

**1. What is social change? Discuss the factors or agencies of social change.**

**Ans :** Social change means alteration or substitution of social structure, in form or size, or in composition or in the balance of its organisation. It involves change in beliefs, desires, purpose, and drives of the individuals forming the society. Thus social change is a fact of life. No society is absolutely static. Some changes are desirable. Others are not so. A social change to be designated as

good has to occur in a desirable direction.

**Ogburn** : Social change means a change in the culture and in its chief factors, material culture and non-material culture.

**Johnson** : "Social change may be defined as modification in ways of doing and thinking of the people".

Social change is the change in society. Society is a web of social relationships. But what is society? It is a web of social relationships which include social patterns, social processes, social interactions and social organizations. Hence, social change is a change in social relationships. These include the mutual activities and relations of the various parts of society. The change is inevitable. Society is dynamic. It is in a constant flux. Whether we want a change, whether we like it or not, times are moving fast. Change is inherent in the society. Throughout the life of an individual, he tries to make adjustment to his physical universe and the social world around it. He also creates his own environment in order to feel at home and having created, tries to have master over them. This situation is known as creative adjustment. It is an never ending process.

#### **Factors or agencies of social change :**

Sociologists have put forward several factors of social change some of them are –

1. **Geographical or Physical factors** : Physical factors such as the climate, forests, animal life, rivers, mountains have a great influence on the human society. Social changes do sometimes take place due to these factors. Our culture, traditions and values all depend upon the geographical condition of a place. For example - People in Rajasthan wear cotton clothes due to the hot climate there. Again people in places like Himachal Pradesh wear cold clothes due to the cold climate there.
2. **Biological factors** : Biological factors also play a role in social change. Humans use the non-human biological factors like plants and animals to satisfy his basic needs of food, clothes and shelter. Biological factors like population, death and birth rate, hereditary quality of the next generations to come also

play a great role in social change. In countries where the size of population is very high there are problems for man in meeting his basic need of food, clothing and shelter. There are also social problems like poverty, poor health, poor education, low economic status, unemployment and so on.

3. **Cultural factors** : The culture of any society consists of its values, beliefs, changes with the advancement in technology. Sociologists believe that culture gives speed and direction to social change.
4. **Technological factors** : Technology has brought about great social change in the world. Modern age is known as the "Age of Technology" or "Machines". C.N. Shankara Rao defines technology as, "When the scientific knowledge is applied to the problems of life, it becomes technology." Man has made great technological inventions to satisfy his own needs and to make life comfortable. Karl Marx regarded technology to be the main source of social change.
5. **Psychological factors** : Some sociologists believe the Psychological factors are also sometimes responsible for social change. It is found that we respect our old customs and traditions and also want a change in them. This psychological desire in the minds of the people brings about changes in the society.
6. **Breaking of New Ideas** : Social reformers like Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Dr. Radhakrishnan have brought about great changes in the ideas and thought patterns of the people regarding education of women. Political leaders like Mahatma Gandhi fought against social evils like caste system and untouchability. Such leaders give new ideas which helps in bringing about social change.

## 2. Define Social Change. Discuss the causes of social change.

**Ans** : A few definition of social change are given below :

**Jones** : "Social change is a term used to describe variations or modifications of any aspects of social processes social patterns,

social interactions or social organizations”.

**Davis :** “By social change is meant only such alterations as source in social organization that is, the structure and functions of society”. Social change can be observed in every society.

**Merril and Eldredge :** “Social change means that large numbers of persons and engaging in activities that differ from those which they or their immediate (forefathers) engaged in some time before.

### **Causes of social change :**

Social change is never caused by any single factors. There are several causes of social change as it is a complex phenomenon. Let's try to look at some of the causes of social change as pointed by some sociologists.

- i. **Strain and Conflict :** Sociologists believe that human beings strive for modifications for changes in their status and roles which causes strain and conflicts in their minds such conflicts are seen more in the political field when men run after power. There is a conflict in the minds of almost everyone in the society regarding the extent of benefit they have derived from the existing system. Such strain and conflicts are sometimes responsible for bringing about social changes.
- ii. **Social Problems :** Social problems prevailing in any society leaders to social conflict amongst the people who are at advantage and people who have been deprived. Such conflicts bring about social change. Problems like caste system, over population, poverty, unemployment, juvenile delinquency etc. have created lot of social conflicts in Indian society. These problems when tried to be solved to a change in the existing social order which brings about a social change.
- iii. **Revolutions :** History has been witness to revolutions taking place in the world to fight against exploitation, tyranny, corruption, high prices, low wages and so on. These revolutions have brought about great changes in the social systems. Some examples of such revolutions are the American Revolution, the French Revolution and the Russian also leads to social

change in society. Cultural innovations are a great cause of social change.

