

# Sociology:

Question 2: Answer:

## Social Institutions:-

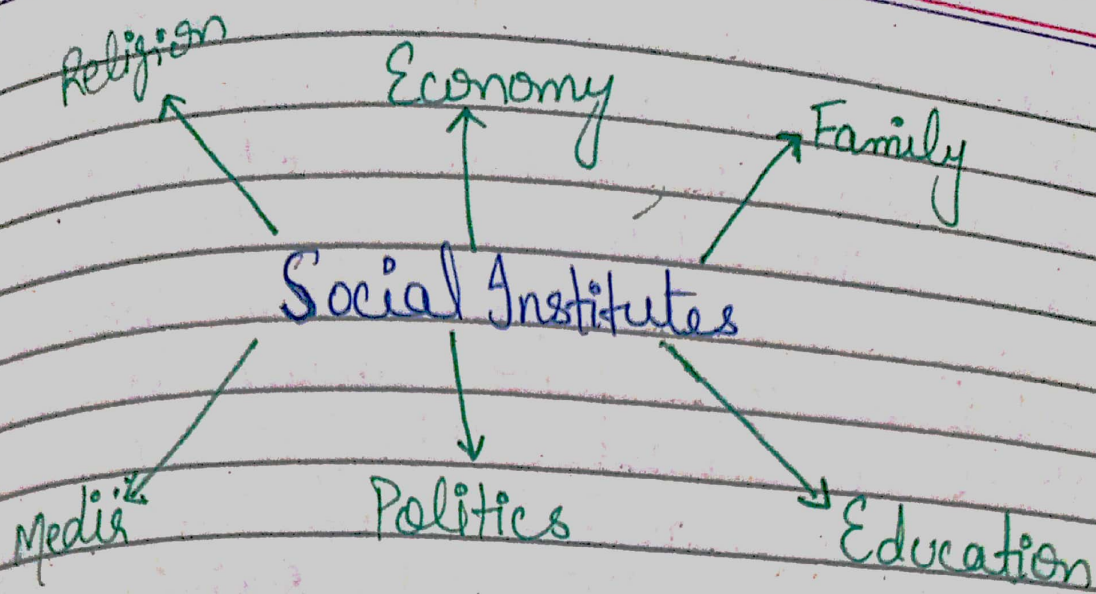
Social institutions are complex structures and systems that fulfill various essential functions within a society. Sociologists have offered different definitions and perspectives on social institutions.

## Definition:-

"social institutions are essential for maintaining social order and cohesion" - Emile Durkheim.

"Social Institutions are interconnected parts of a system, each contributing to the stability and functioning of society." - Talcott Parsons.

## Different Social Institutions and Their Roles:-



### a. Family :

Family is the basic unity in every society. The initial values, beliefs and behavior of a person are build in the family. A person's first environment and is very essential in shaping the whole life of the individual. The outlook at life comes mainly from family. Family plays an irreplaceable role in making a civilized society. Individuals coming from dysfunctional families are usually with a different perspective. They may turn into criminals or violent actors in state. It is necessary that a family provides

Safe and secure growing environment to an individual. Because, everything is learned initially from the family and then any other institution. The mindset given by family is there to persist. So, family plays a crucial role in making a civilized society.

#### b. Education:-

After family, educational institutions are the one which impart knowledge. Educational institutes can provide them with skills and techniques to earn. Along with that they ingrain in individual their cultural and moral values. The organization of one's behavior is done through education. Educational institutes provide the necessary personality outlook required to make a civilized society. Children learn a lot from socially gathering with others.

and experiencing new things. Educational institutes help individuals to find their talents. These talents make them unique and different from each other. They learn to accept different perspectives and respect them. Hence, educational institutes are imperative in making a civilized society.

c. Religion:

Religion sets the standard for moral and ethical behavior. It guides a person through various domains of life. Religion helps a person find a meaning and purpose. The pivotal role of religion decides the values and <sup>beliefs</sup> that will persist in the society. Religion makes the basic structure, the building block of a society. Through religion people get their identity and it provides a whole set of guidelines about spending life in a society. Religion sets the behavioral standards and offers a template

for a civilized society. Hence, religion is a crucial social institution with a significant role in making a civilized society.

#### d. Economy:-

Economic institutions teach individuals the modes of production and trade in the society. The form of economy decides the inclination of all other institutions. If the economy is 'agricultural' then the society will be more traditional, religion will be consulted more and politics will be run by landlords. If the economy is 'industrial', then the society will be more modern, people would be more urban than rural and politics will have businessmen. So, economy sets the direction of whole society. Economy facilitates the provision of goods and services which is essential for

societal well being. Consequently, the role of economy cannot be condoned in making a civilized society.

e. Politics :-

Political institutions decide the priorities of the society. The form of government influences the efficiency of governance. The leaders, and the elected representatives steer the society in the direction of progress or depression. The policy makers and the lawmakers are all responsible for the prevailing values in a society. The prosperity or the decline of a society depends on the political stability of the state. If the political institutions are not stable then it affects the whole society and all its institutions are politicized. As a result, institutions fail to play their respective roles properly. Hence, the whole society collapses.

