a binary dichotomy of 'open' vs 'closed' (Homo Hierarchicus). However, this was challenged.

In traditionally 'closed' society like caste based India which apparently offers no scope for social mobility, we see dynamism.

It is in form of 'Sanskritisation' (M N Srinivas), economic gains (Eg → Dalit entrepreneurs like Kalpana Sawoj), political powers (Eg → dominant caste of Yadavs in UP)

Even in celebrated 'open' societies like America, social discrimination has pushed Blacks to the bottom (Eg → Black Lives Matter protest)

Further, numerous social mobility studies indicate ~~it~~ elite capture and social closure at the top.

Eg → Goldthorpe's study of Britain
Duncan & Blau's American study

Though lower strata climbs up but distant mobility is very rare.

Apart from top, bottom most strata, at times is even thrown out of class/caste structures which Charles Murray terms as 'underclass'. They have no scope of mobility even in 'open' societies.

Eg → Transgenders in India.

Social mobility, 'open' and 'closed' are distinctions more of degree, than of kind.

3. (a) 'Though they take very different approaches to study society, both 'micro' and 'macro' sociology aid our ability to understand the social world. Comment. 20

Sociology has the unique ability to study all possible phenomena using plethora of approaches it possesses.

Very different approaches

'Micro' sociology refers to studying phenomena based on individual level in their day to day interactions in an overall social context. Eg → how an individual's personality develops differently in different societies.

It grants agency to individual to influence its surroundings & mould them. Further, it is a bottom up method to construct broader structures starting from individual.

Phenomenologists and symbolic interactionists use this approach where society is not structured & individual continuously builds plausible structures ('life world') based on interactions.

Eg → concept of 'self' of Mead

On the other hand, 'macro' sociology is a top down approach starting from society. Society is structured which is rules based & has recurrent patterns.

Emile Durkheim, Karl Marx used this approach. Individual is bound to act as per norms & has no agency. Eg :- capitalism will inevitably breed alienation or society dictates kind of division of labour.

Both aid our ability

Sociology constructs a holistic picture of social world using both the approaches, best visible in Weber's meso approach.

He related micro social action theory to macro structures of bureaucracy & capitalism.

Eg → Zweck rational action leads to legal rational authority of bureaucracy.

Further, later schools of feminist, critical school utilise both approaches to gain reflective understanding.

Eg:- Ann Oakley's study of housewives to comment on broader picture of gender stratification

In Indian context, initial micro anthropological village studies of Prof Srinivas, Prof Beteille, William Wiser etc. helped to understand macro sociological category of caste.

Today, in the era of globalisation sociologists are using both micro & macro approaches to understand global division of labour, impact on culture & so on.

Eg → recent study on 'Great Resignation' during covid. Micro phenomena of 'burn out' explained macro Capitalism.

Sociology is never hesitant to adopt & adapt & widen its horizons.

3. (b) "To Marx capitalism is rooted in irrationality but for Weber it is a reflection of rationality." Discuss.

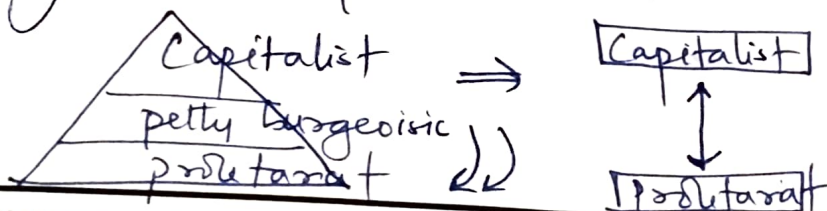
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Founders of sociology gave wide & contrasting views on 19th century capitalism, giving a comprehensive picture.

Karl Marx talked of inhuman & alienating face of capitalism. It is irrational to him because of its inner contradictions.

i) As per him, it is labour & not capital that generates value but it is increasingly pauperized.

ii) Capitalism breeds parasitisation, first by eliminating all competition and then by forcing petty bourgeois to proletariat level.



