

Q no. 1

Ans:

Culture

### I. Introduction:

Culture is the set of norms, beliefs, behaviours, attitudes of people in certain pattern according to socially approved designs in society. Characteristics of Culture include; it is learned, it is shared, it is integrated, it is acquired, it is varied etc. Cultural discussion in Anthropology is mainly the field of Cultural Anthropology. Anthropology is the study of mankind, its evolution, variability, shaping factors, and its past, present and predictability of further evolutionary study are its main area of discussion.

Anthropology is different from other social science; though being holistic in nature, it incorporates, natural, social sciences and literature. However, its whole kind study; covering every aspect of human evolution, and considering human diversity as the subject matter, human featuring as subject and conscious being not object of discussion differentiate Anthropology from other social sciences. Thus, Cultural Anthropology studies culture and its major characteristics, whereas in general Anthropology's holistic, observational, comparative area field study and ethnographic study differentiate or make it prominent among different social sciences.

## **II.**

### **Culture - Introducing the term:**

Culture is the human value, norms, symbols, traditions, laws, folkways, mores, behaviour, attitude which are shown in society in response to

any natural; adaptive or maladaptive functionality. All individuals set patterns encompasses under the area of "Culture."

According to Margaret Mead, Culture is integrated, a civilization is not the contribution of single race.

Whereas,

Ruth Benedict considers Anthropology nothing, but the area of study of Culture.

### III- Characteristics of Culture:

Following are the characteristics of Culture;

#### A. Culture is learned:

According to Anthropologist, culture begins at home and family socialize the cultural norms to child through the process of enculturation:

"Enculturation is the process in which child learns culture."

Culture learning can be direct, indirect, observational.

In direct learning, culture is directly taught to individuals; like parents tell their child the way how to eat and urinate, etc.

In indirect culture learning, people learn it through observation; like child learns to imitate his role as to his father.

### **B. Culture is shared:**

Another most important feature of culture is that; it is learned.

According to psychic unity, all individuals have same mental capacity for absorbing culture. Hence, through sharing culture, culture is transmitted from one generation to another, reinforcing psychic unity principle of all have equal capacity of absorbing culture. Through the process of socialization, culture is usually shared.

### **C. Culture is diverse in nature:**

Diversity of culture shows that each society has its own defined

norms that differentiate it from rest of the societies.

American society has concept of Individualism, whereas Asian culture according to Hofstede's Culture study depicts Collectivism principle.

#### **D. Culture is integrated:**

According to Margaret Mead, culture is integrated, change in one part of society brings change in culture of other society. Therefore, civilization is not the result of single race; collective efforts <sup>have</sup> contributed towards civilization.

Globalization, Migration, Colonization brought change in society.

e.g. Canadian French speaking people are the result of colonialism.

## E. Culture is evolving in nature:

With introduction of any change, maladaptive or adaptive efforts have been taken which resulted into its evolution of culture of that society.

According to Anthropologist, Culture's evolution depends upon the energy harvesting capacity of that society

per capita; energy consumption per capita shapes, evolves the culture,

whereas, few other Anthropologist consider, technological, economic and scientific advancement evolves and bring change in culture.

## F. Culture is defined:

Culture is defined for every society through process of socialization, social roles, expected patterns of duty is explicitly define to the members of a community.

Parents incorporates the expected role of boy in society and girl's expected behaviour.

Tattooing is defined in Eskimos, For;

being male, one has to undergo the painful activity of tattooing his waist. Thus, culture is defined in society.

### G. Culture is changeable:

With introduction of new norms, beliefs, culture is changed in society.

For example, cultural values of India were changed with the acceptance of British defined laws; satti prohibition act brought change in Hindu's religious approach of burning the widow with her husband.

## IV. Difference of Anthropology discipline from other social sciences:

### A. Anthropology and sociology:

Though both studies human social institutions, social factors impacting human's behaviour, but approaching the area of field is different.

① Anthropology approach is holistic in discovering and finding human's origin, evolution and all its factors; whereas, sociology specifically discusses social institutions.

and contribution and evolution of human as social being.

① sociology considers "human" as the object of study, whereas Anthropology studies "human" as the conscious being instead of just an object of study.

② sociology considers man's social environment and factors influencing them as the area of discussion and study, whereas Anthropology has wide area of interest in man's association within cultural, social, economic and political framework and how man's association has impact on its surrounding and how personality develops in shaping cultural context of that society etc.

### B. Anthropology and political science:

① Anthropology studies how "power" influence and impacts well-being of world.	② political science discusses how societal framework for power domination culminates.
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into formation of state - i.e. political organization.

