

B.A. PART – III (SOCIOLOGY)
Paper – VI (Urban Sociology)

Topic – Nature of Urban Sociology
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NATURE OF URBAN SOCIOLOGY

➤ **Leaving objective: -**

- To know about characteristics of Urban Sociology.
- To acquire the knowledge about Nature of Urban Sociology.

➤ **Introduction:-**

Urban Sociology is an important discipline of sociology; it is a branch of sociology. In urban sociology, as in general sociology, we study social relations though to a limited extent and in shorter content. The kind of social relations studied in urban sociology is evident from the name. There are the relations which occur in an Urban Society. Thus, urban sociology is a study of urban society. The urban society is studied and investigated according to sociology methods and techniques, these techniques, of course are scientific. The study of urban society can be general as well as specific.

➤ **Characteristics of Urban Sociology:-**

Urban sociology has its own characteristics and these are stated below:-

- Urban sociology is the sociological analysis of city and its life style.
- It concerns the dynamism of society stimulated by urbanization.
- It trends to identify the urban problems and implement possible remedies to solve them.
- It is a factual study of urban social living
- It plays attention to the social relation among the city dwellers.
- It studies the social relations which may harmonious or conflicting
- It is the subtract area of general sociology
- It is a social science
- It is a theoretical as well as an applied science.
- It is an abstract not a concrete science
- It is special not a general science
- It is based on universal, authentic and valid scientific data

➤ Nature of Urban Sociology

Before understanding the nature of urban sociology, we have to understand what science is and what is the scientific method. Why we call urban sociology as a social science.

➤ Science

Normally any knowledge can be called science which is systematic and logical.

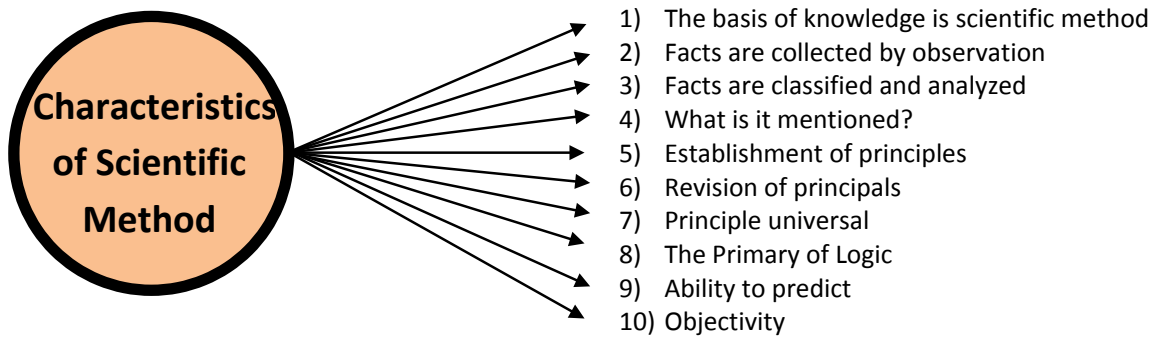
“Science goes with the method, not with the subject matter.” – Stuart Chase

It is necessary for social science that scientific method has been used in this particular study.

➤ Scientific Method:-

In a broader sense, the scientific method is made up of systematic observations, classification and interpretation of facts.

According to George A. Lundberg – “Broadly speaking scientific method consists of systematic observation classifications and interpretations of data”.



Why is the nature of urban sociology scientific, because:-

- 1) **Use the scientific method:-** The nature of urban sociology is scientific because all the knowledge that is being acquired under it is the basis of scientific method.
- 2) **What is, it mentioned:-**Urban sociology studies social events and processes. He merely describes whatever is the social process.
- 3) **Universalization in theories:-** The principles that urban sociology builds are universal.

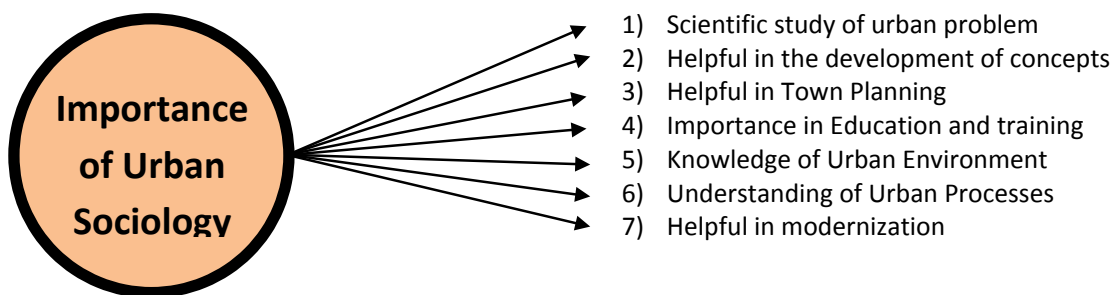
- 4) **Substantiated by facts:-**The subject matter of urban sociology can be verified at any time, any place by facts and authenticity is a fundamental quality of science.
- 5) **It is possible to test and retest the theory of urban sociology at any time.**
- 6) **Able to predict.**

➤ **Objections to the scientific nature of urban sociology.**

- 1) **Lack of Objectivity:-**There is a Lack of objectivity in the study and findings of urban sociology.
- 2) Urban Sociology is incapable of measuring its subject-matter. It cannot measure subject matter like natural sciences.
- 3) Urban sociology has no laboratories.
- 4) Urban sociology is not an exact science. Natural science is accurate because the principles that have been presented them always come out as true. Example – Law of gravitation.
- 5) Unpredictability of urban sociology:- making a prediction about social behaviors is a difficult task, as it changes.

➤ In fact the nature of urban sociology is scientific, which has certain characteristics:-

- 1) Urban sociology is a social science, not a Natural science.
- 2) Urban sociology is a positive science, not a normative science.
- 3) Urban sociology is pure or theoretical science, not an applied science
- 4) Urban sociology is an abstract science
- 5) Urban sociology is a general science, not a special science.



➤ **CONCLUSION**

- Urban sociology is the study of how urban settings shape human behavior and how human behavior shape urban settings. Urban sociology is “a science of city life.”