

Question No. 2

1- Introduction:

Social institutions are the actual reasons behind the establishment of a society. They help in enduring different patterns of social relationships which affect individuals of a society. For instance, family, education, religion, government etc. are the few examples of social institutions. They play a key role in the development of a civilized society by maintaining stability and cooperation. These institutions create a foundation for a structured and functional society.

2- Defining Social Institutions:

Social Institution is defined as:

“it is a structured and enduring pattern of social relationships that organizes different aspects of human life.”

As Aristotle was true in saying that man is a social animal and he cannot live in isolation - to run the society, social institutions are crucial as they provide the framework for cooperation and stability among individuals in the society. In simple words, they are considered as the main reason for stability and cooperation.

Examples of social institutions are family, education, religion, government, economy, healthcare, media and communication, legal system etc.

3- Theories Ensuring Need of Social Institutions in a Society:

a. Structural-Functional Perspective:

This perspective views social institutions as essential components of a society. Every institution serves a specific purpose, that contributes to overall social stability and well-being. For instance family provides socialization.

b. Conflict-Theory Perspective:

It argues that social institutions can perpetuate inequality and serve the interest of dominant groups. Institutions may be structured to maintain existing power dynamics. For a true civilized society, social institutions which can change these power imbalances are crucial.

c. Symbolic Interactionism:

According to this perspective, social institutions are seen as producers of everyday interactions and negotiations. Family, education and other institutions shape the individual

understanding of the world and mold their perspectives.

4- Role of Social Institutions in Establishment of Civilized Society :

Social institutions play a crucial role in the development of a civilized society by providing a landscape for stability, socialization and cooperations. Some of these are discussed below :

i- Family :

Family is the first social institution that molds the behaviour of children and provides them an institute for socialization. The family unit imparts values, socializes individuals and lays the foundation for moral development.

Bord Theory argues that one of reason of juvenile delinquency is their lack of bonds with the family. Hence, family plays a vital role in development of a civilized society.

ii- Education :

Nelson Mandela has well said that,

"Education is the most powerful weapon by which one can change the world."

Education imparts knowledge, fosters critical thinking and cultural values which is necessary for the progress of a society. Developed countries are investing most in comprehensive educational system to provide quality education. For instance, United States is investing around \$1 trillion in research and development.

iii- Religion :

Religion often provides moral guidance, ethical principles and a sense of community influencing norms. It makes a crucial role in civilized development of a society. Emile Durkheim while studying about suicide observed that Protestants were more involved in suicides than Catholics. He find out the reason it is religion factor which cause Catholics to socialize and make them less prone to suicides.

iv- Government:

Apart from grand level social institutions, government is the most important social institution at state level. It controls behavior of masses. Government establish laws, maintain order and protect

individuals rights, creating a framework for a civilized society. For example, in Pakistan, the government is responsible for maintaining peace and order and it includes Prime Minister, his cabinet and other members pre-dominantly.

v. Economy:

Economy is an important social institution that is linked with the production and distribution of resources. It maintains the overall well being of a society. A society with a healthy economy has balance in production and distribution of resources. For instance, According to World's Happiness Index, Nordic states are the most happiest states in the world like Finland, Switzerland etc. Sociologists believe that their happiness and civilization of society is linked with their economy.

vi. Healthcare:

Health care institutions contribute to well-being of individuals. It also ensures the access to medical services and promotes public health. Proper services did not become the reason for strain in a society and as a result, society is more civilized. For instance, countries like United States, Canada and United

Kingdom are prioritize health services which fosters healthier and civilized states. They provide different services like free health facility, insurance and free emergency treatments etc. However, this is not the case in developing states.

vii Media and Communication:

Media institutions shape public opinion, disseminate information and influence cultural values contributing to societal awareness.