## f. Media:

Media institutions play a role in disseminating information, shaping public opinion and fostering communication within a society. Media has the power to sway the public opinion in a different direction. It can cause conflicts or settlements among the groups. Thus, media plays an important role in shaping the society.

## Conclusion:-

The interplay of these social institutions contributes to the development of a civilized society by fostering cooperation, order and shared values.

Each institution plays a specific role in shaping individual behavior, societal norms and the overall functioning of a community.

## QUESTION 4: Answer:

## Introduction:

Social change and cultural change are related concepts but they refer to different concepts of societal transformation. However, here are the key differences between the two.

### a. Scope and Focus:

Social change refers to alterations or modifications in the social structure, institutions, and patterns of behavior within a society.

Cultural change involves changes in the ideas, symbols, and meanings. Change in art, language, religious beliefs etc.

### b. Manifestations:

Manifestations of social change can be observed in the tangible aspects of society. For instance, change in education system, role of women in the workforce etc.

Cultural change is often reflected in less tangible aspects such as shifts in language



language use, artistic expressions, fashion etc.

### c. Drivers -

Social change can be driven by various factors, including technological advancements, economic shifts, political movements and demographic changes.

Cultural change is often driven by internal factors within a society such as evolving philosophies, intellectual movements, and artistic innovations.

### Conclusion:-

In summary, social change encompasses a broader spectrum of transformations in societal structure and institutions where as cultural change specifically refers to shifts in the intangible aspects of a society's identity, including its beliefs, values and traditions.

# Factors that impede Pakistani Society to be adaptive to Change:

## Introduction:

Societal adaptability to change is influenced by a variety of factors, and in the case of Pakistan, several challenges may impede the smooth adaptation to change. Some factors that could impede societal adaptability to change include:

### a. Traditional Cultural Values:

Strong adherence to traditional values and cultural norms may create resistance to change. In some cases, individuals or communities may be reluctant to adapt new ideas that challenge established customs.

### b. Educational System:

The educational system's limitations including issues such as outdated curriculum, unequal access to education, and a focus on rote learning

rather than critical thinking may hinder the development of a mindset to change.

#### c. Economic Challenges:-

Economic instability and inequality can limit opportunities for individuals to adapt to change. Lack of access to resources, job opportunities and economic mobility can create resistance to changes that may be perceived as risky or threatening.

#### d. Political Instability:-

Frequent political changes, instability and governance issues can disrupt long-term planning and hinder the implementation of progressive policies. This can create an environment of uncertainty, making it difficult for society to change.