- iv. **Environment Causes** : Changes in the physical and social environment also leads to social changes. Factors like deforestation, soil erosion etc. lead to natural disasters bringing about social change. Again non-environmental factors like foreign invasions, free trade policies, political alliances etc. also bring great changes in the structure of any society.

**3. Discuss the role of education in the process of social change.**

**Or**

**'Education is an instrument of social change' Explain the statement with special reference to India.**

**Ans :** Education is one of the most prominent factors of social change. It plays a pivotal role in social change. Education helps to develop a change in the attitude and outlook of man, which in return contributes to social change. In earlier days also it was the educational institutions and teachers which transmitted the way of life to the students. At that time education was a tool to exert social control. At that time education imparted was meant to make the students a socially responsible citizen. Things have changed now. Today's age is an age of science and technology. New inventions have brought about rapid changes in the societies all over the world. It has brought about changes in social relationships also.

*"Education brings about changes in the behaviour of society"* says Brown. It enables an individual to participate in the activities of the society effectively and also to make contributions in a positive direction for its progress.

Again, Prof V.R. Taneja, says that education mainly performs three functions

- a) Preservation of Culture.
- b) Transmission of culture to the new generations.
- c) Dissemination of new knowledge keeping in view the already existing culture.

Education as an instrument of social change must be able to remove social barriers in the path of nation's growth, it must be able to bring down the rate of illiteracy, it must be able to act as an instrument of social reconstruction and develop a truly democratic society where people exert their freedom of thought and expression.

India is still an underdeveloped country. On one hand still it has a huge population of illiterate people who do not want to accept any new change coming. They are very much traditional and conservative. They do not want to forgo their ancient tradition, rituals, beliefs, customs, values etc.

On the other hand, we have the literate section who are ready to accept changes as their outlooks have broadened due to education. These people try to adjust with the new changes coming up taking in account our traditional values, beliefs and culture."/ .oo.. .:

In our country, with the introduction of modern system of education by the Britishers and then the entry of educational institutions of foreign countries have brought about great social changes. Today the whole outlook and attitude of the younger generation has changed towards our earlier values and beliefs. Education also has greatly influenced our customs and tradition, religious beliefs etc. The younger generation including the people who live in urban areas and are well qualified no more belief in superstitions and supernatural beings. It has helped people remove narrow mindedness and prejudices from their minds.

Education has also brought about great improvement in the status of women. Today almost every society is in favour of women education. Women who are educated are empowered enough to take care of themselves. Educated women can take better care of their families and children. They also understand the importance of small family norms which has raised their standard of living. Modern women go out to work equally with the men, thus contributing to the economic upliftment of the family and the society as a whole. Education has also led to the increase in the employment of people in various occupations. It has decreased the number of people, from manual working class. Educational change has to however been followed by social and economic changes and then only it can

bring a change in the socio-economic status of the people.

**4. What is modernization? Discuss the role of education in the process of modernisation.**

**Ans : Meaning of modernization :** The most important function of education is modernization. Modernization is a comprehensive concept aimed at capturing, describing the transition of a society from medieval to modern culture. It does not devote any philosophy or movement, but it only symbolises a process of change. In fact, "modernization" is understood as a process which indicates the adoption of the modern ways of life and values. It also indicates a change in people's habits, tastes, choices, preferences, ideas, values, recreational facilities and so on. It is also described as social change involving the elements of science and technology

Today the term 'modernization' is understood as an attempt, on the part of the people, particularly those who are custom-bound, to adopt themselves to the present time, conditions, styles and ways in general.

**Role of education in modernization :**

Education is the most important instrument of modernization from the very beginning. Following are the role of education in bringing modernization :

- 1. Change in attitudes and beliefs :** Education plays a significant role in the system of attitudes, beliefs and values. It also enhances the acceptability of modern technology.
- 2. Growth of the infrastructure :** Education helps in the growth of the infrastructure essential for adaptation to technology based specific national needs.
- 3. Establishing foundation of institutions and Organization:** Education, establishes the foundations of institutions and organizations which could in time take the responsibility for innovation and technological growth.