Independent media outlets provide diverse perspectives, fostering an informed citizenry crucial for a civilized society. Currently, as per Global Index, North Korea is ranked last in the list of Global Press Freedom.

viii. Legal System :

Legal system is an important institution to maintain stability in the society. Legal institutions establish and enforce laws which ensure justices resolving disputes and upholding individual rights. The rule of law in countries like Switzerland guarantees a fair and just legal system, fostering trust and stability. Similarly, in Pakistan, 18th amendment was introduced to strengthen the social coordination among center and the provinces. Hence, legal system ensures the peaceful coexistence thereby developed a civilized and civilized society.

ix- Environmental Institutions:

Institutions address the concerns regarding to different aspects in society. One such social institution is environmental institution address environmental concerns and work to protect ~~sustainable~~ environment, ecosystem and ensure sustainable practices for conservation of environment. This ensures the environmental responsibility of a civilized society.

For example, Environmental Protection Agency in Pakistan is responsible to conduct EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) to study social and other impacts of project on the society.

x- Non-Governmental Institutions:

There are different non-governmental institutions in ~~different~~ societies which helps in maintaining peace through out the world. They are playing their role to make the societies civilized. For instance, Amnesty International is one of such institutions which helped the societies and states in balancing and coordinating the people.

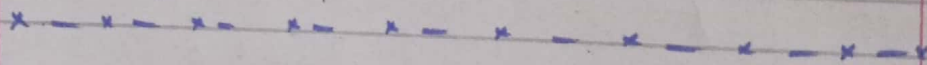
5- Impact of Social Institutions in Civilization :-

As a result of these institutions, peace

and coordination has maintained in the world. As every individual is connected to every other individual and impact of one's actions can affect others. These institutions mold the actions and behaviour of individuals of a society.

6. Conclusion:

In a nutshell, Social institutions are the important aspect of society and they play pivotal role in making the society civilized. As, they set certain boundaries on the actions of individuals thereby maintain stability and cooperation in the world.



Question No. 3

1- Introduction:

Karl Marx and Max Weber are the important philosophers which have contributed in the field of sociology. Marx have introduced the concept of economic determinism and criticized the capitalist system by focusing on concept of alien. In contrast, Weber highlighted the importance of bureaucracy in modern society, offered and also mentioned the downside of bureaucracy. He also explained alienation in his own way but contributions of Weber are more than Marx due to use of multiperspective approach.

2- Contributions of Karl Marx :

Name : Karl Marx

Philosopher of : Industrial Era

Focused on : Economic Determinism,
Capitalist System's Criticism

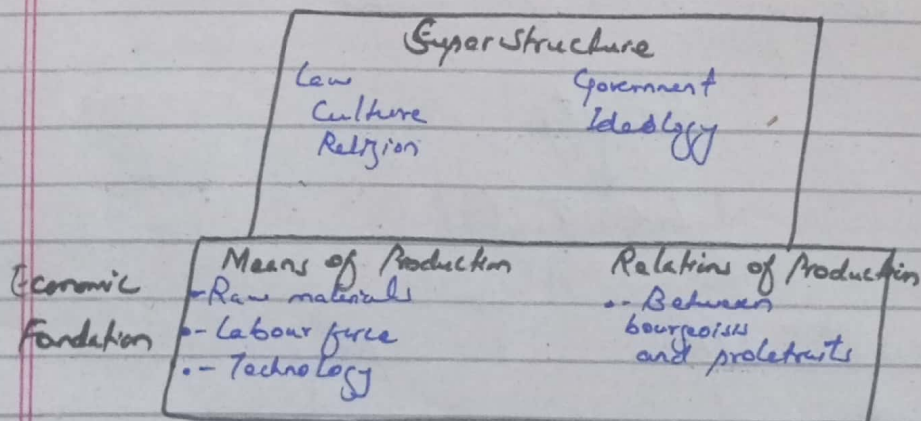
Important Work : Das Capital

The contributions of Karl Marx in sociology are as follows :

i- Economic Determinism :

Karl Marx identified that reason of whatever happens in the society is economy. Economy determines the social structure of a society.

Karl Marx identified two factors which can change the superstructure of society due to economic determinism.