- iii) Surplus is appropriated by paying less wages & gaining more profit.
- iv) Capitalism itself facilitates homogenisation by factory settings & reducing purchasing power.
- v) Further, separation from product, process, fellow workers & self creates alienation.
- vi) Objective reality brings realisation in subjective state of mind leading to formation of true class consciousness. This leads to 'class for itself'.
- vii) Class struggle and irrational nature of capitalism comes to an end due to socialism & ultimately Communism where means of production are held by all.

On the other hand, Weber visualises Capitalism as an epitome of rationality.

i) Capitalism is based on rules & regulations where profit is legitimately generated.

ii) It is manned by managers & administrative staff comprising Capitalistic bureaucracy, following legal rational authority.

iii) Further, Capitalism brings ample opportunities leading to proliferation of middle class. (This was confirmed in Hipset's study)

iv) In his Protestant Ethic and Spirit of Capitalism, Weber highlights ~~that~~ how rational values of profit making, reinvestment, hardwork, 'time is money' and ~~so~~ so on

are supported by Protestant Ethics.

Eg → doctrine of predestination,
work is calling, all work is
sacred, no spending on luxury.

v) As per Weber, despite substance
& resources, whenever rationality
is lacking, capitalism fails to grow
symbolising their organic relationship.

Eg → Hinduism's focus on other world
salvation in India

Both Weber & Marx's concept
of capitalism is applicable today.
On one hand, irrationality led to
2008 global crisis, while on other
rationality led to its rebounding
with greater vigour.

3. (c) What can be the best research method for determining the impact of COVID-19 on our society? Discuss with examples. 10

Covid19 emerged as a health crisis but soon precipitated into a socio-economic hazard, leading to its sociological research.

Different aspects of Covid19 must be analysed using different methods:

i) Economic structure → Impact on growth, income, loss of employment, informalisation etc. can be gauged using survey method as it requires

to contact a large population.

(Eg → Centre for Monitoring Economy surveys).

ii) Cultural impact → Different societies reacted differently to lockdowns, vaccines etc. & This requires in depth analysis for which participant observation can be used.

eg → understanding vaccine hesitancy in tribal populations.

iii) Political structure → Impact of different states, role of bureaucracy diplomacy etc. can be judged using structured & unstructured interviews of officials.

eg → interviews Panchayats in Kerala on Covid response.

iv) Social structure → Impact on families (eg shadow pandemic → gender violence), children (orphanages) relationships etc. can be studied using unstructured interviews.

One must use holistic & comprehensive approach with a multi-methodology approach.

4. (a) Participant Observation is a convenient approach to gather information particularly qualitative data about a population, but it can be grossly misleading as well. State out the advantages as well as disadvantages of Participant observation in sociological analysis.

20

Participant Observation refers to using ethnographic method of spending long time with a community (generally small), living with them and becoming a part of community to generate in depth qualitative data.

Advantages of participant observation

- It generates an insider perspective where subjects reveal hitherto unavailable information. This brings out latent information as manifest.

Eg → FA Bailey's Bisipusa study found factionalism in a so called unified village.

•) It helps to formulate new concepts, theories. Eg:- Prof Srinivas concept of sanskritisation based on study of Goorgs.

•) It captures both continuity & change as it is long term based.
Eg Prof Beitle captured intervention of class in caste overtime in Sripusam.

Disadvantages of participant observation

•) It is micro anthropological approach. Basing macro generalisations on it can be misleading.
Eg → Louis Dumont called India a static society.

•) Researchers may fail to gather holistic information from all sections for fear of acceptance.

Eg → researchers usually avoided low caste groups to gain trust of dominant castes in village studies.

•) Since researchers can't remain objective, it may generate a biased opinion based on personal preferences.

Eg → Prof Srinivas failed to capture culture of low castes

•) Common sense may creep in & people's method may be generalised.

Participant observation must be used with other methods (triangulation) to gain a better picture.

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4. (b) To what extent does the study of social mobility play a vital part in understanding the class structure of our society? 20

Social mobility is defined as the movement (upward, downward, horizontal) of an individual, group, community from one position to other in a society, possibly in a hierarchical framework.

social mobility study plays a vital role in understanding class structure because it tells us to what extent a society is open or closed.

