

# **Social Interaction in Everyday Life**

# Social Structure: A Guide to Everyday Living

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**Social interaction** - the process by which people act and react in relation to others.



# Definition of Social Interaction

Dowson & Getty:

“Social interaction is a process whereby men interpenetrate the mind of each other”.

# Definition of Social Interaction

Merrill:

“social interaction is the process of contact where the behavior modifies slightly” “Modifies slightly”.

# Status

- **Status** - a social position that an individual occupies.
- Every status is part of our social identity.
- It defines who and what we are in relation to others.



# Status

A status set - all of the statuses a person holds at a given time.



# Status



**Ascribed status** - a social position a person receives at birth or assumes involuntarily.



# Status

**Achieved status** - a social position a person assumes voluntarily that reflects personal ability.





# A Master Status

- Some statuses matter more than others, often shaping a person's entire life.
- **A master status** - a status that has special importance for social identity.



# LEVELS OF SOCIAL INTERACTION

- Between individual and individual
- Between individual and groups
- Between groups and groups
- Between individual and culture



Between doctor and patient

**BETWEEN INDIVIDUAL AND INDIVIDUAL**

# Between teacher and student



# Between mother and child







Between singer and audience

**BETWEEN INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP**

# Between leader and team





# Politician and public





**BETWEEN GROUP AND GROUP**



# Conference





# COMPETITION(FOOTBALL MATCH)



# Types of Social Interaction

- Social interaction occurs on a daily basis in a variety of ways.



# Role Playing

- When you play a role in society, you must interact with others in society.
- Interactions brings 2 things to society:
  - Stability
  - change



# Common Forms of Social Interaction

- Exchange
  - Whenever people interact in an effort to receive a reward or a return for the actions.
    - Buying Wife flowers
    - Listening to your parents
    - Holding doors for old people.



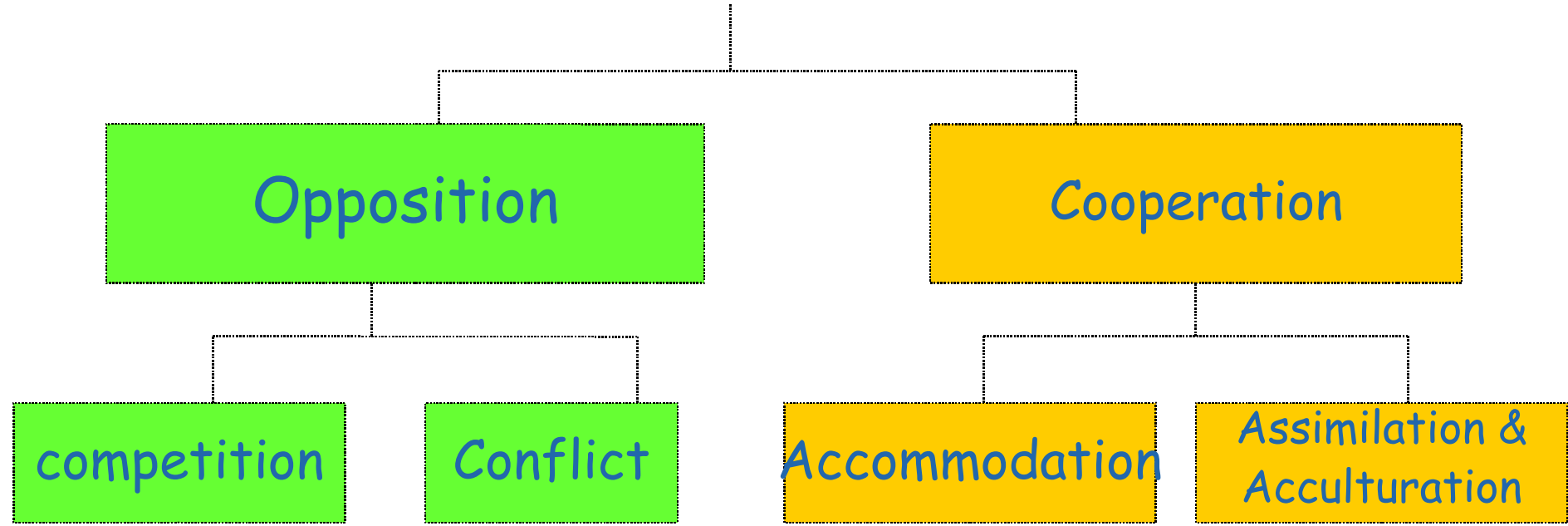


# Common Forms of Social Interaction

- Exchange theory
  - The idea that people are motivated by self interest in their interactions with other people.
  - I.E. People do things strictly to be rewarded.
    - Extra credit
    - Wash the car
    - Buy flowers for girlfriend