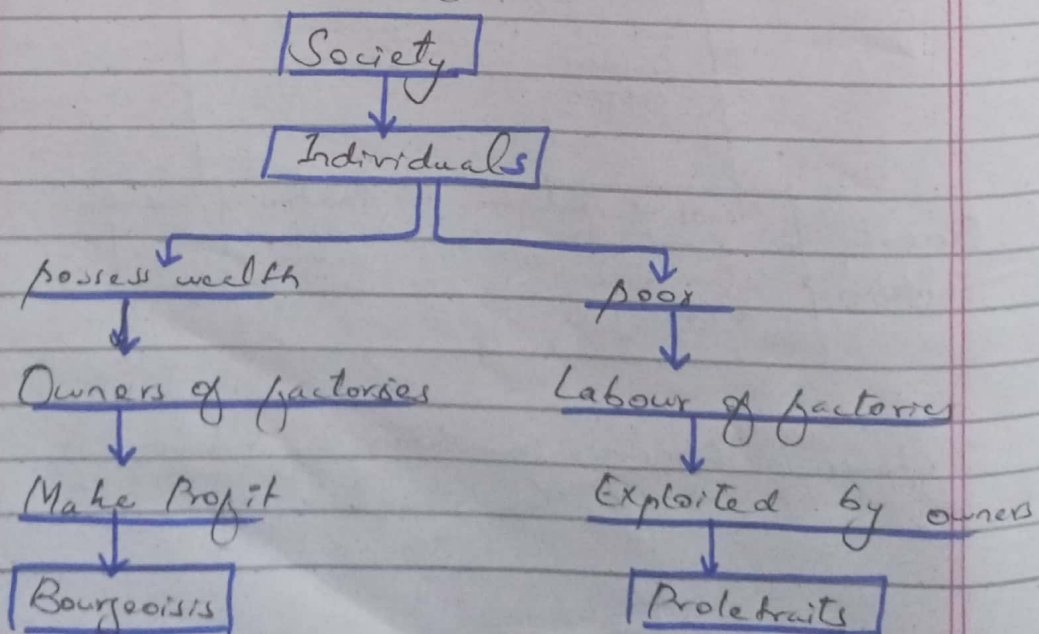
change in Economic foundation = Change in superstructure of society

ii- Concept of Alienation in Society:

Karl Marx identified that alienation exists in a society due to economic determinism and it exists in both classes: Bourgeoisie and Proletariat. However, for the working class proletariat it became reason for their alienation. While working class considered it a factor of pride for themselves. For instance, a shoe maker can manufacture shoes but cannot use him for himself and as a result, he is separated from object which is created by himself. On the other hand, owner enjoys this alienation by following his selfish desires and making profits.

iii- Concept of Class Difference:

Karl Marx identified classes on the basis of economic foundation. There are two types of classes based on difference in economic status of both:



Concept of iv. Revolution in the Society :

Karl Marx further explained that due to economic differences, working class over period of time constitute a group and unite for a cause. This cause is revolution against owners which become reason for end of suffering of working class.

v. Concept of Socialism :

Karl Marx argued that to end social class system, it is better to convert capitalist system into socialism. Socialism is a system when private ownership of property is abolished and government is owner of all property and there is equal distribution of resources for everyone. This concept is still ongoing in some countries like Russia.

3. Contributions of Max Weber in Sociology :

Max Weber was a prominent German sociologist and his contributions to sociology are as follows :

i- Theory of Social Action :

Max Weber developed the concept of "social

action" as building block for sociological analysis. He emphasized that understanding individual subject meaning and motivations behind their actions distinguish between traditional and rational social actions.

ii- Concept of Ideal Type :

He also introduced the concept of "ideal type" to simplify the social phenomena and to clarify them. These are abstract models that highlighted the essential characteristics of social institutions or behaviors aiding the analysis of real-world social structure.

iii- Study of Bureaucracy :