② Anthropology studies "human" as subjective; every human has different psycho-cultural, political factors.

political science discusses "man" as "citizen" in the context of state. Subject in terms of Rulership: Man is not the area of discussion under political science

### C. Anthropology and psychology

① Anthropology is the subject of human's psyche and overall development of personality in

Psychology recognises the human's cognition, its development, factor shaping human's personality

the content of society  
i.e cultural, social  
factors influencing  
them.

and how human's  
development and  
behavioral factors  
are influenced and  
shaped.

① Anthropology studies  
human in subjective  
area of study.

② Psychology  
involves human  
as only "object".  
diagnosing man  
in its cultural-  
social, cognitive  
parameters. Irrespe  
ctive of indivi

Anthropology views  
human in collection,  
in the form of  
community.

③ Political Science  
views man as  
in terms of state's  
citizen, not in  
term of community  
member.

### V. Conclusion:

Thus, anthropology has its framework  
in shaping, knowing humans  
in its socio-cultural context  
and hence its holistic approach.

differentiates it from the rest  
of social sciences.

Q no 3

Ans:

## Evolution of Political System

### I. Introduction:

Political system demarcates for hegemonic domination of power. Power provides recognition of authority of people or group to dominate over other groups based on their status, economic wealth, social prestige etc. Authority is the socially recognized control of a particular person or particular group over subjugated group or people. According to Elman Service, ~~political~~ political evolution can be categorized into four levels, i.e. Foraging Tribes, Clans, Chiefdom and states. The improvement or advancement in technological means or tools led to the advancement in food production. Population, Irrigation, economic pressure, strifling internal and external wars, control over production means, larger striving families and kinship <sup>has</sup> promoted the evolution of political control from foraging bands towards states formation.

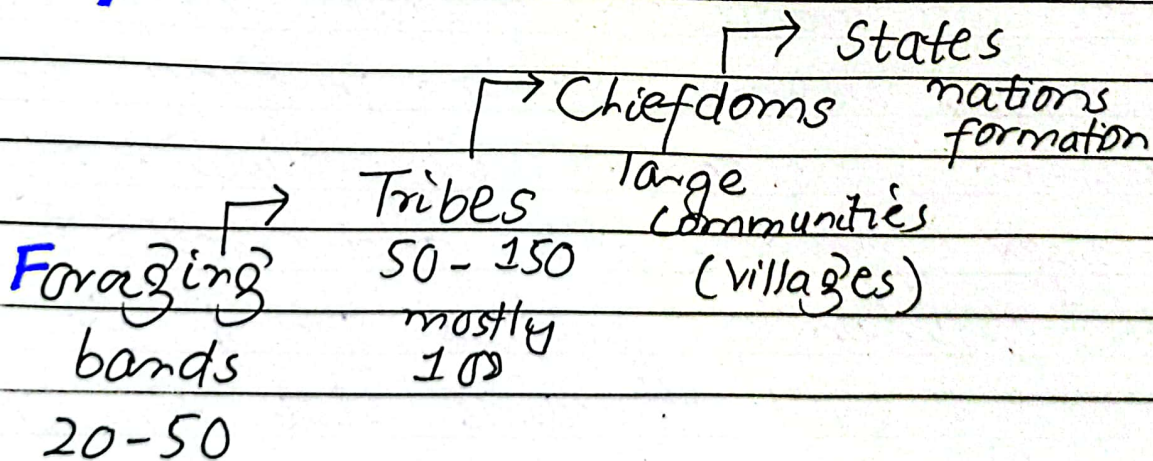
## II. Elman Service's Categorization of Power structure:

Anthropologist, Elman Service, categorizes power structure into 4/ for main levels

- i. Foraging bands
- ii. Tribes
- iii. Chiefdoms
- iv. States

According to Elman Service, every evolutionary step towards states formation involves improvement of socio-economic factors. Or in other words, every socio-economic factors contributes in formation of strong political structure in the form of states

## III. Power Categorization into four Level: Flow chart



## IV. Foraging bands:

The foraging bands usually involve few social groups organized in the form of collective "one band" based on their kinship and marriage relations.

They are associated with each other through blood relations and marital relations, therefore, in most cases they know people by their faces.

### A. Economic Means of food:

Foraging bands as explicit through its name have their economic means dependent on food gathering and hunting. They are natural subsistence through collecting food from natural resources.