In a capitalist society, intra & inter generational mobility signifies a open & dynamic class structure. Eg → post 1991 liberalisation, India lifted ~135 million out of poverty raising their class position.

At the same time, a socialistic society does not espouse the concept of mobility. It believes in absolute equality which is antithetical to any up or down movement. Hence, mobility can tell us about capitalistic & socialistic biases in society.

Eg → Exstwhile USSR believed in nationalistic mode of production.

However, social mobility at times fails to capture the latent dimensions of class structure.

Top positions in a class society are captured by elites, leading to their social reproduction while bottommost fail to move ahead.

Eg → Till now USA hasn't seen a
Female President

Social mobility might show a
lot of absolute mobility but it fails to
capture increasing relative gap leading
to inequalities. Eg → As per World
Inequality Report, we are back at
the level of inequality seen in
Colonial times in the world.

Further, mobility studies do not
capture the case of underclass
who are not part of class structure
Eg → Blacks in US.

Mobility also fails to account
for intersection of class with caste,
race, gender, ethnicity. Though
the poverty levels are decreasing
but there is increasing feminisation

of poverty (Ruth Lister) on other hand.

Eg → feminisation of agriculture in India, where as per Agriculture Census, 2015 females own ~~only~~ only ~15% of land, but are employed as labourers.

Mobility may show us a ~~picture~~ quantitative picture (Eg studies by Goldthorpe, Duncan & Bly)

but it falls short of capturing the qualitative dimension of a 21st century capitalist class society.

4. (c) "Merton's theory of anomie is a borrowing but essentially different from that of Durkheim". Critically examine. 10

Anomie as per Durkheim is normlessness while for Merton, it is discrepancy between structurally defined goals and culturally acceptable means.

Merton's theory is a borrowing:-

In case of society's transition, when new collective conscience hasn't formed, the ~~dis~~ discrepancy between goals & means is higher.

eg - in economic boom, people resort to white collar crimes (innovators)

However, Merton's theory is different on many aspects →

1) As per him, anomie exists as a structure in all situations whereas for Durkheim, anomie is only during transition.

1) Merton categories deviance from anomie as situationalists, innovators, sebellion, reformers while for Durkheim, there is no such classification.

2) For Merton, anomie can have positive ~~coneg~~ social consequences
 Eg → Vidyasagar as a reformer for widow remarriage.

However for Durkheim, anomie is inherently negative problem of modernity (pathology).

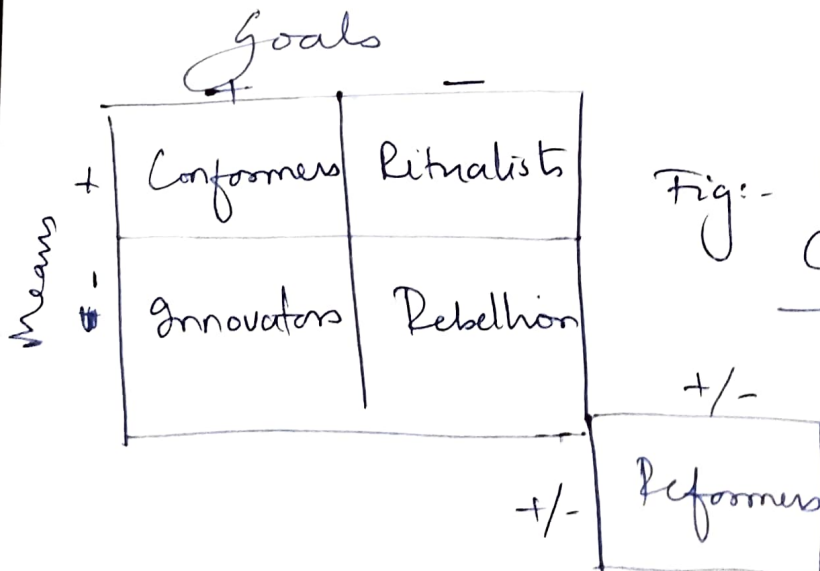


Fig:- Merton's Classification

SECTION - B

5. Write a short note on each of the following in not more than 150 words.

10 x 5 = 50

(a) Do you think that Feminization of work has led to gender equality?
Justify your answer with logical arguments.