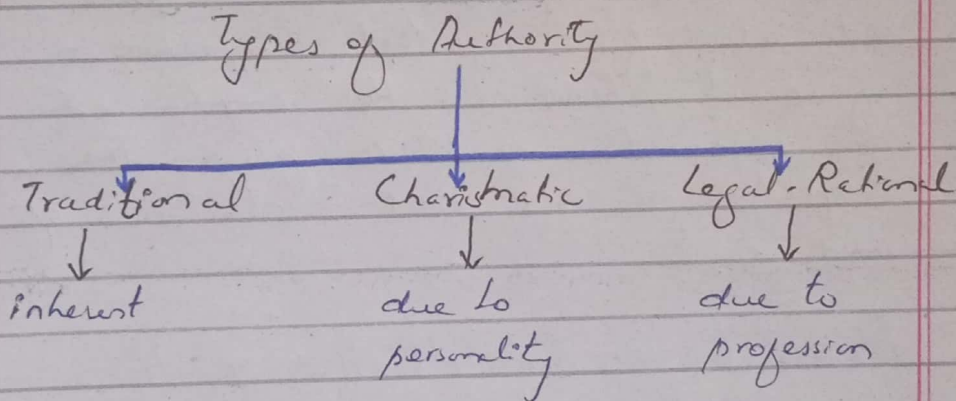
Weber studied bureaucracy as form of organizational structure. He formulated the theory of bureaucracy and identified its different characteristics like neutrality, impartiality, rule bound, etc. His work on bureaucracy highlight his rational and efficient aspect of bureaucracy but at the same time highlighted its downside of dehumanizing the individuals. He gave the concept of "iron cage" in regard to bureaucratic rules and regulations.

iv Study of Relationship Between Protestant's Spirit and Capitalism's Spirit :

Weber's essay explored the relationship between Protestantism and development of capitalism. He argued that Protestant beliefs particularly in the Calvinist traditions played a role in fostering a work ethics and economic realisation conducive to capitalist development.

v- Types of Authority :

Weber identified two types of authority. He gave three types of authority.



vi. Sociology of Religion :

Weber made significant contribution in the sociology of religion. His studies delve into the impact of religious beliefs on social, economic behaviour, emphasising role of religion in shaping societal structures. He explained this in his significant essay, "The Protestant Ethos and Spirit of Capitalism".

vii- Social Stratification :

Unlike Karl Marx, Max Weber

used multidimensional approach to social stratification including class, status and party. He argued that individual position in society is not related to only economic factors but also to political factors.

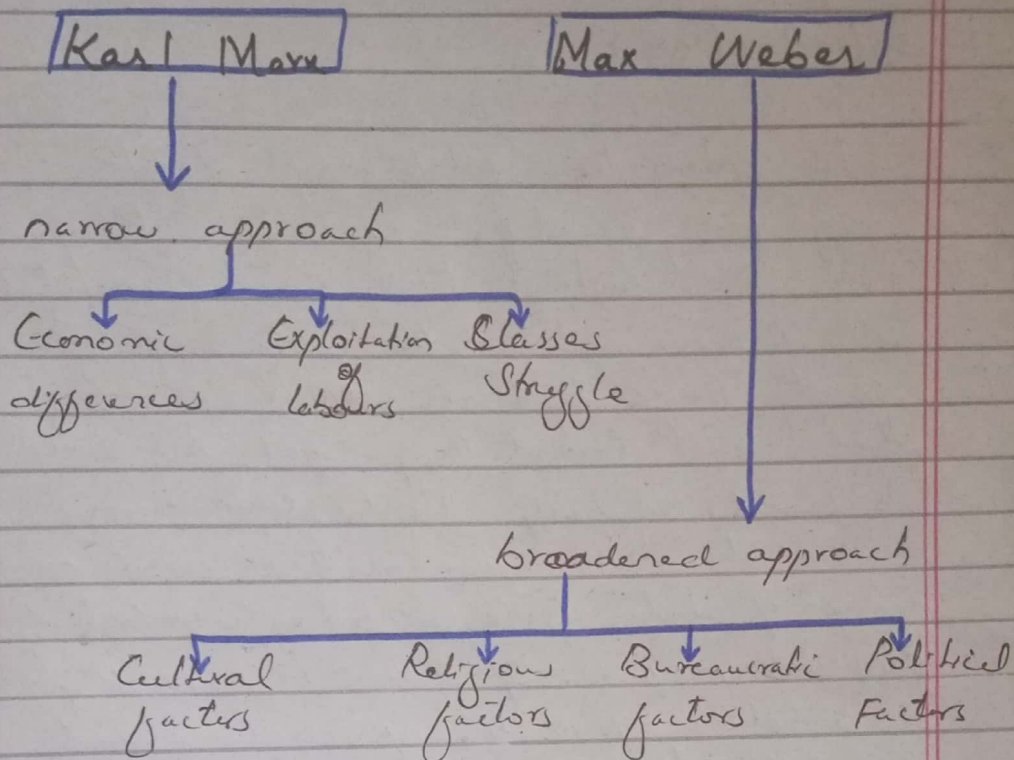
viii- Emphasis on the Importance of "Understanding" :

