



UGC-NET

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I UNIT

Nature and Development of Social Work

Social Work: Definition, Scope, Principles, Nature, Goals, and Process

1: Definition and Scope of Social Work

1. Definition of Social Work

Social work is a professional service aimed at enhancing human well-being and helping individuals, families, groups, and communities achieve their full potential. It is grounded in principles of social justice, human rights, and scientific knowledge. Various definitions of social work reflect its broad scope:

Notable Definitions:

- **National Association of Social Workers (NASW, USA, 1973):**
 - "Social work is the professional activity of helping individuals, groups, or communities enhance or restore their capacity for social functioning and creating societal conditions favorable to this goal."
- **International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW, 2014):**
 - "Social work is a practice-based profession and an academic discipline that promotes social change and development, social cohesion, and the empowerment and liberation of people."
- **Encyclopedia of Social Work (2019):**
 - "A profession that applies theoretical knowledge and research to social interventions aimed at helping individuals and communities resolve issues and improve their quality of life."

Core Elements of Social Work:

- **Social Justice and Equity** – Addressing issues of discrimination, marginalization, and inequality.
- **Empowerment and Advocacy** – Strengthening individuals and groups to improve their conditions.

- **Scientific Approach** – Using research-based methods for intervention.
- **Holistic Perspective** – Addressing physical, psychological, social, and economic factors affecting individuals.
- **Ethical Practice** – Following a strong ethical code to guide interactions with clients.

2. Scope of Social Work

The field of social work is vast, covering various domains that address individual and collective well-being. It includes direct practice, policy formulation, research, and administration.

A. Domains of Social Work

- **Individual and Family Services** – Includes counseling, therapy, case management, and crisis intervention.
- **Community Organization and Development** – Strengthening local communities by mobilizing resources, leadership development, and policy advocacy.
- **Medical and Psychiatric Social Work** – Assisting individuals in hospitals, mental health institutions, and rehabilitation centers.
- **Industrial and Corporate Social Work** – Employee welfare, occupational safety, stress management, and corporate social responsibility (CSR).
- **School Social Work** – Addressing behavioral, academic, and emotional challenges faced by students.
- **Criminal Justice Social Work** – Working with correctional facilities, juvenile justice, and victim assistance programs.
- **Policy Advocacy and Social Welfare Administration** – Developing and implementing policies for social betterment.
- **Environmental and Disaster Social Work** – Working in disaster relief, climate change adaptation, and sustainable development.

B. Emerging Trends in Social Work

- **Digital Social Work** – Using technology for online counseling, virtual case management, and teletherapy.
- **Global Social Work** – Cross-border interventions for refugee assistance, international human rights, and humanitarian aid.
- **Gerontological Social Work** – Addressing issues related to aging, elderly care, and pension reforms.
- **Gender and LGBTQ+ Social Work** – Advocacy for gender rights, support groups, and policy reforms.
- **Human Trafficking and Migrant Social Work** – Rehabilitation and legal aid for victims.

Conclusion

Social work is an ever-evolving discipline with a vast scope that adapts to societal changes and challenges. Its foundation in human rights, social justice, and professional ethics ensures that social workers contribute meaningfully to individual and community well-being.

Principles and Nature of Social Work

- **Principles of Social Work**
 - Social work operates on a set of well-defined principles that guide professional practice, ensuring ethical and effective service delivery. These principles are derived from core social work values such as human dignity, social justice, and empowerment.

A. Fundamental Principles of Social Work

1. Principle of Individualization

- Recognizes that every individual is unique, with distinct needs, abilities, and circumstances.
- Requires social workers to assess each case independently, avoiding stereotypes and generalizations.
- **Example:** A counselor addressing a child's academic struggles will consider personal, familial, and environmental factors rather than applying a one-size-fits-all approach.

2. Principle of Acceptance

- Social workers must accept clients without judgment, irrespective of their socioeconomic status, cultural background, or past behaviors.
- Encourages non-discriminatory practices and creates a safe, supportive environment for clients.
- **Example:** Working with rehabilitated prisoners without prejudice to their past crimes.

3. Principle of Self-Determination

- Clients have the right to make decisions about their lives.
- Social workers guide and support rather than impose solutions.
- **Example:** A victim of domestic violence is encouraged to make their own decisions about leaving or staying, while the social worker provides support and resources.

4. Principle of Confidentiality

- Ensures that client information is kept private unless disclosure is necessary for the client's safety or required by law.
- Builds trust between clients and social workers.
- **Example:** A social worker cannot disclose a client's HIV status to their employer without consent.

5. Principle of Controlled Emotional Involvement

- Social workers should empathize with clients but maintain professional boundaries.
- Prevents emotional burnout and ensures objective decision-making.
- **Example:** A counselor supporting a grieving client should express compassion but not become personally affected.

6. Principle of Non-Judgmental Attitude

- Social workers should avoid moral judgments about clients' lifestyles, choices, or behaviors.
- Focuses on problem-solving rather than personal opinions.
- **Example:** A drug addict is treated with respect and given rehabilitation assistance rather than being blamed.

7. Principle of Purposeful Expression of Feelings

- Encourages clients to express their emotions freely in a safe environment.
- Helps in understanding clients' underlying issues and forming effective intervention strategies.
- **Example:** A survivor of abuse is encouraged to verbalize their trauma to facilitate healing.

8. Principle of Client's Participation

- Clients should be actively involved in problem-solving rather than being passive recipients of services.
- Promotes self-reliance and empowerment.
- **Example:** In community development, locals should participate in decision-making rather than relying entirely on external aid.

9. Principle of Resource Utilization

- Emphasizes making the best use of available resources (government programs, NGOs, community support).
- Enhances efficiency and sustainability of interventions.
- **Example:** A social worker connects a homeless individual with shelter programs instead of offering short-term monetary help.

10. Principle of Accountability

- Social workers must be responsible for their actions and decisions.
- Involves adherence to professional ethics and legal frameworks.
- **Example:** A social worker providing child welfare services must ensure that all interventions comply with child protection laws.

