

# Social Modernization and Transformation in Globalization- A Study

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**Abstract;** This article presents the various theoretical approaches to the study of social transformation and sociology of development since the emergence of this sub-field in sociology. In discussing various paradigms of social change and social transformation, the article questions the Eurocentric assumptions of a seemingly linear trajectory. In summarizing the developments in the field of sociology of development, this article synthesizes various theoretical strands such as modernization theories, dependency and world systems theories, and globalization and multiple modernity theories.

**Keywords;** globalization global South globalizations social change sociology of development.

## **Introduction;**

Social transformation implies a fundamental change in society, which can be contrasted with social change viewed as gradual or incremental changes over a period of time. Social change has been the subject of a good part of sociology from Ibn Khaldun of the fourteenth century to Immanuel Wallerstein in the twenty-first century. Sociology of development is a field of study in sociology that primarily deals with issues of development and change in what is euphemistically called the global South, or in the past as developing countries. Studies of social transformation encompass a wide range of institutional and cultural changes in society throughout history. The modalities, causes and consequences of social change have been contemplated by philosophers and sages from time immemorial. The observation of Heraclitus (c. 535 BC – 475 BC) that ‘you cannot step twice into the same river’ captures the essence of the constancy of change. Change is eternal. Although the idea of social change is more or less universal, sometimes there are disagreements on the directionality of change as with the mechanisms of change. The social transformation was always been center point of study among the social scientists. Many a times development and progress can create issues and unintended problems in the society. Development induced displacement or cultural transformation creates conflict these are some issues created in the phase of transformation. Social change can left deep impact on social institutions. So it always challenge to the social science to observe the transformation and to analyze the impact of it. In sociology many studies were conducted on the changing nature of primitive society and its continuous progress. This paper is an attempt to analyze how social transformation has changed human civilization and how sociologists are studying it with various perspectives. It is an attempt to understand nature, order, social reconstruction, social change, social structure, etc.

**Classical sociological approaches;**

Distinguished social scientist contributed on the social change and social transformation issues since from the beginning with the reference to Caste, Class, Status, Role, Education, Social Equality, Social Mobility, Development, Modernization, and Industrialization, westernization, etc. Social sciences and Sociology always has a major role in describing and analyzing the social change. In the beginning anthropological and sociological studies were to describe the statistics and those were not related to change and transformation. However, these were important studies which focused on macro observations and broad issues. But as huge migration started worldwide and commencement of industrialization things were changed rapidly. The pace of mobility was very high that time. This period was considered of transformation in human thinking. The second most influential sociologists Herbert Spencer also analyses the human progress and came to conclusion that human society is gradually progress in certain manner. Vilfredo Parato put forwarded the idea of political factor behind the change. He said that political will and force make changes and transformation in society. Even though the society act rigidly, political force enforces the changes in society, he claimed. Sorokin explored concept of cyclic and linear change. In his concept he stated that the social change particularly the cultural change starts in linear direction. It goes straight in direction but due to various forces it goes in another direction some time it comes back to the same place too. Eventfully the force of development will guide the direction of change. Lewis coser thinks that conflict in society initiative the change, the social transformation can be happen the society only through conflict.

Mikhailosky the Russian sociologist also described the social change in three stages in which first stage is dominated by nature and the second one is based on facts and reality, in third and final stage of change humans took control over nature. Karl Marx was first social scientist who looked the social change very differently. His idea of observation was based on the factors responsible for the social change. His theories are based on economic factors, prevailing in the society. His whole idea of social change was the ownership of production and its distribution. He claimed that any change in the ownership of production and distribution can change the direction of social change. As per his ideology, material things are important then the all other institutional factors. Any change in the materialistic things can bring the change in social institutions. The nature of social interaction can be changed and decided by the materialistic condition of that society. If small section of the society holds the power and ownership of the means, eventually the direction of social change will have decided by them. They will bring the changes according and favorable to them. It means the direction of social change will be managed and controlled by the few of the society which May not in interest of the larger section of the society. Marx clearly highlighted the socio-eco factor which is inter-related and determines the change. The nature of change is not decided by humans rather it is determined by the economical factor.