Feminisation of work refers to increasing labour force participation of women in productive and income generating work.

It has led to gender equality because:-

- 1) Financial independence brings better decision making and bargaining power in family.
- 2) It gives freedom over one's body, choices and even maternity.
(eg working women usually marry late)
- 3) It gives cultural liberty to choose one's ~~dress~~ dress, friends etc.
- 4) It increases self esteem and respect in society.

However, it has not generated gender parity because:-

e) Sticky floor and glass ceiling →

As per Karuna Ahmad, women are concentrated in low paid, low status jobs.

f) Occupational segregation →

Certain 'feminine' pink collared jobs are dominated by women.

Eg → Case economy is gendered.

g) W Yeung tells household work is still not shared in same proportion.

h) Margaret Benston calls female a 'reserve army of labour' whose work is contractualised & is considered only a supplementary income.

Hence, quality work along with education & better male socialisation can bring gender equality.

5. (b) Protests and agitation are symptomatic of skewed development in society. Discuss in context of India along with relevant examples.

Protests and agitation are ways of collective action of masses against the state demanding equal share in fruits of modernity.

They're ~~symptoms~~ symptomatic of skewed development:-

1) Farmer's protest → Disparities created post green revolution, failure of land reforms and technological fatigue have all generated protests. Recent protests are about MSP, electricity etc.

(Eg - recent farm Bills protests).

2) Displacement → As per Fernandes 42% displaced due to development are tribals. (Eg → Narmada Bachao Andolan)

-) Backward class protests → Agrarian distress leading to reservation demands.
Eg → Jat reservation agitation.
-) Separate state demands due to regional disparities in development.
Eg → creation of Telangana.
-) Women's protests → lack of gender equality, continued crime are some reasons.
(Eg → 2012 Nisbhaya protests)
-) Environment → Middleclass is leading these ~~more~~ protests. Top sided development is impacting forests & wildlife. Eg → Aarey forests protest in Mumbai.

Protest & agitations are a mark of dissent & power of public demanding for its rights.

5. (c) Highlight the various 'Social Pathologies' within Marriage in contemporary times.

Marriage is a sexual union of two adults usually for the purpose of reproduction and sharing economic burden.

Social pathologies within marriage

•) Increasing expectations due to disconnect from wider kin group in industrialised society. This leads to increased conflict when remain unfulfilled. (Edmund Leach)

•) Increasing marital breakdowns due to increased avenues for escape. Eg Nicky Hart tells that divorces increased multifold post US Divorce Act.

•) Sexual division of labour, where female is confined to household

Ann Oakley calls this housewifization

1) Violence, breakdowns impacting child socialisation.

(Eg → increasing child delinquency, gun attacks by minors in US)

2) 'Pathologies' also depend on society considered. In India, live-in relationships are pathological while it is not so in Netherlands.

3) Empty shell marriages where the conjugal relationship is only in name.

4) Convenience marriages, where it is only a stepping stone in achievement oriented societies - (Eg in Punjab for Canadian citizenship)

Marriage is evolving to control these pathologies which are

5. (d) It is observed that young adults around the world are less religious by several measures. Give some theoretical strands in support of this observation.

Declining religiosity in young adults in modern society is a symptom of secularisation.

Theoretical strands:-

- 1) Socialization → Stevenson tells that with increasing bureaucracy, close knit societies give way to differentiated one. This reduces a common morality.
- 2) Pluralism → With rising sects and cults, religion becomes multifaceted. There is no one religion & it recedes.
- 3) Invisible religion → Thomas Luckmann tells that even though attendance in Church decreases but people take religion to private lives & not public.

•) Technology → Stew Bruce tells that as technology solves humans' problems, they rely less on God.

•) Decreasing attendance in Church

•) Decreasing influence in public institutions - eg education, health etc.

(Bryan Wilson)

•) Secularisation of religion itself -
Eg → religion reflecting ways of life of society, solving Mundane problems

Secularisation is accompanied by religion's revivalism in modern society halting its march.

5. (e) Discuss Ogburn's theory of social change.

Ogburn gave the phenomena of cultural lag to explain social change.