Weber emphasized the importance of understanding in sociological research. He advocated for empathetic comprehension of social phenomena. He emphasized the researcher need to grasp the subjective meanings and intentions of individuals.

4. Remarks on Contribution of Max Weber and Karl Marx :

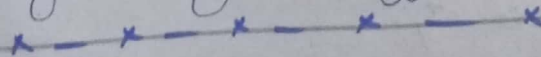
Max Weber and Karl Marx both were influential figures in sociology, but they contributed differently in sociology. They used different focus and different approach. Marx focus on class struggle and economic structure which have profound impact in understanding economic inequality whereas Weber emphasized on cultural, bureaucratic and religious factors which broadened the

Scope of sociology.



5. Conclusion:

In a nutshell, both Karl Marx and Max Weber were the prominent figures in the field of sociology. They had their own ideas regarding different aspects of society. Karl Marx criticized capitalism on the basis of inequalities among different classes of a society. Whereas, Weber analyzed that there is not a single reason for inequality in the society rather it is product of cultural, religious and other factors. All these studies have increased the contribution of Max Weber in the field of sociology.



Question No. 7

1- Introduction :

To explain the establishment of the very first society, organismic theory and social contract theory were formulated. Both theories explained the origin of a society though there are differences among them. Social Contract theory depicts that society is formed artificially due to contract among individuals where as organismic theory provides organic concept of state. Both contribute to understand different perspectives of human in a society so a holistic approach, appreciating elements from both theories, can provide comprehensive understanding of complex nature of society.

2- Basis of Social Contract Theory and Organismic Theory :

Social Contract Theory and Organismic theory aim to explain the origin of society. There are different perspectives regarding the formation of state. These theories are in contrast with each other and provide different points to explain the origin of state. Regardless of differences, there is a single commonality between both which is that they both explain the origin of society.

3- Comparative and Analytical Discussion on Social Contract and Organismic Theory :

i. Thesis of Theories :

a. Social Contract Theory:

The proponents of social contract theory are Thomas Hobbes, John Locke and J.J. Rousseau. These philosophers argue that individuals come into contract with each other and as a result, a society was created. For instance, Rousseau says:

Society was formed when the very first man pointed at the piece of land and said that this land is mine and that is thine. It created a conflict, as a result individual entered in a contract.

As a result of social contract, life, property and freedom of individuals was ensured. Social contract regards society's creation in the artificial way.

b. Organismic Theory :

The proponents of organismic theory

include August Comte, Emile Durkheim and ~~polit~~ Greek philosopher Aristotle. All of them considered state as an organic entity which is analogous to individual. For instance, Herbert Spencer gave "Theory of Organic Analogy" to explain the similarities between organisms and society. They view society as an interdependent components and social order arises as a result of organic solidarity.

ii- Integration of Society :

a. Social Contract Theory :

According to social contract theory, individuals exist in a state of nature before formation of society. For instance, Thomas Hobbes says,

"It was war of all against all."

It implies that individuals were enemies of each other and there was chaos in the society. This theory relies on the premise of individual as integration factor of society.

b. Organismic Theory :

Organismic theory argues that society is integration of different parts which contributes to its functioning.

