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Q. No. Explain the various origin of the society?

Ans.

The society originated in the subjugation of the weaker by the stronger. ... Thus through physical coercion or compulsion men were brought together and made to live in society. The patriarchal and matriarchal theories make society the expansion of family system.

Man is a social animal. Before we explain the relationship between man and society, it may be worthwhile to explain the origin of society.

* Origin of society :-

A number of theories have been put forward to explain the origin of society. Thus the divine origin theory makes society the creation of God. Just as God created all the animals and inanimate objects of the world, so he created the society as well. This theory in course of time, particularly in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries took the form of divine right theory.

The force theory makes society the result of superior physical force. According to this theory, the society originated in the subjugation of the weaker by the stronger. In the primitive times the man of exceptional physical strength was able to overcome his fellowmen and exercise some kind of authority over them.

Thus through physical coercion or compulsion men were brought together and made to live in society. The patriarchal and matriarchal theories make society the expansion of family system. Sir Henry Maine defines "matriarchal theories make society the expansion of family system and patriarchal theory as the theory of the origin of society in separate family, held together by the authority and protection of the eldest male descendant."

(2)

He believed that society is the family writ large. The matriarchal theory suggests that polyandry and transient marriage relations were more common in primitive times than monogamy or polygamy. Under such circumstances descent is traced through the mother & as Jers point out motherhood in such cases is a fact, while paternity is only an opinion. These are the theories of origin of society —

(a.) Social contract theory → These theories the social contract

theory views society as a contrivance deliberately set up by men for certain ends. According to this theory, all men were born free and equal. Individual precedes society made a mutual agreement and created society. According to Hobbes, 'man in the state of nature was in perpetual conflict with the neighbors on account of his essentially selfish nature.' In his own words, the life of man was 'solitary, poor, nasty, brutish and short.'

Every man was an enemy to every man. To protect himself against the evil consequence man organised himself in society in order to live in peace with all. It was a state of 'peace, goodwill, mutual assistance and preservation.' Society is an artificial device created to foster a mutual economy.

(b.) Evolutionary Theory → The evolutionary theory offers a generally correct explanation of the origin of society. According to it society is not a make but a growth. It is the result of a gradual evolution. It is continuous development from unorganised to organised from less perfect to more perfect and various factor helped in its development from time to time. Kinship and family were the earliest bonds uniting man with man.

3.

"Kinship creates society" says Malvern. Patriarchal Society was organised on the basis of kinship through males. Religion was another factor to help in the creation of social consciousness. As a matter of fact as Mettall observes, "Kinship and religion were simply two aspects of the same thing."

(c) Brief criticism of the various theories:— The ~~above~~ above theories of the origin of society do not provide an adequate explanation of its origin. All of them have been subjected to numerous criticisms. Not going into the details of the criticism of each theory we will confine ourselves to certain important observations.

The origin of society is not due to God's intervention in human history. The society is outcome of the social instinct of man. It did not come into existence on a particular day. The above theories might indicate the way in which certain societies began to exist but they do not offer a valid explanation of the origin of society.

Society is the subject to the same laws of evolution to which all organic and inorganic matter is. To him also evolution meant progress. Human society has advanced from a savage state to a civilized state. He marked out these stages, the primitive, the militant and the industrial in the course of social evolution.

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