



Social Change and Education

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Abstract:-

Change is a continuous process. All things weather living or non-living, ideas, civilizations, culture and principles of the world are changeable. Any phenomenon or situation that occurred ten years before does not exist today and it will not be so ten years after.

By social change we mean those activities which are responsible for the change of the form of society. Technologies, weapons, language etc are different means which continuously change because man remains continuously busy in his defense and increasing his comforts through inventing different technologies and expressing his ideas. Through these activities social form continuous to change. New words are coined for newer changes. Thus social change takes place.

As the existence of social change demands its continuance by existing social structure is influenced by many factors like technologies and daily inventions which cause it to change. There is a great importance of social change for not only studying the past but also investigating the future developments. Society is inter related to social change and is also in the form of web of social relationship. Thus the main purpose of this paper is to describe variations of any aspects of social process, social patterns, social interactions or social organizations which is termed as SOCIAL CHANGE.

I. Introduction

Social change is a phenomenon that is continuously encountered in our day to day life. It cannot be defined as a new fashion or mode in the life of people living in society. Social change includes modification in social techniques, relationships, behavior, in institutions and sometimes leading to change in philosophic outlook.

By social change, Kingsley Davis meant only such alterations that affect the organizations, structure and functions of society. Robert A. Nisbet views social change as a succession of difference in time within a persisting identity.

Social change happens everywhere but in some place the rate of social change may differ from place to place. Sometimes social change occurs unplanned and sometimes it creates controversy. Sometime it is planned and useful for the society.

Social change is a combination or a new use of existing knowledge. Change in culture on a large part is also a part of social change. It constantly loses or gains social components.

II. Methodology

The main approach for this paper was a desk view of available empirical and conceptual literature on the "Social Change". Desk research basically the collection of data from existing source such as academic publications, the internet and the analytic and empirical reports. This is followed by cross referencing as mentioned at the end of the paper.

The phenomenon of social change is not simple but complex. To understand social change well, we have to analyze the characteristic of social change which are as follows:

Some major characteristics-

1- Social change is continuous-

Society is going through continuous change. These changes are unstoppable. From the history (past) to the present day it has been in a continuous flux.

2- Social change is environmental-

As we know society represent culture and culture is related to environment. This environment may be geographical, physical, surrounding or may be cultural context. And environment plays important role on human

beings as well as on culture. If environment changes the behavior of man also changes according to environment.

3- Social change is human change-

Society is a composition of humans and all the activities performed by human brings social change. Some times social change is extremely important for human change.

4- Social change may be on small scale or large scale-

A line of distinction is drawn between small scale and large scale social change. Small scale change refers to changes within groups and organizations rather than societies, culture or civilization. According to W.E.Moore by small changes we shall mean changes in the characteristics of social structure that though comprised within the general system identifiable as a society, do not have any immediate and major consequences for the generalized structure as society.

5- Social change involves no value judgment-

The study of social change involves no-value judgment. It may neither moral nor immoral, it is amoral. It is ethically neutral.

6- Social change is an objective term-

The term social change describes one of the categorical processes. It has no value judgment (as mentioned in one of the above point) attached to it. To the sociologist social change as a phenomenon is neither moral nor immoral, it is amoral. It means the study of social change system without being for against the change.

As the following characters mentioned above there are some social factors responsible for social change they are as follows:

Main factor of social change-

• **Demographic factors:-**

The term “demography” has been derived from two Greek words, ‘Demos’ and ‘Graph’ meaning the “people” and to “draw” or “write” respectively which means scientific study of human population, primarily with respect to their size, structure and their development. These factors may be qualitative or quantitative.

• **Biological factors:-**

Rapid population growth influences our environment causes poverty, food storage and multiple health problems and thereby brings changes in society. Migration creates urbanization and urbanization creates many problem like slum, health issues in people and life style of the people. This influences the rate of social change.

• **Cultural factors:-**

Man learns his behaviors and the behavior learnt by man is called culture. The basic element of culture is language, religion, philosophy, faith and values changes time to time which causes changes in society.

