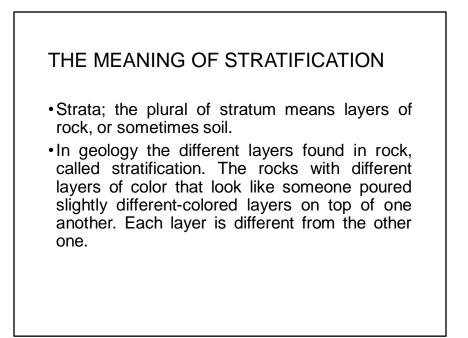
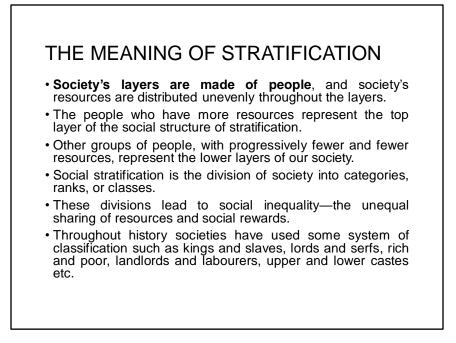


## INTRODUCTION

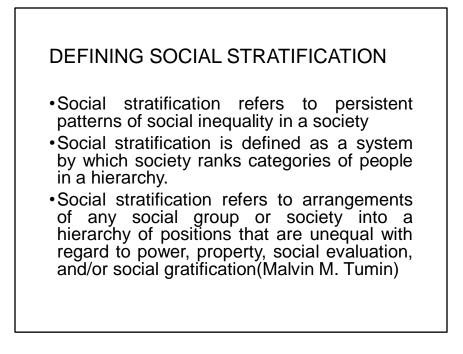
- Titanic the iconic ship that came to a very tragic end. It collided with an iceberg and sank on April 15, 1912. The tragic incidence of Titanic reminds us a huge loss of more than 1,600 lives when it sank. Looking back at this terrible accident with a sociological eye, we note that some categories of passengers had much better chances of survival than others.
- Keeping in view that era's traditional ideas about gender, women and children were allowed to board the lifeboats first, with the result that 80 % of the people who died were men.
- Class, too, was at work. More than 60 % of people holding firstclass tickets were saved because they were on the upper decks, where warnings were sounded first and lifeboats were accessible. Only 36 % of the second-class passengers survived, and of the third-class passengers on the lower decks, only 24% escaped drowning. The fate of the passengers on the Titanic dramatically illustrates how social inequality affects the way people live (Macionis, 2012)





## DEFINING SOCIAL STRATIFICATION

- •Social stratification is the hierarchical arrangement of large social groups based on their control over basic resources(Feagin and Feagin, 2008).
- •Social Stratification is a system by which a society ranks categories of people in a hierarchy (John J. Macionis,2012)

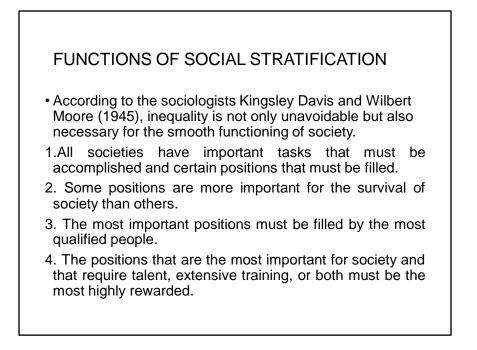


People are divided into ranked categories

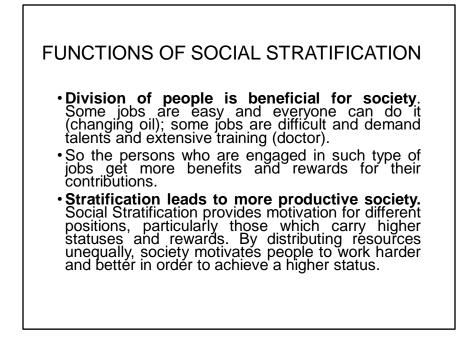
There is an unequal distribution of desired resources, property, well-paying jobs

