GSO S2 01

Sociological Theories

SEMESTER - II

SOCIOLOGY

Block 1

KRISHNA KANTA HANDIQUI STATE OPEN UNIVERSITY

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First Edition: December, 2017

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Printed and published by Registrar on behalf of the Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University.

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The university acknowledges with thanks the financial support provided by the **Distance Education Bureau, UGC**, for the preparation of this study material.

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Sociological Theories

DETAILED SYLLABUS

UNIT 1: Emergence of Sociology and Sociological thought: Intellectual Forces– Enlightenment, Positivism, Growth of Two Different Trends in Sociology **Pages: 7-31**

Emergence of Sociology and Sociological Thought; The Enlightenment: Scientific Revolution and the Enlightenment, Age of Enlightenment, Conservative Reaction to the Enlightenment; Positivism: Law of the Three Stages; Two Different Trends in Sociology: Structural Functionalism, Conflict Approach

UNIT 2: Social Forces Behind the Emergence of Sociology **Pages: 32-54**

French Revolution: Causes Behind the Revolution, Estates General and Rise of National Assembly (1789-1791), The Bastille Attack, Abolition of Feudalism, Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen, Working on the Constitution, War with Neighboring Countries, National Convention (1792-1795), The Directory (1795-1799); Industrial Revolution: Innovations, Transportation and Communication, Agricultural Revolution and Industrial Revolution, Enclosure Movement, Factory System, Exploitation, Growing Cities and Slums

UNIT 3: Auguste Comte **Pages: 55-67**

Auguste Comte: The Founder of Sociology; Comte's Views on Sociology: Positivism, The Law of Three Stages; Order and Progress; Methods; Class, Gender and Race; Conclusion

UNIT 4: Herbert Spencer **Pages: 68-78**

Herbert Spencer: An Introduction: Intellectual Comparison; Evolutionism: Social Types; Spencer's Sociology; Social Organism; Functionalism

UNIT 5: Emile Durkheim-I **Pages: 79-95**

Views on Sociology and its Approach; Social Fact: Characteristics, Rules for Observing Social Facts, Rules for Explaining Social Facts, Testing Sociological Explanations of Social Facts, Types; Division of Labour; Social Solidarity: Mechanical Solidarity, Organic Solidarity; Critical Assessment of Durkheim's Contributions

UNIT 6: Emile Durkheim: Suicide and Education **Pages: 96-109**

Emile Durkheim and Suicide: Types of Suicide; Emile Durkheim on Education: Education and Socialisation, Social Integration and Moral Education, Stages of Inculcating Moral Education

UNIT 7: Karl Marx: His Association with Hegel, Engles and Dialectical Matericalism **Pages: 110-122**

Intellectual Origin of Karl Marx: Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels; Dialectical Materialism: Social Class, Class Conflict in Capitalist Society; Criticisms

UNIT 8: Karl Marx: Theory of Surplus Value **Pages: 123-132**

Use Value and Exchange Value; The Labour Theory of Value; Theory of Surplus Value: Absolute and Relative Surplus Value

COURSE INTRODUCTION

Theory, as we all know, is the most significant component of any discipline. Keeping its importance in mind, this paper on Sociological theories attempts to discuss some of the major theories in Sociology. **Unit 1** discusses the intellecutal forces behind the emergence of Sociology, **Unit 2** explains the contributions of Social Forces like Industrial Revolution and French Revolution towards the emergence of Sociology as a discipline, **Unit 3** discusses the contribution of Auguste Comte towards Sociology, **Unit 4** explains the important concepts, ideas and arguments of Herbert Spencer, **Unit 5** discusses some of the important Concepts and Theories of Emile Durkeim like Social Facts, Division of Labour and Social Solidarity. **Unit 6** again explains the insights and arguments of Durkheim on Suidicide and Education. **Unit 7** discusses Karl Marx's idea on Class and Class Conflict. **Unit 8** discusses one of the important theories of Karl Marx i.e. the Theory of Surplus Value. **Unit 9** explains another very important contribution of Karl Marx i.e. theory of Alienation. **Unit 10** will discuss the contributions of George Simmel towards the discipline of Sociology. **Unit 11** seeks to explain one of the most imporatant contributions of Max Weber i.e. Social Action. **Unit 12** discusses some other very important concepts of Max Weber like Ideal Types, Authority and Bureaucracy. **Unit 13** shall explain to the learners the relationship between Religion and Capitalsim. **Unit 14** shall discuss the ideas and concepts forwarded by Vilfredo Pareto.

BLOCK INTRODUCTION

This course consists of two blocks.

This is the First Block of the paper on 'Sociological Theories' offered in the 2nd semester of BA Sociology programme of Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University. By introducing the learners to some of the important sociological theories, this block intends to provide the learners a basic theoretical understanding regarding the discipline sociology. Unit-1 discusses the intellecutal forces behind the emergence of Sociology, Unit-2 explains the contributions of Social Forces like Industrial Revolution and French Revolution towards the emergence of Sociology as a discipline, Unit-3 discusses the contribution of Auguste Comte towards Sociology, Unit-4 explains the important concepts, ideas and arguments of Herbert Spencer, Unit-5 discusses some of the important Concepts and Theories of Emile Durkeim like Social Facts, Division of Labour and Social Solidarity. Unit-6 again explains the insights and arguments of Durkheim on Suidicide and Education. Unit-7 discusses Karl Marx's idea on Class and Class Conflict. Unit-8 discusses one of the important theories of Karl Marx i.e. the Theory of Surplus Value.

In order to make the text more interesting and informative, a section called LET US KNOW has been provided in all the units. This section try to provide some additional information regarding the content of the unit. Further, in order to enable the learners to continuously check their progress regarding the content, some questions has been put at the end of various sections of a unit with the heading CHECK YOUR PROGRESS. The answers to the questions of CHECK YOUR PROGRESS section has been provided at the end of each unit. In the end of each unit few MODEL QUESTION of long and short type is provided in order to provide an idea of the question 'pattern' to be expected in the examinations by the learners.