

EMERGING AURA OF SOCIOLOGY OF THE FUTURE AND A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF THE SOCIOLOGICAL JOURNEY OF A CENTURY

Dr. Om Singh

M.A., Ph. D. (Sociology)

Abstract

The foundation of the subject of Sociology in India can be seen in ancient times, where Ramayana, Mahabharata, Geeta, Veda-Purana, Upanishads and many texts are unique examples of this. The introduction of sociology and social anthropology in India after the 17th century was realized by the British authorities seeing the need for smooth administration. The freedom struggles of 1857 necessitated the invention of a new science to understand the roots of Indian society. Herbert Risley's contribution in the rise of the study of anthropology to the subject of sociology in the history of colonial India is considered great. If we look back to the second half of the 19th century, Indian sociologists had made significant contributions to the development of indigenous studies of Indian society. At the same time, the origin of sociology in India during independence can be seen as the rise of the spirit of nationalism. In fact sociology was considered a mixed bag without its own prestige and identity. After independence, sociology separated itself from psychology, anthropology and social philosophy and established its identity as a subject.

Keywords:

Veda-Purana, Sociology, Psychology, Anthropology, Sociological Approach.

Introduction

The pattern of human existence is linked to the mirror of the society which is the diamond of human forms of this earth. Since then man had started thinking about the subject of society. Human beings kept moving forward

understanding the development of society, social institution, family, marriage, education, religion¹ and culture at the primary level. At the same time, human being has been continuously trying to understand the origin, structure, development and function of human at the second level. After reviewing many sociological research papers in the research paper, an attempt has been made to understand the society in historical, economic, political, philosophical and religious forms before the development of sociology. So, we can say that Sociology is a new science of society in the modern era where the overall forms of society are studied by scientific method.

Ancient scholars and contemporary sociologists have made significant contributions in promoting sociological² studies and research in the nation of India. Kautilya, Manu, Aryabhatta, Bhaskaracharya, Banabhatta, Harsha, Suryamal Mishra and Kalidas etc. are notable among the ancient Indian³ scholars, who did an in-depth study of the sociological approach, understanding the intellectual wealth of the Indian society. Among the contemporary Indian sociologists, G.S. Ghurye, D. N. Majumdar, B.N. Seal, K.M. Kapadia, Irawati Karve, S.V. Karandikar, M.N. Srinivas, A.R. Desai, Dr. Lovely Bhati, Dr. Deepthi Ranjan etc. are notable and helped in the development of sociology in India in ancient and present times.

Objectives of the Study

- ❖ To provide information about the development of sociology before and after independence in the Indian context.

Research Methodology

The creation and credibility of a research design for research work is helpful in the collection of data. In the research paper, qualitative research has been selected by the researcher after due deliberation. The title of the research paper is Emerging Aura of Sociology of the Future and a Critical Analysis of Sociological Journey of a Century. The researcher has obtained the material related to the study from secondary sources, which is helpful in the research study, Apart from this, the help of sources like letters, magazines, newspapers, books and internet has been taken.

Ancient India and Sociology

In the development of sociology, systematic and systematic⁴ form of social thinking is seen in ancient Indian texts like Vedas, Upanishads, Ramayana, Mahabharata, Geeta and ancient Smritis etc. A close study of these ancient texts reveals that the social system in ancient India was at a very advanced level and deep contemplation and study on the values related to life had started. In the study of these texts, it was also found that the social elements and issues that maintain the social order in the society were discussed in detail, along with a unique example of beautiful coordination between the society and the individual has been found in the Varnashram system of that time.

When we look at the development of sociology in ancient India, we see four purusharthas of life in the society whose main objectives are Dharma, Artha, Kama and Moksha. For which a person used to strive to achieve and while achieving the development of his personality, contributed significantly in improving the social life. Gradually the development of sociology was reaching its peak. But our scholars and thinkers were aware that only on the basis of individualism and materialism; a person's life cannot be achieved completely. In the end, he took full support of spiritualism in the society. Therefore, we can say that social

thought is absolutely an invaluable material in the development of sociology in ancient India. If we study the ancient texts, we get to know from Kautilya⁵ Arthashastra, Shukracharya's Ethics and Manu's Manusmriti how was the social system in the ancient society, what kind of social customs, traditions, conduct, customs and relations social the rule prevails. These texts help in understanding the social system of the ancient society and the changes that took place from time to time. Along with this, in these texts, Varna, caste, marriage, family, religion, state, values etc. were studied in a subtle way. From the studies of these texts, we come to know that the social system and social thinking of the ancient society were greatly influenced by religion. For example, we can see the store of social knowledge in Manusmriti, which is a unique form of ancient texts. For the development of sociology through appropriate ancient texts, it is concluded that the tradition of development of sociology in India had been significantly embellished since the Vedic period.