• Nature of Social Work

- The nature of social work is diverse and dynamic, influenced by societal changes, policies, and human needs. It is both an art and a science, combining empathy and human interaction with evidence-based methodologies.

A. Key Characteristics of Social Work

1. Problem-Solving in Nature

- Social work addresses individual and societal problems through systematic intervention.
- It involves identifying the root causes of issues and developing strategies for resolution.
- **Example:** Addressing poverty not only through financial aid but also by empowering individuals through skill development and employment programs.

2. Dynamic and Evolving Profession

- Social work changes with societal needs, policies, and technological advancements.
- New areas such as digital social work and environmental social work are emerging.
- **Example:** The COVID-19 pandemic led to the rise of tele-counseling and online support groups.

3. Interdisciplinary Approach

- Integrates knowledge from psychology, sociology, law, public health, and economics.
- **Example:** A psychiatric social worker must understand mental health disorders, legal frameworks for disability rights, and community support systems.

4. Social Justice-Oriented

- Advocates for equal opportunities, human rights, and fair policies.
- Works against discrimination, marginalization, and social inequalities.
- **Example:** A social worker involved in LGBTQ+ rights campaigns promotes anti-discrimination policies in workplaces.

5. Preventive, Remedial, and Developmental Approach

- **Preventive:** Focuses on stopping social problems before they arise (e.g., awareness programs on substance abuse).

- **Remedial:** Works on resolving existing social issues (e.g., rehabilitation programs for domestic violence survivors).
- **Developmental:** Aims at long-term improvement in quality of life (e.g., capacity-building projects for women's empowerment).

6. Client-Centered and Needs-Based

- Services are designed to meet the specific needs of individuals or communities rather than a general approach.
- **Example:** A social worker in disaster relief will provide psychological counseling to trauma victims instead of only material aid.

7. Ethical and Value-Based

- Rooted in ethics such as dignity, integrity, competence, and social responsibility.
- Ethical dilemmas must be handled with professional judgment.
- **Example:** A social worker must decide whether to report a teenager's pregnancy to parents while respecting the minor's confidentiality rights.

8. Practical and Field-Based

- Involves direct interaction with individuals, families, groups, and communities.
- Fieldwork is an essential component of social work education and practice.
- **Example:** A social worker in a rural area might work directly with farmers to implement sustainable livelihood programs.

Conclusion

Social work is a unique discipline with well-established principles ensuring ethical practice and a client-centered approach. Its nature is both scientific and humanitarian, focusing on empowerment, advocacy, and holistic problem-solving. The field continues to evolve, adapting to societal needs while maintaining its core values.

Goals and Process of Social Work

1. Goals of Social Work

The primary objective of social work is to enhance individual and societal well-being. It focuses on alleviating social problems, promoting human rights, and fostering development at individual, community, and policy levels.

A. Major Goals of Social Work

- **Enhancing Social Functioning**
 - Social functioning refers to an individual's ability to interact effectively with their environment.
 - Social work helps individuals overcome personal, familial, and societal challenges to improve their ability to function.
 - **Example:** A social worker assisting a disabled person in accessing vocational training and job opportunities.
- **Promoting Social Justice and Human Rights**
 - Advocates for equal opportunities and protection of marginalized groups.
 - Works towards eliminating discrimination based on caste, gender, ethnicity, or economic status.
 - **Example:** Legal aid services for underprivileged communities facing land acquisition disputes.
- **Preventing Social Problems**
 - Focuses on early intervention and preventive measures to stop the emergence of societal issues.
 - Includes educational programs, awareness campaigns, and policy advocacy.
 - **Example:** Conducting drug abuse awareness programs in schools to prevent substance addiction.
- **Empowerment of Individuals and Communities**
 - Encourages self-reliance by equipping individuals with skills, knowledge, and confidence.
 - Social work interventions aim to make clients independent rather than dependent on aid.
 - **Example:** Women's self-help groups providing microfinance for entrepreneurship.

- **Promoting Mental Health and Well-Being**
 - Provides psychological support and counseling services to individuals facing emotional and mental distress.
 - Works in hospitals, rehabilitation centers, and mental health institutions.
 - **Example:** A psychiatric social worker helping a depression patient with therapy and community support integration.
- **Facilitating Social Change and Policy Development**
 - Works with government and non-governmental agencies to create policies that improve social welfare.
 - Advocates for laws that protect vulnerable populations.
 - **Example:** Lobbying for stronger child protection laws against child labor.
- **Crisis Intervention and Disaster Management**
 - Assists communities affected by natural disasters, pandemics, or conflicts.
 - Provides immediate relief as well as long-term rehabilitation programs.
 - **Example:** Social workers providing post-trauma counseling and livelihood support to flood victims.
- **Strengthening Family and Interpersonal Relationships**
 - Works to resolve conflicts and strengthen family bonds.
 - Includes marital counseling, parenting guidance, and family therapy.
 - **Example:** A social worker mediating between divorced parents to ensure the best interests of the child.

2. Process of Social Work

The social work process is a systematic, step-by-step approach that ensures effective problem-solving and intervention. It consists of several key phases.

A. Major Stages in the Social Work Process

- **Intake and Engagement**
 - The first step involves establishing a relationship with the client, building trust, and collecting basic information.