### e. Religious Conservatism:

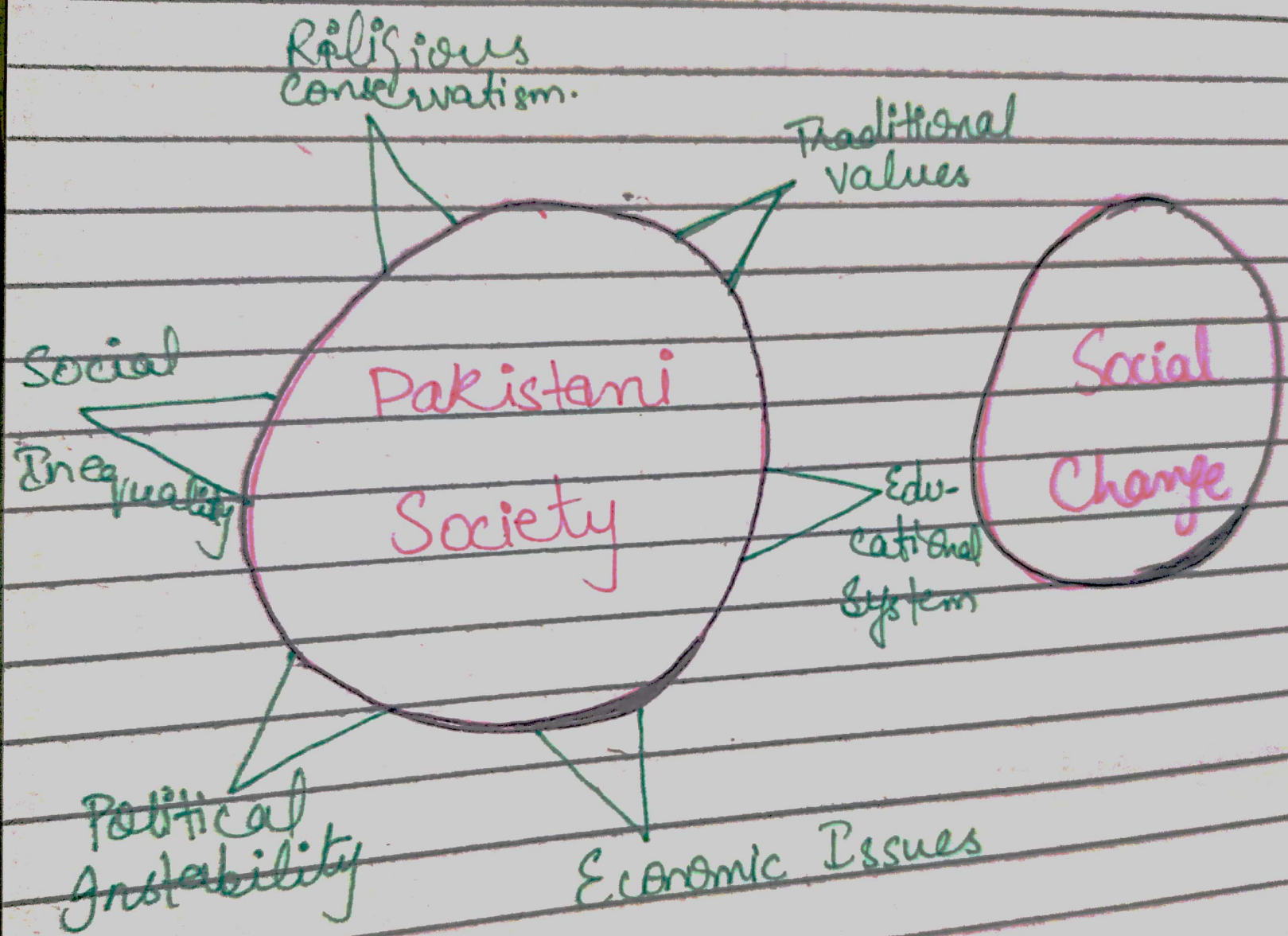
diverse religious Pakistan has a and conservative landscape of religion may resist social changes perceived as conflicting with religious values. This can affect attitude towards issues such as gender roles, education, and modernization.

### f. Social Inequality:

Socio-economic disparities and unequal distribution of resources can create a sense of injustice and limit the opportunities for certain segments of the population. This inequality means resistance against changes that are perceived as benefiting only a privileged few.

### Conclusion:

Addressing these impediments often requires a comprehensive and multifaceted approach involving education, economic development, inclusive governance and efforts to bridge societal divides.



## Question 8, Answer:

### A. Ethnocentrism and Xenocentrism:

Ethnocentrism and Xenocentrism are two contrasting cultural attitudes that individuals or groups may adopt when evaluating and interpreting other cultures. Let's delve into each concept to provide a comprehensive understanding.

#### 1. Ethnocentrism:

Ethnocentrism is the tendency to judge and evaluate other cultures based on the values, beliefs, and standards of one's own culture. This perspective often leads individuals to consider their own cultural norms as superior and to view other cultures through a lens shaped by their own cultural background. Ethnocentrism can result in a lack of understanding, prejudice, and the imposition of one's own cultural values on others.

#### 2. Xenocentrism:

Xenocentrism, on the other hand, is the opposite attitude. It

is the preference for or admiration of another culture's values, practices, and products over one's own. Individuals who adopt a xenocentric perspective may perceive foreign culture as more advanced, sophisticated or desirable compared to their own. This openness to foreign influence can be positive in fostering cultural exchange and appreciation, but it may also lead to the uncritical acceptance of external values.

## B. Role Conflict:

Role conflict occurs when an individual is confronted with ~~an~~ incompatible expectations arising from different social roles they occupy. Social roles are sets of expectations and responsibilities associated with a particular position in society, such as being a parent, employee, student or friend. Role conflicts arise when the demands and expectations of a role are at ~~the~~ odds

with the other role, creating stress and tension.

## 2) Types of Role Conflict:

### a. Intrapersonal Role Conflict:

an individual when the expectations of different roles they play clash. This occurs within

### b. Interpersonal Role Conflict:

conflicts between individuals in different roles. An example could be a supervisor and a subordinate having conflicting expectations. This type involves

### c. Intragroup Role Conflict:

a group or team when members have conflicting expectations about each other's roles or contributions. This occurs within

### d. Intergroup Role Conflict:

conflicts between two different groups. Such as departments within an organization. This type involves



## Conclusion :

Role conflict is a common and inevitable aspect of human life, given the multitude of roles individuals play in society. Understanding the causes, consequences, coping strategies of role conflict.