

# **HINDUIZATION**

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# Social Mobility:

- Sorokin first introduced the concept of social mobility in his book “Social and Cultural Mobility.” Social mobility refers to the shift in an individual’s social status from one status to another.
- The shift can either be higher, lower, inter-generational, or intra-generational, and it cannot necessarily be determined if the change is for good or bad.

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- **Types of Social Mobility**
  - Horizontal mobility
  - *Vertical mobility*
  - *Upward mobility*
  - *Downward mobility*
  - *Inter-generational mobility*
  - *Intra-generational mobility*

# **Social Change:**

Social change is the alteration of mechanisms within the social structure, characterized by changes in cultural symbols, rules of behavior, social organizations, or value systems. Social change can evolve from a number of different sources, including contact with other societies, changes in the ecosystem, technological change, and population growth and other demographic variables. Social change is also spurred by ideological, economic, and political movements.

## **The Hinduization of Tribals in India:**

Tribals have been assimilated in the Hindu fold in varying degrees. Thant and Khasa are the Himalayan tribes who are referred to as Hinduised tribes. They have adopted Hindu caste names, wear sacred thread and have been assimilated with the Hindus.

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- The Bauri of West Bengal claim to belong to Brahmin caste with the observation of number of days prescribed for mourning, wearing sacred thread, following Vaisnavism. Similarly, with the belief in the concepts of Karma, pollution, merit (Punya) and observing Hindu rituals, the Mahali of West Bengal have been assimilated into the Hindu fold.

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These days everybody talks of “Hindutva”, they say Hinduism is not a religion but a way of life. Instead of Hinduization, the other word some times used is ‘saffronization”. May be due to RSS flag being of saffron color, this word came in vogue to suggest the effect of Sangh. But even this word conceals the concept of the Sangh. After all, saffron is the color of many other flags not necessarily of RSS ideology.

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**THANKING YOU**