- Social workers assess the needs, concerns, and motivations of the client.
- **Example:** A homeless individual approaches a social worker for help, and the worker listens to their concerns and gathers initial details.
- **Assessment and Diagnosis**
 - A detailed evaluation of the client's problems, needs, and strengths.
 - May involve psychological assessments, socio-economic evaluations, and environmental analysis.
 - **Example:** A social worker assessing a child's school dropout case may evaluate financial constraints, family conditions, and learning disabilities.
- **Planning and Goal Setting**
 - Based on the assessment, short-term and long-term goals are set in collaboration with the client.
 - A clear action plan is developed.
 - **Example:** For a domestic violence survivor, the plan may include legal aid, temporary shelter, and long-term rehabilitation strategies.
- **Intervention and Implementation**
 - The actual execution of planned strategies.
 - Involves counseling, therapy, financial aid, community mobilization, policy advocacy, or skill development programs.
 - **Example:** Conducting a parenting workshop for families struggling with child behavioral issues.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation**
 - Continuous tracking of the progress made by the client or community.
 - Adjustments are made if initial strategies are not yielding desired results.
 - **Example:** If a de-addiction program is not showing improvement, the intervention plan may be revised to include peer support groups.

- **Termination of Services**
 - When the client has achieved stability, the relationship is formally ended.
 - The social worker ensures that the client has the necessary resources and support to sustain progress.
 - **Example:** A disabled individual receiving vocational training is successfully placed in a job, marking the conclusion of the intervention.
- **Follow-Up and Aftercare**
 - Ensures that the client does not relapse into previous difficulties.
 - Follow-up sessions help sustain positive changes.
 - **Example:** Checking on a rehabilitated juvenile offender to ensure they remain engaged in education or employment.

Conclusion

The goals of social work revolve around individual empowerment, social justice, and holistic development. The process of social work follows a structured approach to effectively diagnose, intervene, and resolve social issues. Social workers play a critical role in shaping a just and equitable society by implementing these well-defined goals and processes.

Historical Development: Development of Professional Social Work Across the World (U.K., U.S.A., and India)

Origins and Evolution of Social Work as a Profession

1. Introduction to the Historical Development of Social Work

Social work as a profession has evolved from informal charity and religious aid to a structured, evidence-based practice with theoretical foundations. Across different regions, the profession has grown through influences such as:

- **Philanthropy and Charity Movements** (pre-modern era)
- **The Industrial Revolution** (economic and social dislocation)

- **Government Welfare Policies** (state intervention)
 - **Scientific and Professionalization Movements** (introduction of formal training and research)
- While social welfare has existed for centuries, **professional social work** emerged in the **late 19th and early 20th centuries**, primarily in response to industrialization, urbanization, and associated social problems.

2. Pre-Modern Social Welfare (Before 19th Century)

Social work traces its origins to early religious and community-based charitable efforts.

A. Ancient and Medieval Social Welfare Practices

- **Ancient Civilizations (Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, Rome, India, China):** Informal systems of almsgiving, temple-based assistance, and community aid.
- **Medieval Period (5th–15th Century):**
 - Christian monasteries and Islamic Waqf institutions played crucial roles in helping the poor.
 - Guilds and village communities took care of orphans, widows, and the sick.
 - In India, social welfare was influenced by Hindu, Buddhist, and Islamic traditions.

B. Elizabethan Poor Laws (1601, England)

- **Landmark in social welfare legislation** in England.
- Established a **state responsibility** for the poor, classifying them into:
 - **Deserving Poor** (orphans, disabled, elderly) → Provided assistance.
 - **Undeserving Poor** (able-bodied beggars) → Punished or sent to workhouses.
- Influenced welfare policies in the **U.K., U.S.A., and India** later.

C. 18th–19th Century: Charity Organization and Industrialization

- Industrialization led to **rapid urbanization, poverty, and exploitation of workers**.
- **Charity Organization Society (COS) (Founded in 1869, U.K.)** – Aimed at scientific charity, systematic casework, and reducing dependency on relief.

- **Settlement House Movement (1880s, U.K. & U.S.A.)** – Focused on social reform and education for the poor (e.g., Jane Addams' Hull House in Chicago).

3. Late 19th Century: Birth of Professional Social Work

The late 19th century marked the transition from charity-based efforts to **scientific and organized social work**.

A. Social Work in the U.K.

- **Octavia Hill (1838–1912)**: Worked on housing reforms for the poor.
- **Booth's Poverty Studies (1889)**: Charles Booth's surveys led to welfare policies.
- **University Social Work Training (1903)**: London School of Economics (LSE) introduced formal social work education.

B. Social Work in the U.S.A.

- **Mary Richmond (1861–1928)**: Pioneer of **casework method** in social work.
- **Jane Addams (1860–1935)**: Founder of **Hull House**, Chicago – focused on education, public health, and labor rights.
- **First Social Work School (1898)**: New York School of Philanthropy (later Columbia University).

C. Social Work in India

- **Pre-Independence (before 1947)**: Philanthropy by kings, religious leaders, and social reformers like Raja Ram Mohan Roy and Swami Vivekananda.
- **Missionary Work**: Christian missions provided education and health services.
- **First Professional Training (1936)**: Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai – **first formal school of social work in Asia**.

Conclusion

- The origins of social work lie in **charity and religious traditions**, but the profession emerged through **scientific approaches, policy reforms, and formal education**.
- The **U.K. and U.S.A.** led the professionalization of social work in the 19th and 20th centuries, while **India** followed with a mix of indigenous welfare traditions and Western influences.

Development of Professional Social Work in the U.K.

The United Kingdom played a **pioneering role** in shaping social work as a profession. Its development was influenced by **early charity organizations, social reform movements, welfare legislation, and formal education**.

1. Early Social Work Movements in the U.K.

The evolution of social work in the U.K. was rooted in **philanthropy, social reform, and the need for organized interventions** to address poverty and social injustice.

A. The Charity Organization Society (COS) (Founded in 1869)

- Established in **London** by **Octavia Hill, Helen Bosanquet, and others** to provide **systematic charity based on scientific casework**.
- Aimed at **reducing dependence on relief** by emphasizing self-help and structured assistance.
- **Mary Richmond (a COS member in the U.S.)** later developed the **"Casework Method"** based on these principles.
- **Criticism**: COS was often seen as too focused on "moralizing" poverty rather than addressing systemic issues.

