

Social Statics and Social Dynamics

- One of Comte's lasting contributions is his distinction of sociology between social statics and social dynamics.
- Just as in biology it is useful to separate anatomy from physiology, so it is desirable to make a distinction in sociology between statics and dynamics.

- Comte divided Sociology into TWO Theoretical Aspects;
- Social Statics and
- Social Dynamics
- Social static focuses on how order is maintained in the society and social dynamic focuses on how society changes over time.
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- Comte's aim was to create a naturalistic science of society, which would both explain the past development of mankind and predict its future course.
- In addition to building a science capable of explaining the laws of motion that govern humanity over time, Comte attempted to formulate the conditions that account for social stability at any given historical moment.
- The study of social statics and social dynamics-of progress and order, of change and stability-are the twin pillars of his systems.

social statics

- The social statics is concerned with the present structure of the society. It studies the current laws, rules and present condition of the society. In social statics, it is observed as how the present social laws are affecting the society
- Statics in Sociology consisted of clarifying the interconnections between those social facts which appear to be universally necessary for the existence of a society of any kind.
- The nature of connections between the family, the division of labour, property, government, religion, morality and so on.

Social statics

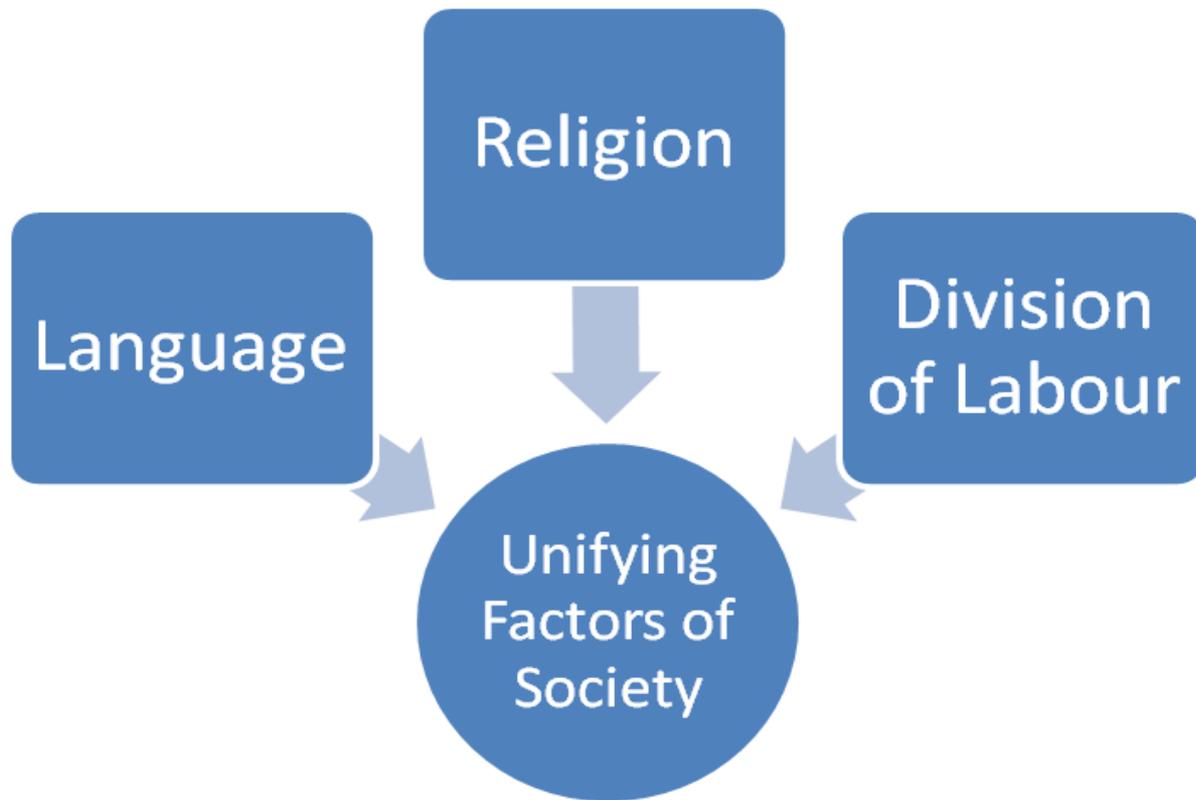
- Social statics are concerned with the ways in which the parts of a social system (social structures) interact with one another, as well as the functional relationships between the parts and to the social system as a whole.
- Comte therefore focused his social statics on the individual, as well as such collective phenomena as the family, religion, language, and the division of labor.
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Social Statics

- social Statics refers to the study of the conditions and pre-conditions of social order.
- It is concerned with the present structure of the society.
- It studies the issues of social stability and social order.
- It studies the current laws, rules and present conditions of the society.
- It observes how these laws and rules are affecting the present society.
- It investigates the law of action and reaction of the different parts of the social system.
- It is concerned with the study of major institutions, which preserve the social order.
- For example, family; it occupies an important position in social structure. It provides the base for the social order and progress of the society.
- Individual, family and social combinations are three levels of society. Family is the smallest and basic unit of sociology.
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Three Factors of Social Statics:

- According to Comte, there are three factors of social statics. They are;
- **Language**; It is the means of storing thoughts and culture for proceeding generations. Without a common language, attaining solidarity and social order is not possible.
- **Religion**; It provides the guidance for behaviour and it is the root of social order.
- **Division of Labour**; It is essential for the success of the state cooperation as it creates interdependence among the people in the society.



Social Dynamics

- Social Dynamics is how the processes of social changes are taking place.
- Social dynamics is the theory of social progress. A true science of society must find out both the laws of order and progress. The law of order is the concern of social statics and laws of progress are discovered through social dynamics.

- Dynamics in Sociology consisted of studying and tracing interconnections between these many aspects of society as they actually existed and changed in the many types of society in the cumulative process of history.
- It was a study that is of the actual varieties of societies existing in the world. Social statics is chiefly analytical. Social dynamics is chiefly empirical. Dynamics applies the analysis of statics to the study of actual societies.

social dynamics

- Comte placed greater emphasis on the study of social dynamics, or social change. His theory of social dynamics is founded on the law of the three stages; i.e., the evolution of society is based on the evolution of mind through the theological, metaphysical, and positivist stages.
- He saw social dynamics as a process of progressive evolution in which people become cumulatively more intelligent and in which altruism eventually triumphs over egoism.
- This process is one that people can modify or accelerate, but in the end the laws of progressive development dictate the development of society.
- Comte's research on social evolution focused on Western Europe, which he viewed as the most highly developed part of the world during his times.

Social Dynamics

- It begins with the study of the process of social changes. Therefore, it is concerned with the matter of social progress.
- The term 'Progress' refers to the orderly development of the society, which are according to the natural law. Hence, the order and progress or statics and dynamics are co-related to each other.
- Dynamics begin when the functions of the social institutions are altered or changed.
- According to Comte, social dynamics describe the successive and necessary stages in the development in the human mind and the society.

- Further, he opined that the social dynamics should depend on the historical perspectives in order to study the process of social change and progress.
- Thus, the social dynamics are found in all the aspects of the society, such as physical, moral and intellectual. However, the intellectual is the most important.
- Social dynamics refers to the pattern of the revolutionary progress in which the sequence of the development is necessary and inevitable.
- Moreover, it is natural that the social systems, such as institutions are interrelated and interdependent, so they can make a harmonious whole.
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