• **Technological factors:-**

Technology is a product of utilization. When a scientific knowledge is applied to the problem of life, it becomes technology. Technology grows rapidly. With the help of technological factors development in the society occurs like transportation and communication has reduced the social distance. Technological factors plays important role in the change in society.

• **Environmental factors:-**

Some times environmental hazards like, floods, earthquake, heavy rain, drought and sudden changes of the seasons influence the large amount of population for the change in their habitat or culture which is also important reason for social change.

• **Other factors:-**

In addition to above mentioned factors other elements such as wars, ethnic tensions, competition for resources, banking system, human right movements etc. have resulted in wide spread social variation and modification.

Major patterns or modes of social change are-

➤ **Social change through evolution-**

Darwin, Herbert Spencer and other 19th century social theorists, tried to interpret social change as a form of evolution. Evolution means slow or continuous change from simple to complex. According to socialist, social change take place evolutionary and it occurs within the society. For example- there was a time when a people were hunters and fruit pickers/pluckers to satisfy their hunger. There, after while undergoing evolution they passed through different stages. They started agriculture, they were shepherd and then into industrial stage. All

these processes show that the human life changes from simple to a complex. Thus it may be termed as evolutionary social change.

➤ **Social change through progress:-**

It is another mode of social change. Progress means 'going forward'. Progress can be visualized in positive and negative both the directions. It means society in present state is going forward according to the need of the people. In this process, the entire society gets benefited and the causes may be external forces. Changes may be fast or slow, it may be stage wise or definite stage. Thus it also acts as a mode social change.

➤ **Social change through development:-**

Development is a speed at which the stage changes or develops over another stage. It may be positive or negative. As we know social change is not static it is continuously changing in different speed and modes. It is developing naturally. As we know the history of every society contain rise and fall, good and bad, achievement and losses these activity shows the difference in society. That is why development plays a major pattern or mode of social change.

➤ **Social change through revolution:-**

Factors responsible for revolution do not occur overnight which leads a society. Through revolution only, a new social system is born. Revolution in a society is not desirable it can be accepted as only one possible. But through revolution regular change does not occur then also it is the major pattern of social change because it does major changes in a society.

➤ **Social change through social movements:-**

Every society faces some evil or negative elements but those negative elements are eliminated from the society for the betterment. For this betterment there are some organizations made in a society which brings changes. The elimination of negative elements from the society is called social movements. For the social development, social movements are the positive steps taken by the organizations. This is the only reason that it is also the major pattern of social change.

Social Interaction

Social interaction is a dynamic sequence of social actions between two groups who regularly try to modify their actions and reactions. Modern social structures and cultures are based upon the social interactions. Through the broad schema of social development, one tries to interact with other at its core. Social interaction may be through language and symbols or some times it may be on large scale and on small scale also. Through interaction with others a society can get new ideas of development and changes and it is also important for the social change.

Necessity of social change

In a rapidly changing world there is a growing awareness that we are facing fundamental problems. In spite of all the economic growth of the last forty years, the gap between the richest and the majority of the world's people is actually growing, with over a billion of people in deep poverty and many hundreds of millions more living on the margins. In such an era of an increasingly constrained and divided world the need for progressive social change is obvious. Indeed, unless we can adapt creatively and compassionately, then prospects for a peaceful and stable world will rapidly fade.

III. Conclusion

The cause of social change is diverse, and the processes of change can be identified as either short-term trends or long-term developments. Change can be either cyclic or one-directional. The mechanisms of social change can be varied and inter-connected. Several mechanisms may be combined in one explanatory model of social change. For example, innovation by business might be stimulated by competitions and by government regulations to the degree that changes processes are regular and inter connected, social change itself is structure. Since about 1965 there has been a shift in emphases from 'structure' to 'change' in social theory. Change on different levels social dynamic in every day life and short term developments in society at large has become the focus of much attention in the study of society.

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