B. The Settlement House Movement (1880s–1900s)

- Influenced by **Toynbee Hall (established in 1884, London)** – the first settlement house, where social workers lived among the poor to understand and improve their conditions.
- **Key Figures**: Samuel Barnett, Octavia Hill.
- **Impact**:
 - Provided education, healthcare, and vocational training for working-class communities.
 - Influenced **Jane Addams' Hull House in the U.S.** and later welfare policies in both countries.

2. Role of Government Policies and Legislation in Social Work Development

Social work in the U.K. became increasingly **government-led** in the 20th century, with major welfare legislations shaping its structure.

A. The Poor Law Reforms and Social Security

- **The Poor Law Amendment Act (1834):** Established workhouses for the poor, emphasizing self-reliance.
- **Criticism:** Workhouses were harsh and stigmatized the poor.
- **Beveridge Report (1942):** Proposed the foundation for the modern welfare state, identifying five "Giant Evils" – **Want, Disease, Ignorance, Squalor, and Idleness.**
- **Impact:** Led to the creation of the modern **National Health Service (NHS) in 1948** and expansion of social services.

B. Social Welfare Acts and Expanding Government Responsibility

- **National Insurance Act (1911):** Introduced health and unemployment insurance.
- **Children Act (1948):** Established child welfare services, paving the way for child-focused social work.
- **Social Work (Scotland) Act (1968):** Integrated health and social services.
- **Community Care Act (1990):** Shifted focus from institutional care to community-based support.

3. Growth of Social Work Education in the U.K.

A. Early Training and Formalization

- **1903:** London School of Economics (LSE) started the first academic social work course.
- **1918:** University of Birmingham established a **Diploma in Social Studies.**
- **1929:** The Association of Training Schools for Social Work was formed to standardize education.

B. Post-War Expansion (1940s–1970s)

- The expansion of the **welfare state after WWII** increased the demand for trained social workers.
- New social work specializations emerged in **child welfare, medical social work, and psychiatric social work.**

C. Professionalization and Regulation (1990s–Present)

- **General Social Care Council (GSCC) (2001–2012):** Established to regulate the profession and maintain ethical standards.
- **Social Work England (2019–present):** Replaced GSCC as the regulatory body, ensuring licensing, training, and quality standards.

Conclusion

- The U.K. was instrumental in **shaping modern social work** through **charitable organizations, settlement houses, and government welfare policies.**
- The professionalization of social work evolved from informal charity to **state-supported welfare interventions.**
- **Formal education and regulatory bodies** continue to strengthen the discipline today.

Development of Professional Social Work in the U.S.A.

The United States played a **crucial role** in the professionalization of social work, evolving from **charity-based efforts** to a structured discipline with **scientific methods, policy interventions, and formal education programs.** The U.S. model of social work influenced social welfare systems worldwide, including India.

1. Early Social Movements and Key Figures

The development of social work in the U.S.A. was shaped by various social movements responding to industrialization, urbanization, immigration, and poverty.

A. Charity Organization Societies (COS) (1877, Buffalo, New York)

- Inspired by the **British COS model**, the **first COS in the U.S.** was established in **Buffalo, New York, in 1877.**
- **Key Features:**
 - Advocated **scientific philanthropy** and systematic casework instead of random almsgiving.
 - Used **"Friendly Visitors"** (early caseworkers) to assess and assist families.
 - **Mary Richmond (1861–1928)** developed **social casework** based on COS principles.

Mary Richmond – "Mother of Social Casework"

- **Author of Social Diagnosis (1917)** – First book on social casework methodology.
- Emphasized **individual assessment and intervention** in social work practice.
- Established the foundation for **modern case management and clinical social work**.

B. The Settlement House Movement (1880s–1920s)

Unlike COS, which focused on individualized aid, **settlement houses** promoted **community work, social justice, and structural reform**.

Jane Addams and Hull House (1889, Chicago)

- **Jane Addams (1860–1935)**, a social reformer, established **Hull House**, a settlement for **immigrants, laborers, and the poor**.
- **Key Contributions:**
 - Provided **education, health services, daycare, and job training**.
 - Advocated for **child labor laws, women's rights, and fair wages**.
 - Received the **Nobel Peace Prize (1931)** for her work in social welfare.
- Inspired similar efforts in the **U.K. (Toynbee Hall)** and **India (Seva Sadan, 1908)**.

Significance of Settlement Houses:

- Shifted the focus from **charity to structural change**.
- Influenced **modern social work fields like community organization and policy advocacy**.
- Laid the groundwork for **public housing, labor rights, and social security laws**.

2. Government Policies and Welfare Programs

The U.S. social work profession expanded significantly due to **government intervention and welfare legislation**.

A. Progressive Era Reforms (1890s–1920s)

- Advocated for **public health, education, housing reforms, and labor rights**.
- **The Children's Bureau (1912)** – First federal agency for child welfare.

- **The Sheppard-Towner Act (1921)** – Provided maternal and infant care programs.

B. The New Deal and Social Security Act (1930s)

- **The Great Depression (1929)** led to widespread unemployment and poverty.
- President **Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal (1933–1939)** introduced:
 - **Social Security Act (1935)**: Established pensions, unemployment benefits, and aid to dependent children.
 - **Public Assistance Programs**: Provided welfare support for marginalized populations.
 - **Expansion of Social Work Jobs**: Thousands of social workers were hired in **relief agencies, public health programs, and community development projects**.

C. Post-War Social Welfare Expansion (1940s–1970s)

- **The War on Poverty (1960s, under President Lyndon B. Johnson)**:
 - Created **Medicare, Medicaid, and Food Stamps**.
 - Expanded funding for **social work and mental health services**.
- **Civil Rights Movement (1950s–1970s)**:
 - Social workers actively participated in **anti-racism, women's rights, and LGBTQ+ rights movements**.
 - Influenced policies like the **Civil Rights Act (1964)** and **Voting Rights Act (1965)**.