For instance, Herbert Spencer compared the "veins" of human beings to communication system in society as both contributes the same function of transportation.

iii- Concept of Legitimate Authority in Society:

a- Social Contract Theory:

Social contract theory points out that legitimate rights or authority to society is given after the individual agreed through contract. John Locke mentioned this contract by saying,

"I surrender all my right to that one man or community of men on the condition if you do the same."

b- Organismic Theory:

Organismic theory argues that social institutions are interconnected for societal well being. This is legitimate right of state to stay interconnected to work for its coordination and well-being. Herbert Spencer argues that collective consciousness and shared values maintain social cohesion.

iv- Concept of Social Harmony in Society:

a- Social Contract Theory:

Social Contract theory signifies the importance of contract for maintaining peace and harmony in the society. Thomas Hobbes in his Social Contract Theory analyzed that because of care and turbulence in society, people agreed to surrender their rights unconditionally to monarchs for social harmony. Contract is crucial for maintaining harmony.

b. Organismic Theory :

In contrast to social contract theory, organismic theory highlights the importance of collective consciousness and shared values. Herbert Spencer in his theory "Organic Analogy" compared the body functioning of humans with social institutions. If the part of an individual stops working, it will affect other functioning and same goes in case of social institutions. Hence, it prefers collective consciousness over human's agreement.

v- Individual Vs Collective Emphasis :

a. Social Contract Theory :

Social Contract Theory emphasized on protecting the rights of individuals. So, it enhances individualism. As Rousseau starts his social contract Theory by saying, "Man is born free but everywhere he is in chains."

6- Organismic Theory :

Organismic theory unlike social contract theory focus on collective interdependence of individuals. It argues that individuals are interdependent and so are social institutions.

vi- Views on Change :

a- Social Contract Theory :

Social Contract Theory argues that contract can be renegotiated in case of its ineffectiveness. In other words, contract is revokable as mentioned by John Locke in his theory of social contract. He says that contract with Parliament can be revokable.

b- Organismic Theory :

Organismic theory considers change as a gradual process. Herbert Spencer in his organic analogy says that growth in individual and society is visible and slow. For instance, an infant takes many years to change into a grown adult. Similarly, society take many years to evolve over period of time. Here, there are differences regarding the change in case of both theories.

Remarks on Theories :

Social Contract theory highlighted the importance of contract in origin of society. On the other hand, organic theory views society and individuals are analogous. Social contract emphasized individualism while later emphasized collectivism. Both theories have their own elements but a holistic approach, appreciating elements from both theories, can provide a better understanding of complex nature of society.

Conclusion :

In a nutshell, Social contract and organic theory explained the origins of society as artificial and organic entity. Both carries important elements which can be mixed in a balanced approach to study social phenomena.

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Question 5

1- Introduction :

To answer the answers of different social problems arising in society, different methods can be used. These methods are comprised into qualitative and quantitative methods. Qualitative methods

includes interviews, inquiries etc. While quantitative methods relies on questionnaires, surveys, etc. They help in identifying the public opinion on a specific social problems.

2. Need of Social Phenomena:

Qualitative and quantitative methods are used to get answers or solution of a specific social problem. For instance, "decline of social bonds in European families" is a social problem which could be inquired by different methods. Once the public opinion regarding the issue is known, different societal measures would be taken to resolve the issues.

3. Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Sociology:

Qualitative methods refers to all those methods which involves prediction or answer of quality of a social problem. For example: Conducting interview regarding situation of social integration in district Kohat. On the other hand, quantitative methods are those which involves findings in numerical values. For instance, literacy rate of women in rural areas of Pakistan. This problem needs quantitative method to receive findings. Use of method depends on nature of problem existing in a society.

4- Types of Qualitative and Quantitative

Methods :

Social Methods

Qualitative Methods
(gives finding in qualitative form)

Interviews

↓
reasoned person meetings

Examples

- 1- Meeting people of rural areas regarding water scarcity.
- 2- Interview on standard of education in village of Sharda

Observation

Use of five sense

Example :

- 1- Seeing a teacher which is busy in teaching to rate the performance of teacher in a school.
- 2- To sit in park and to observe the social gatherings which lead to distinct behaviour.

Inquiries

To secretly visit a place and to know the circumstances

Quantitative Methods
(give answers in numerical values)

Questionnaires

Series of questions on a paper with different options of each question

Surveys

To find validity of finding

Sampling

To check a specific population regarding a social issue.