**5. What is meant by culture? Distinguish between primitive culture and modern culture.**

**Ans : Meaning of culture :** Culture has been defined in a number of ways. The most accepted meaning of a culture is that total way of life. In its broad meaning it includes man's material civilisation like tools, weapons, clothing, shelter, machines, buildings, industrial products as well as non-material civilization like language, literature, art, morality, law and government. Culture means, the sum total of the attainments or activities of any race of people of any specific period and civilization. It means "good manners and good task". It is related to the inner and external behaviour of man his mode of living, thinking, talking and attitude.

According to Sorokin and Mcver, 'culture implies man's moral, spiritual and intellectual achievements'.

According to E. B. Tylor "culture is that complete whole which includes knowledge, belief, art morals, laws, customs and any other capabilities and habits acquired by men as a member of the society".

According to Benjean, "culture means the total behaviour of the members of a society including their language, values and norms resulting in material artifacts to compose the ways of life.

Thus, culture is that complex whole which includes knowledge, belief, caste, creed, religion, art, morals, race, manners, behaviour and any other capabilities acquired by man as a member of the society. It consists of all the share products of human society both material and non-material.

### **Primitive culture and modern culture :**

Primitive culture is nothing but simple culture. It is simply living in gathering-hunting, fishing type of culture. Human culture first appeared on earth about one million years ago.

A culture can be called primitive when there is no technology, literature, industry and commerce. This type of culture is more based on environment which determines the way of life.

### **Chief characteristics of primitive culture :**

- It is a simple culture.
- No science and technology developed.
- Based on environment.

- ♦ Based on superstition.
- ♦ Lack of status of women.
- ♦ Lack of Industry.

### **Modern Culture :**

Modern culture is very complex. It is dominated by modern science and technology, art and literature, industry and work specialization. It is largely dependent upon verbal symbols and transmitted by formal educational institutions.

Some of the specific characteristics of modern culture are :

- ♦ More complex.
- ♦ Uses of science and technology.
- ♦ Super industrialisation.
- ♦ Transmitted by literature and institutions.
- ♦ It is dominated by new discoveries and inventions.
- ♦ Rapidly changeable.
- ♦ Artificial and not natural.
- ♦ Dominated by situation rather than environment.

**6. What are the elements of culture? Discuss the importance of culture in present day context.**

**Ans : Elements of Culture :** Robert Bierstedi, in his book 'The Social Order', classified the contents of culture into three large components of culture. They are : ideals, norms and material. The above classifications may be called as cognitive, normative and material.

- ♦ **The Cognitive Dimensions (Ideas) :** The first element of culture is idea which includes myth, superstitions, scientific facts, an and religion: This reflects ways of thinking and what people think ideas is the cognitive aspect of culture, which includes beliefs and knowledge. Ideas give literature the input to contribute to society. Humans are able to comprehend and to relate to their surrounding, through the infunnation processing abilities of their mind. Information is processed

based on what humans think, feel, recognize, recall things from the past and then project them into a real and fantasized future. Ideals will turn into beliefs.

- **The Normative Dimension (Norms) :** The normative dimension is the second large component of culture. It includes rules, expectations and standardized procedures. Norms can be classified into folkways, mores, customs and laws which guide individual behaviour. The norms represent not the ways of thinking but to the actual acts performed. We are interested in human conduct on different social occasions. There is difference between behaviour and conduct. Behaviour is a mere response or impulse. Conduct, on the other hand, implies the presence of norms, which are cultural. Our conduct are influenced by the standards appropriate to the society in which we live.
- **The Material Dimension (Material) :** The third element of culture, the material culture refers to what we have or possess as members of society. The culture provides knowledge and rules for organizing work and tools for human survival, Material culture refers mainly to basic conditions, which are the material items that the members of a society have and use, as also to science, technology and instruments of production, transport and communication.

### **Importance of culture**

Culture is important for group and individual both. It can be discussed as follows,

#### **For Groups**

- (i) It is culture that has always kept social relationship, intact. By regulating the behaviour of the people in a group, culture satisfies their primary drives pertaining to hunger, shelter and sex by regulating the behaviour of the people. Culture has provided a number of checks on irrational conduct and suggestibility. Culture aids such as schooling or scientific training lessen the chance of a man behaving irrationally or irresponsibly. Indeed life would have been poor, nasty, brutish

and short, if there had been no cultural relations.