D. Contemporary Social Work Policies (1980s–Present)

- **Welfare Reform (1996)**: Shifted from long-term welfare to employment-based programs.
- **Affordable Care Act (2010)**: Expanded health services, increasing demand for **medical social workers**.
- **Modern Trends**: Focus on **mental health, trauma-informed care, digital social work, and human rights-based practice**.

3. Growth of Social Work Education and Professionalization

A. Establishment of Social Work Schools

- **First Social Work School (1898):** New York School of Philanthropy (now Columbia University School of Social Work).
- **Other Early Programs:** University of Chicago, Boston University, Smith College.
- **1920s:** Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) established to regulate curricula and professional training.

B. Specialization and Accreditation

- **1950s–1980s:** Expansion of master's and doctoral programs in social work.
- **National Association of Social Workers (NASW) (1955):** Established to regulate ethics, training, and advocacy.
- **1990s–Present:** Specializations in clinical social work, policy advocacy, school social work, medical and psychiatric social work, and criminal justice social work.

Conclusion

- The U.S.A. transformed social work into a scientific, evidence-based profession through early casework, settlement movements, and government welfare policies.
- The New Deal and post-war policies expanded social services, leading to the rise of specialized social work fields.
- Social work education and accreditation bodies have ensured the profession maintains high ethical and practice standards.

Development of Professional Social Work in India

- **Traditional and Religious Welfare Systems (Ancient to Pre-Colonial India)**
- **Impact of British Rule and Early Social Reforms**
- **Formalization of Social Work Education and Profession in India**

Development of Professional Social Work in India

India's social work history is deeply rooted in **traditional welfare systems, religious charity, social reform movements, and colonial influences**. The professionalization of social work in India began in the **20th century**, influenced by both **indigenous welfare traditions and Western models**.

1. Traditional and Religious Welfare Systems (Ancient to Pre-Colonial India)

A. Vedic and Ancient Period (1500 BCE–500 CE)

- Social welfare was deeply embedded in **Dharma (duty) and community responsibility**.
- **Key welfare institutions:**
 - **Dana and Dakshina:** The Hindu concept of charity and giving to the needy.
 - **Ashrams and Gurukuls:** Centers for education, social learning, and care.
 - **State-Sponsored Welfare:** The Mauryan Empire (322–185 BCE) under **Ashoka** provided **healthcare, shelter, and food distribution**.

B. Medieval India (500 CE–1700 CE)

- **Islamic Influence:** Introduction of **Waqf (endowments for social welfare)**, **Madrasas (educational institutions)**, and **Zakat (mandatory charity)**.
- **Bhakti and Sufi Movements (13th–17th Century):** Emphasized **equality, social justice, and service to the poor** (e.g., Guru Nanak, Kabir, Chishti Sufis).

2. Impact of British Rule and Early Social Reforms (1757–1947)

A. British Colonial Rule and Socioeconomic Changes

- British policies disrupted **traditional welfare structures**, leading to **poverty, unemployment, and caste-based discrimination**.
- **Emergence of Social Reform Movements:** Focused on **abolition of social evils, women's rights, education, and caste upliftment**.

B. Key Social Reformers and Their Contributions

Reformer	Key Contributions
Raja Ram Mohan Roy (1772–1833)	Abolished Sati, promoted women's education, social justice.
Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar (1820–1891)	Widow remarriage, education for girls.
Jyotirao Phule (1827–1890)	Opposed caste discrimination, founded schools for Dalits.
Swami Vivekananda (1863–1902)	Emphasized selfless service (Seva).
Mahatma Gandhi (1869–1948)	Sarvodaya (welfare of all), rural development, Harijan upliftment.

C. Role of Christian Missionaries

- British missionaries introduced **schools, hospitals, and orphanages** for marginalized communities.
- Influenced **modern social work education and medical social work in India**.

3. Formalization of Social Work Education and Profession in India (1936–Present)

A. Establishment of Formal Social Work Education

- **Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) (1936, Mumbai):**
 - **First professional social work school in Asia.**
 - Modeled after **Western social work education** but adapted to **Indian realities**.
- **Delhi School of Social Work (1946)** – Established with support from **the London School of Economics (LSE)**.
- **Post-Independence Expansion (1950s–1980s):** Social work education spread to various universities (Madras, Lucknow, Delhi).

B. Professionalization of Social Work in India

- **Indian Association of Trained Social Workers (1947):** First national body for social workers.
- **Indian Council of Social Welfare (ICSW) (1953):** Promoted policy advocacy and training.
- **National Association of Professional Social Workers in India (NAPSWI) (2005):** Regulates ethics and standards in social work practice.

C. Government Welfare Programs and Social Work Expansion

- **Community Development Program (1952):** Launched rural social work initiatives.
- **Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) (1975):** Focused on child welfare.
- **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) (2005):** Created employment for social workers in rural development.

D. Contemporary Trends in Indian Social Work

- **Expansion of Medical and Psychiatric Social Work:** Mental health social work is growing due to increased awareness.
- **Rise of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR):** Many corporations are funding social work initiatives.
- **Digital and Online Social Work:** Teletherapy and online counseling are emerging trends.

Conclusion

- India's **social work tradition** evolved from **ancient religious practices to modern professional training**.
- The **colonial period and nationalist movements** played a key role in shaping social welfare.
- **TISS (1936)** was a milestone in **professionalizing social work in India**, leading to **education, government programs, and policy-driven social work**.

Comparative Analysis of Social Work Development (U.K., U.S.A., and India)

This Part presents a **comparative analysis** of how social work developed in the **United Kingdom (U.K.)**, the **United States of America (U.S.A.)**, and **India**, highlighting **similarities**, **differences**, and the **influence of government**

policies in shaping professional social work in each country.

