



RELIGION

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DEFINITION

- ❖ **“Religion is a unified system of beliefs and practices related to sacred things, that is to say, things set apart and forbidden which unite into one single model community, called a church, all those who had yet to them” By Durkheim.**
- ❖ **MacIver and Page have defined, “Religion as we understand the term, implies a relationship not merely between man and man but also between man and some higher power”**
- ❖ **According to Ogburn, “Religion is an attitude towards superhuman powers”**
- ❖ **Religion revolves round man’s faith in the supernatural force.**

COMPONENTS OF RELIGION

- ❖ **Belief in supernatural forces**
- ❖ **Man's Adjustment with the supernatural forces**
- ❖ **Acts, defined as righteous and sinful or sacred and the profane**
- ❖ **Some method of salvation**
- ❖ **Belief in some sacred things**
- ❖ **Procedure of Worship**
- ❖ **Place of Worship**



FUNCTIONS OF RELIGION

- ❖ Social Change
- ❖ Integrative Force
- ❖ Social Control
- ❖ Intellectual Function
- ❖ Normative Role
- ❖ Solace and Comforting function
- ❖ Stabilization
- ❖ Ritual Role
- ❖ Supplements Empirical Knowledge



DYSFUNCTIONS OF RELIGION

- ❖ Religion inhibits protests and impedes social changes
- ❖ Hampers the adaptation of society to changed condition
- ❖ Religion increase conflict and makes the evolution of realistic solution more difficult
- ❖ Impedes the development of new identities
- ❖ Religion may foster dependence and irresponsibility
- ❖ Conservative and retards progress
- ❖ Promotes evil practices
- ❖ Creates confusion, contradictions and conflicts
- ❖ Contributes to inequalities and exploitation
- ❖ Promotes superstitious beliefs
- ❖ Religion undermine human potentiality



Similarities between Magic and Religion

1. Religion and magic are both related to **supernatural** and super-human power.
2. Both arise from effective **requirements**.
3. Both are used as **tools of adaptation** to critical situations.
4. The methods of both religion and magic are **traditional**.
5. It is mandatory to **follow the laws of both**, otherwise, the objectives will not be served.
6. There are **specific persons** who perform the actions related to both. The **priest** who performs religious rituals and the **magician** who performs magic is called.
7. Both are a figment of human **imagination**.
8. Both the priest and the magician have to follow **certain prohibitions**.

Difference between Magic and Religion

<u>Religion</u>	<u>Magic</u>
<u>Religion</u> is a public act.	<u>Magic</u> is a personal act.
In <u>religion</u> , man surrenders to supernatural power.	In <u>magic</u> , the man wants to conquer supernatural power.
A sense of public interest is found in <u>religion</u> .	A sense of personal interest is found in <u>magic</u> .
All persons perform religious actions.	Only those who know about it perform <u>magic</u> work.
<u>Religion</u> is not related to any purpose. <u>Religion</u> does not have an immediate and direct effect.	<u>Magic</u> is performed to serve a particular purpose. Its effect is seen directly.

Difference between Magic and Religion

Generally religious people get prestige in the society.	People are always afraid of witchcraft.
The success of <u>religion</u> depends on its propagation and public participation.	The secrecy of <u>magic</u> is the necessary condition of success.
On the basis of <u>religion</u> , a relationship with the soul and the divine can be established.	In <u>magic</u> , no connection with God is established.
<u>Religion</u> and religious activities are always for group welfare.	<u>Magic</u> can be creative as well as harmful.
Work-cause relationship is not found in <u>religion</u> .	A work-cause relationship is found in <u>magic</u> .
Prayer in <u>religion</u> can be successful and also unsuccessful.	Desire must succeed in <u>magic</u> .

Difference between Magic and Religion

<u>Religion</u> is considered sacred.	The <u>magic</u> action is considered unholy.
Religious differences are found in different parts of the world.	Similarities are found everywhere in <u>magic</u> .
Mantras are used in <u>religion</u> but emotion has special importance on the underlying.	The use of spells is necessary in <u>magic</u> but no specific emotion is predominant.
<u>Religion</u> has developed later.	<u>Magic</u> originated earlier so it is more ancient than <u>religion</u> .

NATURISM

- ❑ **Naturism means the belief that the forces of nature have supernatural power. Andrew Lang and Max Muller develop the theory of naturism.**
- ❑ **Max Muller, a great Sanskrit scholar, strongly advocates that the most ancient form of religious practice is naturism.**
- ❑ **Naturism, according to him, is primarily based on man's sensory experience out of which logical deductions are primarily made.**
- ❑ **It is through sensory organism that man obtains the surfaced experience of reality on the basis of which he makes logical deductions.**
- ❑ **The sensory experience further helps man to distinguish animate from the inanimate objects.**
- ❑ **Therefore, religion is primarily a derivative of sensory experience. To them religious embodiments are seen yet unseen, observable yet unobservable.**

NATURISM

- For example, rain is visible but the caution of rain is not; sun is visible but its creation is greatly unknown to man. Therefore, out of reverence and dependency man greatly worshipped all the greatest powers of nature: sun, moon, air water without which man's life and living will is exclusively impossible. Therefore, man worships them out of fear, Out of dependency and as a token of respect. They further advocated that the first religious conception is derived from the personification of the natural phenomenon.

RELIGION

FETISHISM



- ❖ A fetish (derived from the French: *fétiche*; which comes from the Portuguese: *feitico*; and this in turn from Latin: *facticus*, "artificial" and *facere*, "to make") is an object believed to have supernatural powers, or in particular, a human-made object that has power over others. Essentially, fetishism is the attribution of inherent value, or powers, to an object.
- ❖ Fetishism has been defined both as religion and as magic. In origin, it is the most primitive form of religion. It endows objects with supernatural or mystical powers for good or evil.
- ❖ The person who possesses the fetish can ward off bad luck and will have good fortunes.
- ❖ A leaf, a feather, a horn, a stone or any such thing with unusual shape is adored in the same manner as a carved figure.

FETISHISM



- ❖ Most feticheds are inanimate objects whose alleged powers are based on the naive belief or superstitions, that events that happen together or sequentially are causally related and will continue to happen together.
- ❖ The mysterious power that is attributed to inanimate objects has been called by some primitives mana the Melanesians and Maoris, for example, employed the term mana to sagnify such a power. The term 'mana' was first used by the anthropologist R. H. Codrington. The belief in 'mana' has been referred to by R.R. Marett as 'animatism'.
- ❖ Fetishism or animatism is a very personal form of religion compared to most other belief systems that are group forms. Fetisism locates power in inanimate objects whereas most other religions locate it in animate ones.

ANIMISM



- ❖ Animism means the belief in spirits. E.B. Taylor in his famous book *Primitive Culture* developed the thesis of animism and subsequently he developed the distinction between magic, religion and science.
- ❖ In his thesis of animism he advocated that anima means spirit. Animism refers to a given form of religion in which man finds the presence of spirit in every object that surrounds him.
- ❖ According to him, any type of spiritual phenomenon-- May that is souls, divinities-- which are animated and interpreted by man, explain the stage of animism.
- ❖ Man's ideas of spirits primarily originated from his dreams. In his dreams man, for the first time, encountered with his double. He realized that his double or duplicate is more dynamic and elastic than his own self. He further considered that his double, though resembled his body, it is far more superior in terms of quality from his body. He generalized further that the presence of soul in human body is responsible for the elasticity of images in dreams.

THANK YOU