- (ii) Culture has given a new vision to the society by providing a set of rules for the cooperation of the individuals. Culture teaches the individual to think of himself as a part of the large whole culture provides him the concepts of family, state, nation and class and teaches him to live in groups.
- (iii) Socially, culture provides the standard of valuation of group life.
- (iv) Culture creates new needs and new drives, for example, thirst for knowledge culture also provides knowledge to arrange organizations into groups according to their satisfaction. In this way groups owe much to culture. Had there been no culture, there would have been no group life.
- (v) Culture links the past with the present and gives to each generation a better position in the struggle of life.

#### **For Individuals**

- (i) Culture regulates individuals conduct and prepares him for group life. Culture provides and teaches him to live a social life and cooperate or compete with others. Culture trains individuals how to behave with the others and how he should speak with and influence the people.
- (ii) Culture provides man with a set of social behaviour even for complicated situations. His actions become automatic. In the absence of culture, he would have been baffled even at the simplest situation.
- (iii) Through culture, man gets traditional interpretations for many situations according to which he determines his behaviour. These traditional interpretations are different from culture to culture. In one culture if a man sees an owl at the top of house, he regards it as inauspicious. But among some cultures, the owl is regarded as symbol of wisdom and not a symbol of idiocy.
- (iv) Culture provides conditions in which human personality can find full expression and opportunities for wholesome growth.

- (v) It is culture that keeps the inner depth of every human being from being attracted to savage life in chains and keeps man within the bounds of society.

**7. Discuss the influence of culture on personality of individual in the context of India.**

**Ans :** Man is not only a social animal but also a cultural being. Man's social life has been made possible because of culture. Culture has a great influence on the personality development of an individual. How personality is developed by the influence of culture can be explained as follows.

- Culture provides knowledge which is essential for the physical, social, moral and intellectual existence of man. Birds and animals behave instinctively but man has greater intelligence and learning capacity with the helps of these he has been able to adopt himself with the environment and modify it to suit his convenience culture has made such an adaptation and modifications possible and easier by providing man the necessary skills and knowledge.
- It is the culture which conditions an attitude towards various issues such as religion, morality, marriage, family planning position and so on. Our goals of winning the race, understanding others, attaining salvation, being obedient to elders and teachers etc. are all set forth by the culture.
- Culture directs and confines the behaviour of an individual. Culture assigns goals and provides means for achieving them. It rewards his noble works and punishes the ignoble ones. It assigns him statuses and roles. Individual indeed, is a prisoner of culture.
- Culture exercise a great influence on the development of personality. No child can develop human qualities is the absence of a cultural environment. Culture prepares man for group life and provides him the design of living. It is the culture that provides opportunities for the development of personality and sets limits on its growth.

- It is culture that emphasise certain practices, motivations and values. Majority of the people, embody in their personalities the dominant action patterns and thought ways. Culture exerts a powerful and consistent pressure on the individual to develop personality, the common and serially approved traits and values. Hence a large number of them develop personalities which may most fully express the spirit or ethose of their culture.
- Personality is the product of culture. It is through the process of socialization that the child develops a personality according to the cultural expectations of his society, GM. All port personality is a person's pattern of habit, attitudes and traits which determine his adjustment of his environment.
- Individuals everywhere will react to and be influenced by their culture in different ways and degrees. Culture provides the limits within which personality will develop, through socialisation each culture places its distinctive work on human personality. The more homogeneous the culture the more likely it is to produce a characteristics type of person who reflects the dominant ethos or cultural theme.
- Culture defines social situations for individual. It not only defines but also conditions and deternlines what we eat, drink, what we wear, when to laugh, deep, sleep, love to make friends, what God are worship and so on. Through cultural conditioning one learns to walk, talk, wear dress, handle social obligations, develop the attitudes approved in his society.

Thus, culture has a great influence on the development of personality of the individual.

### 8. Short note Material and Spiritual Culture.

**Ans : Material and Spiritual Culture :** A distinction is often made between material and non-material (spiritual) culture. Material culture means the things and objects which are man made, visible objects as tools, implements, furniture, automobiles, buildings, dams, roads, bridges and infact the physical substance which has been changed and used by people. It includes technical equipments like a printing press, a telephone, a television, a tractor, machine etc. It

also includes banks, insurance scheme, parliament, currency system etc. Assamese culture can be cited as an example of material culture. The various materials such as housing, food, dresses, furniture etc.

On the other hand non materials or spiritual culture is used in the ordinary sense includes thoughts, ideas, religion, custom, faith, belief, knowledge, language, habits rituals, practices etc. It thus includes our ways of acting, feeling, and thinking etc.