1. Similarities in the Development of Social Work Across U.K., U.S.A., and India

Despite regional differences, the professionalization of social work in all three countries followed a **common pattern**:

Key Aspect	U.K.	U.S.A.	India
Early Philanthropy	Christian charity, Elizabethan Poor Laws.	Church-led relief, charity societies.	Hindu Dana, Islamic Zakat, Bhakti and Sufi movements.
Charity Organization Societies (COS)	COS (1869) emphasized scientific charity.	COS (1877) led to casework and social diagnosis.	Informal charities existed, but COS model was introduced later by the British.
Settlement Movement	Toynbee Hall (1884) led community work.	Hull House (1889) promoted social reform.	Seva Sadan (1908) and Gandhi's Sarvodaya.
Formal Education	London School of Economics (1903).	New York School of Philanthropy (1898).	Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) (1936).
Government Welfare Policies	Poor Law Reforms, NHS (1948).	New Deal (1930s), Social Security Act (1935).	Community Development Program (1952), ICDS (1975).

Common Themes in Social Work Development

- **Shift from Charity to Professionalism** – All three countries moved from **religious philanthropy** to **scientific casework** and **policy-driven welfare**.
- **Role of Industrialization** – Urbanization and industrialization led to **social problems (poverty, labor exploitation, housing issues)**, prompting organized social work efforts.
- **Social Work and Government Policies** – State intervention in **health, child welfare, and labor rights** strengthened social work as a profession.
- **Expansion of Social Work Education** – Formal schools of social work were established in the **early 20th century** in the

U.K. and U.S.A., and in India by the mid-20th century.

2. Differences in the Development of Social Work

Despite similarities, each country had **unique influences** shaping its social work system.

A. Ideological Foundations

- **U.K.:** Rooted in **Christian charity, Poor Law traditions, and social reform movements**.
- **U.S.A.:** Driven by **progressivism, individual rights, and social justice movements (e.g., Civil Rights, feminism)**.
- **India:** Influenced by **religious traditions (Hinduism, Islam, Sikhism), colonial policies, and Gandhian philosophy**.

B. Professionalization and Education

Aspect	U.K.	U.S.A.	India
First Formal Social Work School	LSE (1903)	New York School of Philanthropy (1898)	TISS (1936)
Main Early Focus	Casework, community work, social policy.	Social justice, advocacy, therapy-based social work.	Rural development, Gandhian welfare model.
Accreditation Body	Social Work England.	NASW, CSWE.	NAPSWI (2005, voluntary regulation).
Primary Growth Phase	19th–20th Century.	20th Century, especially post-1930s.	Post-independence (1947–present).

C. Role of Government Policies in Social Work

- **U.K.:** The **welfare state model** (Beveridge Report, 1942) led to **National Health Service (NHS)**, **child welfare**, and **public assistance programs**.
- **U.S.A.:** The **New Deal (1930s)** and **Great Society (1960s)** created federal programs

like **Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid**, expanding social work jobs.

- **India:** The **Five-Year Plans** emphasized **rural development, community work, and poverty alleviation** (e.g., MGNREGA, ICDS).

D. Specialization in Social Work

Each country developed **specialized fields of social work** based on local needs.

Specialization	U.K.	U.S.A.	India
Child Welfare	Children Act (1948), child protection services.	Foster care, juvenile justice, child welfare programs.	ICDS (1975), Mid-Day Meal Scheme.
Medical Social Work	NHS (1948) led to hospital social work.	Strongest presence, with medical social workers in every hospital.	Growth after 2000; psychiatric and public health social work developing.
Community Social Work	Focus on community engagement, housing projects.	Strong focus on civil rights, grassroots organizing .	Gandhian model, Panchayati Raj, rural development schemes.
Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)	Limited role; state welfare dominates.	CSR initiatives exist but not mandatory.	CSR made mandatory under Companies Act (2013) .

3. Evolution of Social Work Specializations

Over time, **social work fields expanded beyond casework and charity**, adapting to emerging global challenges.

New Trends in Social Work	U.K.	U.S.A.	India
Human Rights-Based Social Work	Strong emphasis (social justice policies).	Focus on race, gender, and LGBTQ+ advocacy.	Advocacy for Dalit rights, tribal welfare, and women's empowerment.
Digital and Tele-Social Work	NHS uses e-therapy, online case management.	Leading in tele-mental health services.	NGOs using WhatsApp and mobile apps for awareness.
Environmental Social Work	Climate change activism, sustainable housing.	Disaster response, eco-justice programs.	Disaster rehabilitation (cyclones, floods).
Gerontological Social Work	Elderly care homes, pension policies.	Medicare-funded elder care programs.	National Policy for Older Persons (1999).

Conclusion

- The **U.K. pioneered social work education and government welfare programs**, influencing the U.S. and India.
- The **U.S.A. developed strong specializations, advocacy, and professional social work licensing**.

- **India adapted both Western models and indigenous welfare traditions, focusing on rural and community-based work.**

Despite differences, all three nations have moved towards **scientific, evidence-based social work** with specializations in **healthcare, child welfare, community development, and human rights advocacy**.

The Future of Social Work in U.K., U.S.A., and India

As social work continues to evolve, **emerging trends, technological integration, policy changes, and globalization** are shaping the profession across the **United Kingdom (U.K.), the United States of America (U.S.A.), and India.**

1. Emerging Trends and Challenges in Social Work

A. U.K.: Challenges in a Changing Welfare State

- **Austerity Measures:** Budget cuts in social welfare programs are increasing pressure on social workers.
- **Aging Population:** With an increasing number of elderly people, there is a greater demand for geriatric social work and care homes.
- **Mental Health Crisis:** Rising mental health issues require more social workers in the **National Health Service (NHS).**
- **Immigration and Refugee Assistance:** Brexit has impacted immigration policies, increasing the need for advocacy and social work interventions.
- **Child Welfare Reforms:** Stricter child protection laws and interventions after high-profile child abuse cases.

B. U.S.A.: Expansion of Advocacy and Digital Social Work

- **Social Justice and Civil Rights Movements:**
 - Black Lives Matter (BLM), LGBTQ+ rights, women's empowerment, and indigenous rights are influencing social work policies.