# DETERMINANTS OF SOCIAL STRATIFICATION

- Stratification is usually based on;
- Power: the ability to impose one's will on others
- Prestige: the respect given by others
- Property: forms of wealth (economic resources)
- Wealth: the value of economic assets
- Occupation: High and low class professions
- Education: level and standard of education attained.
- · Caste: Positions are ascribed, not achieved
- Class: Positions based on individual achievement



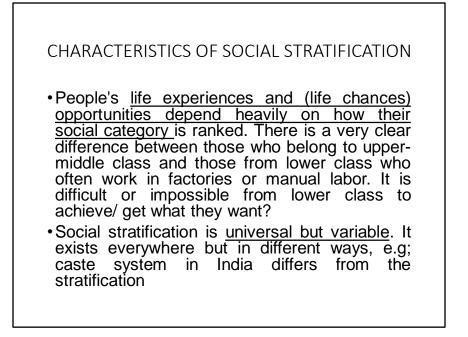
The Davis–Moore thesis assumes that social stratification results in **meritocracy**—a hierarchy in which all positions are rewarded based on people's ability and credentials.



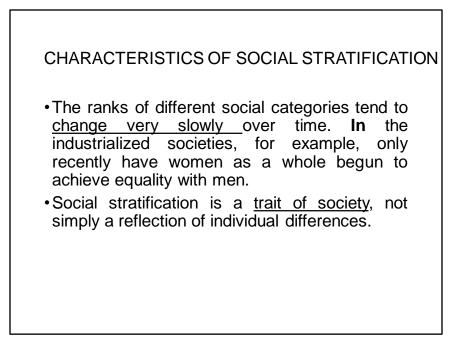
people will be motivated to fill functionally important positions (doctor, engineer)



- •The rankings apply to social categories of people who <u>share a common characteristic</u> without necessarily interacting or identifying with one another. For example, wealthy people spend their lives differently from the underprivileged. Not all the wealthy are known to each other even living in the same society.
- <u>Individuals from a particular category can</u> <u>change their rank (lower to middle);</u>
- <u>The category continues to exist even if individuals</u> <u>move out of it</u> and enter into another category.



Opportunities to provide material goods, positive living conditions, and favorable life experience



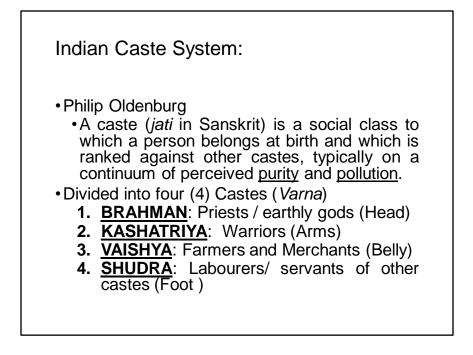
## CASTE SYSTEM

- •A caste system is a system of social inequality in which people's status is permanently determined at birth based on their parents' ascribed characteristics.
- •Permanent and ascribed status determined at birth.
- •Close system where individuals live out their lives in the rigid categories assigned to them, without the possibility of change for the better or worse.



- **Endogamy**, people are allowed to marry only within their own group.
- Limited Choice of Occupation

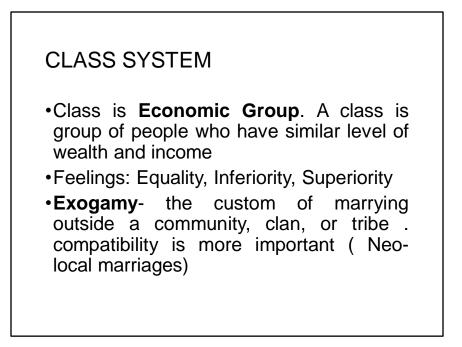
•Cultural beliefs and values sustain caste systems. Hinduism reinforced the caste system by teaching that people should accept their fate in life and work hard as a moral duty.