The various non-material aspect of Assamese culture are customs, belief system, language, art and craft etc.

Material culture is man made, they are visible and audible. It changes rapidly and it is also called civilization. On the other hand non-material culture is spiritual, abstract, and invisible. They are traditional nature, changes very slowly.

Although the difference between the two culture provides a basis for analysis it should not be assumed that either develops independently of the other. Each interacts upon the other and in this very fact lies one of the major problems of social control.

### **9. What is culture? Discuss the importance (role) of education in culture.**

**Ans :** Culture has been defined in a number of ways. The most accepted meaning of a culture is that it is the total way of life. In its broad meaning it includes man's material civilization like tools, weapons, clothing, shelter, machanics, buildings, industrial products, as well as non-material, civilization like language, literature, art, morality, law and government. Culture means the sum total of the attainments or activities of any race, of people, of any specific period and civilization, it means "good manners and good task". It is related to the inner and external behaviour of man, his mode of living, thinking, talking and attitude.

#### **Importance of Culture in Education :**

Education and culture through seem to be two different terms but they are connected intimately and are inter-related. The base of every educational system of it country is its culture.

To understand how culture and education are interrelated. For this first let's understand about the influence of culture on education:

- (1) **Aims of education** : The cultural ideals, values and pattern of a society determine the aims of education of a country.
- (2) **Curriculum** : The aims of education are realised through the curriculum. The educational curriculum of a society is framed according to its needs and ideals. The educational curriculum reflects the cultural needs of a society.
- (3) **Methods of teaching** : As our culture changes so does our methods of teaching. In ancient India, the method of teaching was teacher centred i.e., the students had to learn whatever the teacher taught. The method of teaching was based on cramming and rote memorisation of the subject matter by the students. But in modern times, education has become child centred. Today the needs, interests, aptitudes and capabilities of children are given more importance. Today, the method of teaching is activity oriented and technology based so that the students can cope up with future life.
- (4) **Culture and discipline** : The concern of discipline also undergoes changes with changes in the culture. Earlier the students had to follow strict discipline but now more importance is given to free-discipline.
- (5) **Culture and teacher** : The cultural values and ideals of a society has a great impact on the teacher. A teacher who imparts education according to the prevailing cultural values of a society is a successful teacher.

#### **Influence of Education on Culture :**

We have already discussed about the influence of, culture on education. Now lets try to understand how education influences culture :

- (1) **Preservation & Transmission of Culture** : Education helps in the preservation and transmission of culture from one generation to the other. In the words of Ottaway, "The function of education is to transmit the social values and meals to the young and capable members of society".

- (2) **Development of Culture** : It is the function of education to bring about desirable changes in the cultural ideals and values of a society, for social progress and development of society. Education can do this by conducting research and due investigation.
- (3) **Maintaining the Continuity of Culture** : Education helps in maintaining the continuity of culture. In a school, children come from different cultural backgrounds. They must be motivated to have maximum cultural interaction so that they develop the qualities of tolerance, brotherhood, co-operation and mutual understanding. This cultural understanding can help in maintaining peace and harmony in the society.
- (4) **Development of Personality** : The chief aim of education is the development of the total personality of a child, i.e. physical, mental, social and emotional as per the cultural needs, ideals and values of the society.
- (5) **Removing Cultural lag** : Education is the only means to bring the cultural lag created by the fast development of material culture leaving behind the non-material culture.

10. **Discuss the different types of culture with examples.**

**Ans : Type of culture :**

**(a) Material Culture and Non Material Culture :**

According to Ogburn and Nimkoff culture is of two types :

I. Material culture.

2. Non-material culture.

1. **Material Culture** : Material culture means the things and objects which are man made, visible objects as tools, implements, furniture, automobiles, buildings, dams, roads, bridges and in fact the physical substance which has been changed and used by man. It includes technical equipments like - printing press, a telephone, a television, a tractor, a machine gun etc. It includes our banks, insurance scheme, parliaments, currency systems etc.

Assamese culture can be cited as an example of material culture. The various material aspects of Assamese culture are- Housing, Food, Dresses, Jewellery, Utensils, Transportation System, Furniture etc.

2. **Non-Material Culture** : The term "culture" which used in the ordinary sense, means "Non-material culture". Non-material culture is intangible, immaterial, internal, intrinsically valuable. It consists of the thoughts ideas, religion, custom, faith, belief, knowledge, language, habits, rituals, practices etc. It thus includes our ways of acting, feeling and thinking.