# Types / Forms of Social Interaction / Social Process



# Opposition

This is the disassociate form of social interaction.  
it includes competition & conflict.

## Opposition or Disassociation:

In every institution there is competition and competition may be called as struggle between two or more individuals, who are striving to get something which is relatively limited.

# Forms of competition

- **Personal & impersonal competition**
- **Formal & informal competition**
- **Intra & inter group competition**

# Personal and impersonal competition

- Personal competition takes place in a society when the individuals or groups competing with one another and the **competition is face to face.**

e.g. The election is the personal in which the competitors know each other and the competition is face to face.

The competition in which there may not be face –to–face interaction. e.g. the competition for the posts of Federal Public Service Commission is an example of impersonal competition.

Another example is when a students want to become a top position In the Multan Board or etc is called impersonal competition.

- Type of Competition
- Personal competition involves direct face-to-face contact between opposing parties.



Impersonal competition -

involves a struggle between persons or groups not directly aware of each other.



# Formal or informal competition

- Formal competition is that has structured rules and regulations. It has written rules to be followed, other wise the violator will be punished. E.g. in modern societies. Like in **cricket match, or football match.**
- Informal is that competition in which there is no written rule and regulation but some unwritten set or rules are to be followed. e.g. in **primitive or folk societies.**

# Intra and inter group competition

- The competition that occurs within the community is called intra group competition. This is within the same community or village.
- The competition that occurs between communities / groups is called inter group competition. e.g. the competition between two teams of different districts or provinces or the countries is the inter group competition.

# Conflict

- When people are competing for inadequate material and non material products.
- **Objects of conflict**
- The objects of conflict may be: d)Power  
e)Status  
f) property

# Conflict

- Fields of conflict
- Conflict may be in the fields of
  - 1) Political
  - 2) Social
  - 3) Economic
  - 4) Religious fields.

# Difference between competition & conflict

- **Competition**

- Competition is the continuous process and it is never ending.
- It is impersonal
- It is unconscious and the individuals and groups are not aware of it.
- It encourages hard work.
- It is based on non-violence.

- **Conflict**

2. It is not continuous process. At some stage it must come to an end.
3. It is personal.
4. it is conscious and the individual and groups are each aware and know other.
5. It discourages hard work for law in conflict.
6. Violent methods may be used in conflict.

# Cooperation

- No society can develop without cooperation. In Pakistani society we find a few examples of cooperation. **e.g.**
  - In the farms the rural cooperate with their neighbors in watering the crops, harvesting the crops.
  - In urban areas the people cooperate with each other in different ways. Such cooperation is found between the customer and shop keepers, teachers and students, the owner and the laborers, the doctor and the patient.

- Type of Cooperation

3. Informal cooperation  
- characterized as spontaneous and involves mutual give and take.



Courtesy of Girl Scouts of the United States of America





Allen Green/Photo Researchers, Inc.

## 2. Formal Cooperation

characterized as a deliberate contractual nature and prescribes the reciprocal rights and obligations of members.

# Accommodation

- The parents accommodate their children even at the cost of sacrificing their own desires.
- Smith
- “ defines accommodation as “social adjustment”  
e.g. adjustment of man to both natural and man-made environment”.

# Assimilation

- Ogburn & Nimkoff:
- “ it means two dissimilar individuals or groups which become similar by removing their cultural
- differences”.

# Acculturation

- The first step towards assimilation is called acculturation. In other words it is cultural modification.

•**e.g.**

Permanent settlement of migrants people e.g. people from India and Afghanistan in Pakistan.

# Group Work

- Break into 3 groups.
- Each group must perform a skit in which each one of the forms of social interaction take place:
  - Exchange
  - Competition
  - Conflict
  - Accommodation
  - Cooperation