Pre-1947 India and the Replacement Era of Sociology

Sociology had emerged as a new science⁵ in India before the year 1947. But the development of sociology as a systematic discipline was visible in Europe in the second half of the 19th century. At the time of the advent of the 20th century, Sociology as a subject had spread its feet inside India.

As a result, Indian intellectuals started studying⁶ and teaching sociology as a new science between the years 1914 to 1947. Therefore, we can say that the period from the year 1914 to the year 1947 can be seen as the era of formal replacement of the subject of Sociology in the nation of India. Whose detailed description is as follows:-

- Before independence, the study of sociology at the graduate level in India

was first started in the year 1914 under the direction of Bombay University.

- The Department of Sociology was established in the University of Mumbai in the year 1919 under the chairmanship of Professor Patrick Geddes, a British sociologist] under which postgraduate classes in Sociology were also started.
- In India, in the year 1924, Dr. Sadashiv Ghurur was appointed as the head of the Department of Sociology at Bombay University. Dr. Sadashiv Ghurur was a disciple of Professor Patrick Geddes, a renowned British sociologist⁶] who significantly advanced the discipline of sociology in the field of study and teaching. This great work can never be forgotten in India.
- Contribution of famous sociologist Dr. Sadashiv Ghurur as well as Professor Radhakamal Mukherjee's in the development of sociology in India is also incredible. Dr. Radhakamal Mukherjee's of Sociology was a very original philosopher. He was one of the few poly scientific social scientists of the 20th century, who studied economics, sociology, anthropology, ecology, philosophy, psychology, literature, social work, culture, civilization, art, mysticism, music, theology, spirituality, ethics, values etc. Professor Mukherjee's wrote 50 famous books. He was awarded the Padma Bhushan by the Government of India in the year 1962. In the year 1955, London's famous publishing house Macmillan had published a felicitation book in honor of Dr. Mukherjee's.
- With the hard efforts of sociologist Professor Brijendra Nath Seal, the study of sociology along with economics was

started in the year 1917 under the Calcutta University.

- After this, in the year 1923, the subject of Sociology was taught in the graduate-level classes in the University of Mysore.
- In the year 1923, Sociology subject was also recognized at the graduate level in Andhra University.
- In the year 1930, Mrs. Irawati Karve established the Department of Sociology in Poona University and Mrs. Irawati Karve took over the post of head of the department.

Therefore, it can be said that till the year 1947, the development of sociology was progressing at a slow pace. At the same time, the subject of sociology had taken root in many universities⁷ of India at the undergraduate and postgraduate level. In the end, we come to a conclusion that till independence, the subject of Sociology was associated somewhere with Economics, somewhere with Philosophy and somewhere with Anthropology and after its untiring efforts; the subject of Sociology was recognized as an independent subject.

Genesis of Sociology in the 19th Century

Sociology, an intellectual marvel, unfurled its wings in the early 19th century as a profound response to the complex challenges posed by the advent of modernity. Birthed from the intellectual crucible of societal upheavals, industrialization, and philosophical introspection, sociology emerged as the sentinel of understanding human societies in the throes of transformation.

Sociology's Indian Incarnation at the University of Bombay

Nestled in the historical tapestry of academia, the Department of Sociology in India took its inaugural breath in 1919 at the venerable University of Bombay. A crucible of intellectual ferment, this department became

the hallowed ground where the seeds of sociological inquiry were sown and nurtured.

G. S. Ghurye: Architect of Indian Sociological Thought:

In the annals of Indian sociology, G. S. Ghurye stands as a luminary, widely acclaimed as the progenitor of this intellectual odyssey. Ghurye's visionary strides resonated as he laid the cornerstone for the discipline, sculpting its contours with a profound understanding of the Indian societal fabric through his scholarly prowess; Ghurye not only etched his name in the annals of Indian academia but also bestowed upon the nation a legacy that continues to shape sociological discourse.

Pioneering Perspectives and Paradigms:

The inception of sociology in India was not merely a chronological occurrence; it was an intellectual insurgency that sought to unravel the intricate tapestry of society. Ghurye's intellectual acumen set the stage for a myriad of sociological perspectives, exploring the diversity of Indian social structures, cultural nuances, and the ever-evolving dynamics of its people.

Legacy of Inquiry and Insight

he foundations laid by Ghurye and his contemporaries serve as the bedrock upon which generations of sociologists have built their intellectual edifices. The Department of Sociology at the University of Bombay, like an ancient custodian, continues to be a crucible for minds eager to explore, question, and decipher the complexities woven into the fabric of Indian society.

