

B.A. 4TH SEM (Education)(Gen.)

Paper: Sociological Foundations of
Education(4.1)

Topic: Cultural Lag, Diffusion and
Integration

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Cultural Lag

It is one of the most important concepts of culture. The gap created among the progress of scientific inventions and non material culture like ideals, values and norms which leads to fast progress of material culture and lagging behind the non material culture is known as cultural lag.

William Fielding Ogburn was the main founder of concept of cultural lag and he mentioned about this concept in his book “**Social Change**”.

Causes of Cultural Lag

1. **Ideal**: Generally non material culture is influenced by ideals. Through ideals we can judge that what is good/bad, correct/incorrect.
2. **Technology**: When any new discovery or invention takes place it creates a problem of adaptation in the society.
3. **Psychological dogmatism**: Generally people in the society respect the traditional concept and the religious beliefs instead of modern values.

Cultural Diffusion

This is a process through which cultural traits of one culture is transmitted to another culture. Cultural diffusion takes place at broader areas where population of neighboring cultures are more likely to interact.

Cultural diffusion may take place even from a developed nation to an undeveloped nation. Cultural diffusion has also taken place through international travel.

Cultural Integration

Cultural integration is a form of cultural exchange in which one group assumes the beliefs, practices, and rituals of another group without sacrificing the characteristics of its own .

It is the mixing of two or more cultures. Through it, the people in the society can exchange their ideas, rituals, beliefs etc.

Cultural integration can help to determine the rules, regulations and laws which should be followed by the different communities for the unity, integrity and progress of the society.

For the development of cultural integration in India following steps may be taken:

1. Development of universal language.
2. Acceptance of Secularism.
3. Respect to Different Sub-Cultural groups in Indian society.
4. Identification of different cultural heritage to the new generation. For this purpose curriculum should be prepared in education system.
5. Provision for educational tour.
6. Organization for Cultural Exchange Program.
7. Organization of Seminars, Workshops, Group Discussions related to cultural integration in educational institutions by inviting the specialist persons.

Bibliography:

Prepared with inputs from:

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2. Snatok Moholar Shikshar Samajhtatik Dhara by Dr. Phunu Das Sarmah and Dr. Utpal Kalita