Caste guides everyday life by keeping people in the company of "their own kind". Norms reinforce this practice by teaching, for example, that a "purer" person of a higher caste is "polluted" by contact with someone of lower standing.

## **Class System**

- Class is a group of people with similar level of wealth, influence and status.
- The class system is a type of stratification based on the ownership and control of resources and on the type of work people do.
- The status is **achieved** than ascribed. Though individuals born in wealthy families and influential families have better access to resources, and opportunities.
- It is an **open system** with increased social mobility. may The individuals become members of a class other than that of their parents



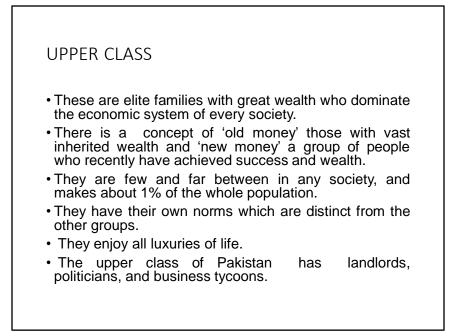
#### **COMPARISON**

## Class

- Social ranking based primarily on <u>economic</u> <u>position</u>. Class is not <u>inherited</u>, but acquired through <u>ability</u>.
- 2. Open System; It is <u>possible</u> for individual to <u>change his class</u>
- 3. <u>Marriage</u> outside class is allowed without being thrown out of the society
- 4. There is <u>no restriction on</u> <u>members</u> in a class

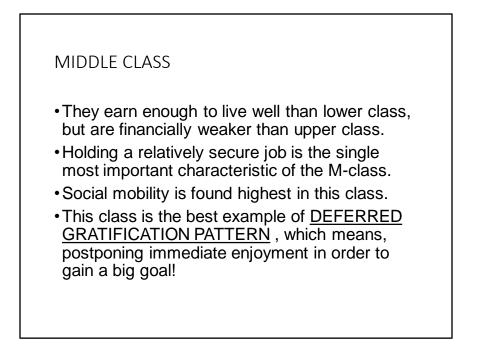
#### CASTE

- Caste is acquired by <u>birth</u> that determine their way of life, opportunities, and social customs.
- 2. Closed System; It is not possible to leave the caste
- 3. <u>Impossible</u> for a person to marry out of caste without social annoyance
- Caste imposes <u>many</u> <u>restrictions</u> on its members.



## MIDDLE CLASS

- The members of the middle class earn their money by working (small business owners) or doing professional jobs( as managers, doctors, lawyers, professors, and teachers).
- Some of the individuals are highly educated professional people with high incomes, such as doctors, lawyers, while some may be less educated people with lower incomes, such as small business owners, and clerks.

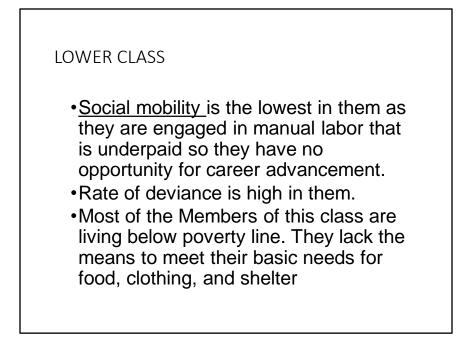


Most parents ignore their needs and spend their saved money for their children's college fee.



•The members of lower class have a low educational level, are not skilled, and work at minimum-wage jobs.(factory workers, daily wagers, seasonal laborers, etc)

•They do not have enough earning to support themselves, some may depend on public assistance (social safety nets) or lend money from others for their survival.



The term social mobility refers to the movement of individuals and groups between different socio -economic positions.

Vertical mobility means movement up or down.