As per him, material conditions evolve faster than cultural elements of society. As a result, there arises a disconnect between the two which leads to 'lag' of culture.

Eg → despite technological revolution in India, technology is used for sex selective abortion due to male preference culture.

However, McTues & Page ~~criticise~~ criticise Ogburn's theory for not specifying which aspects of culture lag behind. Also, in modern society, due to globalisation,

Cultures can even spread faster than change in material conditions.

Eg. →

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8. (a) In India's cultural landscape, cults and sects professing a common way of life and shared ideals arose as an alternative to the discrimination perpetuated by traditional religious hierarchies. Discuss. 20

Cults and sects are a part of New Age Religion in the modern society.

As per Weber, sects arise in marginal communities breaking away from dominant religion (theodicy of disprivilege). This is applicable in Indian context.

Traditional religious hierarchies were most visibly manifested in Caste. As per Prof. Ghurye, civic, religious & occupational disabilities form a core feature of caste. Sects like Deva Sacha Sauda

came forward to give an alternate path to religion to lower castes.

Further, patriarchal nature of religion forced women at the bottom. This was visible in puṣṭak (veil), fasting, rituals. 'Ek Pativrata' (Uma Chakravarty).

Women are now choosing to join cults & sects which grant equality. Eg Ast of Living ~~by~~ ~~see~~ However, in Indian context this is not only a recent but also a historical phenomena.

In the 5th-6th century BCE, Buddhism and Jainism initially arose as sects admitting women, lower caste & 'untouchables' in their fold without discrimination challenging mainstream Brahminic religion.

Even, the ideals of Bhakti
and Sufism preached path of
love, devotion & equality.

Kabir's teaching gave rise to
Kabir Panthi sect while Guru Nanak's
guidelines eventually gave rise to
Sikhism.

However, after a point sects
and cults failed to pose an
alternative to discrimination.

Even today, Dalit converts
to Buddhism (Neo-Buddhists)
are not treated at par.

Criminal cases against
self proclaimed preachers like
Asaram point to a breakdown
of a cult.

Further, traditional religions modified itself to generate a counter movement. Shaivism

and Vaishnavism in South challenged Buddhism & Jainism ultimately leading to disappearance of Buddhism from its birth place.

Modern society is increasingly considering religions as an activity of private sphere. Seeking solace, youth is reaching out Sadhguru & other cults.

8. (b) In the age of Industrialisation and Globalisation, distinction between family and household has become much more relevant. Discuss. 20

GP Murdock defines family as a social unit consisting of two or more heterosexual adults, at least two of whom maintain a socially approved sexual relationship, with one or more children, own or adopted.

Household on the other hand is a dwelling unit based on residence ('ghar').

Classical scholars like LH Morgan, Tylor etc. saw a unilinear movement of society & didn't segregate family from household.

Even later, Parsons considered nuclear family in a household as fit for industrial society without

distinguishing between them.

However, with industrialisation and globalisation, this distinction is coming to the fore.

A family may or may not reside in a household while a household may consist of different families (eg hostels, dormitories).

With children separating from parents, they remain in same family but different households.

Prof AM Chah calls this progression and secession of households.

Progression occurs due to birth, marriage, adoption while secession due to death, desertion, divorce.

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8. (c) Discuss Self-Help Group (SHG) as an informal organization from a sociological perspective.

10

Self Help groups are informal groups voluntarily created to pool meagre & resources and start remunerative business enterprises together at a small scale.

(Eg Kudumbashree in Kerala)

- For sociology, they form an important area of study due to emphasis on gender equality.

In Indian context, they're mostly formed by women who get cheaper loans ~~for~~ from banks.

They also signify state's seceding role from developmental arena where society is expected to move self reliant. As per BS Baviskar Mukherjee, this explains

their rise in civil society domain.

Further, defaults on payment, competition from trans national corporations talk about impact of capitalism on smaller informal associations in market. They at times, eliminate their existence.

SHG's have also been known to strengthen decentralisation of governance. Many women from SHG participate in local governing institutions (Eg Panchayats in India). Financial and political empowerment leads to social empowerment within family.

~~SHG's~~ SHG represent a new evolving arena of civil society.