### B. Power structure:

As they know each other, have kinship and marital relationship with other, therefore, senior or old age people might set social controls. However, such control do not carry any legal enforcement. But, non-adherence to such social controls might deprive

social recognition among

For example:

In Inuit bands, people usually recognized through their tattooing body. "Male" can only be labelled as "Male" if he bears the pain of tattooing his body.

C. Non-social or gender stratified

Structure:

As they are a gregarious social group, therefore there is no stratification on the basis of gender, sex. All have equal access to collect their food irrespective of their sex. Therefore, they were a gregarious class.

**V. Tribes; improving hierarchical power structure:**

With improving means of production or in other words, shifting from food gathering class to food producing group, the power structure needs to be improved to control group.

A. Economic means of food: Pastoralists <sup>and</sup> Horticultu<sup>re</sup>

With the invention of food production technique; either by knowing the

method of food production or by recognizing the method of animal domestication, the food collection shifts into food production.

### B. Social structure:

As means of food production are improved, people can preserve food for days or weeks, instead of collecting food on daily basis. This storing of food inculcates the need for staying over land and build houses instead of moving from one area to another. Thus, social structure shifts from band of few people to social group of large number of people.

### C. power structure; Big Man;

More means of economic production provides for more control over these economic resources. Big Man the elder senior member of tribe have the prestige, power status and can resolve conflicts. However, Big Man can provide solution to problem; however, such



may not be binded over people. They may accept or reject Big Man's suggestion.

In tribes, conflicts usually ~~have~~ arise over among men over women stealing and adultery issues.

There were no or minimum disputes over land occupation or economic means: usurpation.

Example: Inuit, Cherokee

## VI. Chiefdoms:

Now socio-economic improvement and large production of food through agricultural means, intensive labor, cause the <sup>need</sup> production of more control over people to regulate their socio-economic affairs. Thus, power structure shifts from Tribes to Chiefdoms.

A. Economic means of food production:  
Agriculturalists:

With the invention of tools and agriculture learning in Middle East and South American, food collection can now become more easier through

storing the maximum amount and thus, the power structure dominates over the society.

### B. Socio-economic Control:

With the production means improvement, large tribal groups combined to form a large community, i.e. village.

Chiefdoms involve a large group incorporating a top leadership position in the form of village head, chief head, mostly in controlling the conflict affairs among people.

### C. Slash-burn Shift to Agriculture Mode:

Although the power structure in controlling means of production helps in settling disputes, but still it requires no legal enforcement among people. People can recognize authority of chiefdom, but to settle or resolve conflict needs satisfaction among people to over their disputes.

## VII. States Formation:

With the improvement in the economic means of production, large population of people, gaining control over water and land resources, the need for more political control was raised. This requirement was fulfilled through the establishment of state.

### A. Characteristics of state:

State involves following characteristics:

- i. A state must have population control and territorial boundaries
- ii. A state must own legislation i.e. law formulating body
- iii. Economic exchange market i.e. currency should be in a state
- iv. Enforcement of legal laws, acts must be done through punishment not just social controls are sufficient to sanction the illegal acts.

### B. Why does political structure evolve:

Political structure evolve because of the following factors:

- i. Large population
- ii. Control over land and water; economic resources
- iii. Internal and external conflicts
- iv. Advancement in technology

## IX. Conclusion:

Thus, evolution of political system involves, according to anthropologists, socio-economic and cultural factors. For controlling means of production, settling conflicts among societies, regulation of socio-economic affairs, was culminated into the formation of states. Hence, today's political structure results from evolution of human needs, as in evolutionary theorists Herbert Spencer and Darwin numerates.

Qno. 4

Ans

## Kinship and its Major functions

### I. Introduction:

Kinship is defined as the association of people among group based on blood relations and marital relationship. Kinship was used to be the common factor in uniting tribes, clans. Descent also involves association of people based on common ancestry. Thus, kinship has its existent prevalent in primitive or non-industrial societies. Still, kinship is explicit in the form of Caste, biradari system, contemporary foraging tribes as Inuit in Canada. Now, such contemporary kinship is ~~exp~~ regulated under states control. Kinship has its functions in regulating society; social groups, assigning rights and duties to people, assigning the criteria of marriage i.e. incest

taboo, reinforcing social norms and cultures, controlling means of economic exchange i.e reciprocity (generalized, balanced and negative reciprocity), regulating and resolving internal conflicts and external disputes among groups. It also provides ground for socialization; transferring culture and norms from one generation to another. Thus, kinship has main and important role in regulating and shaping societies. However, with the evolution of social structure, now few functions are shifted from kinship to states regulation. But, still in few areas, caste, biraderi, jirga system still shows its contemporary existence.

## II: TYPES OF KINSHIP :