INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY- I

Tutor Marked Assignments

Course Code: BSOC-101
Assignment Code: ASST /TMA /2026-27
Total Marks: 100

Section I

Answer the following Descriptive Category questions in about 400 words each.

1. Does sociology has relationship with history? Discuss. 20

2. Explain the AGIL model of Talcott Parsons. 20

Section II

Answer the following Middle Category questions in about 250 words each.

3. Examine mass media as an agent of socialization. 10

4. What do you understand by social control? Explain. 10

5. Discuss the diversity of culture in India. 10

Section III

Answer the following Short Category questions in about 100 words each.

6. What is ethnocentrism? 6

7. What is social institution? 6

8. What is master status? 6

9. What is role learning? 6

10. Distinguish between Great and Little communities. 6

1. Does sociology has relationship with history? Discuss. 20

Answer

Sociology and history are closely related disciplines because both examine human societies, social relationships and the ways people organise collective life. Sociology studies patterns of interaction, institutions, inequality and social change. History reconstructs and interprets past events and processes in their particular times and places. Their questions are not identical, but a sociological explanation is often incomplete without a historical account of how the social pattern emerged.

A shared concern with social change. Neither caste, family, the state nor the economy came into existence in its present form overnight. Historians describe the circumstances through which these institutions developed; sociologists examine the arrangements of power, values and relationships within them. For example, a study of urbanisation in India becomes more meaningful when linked with colonial transport systems, changes in agriculture, industrial employment, migration and post-Independence development. Historical information helps a sociologist distinguish long-term transformation from temporary fluctuation.

The relationship is visible in the development of sociology itself. Nineteenth-century sociology arose in response to major historical changes, including the French Revolution, industrialisation, the growth of cities and the weakening of inherited social hierarchies. Auguste Comte hoped that social order and progress could be studied systematically. Karl Marx interpreted class relations through historical changes in modes of production. Emile Durkheim examined the shift from mechanical to organic solidarity as social life became more differentiated. Max Weber combined historical evidence with sociological concepts in his analyses of religion, authority, bureaucracy and capitalism. These thinkers show that social theory often grows out of historical questions.

Different emphases and methods. A historian may reconstruct how one particular reform movement developed, who participated in it and what happened at particular moments. A sociologist may compare several movements to understand leadership, class participation, collective identity or the conditions in which mobilisation succeeds. Historians frequently work with archives, official records, letters, memoirs, newspapers and oral testimonies. Sociologists may use surveys, interviews, observation, statistical data and comparative methods. Yet this is a difference of emphasis, not a rigid separation: historians study broad structures, and sociologists increasingly use archival and oral-history methods.

Historical sociology offers a direct meeting point. It uses evidence about the past to explain the origins and transformation of institutions. Studies of state