Sociology Unveiling India's Social Tapestry

In the vast mosaic of human experience, Indian sociology, with its roots embedded in the University of Bombay and the indomitable spirit of G. S. Ghurye, unfurls as a narrative thread weaving through the myriad tales of India's social landscape. It is a discipline that transcends temporal boundaries, standing as a testament to the enduring quest to understand,

interpret, and engage with the evolving contours of societal existence.

Intrigue in Sociological Origins:

Delving into the origins of sociology is a captivating endeavor that sparks the intellectual curiosity of sociologists, beckoning them to traverse the corridors of time to understand the roots of their scholarly pursuit.

Enlightenment's Incandescent Crucible

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Enlightenment's Incandescent Crucible:

Sociology, like a phoenix rising from the ashes of tradition, found its genesis primarily in the incandescent crucible of Enlightenment thought. The intellectual ferment of the Enlightenment era, marked by a fervent pursuit of reason, individual rights, and societal progress, became the fertile soil from which sociology would bloom.

Post-Revolutionary Tapestry:

The emergence of sociology as a scholarly discipline unfolded as a consequential narrative, unfurling its pages shortly after the seismic tremors of the French Revolutionary. In the aftermath of societal upheavals, a palpable need arose to comprehend the intricate dynamics of the evolving social fabric, giving birth to sociology as a positivist science dedicated to unraveling the mysteries of society.

Auguste Comte: Maestro of Sociological Alchemy:

In this symphony of intellectual evolution, Auguste Comte, a luminary amidst French philosophers, ascends as a maestro, often hailed

as the "father of sociology. Comte not only pioneered sociological inquiry but also bestowed upon the discipline its nomenclature, coining the term "sociology" to encapsulate the systematic study of society.

Coined Term, Forged Discipline:

The term "sociology," crafted by Comte, serves as a linguistic keystone, encapsulating the essence of a discipline that seeks to unravel the enigma of societal structures and dynamics. Comte's visionary strokes not only gave birth to a new field of study but also imbued it with a sense of purpose, laying the groundwork for generations of scholars to explore the labyrinthine pathways of human social interaction.

Legacy of Intellectual Patrimony:

Auguste Comte's intellectual legacy echoes through the hallowed halls of sociological thought, leaving an indelible mark on the discipline. His conceptual contributions serve as a compass, guiding sociologists through the intricate terrain of societal analysis and prompting continuous reflections on the nature of human association.

Sociology's Ongoing Tapestry

The narrative of sociology's origin, woven with the threads of Enlightenment ideals, post-revolutionary fervor, and Comte an intellect, stands as a testament to the enduring quest to understand the complexities and nuances that define human societies. As sociologists continue to traverse this intellectual landscape, the origins of sociology beckon as a source of inspiration, guiding their ongoing exploration of the ever-evolving tapestry of human social existence. It is an elaboration on some of the most prominent Indian sociologists.

G. S. Ghurye:

Regarded as the founder of Indian sociology, G. S. Ghurye made significant contributions to the understanding of Indian society. His work laid the foundation for the discipline, addressing diverse aspects such as caste, kinship, and

religion. Ghurye's research encompassed a broad spectrum, providing valuable insights into the complexities of Indian social structure.

M. N. Srinivas

Renowned for his scholarly prowess, M. N. Srinivas played a pivotal role in advancing the field of sociology in India. He skillfully combined macro-sociological generalization with micro anthropological insights, particularly in the study of small-scale communities. Srinivas introduced key concepts such as 'sanskritization,' 'westernization,' 'secularization,' and 'westernization,' shedding light on the intricate interplay between culture, tradition, and modernity.

B. R. Ambedkar

Beyond his roles as an Indian jurist, economist, and politician, B. R. Ambedkar emerged as a prominent social reformer. He ardently campaigned against social discrimination, particularly addressing the plight of Untouchables (Dalits). Ambedkar's intellectual legacy extends to inspiring the Dalit Buddhist movement, reflecting his commitment to social justice and equality.

Yogendra Singh

Widely recognized for his contributions to the study of Indian society, social change, and modernization, Yogendra Singh has played a crucial role in shaping sociological discourse. His work delves into the dynamics of societal transformation, offering insights into the challenges and opportunities presented by modernization in the Indian context.

Dipankar Gupta

A well-known figure in Indian sociology, Dipankar Gupta has made significant contributions to the understanding of identity, democracy, and globalization. His extensive writings explore the multifaceted nature of social issues, providing a nuanced perspective on the evolving dynamics of Indian society in the context of globalization and democratic principles.