**Modernization and Transformation;**

Studies related to the social transformation in early period were limited to the various social revolutions and political revolutions in the early twentieth century. Later on it was focused on the world wars and its implications. The most significant social transactions took place in colonial period, where two different communities interacted with each other. Twentieth century is the most important and happening for the transition and transformation in the world. Emergence of

machine and dominance of science created new knowledge society. This was the period when the rise of cities and urban development took place, migration triggered massively and education was on peak. This was the period when most of the countries opened up the doors to other countries. The open market concept arrived. This was not remained up to the goods; it was the transformation in culture too. Clothing pattern were exchanged, good were carried away and even new food habit was introduced among the countries. Past so many years it was not happened at this level. It was the era of education and knowledge based society. Major change was happened in the social institutions. The place of small group was taken by secondary group. The secondary group is based on informal relationship and on the basis of voluntary membership. Few significant changes were took place in this period. Rural institutions were destroyed and overtaken by the urban culture. Joint family was converted in nuclear family. Simple economy was shaping into complex economy.

### **Liberalization and Transformation;**

The world was not the same after the era of Liberalization and open market system. It was worldwide process which brings world close. It was merely related to market however opening the gates, there were many other things flown away from western countries and vice versa. New ideas, social media, idea of private sector, idea of private partnership, new technology, digital sharing, great transport, help in health and education sector and above all financial assistance seeded the liberalization process. It lefts deep impact on the third world some under developed countries. It was not only the market and finance were exchanged but the idea of equality, brotherhood, rights of poor, health care and liberal thoughts on caste, these liberal values flown away with the global exchange. Huge and massive economic centers created in compliance with the GATT agreement and new liberalization policy. The sectors like media, television and telephone were ruled by the government sector and somehow it was government's voice, but the new liberalization policy opened up these sectors to private player. This was the opportunity masses to raise the voice against government which leads many social movements. Multinational companies travelled to all countries freely which creates new ideas of branding and benchmarking, this was era of commercialization of everything.

### **Social science and Sociology;**

Social scientists always attracted to the discourse of social change and social transformation. It was curiosity for them to know that what factors are mobilizing and working as driving force for social change. The process of transformation must be analyzed and events must be seen in scientific and objective manner. In terms of social sciences, it was western experience who guided the method of enquiry. It was necessary to look social transformation in indigenous way. Indian sociologists have made significant contribution in this regard. M N Srinivas explored the idea of Sanskritization and Westernization which was based on changing culture of castes and communities. Social transformation is connected with all sections of the society. The study of community or society must be linked with the global and local factors. The transformation shall concern with demographical and cultural changes. The study of social transformation is an interdisciplinary approach so within one discipline it can't be carried out in one particular subject. That means social scientists have to go beyond their subject and study transformation in interdisciplinary approach.

## Conclusion;

The considerations above lead us to present a theory of connected yet differentiated modernization that can be further developed by cultural and structural comparisons to identify different constellations of institutions and their relationships. The importance of culture is weighted differently during the change of structures. So in today's global society, culture plays an important role that is responsible for different dynamics. Each of these can be characterized by certain types of societies of the North and the South, or within a society of various cultural milieus. In this sense, we think the multiple modernity approach to civilizations is too large, but some aspects of the glocalization debate with its different levels (countries, regions and local contexts) should be underlined in Any social transformation or social change is start in the direction of progress or development. However, few social scientists think that change in the folkways or tradition is not good for the society, sometimes it creates issues for society. However, the process of transformation is inevitable and irreversible. The social change is triggered by the various forces and due various reasons too. The progress or this change is driven for the fulfillment of various objectives of the society. As social scientist describe the change is not superficial it is related with social structure or social system. It means that social change or social transformation is fundamental change in the society. The pace of change can be varying from society to society but the common feature is the willingness of the society. It is also evident that it is unstoppable and irreversible process and will never stop. With all above major contribution of Sociologists and social scientists one can understand that social change and social transformation is very wide and comprehensive concept. There are many perspectives and view which are different to analyze the social transformation. However, there are some broad conclusions on above discussion. the debate on change and transformation. This would then lead to research that examines institutional complexes where culture plays a significant role.

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