SOCIOLOGY

**Social Change**

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 Social change is a concept in sociology which talks about a change in the established patterns of social relations, or change in social values or change in structures and subsystems operating in the society. The term social change is used to indicate the changes that take place in human interactions and interrelations.

 Auguste Comte the father of Sociology has posed two problems- the question of social statics and the question of social dynamics, what is and how it changes. The sociologists not only outline the structure of the society but also seek to know its causes also.

 According to Morris Ginsberg social change is a change in the social structure.

**Definition of Social Change**

Social change may be defined as the process which is discernible in the alteration of the structure and functioning of a particular social system. It is a term used to describe variation in, modifications of, any aspect of social processes, social patterns, and social interaction within a social organisation.

Usually social change refers to a significant change in social behaviour or a change in social system rather than minor changes within a small group.

 **Lundberg**, “Social change refers to any modifications in the established patterns of inter-human relationship and standard of conduct.”

 **Morris Ginsberg**, “By social change, I understand a change in social structure, e.g., the size of the society, the composition or the balance of its parts or the type of its organization”.

 **Gillin and Gillin**, “Social changes are variations from the accepted modes of life; whether due to alternation in geographical conditions, in cultural equipment, composition of the population or ideologies and brought about by diffusion, or inventions within the group.

 It has been understood that social change as a term shall signify such changes as affect the nature and structure of social groups and institutions and the social relations between the individual, the group and the institutions in a society.

 ‘Development’, ‘evolution’ and ‘progress’ are the different modes of change and whenever we speak of social change the importance of each of these modes has to be assessed, for the changes brought about by each of these processes will have distinct impressions upon the functioning’s of social phenomena.