**(b) Primitive Culture :**

Primitive culture is, nothing but simple culture. It is simply living in gathering, hunting, fishing type of culture. Human culture first appeared on earth about one million years ago.

A culture can be called primitive, when there is no technology, literature, industry and commerce. This type of culture is more based on environment which determines the way of life. The primitive culture can be classified into three phases :

- (1) **Paleolithic Period** : This stage is known as stone age. People made different apparatus and weapons of different stones and included knife, bottle needles, hair pins made from bones, stone beads, horn beads, horn spoons, stone axes necklesses made from bones etc. Paintings in the caves showed that the hunters used identical hunting methods. People used to wear tree barks an animal skins.
- (2) **Neolithic Period** : This period is also known as new stone age. Man began to polish his tools and weapons. To revolutionary changes in the human culture took place- domestication of animals and introduction of agriculture. Plough wild Potters wheel are gift of this age. Agriculture started in three different forms as Horticulture Slash, and Burn Cultivation, Plough Cultivation.
- (3) **Metal Age** : The Period began about 5000 years ago. Man began to discard stone implements in favour of these made of metals, marking the beginning of the age of metal. At first,

soft malleable copper was used. Later on alloy of copper and thin bronze was used to make tools. Finally usefulness of iron become known.

**(c) Modern culture :**

Modern Culture is very complex. It is dominated by modern science and technology, art and literature, industry and work specialization. It is largely dependent upon verbal symbols and transmitted by formal educational institutions.

**11. What is cultural change? Mention the causes of cultural change.**

**Ans : Cultural change :**

Any change that takes place within the preview of culture is known as cultural change, we all know that culture is not static but it keeps on undergoing change. Cultural change takes place when there is a change in the concept of property and morality new forms of music, art, dance, new styles in architecture are invented.

In the words of Kingsley Davis, "the cultural changes embraces all changes occurring in any branch of culture including art, science, technology, philosophy etc. as well as changes in the forms and rules of social organisation".

**Causes of Cultural Changes :**

According to David Dressler and Donald Cams, cultural changes occur due to the following reasons :

1. Sometimes members of a society are often confronted by customs that differ from those which they have learnt to accept. In such a situation they adopt some of the new customs, reject others, and follow modified versions of still others. This might be called cultural eclecticism.
2. New customs and practices are likely to be more readily adopted under two conditions : (i) if they represent what is viewed as socially desirable and useful; and (ii) if they do not clash with preexisted and still valued customs and practices.
3. It is widely observed that even if the people accept the new customs and practices, they do not completely abandon their

traditional culture.

4. Changes in culture are always superimposed on existing culture especially during culture-contact.
5. Changes in culture are always relative. We do not have a "changed" culture but only a "changing culture", strictly speaking. Cultural changes normally emerge gradually but continuously. Hence we find a co-existence of old and new customs in the same society.
6. All the cultural changes are not equally important. Some changes are introduced to culture because they are considered necessary for human survival. Some other changes are accepted in order to satisfy socially acquired needs not essential for survival.
7. Still it could be observed that some cultural changes originally meet neither a "survival need" nor an "acquired need" of a people. Example: New ways of disposing of the dead.
8. It is a fact of common observation that crisis tends to produce or accelerate cultural change. If the changes are accepted once due to the crisis, they tend to persist. Example: Women were accepted in defence industry during the Second World War, and even now they continue to be there.
9. Cultural change is cumulative in its total effect. Much is added and little is lost. Its growth is like the growth of a tree that ever expands but only loses its leaves, sometimes its limbs from time to time, long as it survives.
10. Cultural change leads to chain reaction. "Whenever a change is incorporated into the culture and becomes defined as a 'social necessity', new needs emerge, generation desire for still further changes to complement or supplement the original change.

**12. What is cultural lag? What are its characteristics? Discuss briefly the causes of cultural lag.**

**Ans : Cultural Lag :** We have that there are two types of culture i.e. material and non-material it is observed that changes take place in both these of culture. However, it is observed that the

pace of progress of material culture i.e. scientific researches and inventions is faster than the non-material culture i.e., ideals, values and norms. Thus a gap is created amongst the progress of both these cultures. The fast progress of material culture and lagging behind of the non-material culture is known as cultural lag.

