PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK AND ITS VALUES ASSIGNMENT

Course Code: - BSW-121
Total Marks – 100

Note:

(i) Answer any **five** of the following questions in about **500 words** each.
(ii) All questions carry equal marks.

1. Discuss the beginning of social work education and its gradual spread across continents. 20

2. Describe social justice as a value of social work profession. 20

3. Highlight the importance of ethics in social work. 20

4. Enlist the principles of loyalty to the profession in social work. 20

5. Present the ways to develop cultural sensitivity in social work practice. 20

6. Illustrate human relationships as a social capital and its importance in social work. 20

7. Explain seminal approaches to professional social work. 20

8. Trace the evolution of social work methods and its quest for professional status. 20

1. Discuss the beginning of social work education and its gradual spread across continents. 20

Answer

Social work education developed when organised efforts to help people began to require more than goodwill and charitable donations. Earlier, families, religious institutions, local communities and voluntary groups supported people in distress. During the nineteenth century, industrialisation and urban growth increased poverty, unemployment, poor housing, child labour and illness in many cities. It became clear that helpers needed to understand the causes of these problems, work systematically with families and communities, and learn from experience. This created the need for formal training in social work.

Early initiatives in Britain and the United States

In Britain, the Charity Organisation Society, founded in London in 1869, encouraged organised relief, careful study of people's circumstances and coordination among charitable agencies. Its methods sometimes placed too much emphasis on individual behaviour, but it showed why workers needed preparation and reliable records. The settlement-house movement offered another approach. At Toynbee Hall, established in London in 1884, educated volunteers lived and worked in poor neighbourhoods. They learnt from residents and supported education, public health and social reform. These two traditions helped shape professional teaching: individual and family assistance on one side, and community action on the other.

The United States developed similar ideas through charity organisation societies and settlement houses. Jane Addams and Ellen Gates Starr established Hull House in Chicago in 1889. It offered social services while also addressing housing, working conditions, immigration and women's rights. In 1898, a training course organised in New York became an important starting point for structured social work education. Later, schools combined classroom teaching with supervised practical work. Students began to study human behaviour, poverty, social policy, interviewing, community conditions and the use of social agencies.

Mary Richmond helped to strengthen professional knowledge. Her book *Social Diagnosis* (1917) explained how to collect and assess information about a person's social situation instead of relying on guesswork. At the same time, settlement workers stressed participation and changes in public policy. These different emphases eventually became part of a broader educational discipline.