- **Healthcare and Mental Health Social Work:**
 - Telehealth services are expanding under **Medicare and Medicaid programs.**
- **Climate Change and Disaster Social Work:**
 - Post-hurricane and wildfire relief efforts have increased roles for social workers in disaster management.
- **Cyberbullying and Online Abuse:**
 - Social workers are being trained in **digital child protection and cybercrimes intervention.**
- **Opioid and Substance Abuse Epidemic:**
 - The rise in opioid addiction has led to a **higher demand for addiction and rehabilitation social workers.**

C. India: Rural Development and Digital Inclusion

- **Rural and Tribal Social Work:**
 - Focus on **poverty reduction, education, health, and women's empowerment** in rural areas.
- **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR):**
 - Under the **Companies Act (2013)**, CSR is **mandatory**, leading to **new opportunities for social workers in corporate-funded projects.**
- **Mental Health and Suicide Prevention:**
 - Rising awareness of mental health issues is increasing the demand for **psychiatric social workers.**
- **Disaster Relief and Climate Change:**
 - Social workers are engaged in **flood, drought, and cyclone relief operations.**
- **Women's Rights and Domestic Violence:**
 - Expansion of support systems through the **Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act (2005).**

2. Integration of Technology in Social Work

Technology is playing a transformative role in social work, leading to **efficiency in service delivery, outreach, and case management.**

Technology in Social Work	U.K.	U.S.A.	India
Telehealth & Online Counseling	NHS mental health services use digital therapy.	Expansion of online therapy under Medicaid.	NGOs use WhatsApp-based counseling for rural areas.

AI and Data Analytics in Social Work	Predictive analysis for child welfare services.	AI for social service case management.	Government using AI for poverty mapping.
Digital Literacy & E-Governance	Social workers train clients in digital skills.	Case management systems use blockchain.	Aadhaar-based welfare schemes.
Cybercrime and Digital Child Protection	Focus on cyberbullying prevention.	Training in online abuse intervention.	Increasing concern about digital exploitation.

3. Policy Changes and the Globalization of Social Work

With globalization, social work is becoming more interconnected, influencing policies and practices worldwide.

A. Policy Shifts in Social Work

Policy Trends	U.K.	U.S.A.	India
Welfare Reforms	Post-Brexit funding changes, NHS budget cuts.	Push for universal healthcare, affordable housing policies.	Expansion of Ayushman Bharat health insurance.
Child Protection Laws	Stricter adoption and child abuse prevention policies.	Strengthening of foster care and adoption laws.	Juvenile Justice Act (2015) amended for stricter punishments.
Mental Health Legislation	Expansion of mental health services under NHS.	Mental Health Parity Act ensures insurance coverage for therapy.	Mental Healthcare Act (2017) focuses on patient rights.
Women's Rights & Gender Equality	Gender pay gap policies, domestic abuse laws.	#MeToo movement influencing workplace protections.	Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme promotes girl child education.

B. International Collaboration in Social Work

- **U.K. & U.S.A.:** Shared research on social justice, migration, and refugee support.
- **India & U.K.:** Joint projects in rural development and public health.
- **U.S.A. & India:** Partnerships in mental health social work training.
- **Global Social Work Conferences & Associations:** The International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) promotes cross-border learning and policy exchange.

4. Future of Social Work: Key Predictions

A. Future Trends in Social Work Practice

- **Emphasis on Preventive Social Work** – Focus will shift to early interventions in mental health, poverty alleviation, and child protection.

- **Greater Role of Artificial Intelligence (AI)** – AI will assist in case management, predictive analytics, and social policy research.
- **Expansion of Environmental and Climate Social Work** – Social workers will play a larger role in climate justice, disaster relief, and sustainability projects.
- **Decolonization of Social Work** – The profession will integrate indigenous knowledge systems and move away from Eurocentric models.
- **Increased Global Collaboration** – International policies will influence migration support, refugee social work, and global poverty reduction efforts.

B. Country-Specific Predictions

Future of Social Work	U.K.	U.S.A.	India
Mental Health Services	Expansion of online therapy and digital support.	Stronger legal protections and insurance coverage for therapy.	Increased awareness and funding for community mental health.
Rural & Urban Social Work	More community-led housing and welfare programs.	Focus on homelessness, addiction recovery.	Digital outreach for rural populations, smart city social programs.
Policy Advocacy & Social Justice	More activism in refugee rights and gender pay gap reforms.	Strengthening of social policies for racial justice and gender equality.	Expansion of legal aid, Dalit and tribal rights movements.

Conclusion

- The U.K. will focus on welfare state challenges, mental health services, and child protection laws.
- The U.S.A. will lead in digital social work, advocacy movements, and health-focused policies.
- India will integrate technology, expand rural social work, and strengthen women's rights and poverty alleviation programs.

Overall, social work is evolving into a more global, digital, and interdisciplinary profession, adapting to emerging social, political, and environmental challenges.

Social Reform and Professional Social Work in India

Contribution of Social Reformers in the 19th and 20th Century in the Development of Professional Social Work

The 19th and 20th centuries were crucial in shaping modern professional social work in India. During this period, social reformers addressed issues like caste discrimination, women's rights, child welfare, education, and labor rights. Their contributions laid the foundation for structured social work education and practice in India.

Early Social Reform Movements (Pre-19th Century Influences & Early 19th Century)

The roots of social reform in India can be traced back to ancient and medieval times, where religious and philosophical traditions emphasized charity, social justice, and welfare. However, structured reform efforts emerged in the 19th century, influenced by:

- Colonial rule and Western education.
 - Social evils such as caste discrimination, untouchability, and gender inequality.
 - The need for organized social interventions and policies.
1. Pre-19th Century Influences on Social Reform in India
 - A. Ancient and Medieval Social Welfare Traditions
 - Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism emphasized charity (Dana) and social justice.
 - Islamic Influence (Medieval India): Zakat (charity), Waqf (endowments for social welfare).
 - Sikhism: Guru Nanak and later Gurus advocated equality, community service (Langar), and education for all.
 - B. Bhakti and Sufi Movements (13th–17th Century)
 - Bhakti Saints (e.g., Kabir, Tukaram, Mirabai): Opposed caste-based discrimination and ritualistic practices.
 - Sufi Saints (e.g., Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti, Nizamuddin Auliya): Promoted communal harmony and welfare.
 - C. Colonial Influence and Early Social Awareness
 - British colonial rule (1757–1947) introduced Western education, legal reforms, and exposure to human rights concepts.
 - English-educated Indian reformers started questioning child marriage, caste discrimination, and women's oppression.