#### **Characteristics of lag :**

1. Change is an essential part of cultural lag. Change has to occur for cultural lag.
2. The rate of change varies from society to society. So does cultural lag.
3. It is very difficult to know to which extent one aspect of the society is lagging behind the other.
4. Cultural lag is a continuous process. When lag is removed from one aspect it becomes visible in the other.
5. Sometimes it is not possible to foresee the change.

#### **Causes of Cultural Lag :**

There can be no single cause of cultural lag. It occurs due to multiple causes. Some of them are :

1. Influence of one society on another may cause cultural lag. One of the examples of this can be the influence of western culture on our way of thinking, behaviour etc. We follow the dress, fashion of the west but do not like to totally give away our values i.e., we still prefer to wear our traditional dress on some auspicious occasion.
2. Another cause of cultural lag is advancement of technology. Any one aspect of society may move faster than the other with each discovery and invention. Sometimes, some technological innovations take place before social changes. When any new discovery or invention takes place it creates a problem of adaptation in the society.

#### **13. Short note "cultural change".**

**Ans :** Change is the law of nature. As the winds of change blow across the social fabric of a society, besides other changes

cultural change is quite obvious. A cursory survey of cultural variations before and after India attained independence, would convince even a casual observer that sweeping changes have taken place in style of living, eating habits, dress code, and what not. No doubt, there is inflow of money and money is a big factor in bringing about drastic cultural change.

In fact, change is an inherent aspects of culture. No culture remains static. There are many reason for cultural change, economic, political, environmental, and of course, technological factors often operate concurrently to trigger cultural change. We are currently experiencing vast social and cultural changes on a global scale. There are however, identifiable cultural processes involved in cultural changes.

Cultural diffusion is the process through which the cultural traits of one culture are transmitted to another one. This can take place through trade and other forms of economic exchanges, migration, or wars. Cultural diffusion is more likely to take place and is more intense at border areas where population of neighbouring cultures are more likely to interact. In the context of globalisation, cultural diffusion has never been greater.

Invention is the process whereby new cultural elements are created, often, out of previously existing elements, such as the radio, the computer or the microchip. As a species human beings have always been particularly and uniquely inventive, another reason for the success of our specie. Discovery is the process whereby we recognize or gain a better understanding of already existing elements present in the environment, usually through scientific research. Recent scientific discovery involves the identification of the human genome and of another planet beyond Pluto.

**14. Define culture. Discuss the characteristics of culture.**

**Ans : Definition of Culture :**

1. B. Malinowski has defined culture as the 'cumulative creation of man'. He also regards culture as the hand work of man and the medium through which he achieves his ends.

2. Graham Wallas, an English sociologist has defined culture as an accumulation of thoughts, values and objects; it is the social heritage acquired by us from preceding generations through learning as distinguished from the biological heritage which is passed on to us automatically through the genes.
3. C. C. North is of the opinion that culture 'consists in the instruments constituted by man to assist him in satisfying his wants'.
4. Robert Biersteat is of the opinion that, 'culture is the complex whole that consists of all the ways we think and do and everything we have as members of society.
5. E. V. de Robert regards culture as the body of thoughts: and knowledge, both theoretical and practical, which only man can possess.
6. Edward B. Tylor, a famous English anthropologist, has defined culture as that complex whole, which includes knowledge, belief, art, morals, law custom, and any other capabilities and habits acquired by man as a member of society. Tylor's definition is widely quoted and used today.

### Characteristics of Culture

The definitions cited above reveal some of the characteristics of culture. For a clear understanding of the concept of culture, it is necessary for us to know its main features,

1. **Culture is Learnt** : Culture is not inherited biologically, but learnt socially by man. It is not an inborn tendency. There is no cultural instinct as such. Culture is often called 'learned ways of behaviour'. Unlearned behaviour, such as closing the eyes while sleeping, the eye blinking reflex and so on are purely physiological and not cultural. Shaking hands or saying 'namaskar' or 'thanks' and shaving and dressing, on the other hand, are cultural. Similarly, wearing clothes, combing the hair, wearing ornaments, cooking the food, drinking from a glass, eating from a plate or a leaf, reading a newspaper, driving a car, enacting a role in a drama, singing, worshipping etc., are all ways of behaviour learnt by man culturally.

