GSO S2 01

Sociological Theories

SEMESTER - II

SOCIOLOGY

Block 2

KRISHNA KANTA HANDIQUI STATE OPEN UNIVERSITY

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BACHELOR OF ARTS

Sociological Theories

DETAILED SYLLABUS

UNIT 9: Karl Marx: Theory of Alienation **Pages: 137-148**

Meaning of Alienation; Nature of Alienation; Causes and Consequences; Four Aspects of Alienation

UNIT 10: George Simmel: A Conceptual Overview **Pages: 149-159**

Individual, Society and Formal Sociology; Metropolis and the Mental Life; Fashion; Philosophy of Money; Conclusion

UNIT 11: Max Weber: Social Action **Pages: 160-173**

Subjective Understanding of Social Action: Social Action, Subjective Meaning of Social Action; Natural Science and Social Science; Sociological Methodology; Critical Assessment of Weber's Contributions

UNIT 12: Max Weber: Ideal Types, Authority and Bureaucracy **Pages: 174-184**

Ideal Types: Definition, Characteristics, Comparison between Ideal Types and Common Sense, Uses of Ideal Types, Methods of Constructing Ideal Types, Types; Authority; Bureaucracy: Characteristics, Advantages, Disadvantages; Critical Assessment of Weber's Contributions

UNIT 13: Max Weber: Religion and Capitalism **Pages: 185-198**

The Work on Religion and Economy; The Spirit of Capitalism: Disciplined Labour Force, Regularized Investment of Capital, Other Impetus for Modern Capitalism; The Ethic: The Notion of Calling, Predestination, Rationality and its Iron Cage; Other Works on Religion

UNIT 14: Vilfredo Pareto **Pages: 199-214**

Subject Matter of Sociology: Logical Actions, Non-Logical Actions; Residues: Types of Residues; Derivations; Circulation of Elites: Governing Elites and Non-Governing Elites, Foxes and Lions

BLOCK INTRODUCTION

This is the second 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-9 intends to explain another very important contribution of Karl Marx i.e. theory of Alienation. The Unit explains how Capitalsim finally results not only in the exploitation of the working class but also in their Alienation. The Unit shall elaborate on the four types of Alienation that the working Class suffers from. Unit-10 will explain the significant contributions of George Simmel towards the discipline of Sociology. The Unit will explain some of his important concepts and ideas like Individual, Society and Formal Sociology, Metropolis and the Mental Life, Fashion, so on and so forth. Unit-11 seeks to explain one of the most imporatant contributions of Max Weber i.e. Social Action. The Unit shall explain to the learners the conceptual and methodological understanding of Max Weber's theory of 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 by referring to one of the very famous works of Max Weber i.e. the Protestant Ethics and the Spirit of Capitalsim. Unit-14 shall discuss the ideas and concepts forwarded by Vilfredo Pareto like Logical Actions, Non Logical Actions, Residues, Types Of Residues, Derivations, Circulation Of Elites, Governing Elites And Non Governing Elites, Foxes And Lions.