2. Early 19th Century Social Reformers (Pre-1850)

The **early 19th century** marked the **first wave of modern social reforms** in India. Reformers worked to **abolish regressive practices** and **create a progressive, inclusive society**.

A. Raja Ram Mohan Roy (1772–1833) – "Father of the Indian Renaissance"

- **Key Contributions:**
 - Led the movement against **Sati (widow-burning)** → Abolished in 1829.
 - Promoted **widow remarriage** and **women's education**.
 - Founded the **Brahmo Samaj (1828)**, which focused on **social equality, rationalism, and monotheism**.
 - Advocated for **freedom of the press** and **modern education**.
- **Impact on Social Work:**
 - Inspired **structured social activism** in India.
 - Laid the foundation for **women's rights movements** and **educational reforms**.

B. Henry Louis Vivian Derozio (1809–1831) – The Young Bengal Movement

- Anglo-Indian educator and reformer.
- Encouraged **rational thinking** and **rejection of superstitions**.
- Inspired **youth activism** for social change.

C. Swami Dayananda Saraswati (1824–1883) – Founder of Arya Samaj

- Opposed **caste discrimination** and **idol worship**.
- Advocated **women's education** and **widow remarriage**.
- Introduced "**Shuddhi Movement**" to reconvert lower castes into Hinduism, giving them **equal social status**.
- **Impact on Social Work:**
 - **Arya Samaj** established **schools and orphanages**, promoting **structured social service work**.

3. Legislative Reforms Inspired by Early 19th Century Reformers

Law	Year	Key Reformers Involved	Impact
Bengal Sati Regulation	1829	Raja Ram Mohan Roy	Abolished Sati.
Widow Remarriage Act	1856	Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar	Legally permitted widow remarriage.
Female Infanticide Prevention Act	1870	British administration, influenced by reformers	Prohibited female infanticide.

Conclusion

The **early 19th-century** social reform movements laid the **foundation for professional social work** in India. Reformers like **Raja Ram Mohan Roy** and **Swami Dayananda Saraswati** introduced **progressive ideas** that later influenced **social legislation, education policies, and women's rights movements**.

The next phase of reform, in the **mid-to-late 19th century**, saw a **more structured approach to social work**, leading to the **establishment of schools, community organizations, and policy-driven social activism**.

Social Reformers of the 19th Century and Their Contributions

The **mid-to-late 19th century** marked a **more structured and institutional approach to social work** in India. Reformers in this period **focused on education, women's rights, caste equality, and religious reforms**, laying the groundwork for **organized social welfare and professional social work** in the 20th century.

1. Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar (1820–1891) – Champion of Women's Rights and Education

A. Key Contributions

- **Advocated for Widow Remarriage:**
 - Instrumental in passing the **Widow Remarriage Act (1856)**.
 - Helped organize the **first widow remarriage** in 1856.

- **Promoted Female Education:**
 - Established **Bethune School (1849)**, the first school for girls in India.
 - Encouraged **widow and Dalit education**.
- **Opposed Child Marriage:**
 - Campaigned to increase the minimum age of marriage for girls.

B. Impact on Professional Social Work

- Institutionalized **social work** through **education-based interventions**.
- Inspired future social workers to focus on **legal reforms and advocacy for gender equality**.

2. Jyotirao Phule (1827–1890) – Pioneer of Social Justice and Dalit Upliftment

A. Key Contributions

- **Abolished Caste-Based Discrimination:**
 - Founded the **Satyashodhak Samaj (1873)** to fight Brahminical oppression.
- **Established the First School for Dalits (1848):**
 - Educated Dalits and lower-caste women.
- **Criticized Child Marriage and Promoted Widow Remarriage.**
- **Supported Farmer and Labor Rights:**
 - His work influenced the **development of labor rights movements** in India.

B. Impact on Professional Social Work

- Introduced **social mobilization and grassroots activism** as methods of social work.
- His **focus on education and community empowerment** influenced later **social work models** for marginalized groups.

3. Swami Vivekananda (1863–1902) – Religious Humanitarianism and Social Service

A. Key Contributions

- **Promoted “Practical Vedanta”** – Serving humanity as a form of worship.
- **Founded Ramakrishna Mission (1897):**
 - Focused on **education, healthcare, and disaster relief**.
- **Worked for Upliftment of the Poor:**
 - Encouraged social workers to **serve the needy selflessly**.

B. Impact on Professional Social Work

- Institutionalized **organized social service through Ramakrishna Mission**.
- Promoted **spirituality-based social work**, influencing **community development models** in India.

4. Sir Syed Ahmed Khan (1817–1898) – Muslim Social Reform and Modern Education

A. Key Contributions

- **Founded Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) (1875):**
 - Advocated **modern education for Muslims**.
- **Promoted Hindu-Muslim Unity and Social Harmony.**
- **Worked for Women’s Education and Rights.**

B. Impact on Professional Social Work

- Institutionalized **education-based social work** for minorities.
- His work laid the foundation for **modern social policies** focusing on minority rights.

5. Legislative Reforms Influenced by 19th Century Social Reformers

Law	Year	Key Reformers Involved	Impact
Widow Remarriage Act	1856	Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar	Legalized widow remarriage.
Age of Consent Act	1891	Jyotirao Phule, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar	Raised minimum age of marriage for girls to 12.
Education Policies for Dalits	Late 1800s	Jyotirao Phule	Expanded primary education to Dalits.