2. **Culture is Social** : Culture does not exist in isolation. Neither is it an individual phenomenon. It is a product of society. It originates and develops through social interactions. It is shared by the members of society. No man can acquire culture without association with other human beings. Man becomes man only among men. It is the culture which helps man to develop human qualities in a human environment. Deprivation of company or association of other individuals to an individual is nothing but deprivation of human qualities.
3. **Culture is Shared** : Culture in the sociological sense, is something shared. It is not something that an individual alone can possess. For example, customs, traditions, beliefs, ideas, values, morals, etc., are all shared by people of a group or society. The inventions of Arya Bhatta or Albert Einstein, 'Charaka' or Charles Darwin; the literary works of Kalidasa or Keats, Dandi or Dante; the philosophical works of Confucius or Lao Tse Shankaracharya or Swami Vivekananda; the artistic works of Ravi Verma or Raphael, etc., are all shared by a large number of people. 'Culture is something adopted, used, believed, practised or possessed by more than one person. It depends upon group life for its existence', (Robert Bierstedt).
4. **Culture is Transmissive** : Culture is capable of being transmitted from one generation to the next. Parents pass on culture traits to their children and they in turn to their children, and so on. Culture is transmitted not through genes but by means of language. Language is the main vehicle of culture. Language in its different forms like reading, writing and speaking makes it possible for the present generation to understand the achievements of earlier generations. But language itself is a part of culture. Once language is acquired, it unfolds to the individual its wide field. Transmission of culture may take place by imitation as well as by instruction.
5. **Culture is Continuous and Cumulative** : Culture exists as a continuous process. In its historical growth it tends to become cumulative. Culture is a 'growing whole' which includes in itself, the achievements of the past and the present and makes

provision for the future achievements of mankind. "Culture may thus be conceived of as a kind of stream flowing down through the centuries from one generation to another". Hence some sociologists like Linton called culture 'the social heritage' of man. As Robert Bierstedt writes, culture is 'the memory of the human race'. It becomes difficult for us to imagine what society would be like without this accumulation of culture, what our lives would be without it.

6. **Consistent and Integrated** : Culture, in its development has revealed a tendency to be consistent. At the same time different parts of culture are interconnected. For example, the value system of a society is closely connected with its other aspects such as morality, religion, customs, traditions, beliefs, and so on.

7. **Culture is Dynamic and Adaptive** : Though culture is relatively stable it is not altogether static. It is subject to slow but constant changes. Change and growth are latent in culture. We find amazing growth in the present Indian culture when we compare it with the culture of the Vedic times. Culture is hence dynamic.

Culture is responsive to the changing conditions of the physical world. It is adaptive. It also intervenes in the natural environment and helps man in his process of adjustment. Just as our houses shelter us from the storm, so also does our culture help us from natural dangers and assist us to survive. Few of us, indeed, could survive without culture.

8. **Cultural is Gratifying** : Culture provides proper opportunities and prescribes means for the satisfaction of our needs and desires. These needs may be biological or social in nature. Our need for food, shelter, and clothing on the one hand, and our desire for status, name, fame, money, mates, etc., are all, for example, fulfilled according to the cultural ways. Culture determines and guides the varied activities of man. In fact culture is defined as the process through which human beings satisfy their wants.

**18. Write short note on "Difference between culture and civilisation".**

**Ans :** Though culture and civilization are used to refer to the same Maclver and Page noted the following differences between culture and civilization.

- Civilisation is measurable quantitatively on the grounds of efficiency, while culture is not.
  - Civilisation is progressive, which culture is not.
  - Civilisation consists of external material things, while culture is related to internal thoughts, feelings and values, etc.
  - Civilisation and the products of it could be easily transmitted not only from one country to another but also from one generation to another. On the other hand, culture and its products are transmitted by its assimilation by the votaries. Only those who are worthy of it acquire culture.
- Other differences proposed by others are :
- To Immanuel Kant, civilisation was a matter of outward behaviour whereas culture requires morality as an inward state of man.
  - Civilisation is external and mechanical, utilitarian and concerned only with means, while culture exclusively deals with ends is internal, organic and final.
  - Civilization interests are essentially competitive or exclusive,

whereas the cultural interest are in general inclusive.

- Civilisation shows in its march a persistent upward trend, whereas culture on the other hand advances more slowly and is also subjected to stagnation and retrogression.
- The works of civilisation can be improved by anybody, but that is not possible in the case of culture.
- The work of civilisation can be more easily comprehended and communicated than those of culture.
- Civilisation may be adopted without efforts while the adoption of culture depends upon personality and nature.
- Civilisation is less flexible in its elements while the adoption of culture depends upon personality and nature.
- Civilization is borrowed by a country or a generation other than its originator, it does not suffer any deterioration, loss or damages, whereas the elements of culture can not be borrowed.