These sociologists have collectively enriched the discipline by offering diverse perspectives and groundbreaking insights into the complexities of Indian society, contributing to the ongoing intellectual dialogue within the field.

Independent India and the present era of sociology

India got independence in the year 1947. Since then, the development of sociology in India takes its pace and as a systematic independent subject in this democratic nation, people's attention has been drawn towards study and teaching in various universities and colleges here. Many cities of present India like-Bombay, Calcutta, Mysore, Andhra, Poona, Baroda, Gujarat, Patna, Bhagalpur, Gorakhpur, Delhi, Jabalpur, Punjab, Nagpur, Rajasthan, Jodhpur, Udaipur, Ajmer, Indore, Bhopal, Raipur, Ranchi, Kashi Vidyapeeth, Kumaon, Rohilkhand, Bundelkhand, Kashi Hindu University, Meerut, Aligarh Muslim University, Madras, Kanpur etc. Sociology departments have been established in central, state, deemed and private universities.

At present, according to the statistics⁸ of the year 2022, there are 28 states and 8 union territories of the nation of India. In which there are 55 Central Universities, 126 Deemed Universities, 455 State based Universities and 421 Private Universities, out of which 90% universities have established Sociology Department, where Under Graduate, Post Graduate, M-Phil and Ph-D as well as related to Sociology The work of study and teaching is going on in research institutes. From independence to the present perspective, many sociologists of India have made their incredible contribution to the development of sociology in which notable names are Dr. Radha Kamal Mukherjee, Professor D. N. Mazumdar, Dr. K. M. Kapadia, Dr. R. N. Saxena, Dr- M. S. Srinivasan, Dr. Shyam Charan Dubey, Dr. S. K. Dubey, Dr. Ritu Shashwat, Dr. Rashmi Jain,

Dr. Paresh Dwivedi, Dr- Rakesh Rana, Dr. Deepti Ranjan Malik, Dr. Lovely Bhati and Dr. Om Singh etc.

Evolution and Challenges in Indian Sociology
 Sociology in India has traversed a remarkable journey since its inception in the early 19th century, evolving to encompass a diverse array of topics and themes. However, despite its growth, the field faces several challenges that impede its progress and potential impact on societal understanding and transformation.

Lack of Funding

A persistent challenge in Indian sociology is the chronic lack of funding. This financial constraint hampers the ability of researchers to undertake comprehensive studies and disseminate their findings. Adequate funding is crucial for the advancement of the discipline and the exploration of nuanced social dynamics.

Lack of Diversity

The landscape of sociologists in India often lacks diversity, with a predominant representation from upper-caste backgrounds. This homogeneity can result in a limited range of research topics and perspectives, hindering a comprehensive understanding of the intricacies of Indian society. Embracing diversity in the field is essential for a more inclusive and nuanced sociological discourse.

Lack of Public Awareness

Despite its significance, there exists a general lack of public awareness regarding the importance of sociology in India. This lack of understanding contributes to a dearth of support for sociological research initiatives. Raising public awareness is crucial for fostering a society that values and supports sociological endeavors.

Revival of Historical Sociology

In recent times, sociology has undergone significant transformations, with one notable development being the resurgence of historical sociology. This sub-discipline focuses on

studying social phenomena over time, unraveling the intricacies of societal changes and their impact on contemporary dynamics. The revival of historical sociology adds depth and context to sociological analyses, enriching the discipline with a temporal dimension.

Doing Sociology – “Maitrayee Chaudhuri”

The media is a pervasive presence in contemporary everyday life. No aspect of our personal or public experiences is untouched. At the personal level, our dependence is acute. Whoever has lost a smart phone would know that sinking feeling of helplessness. For this is not the loss of a phone any longer. It is the loss of one’s anchor- the rudder to life: access to work and leisure; friends and family; banking and ticketing; monitoring health and wealth. Everything comes to a grinding halt. The world shuts off.

Conclusion

The roots of the development of sociology in India were solid since ancient times, in which unique examples such as Kautilya, Manu, Aryabhatta, Suryamal Mishra and Kalidas etc. are notable as ancient sociological scholars. In ancient times, sociology was studied in the form of human behavior in society. But over a period of time, society has always been the pillar of change in which the role of man has been mainly. Based on the interval of time, the society progressed from Varna system to Caste system and the change in systems like monarchy and democracy in the society has also been the main basis of the study of Sociology. If there were no problems in the society, man would have been able to study the society. Therefore, the presence of problems in the society is the basis for the birth of social

issues. In the present perspective, many sociologists of India gave birth to sociology as a new subject by studying many social issues of the society. Sociology has resulted in a new science based on the scientific approach of society in present times. Many Indian sociologists have made significant contribution to the development of sociology before and after independence in India.

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