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# Dimensions of Social Welfare vs Public Welfare in Asia: A Sociological Appraisal

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Abstract: Dimensions of social welfare are different. As societies are industrializing, dimensions of social welfare are extending more and more. Dimensions of social welfare are dependent on interactions of the people in any society. So, as the societies highly changed in modern time, dimensions of social welfare almost changed in the same rate. On the other hand, public welfare vs the dimensions is changing either, in the same way. Public welfare such as hospitals, clinics, boarding schools, etc. are increasing, but the surge is not as much. At the time being, there must exist a balance between the two. Currently, countries must be so led as to provide the public welfare of the people in the fast changing world. The world is changing in different grounds such as education, specialization, urbanization, rapid communications, etc. In the half past century, many rural and urban areas were disconnected especially in the developing world. But, now and with the existence of smart social media, people are highly exposed to different social, economic, and cultural change.

*Keywords:* Administrative framework, Social policy theories, Social protection, Poverty theory, Sociology

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## Introduction

Sociologically speaking, dimensions of social welfare are different and various. Every dimension as a response to a different request from material to non-material, etc. In the present era in which productions are more and various, at the same time more products must be consumed. They all need to be planned for accordingly. Human beings are more needful today than any time in the past. People of the past generations who were more self-reliant, did not look for much welfare, but

were satisfied with what they had. Everything used to be done manually. The level of public welfare was low and not prioritized. Gradually, after the emergence of industries, human relations started changing; a process in which people turned to dependence on public welfare. Earlier, people used to cultivate their own lands, and make their own bread. Varieties were not much and so different. In the new era, all the social and cultural values were changed/ revolutionized. For example, people became literate which is a window to new world, families got fewer children; as many as they wanted. The TFR reached 2.3 children in 2022 (WPDS, 2022), whereas it was much was much more before.

Dimensions of social welfare include institutions that affect the economic wellbeing of society. Social welfare improves the efficiency of people in society, more and better products and services are produced and provided as needed. Social welfare includes the development of economic progress. For this reason, industrialized countries have been able to achieve a more advanced economy in recent decades as they develop their social welfare. The social welfare function guides governments on how to act appropriately in allocating revenue. Social welfare also leads to higher quality of life for communities, improves the efficiency of individuals, and as a result, a kind of improvement in the quality of products appears. Countries and industrial societies achieved such high levels of economic reform during the twentieth century. Improving social well-being also leads to better health and longer life expectancy. Financial management has an effective role in receiving income and receiving maximum satisfaction. Hence, in the context of improving social welfare, financial management takes place in its preferred form, in which the majority of the population is in the middle class, which has more or less satisfactory salaries and incomes. That is, they easily meet their needs, and thus different generations always follow a progressive process.

#### Method of Research

Methodology used in the present article is of qualitative type. In that, various paradigms have been used to find out about the facts regarding pandemics during the history. Qualitative research usually studies people, events or areas in their natural settings. In finding facts for the research, the researcher engaged in careful data collection and thoughtful analysis of what was relevant. In the documentary research applied for the present research, printed and written materials were widely regarded. The research was performed as a qualitative library-type in which the researcher had to refer to the relevant and related sources. In the current research,

various documents were thoroughly investigated, and the needful inferences were made. The data fed by the investigator in the present article is hopefully reliable. Though literature on pandemics is very limited, yet the author tried to investigate many different resources in order to elicit the necessary information to build up the text.

#### Administrative framework

Health and well-being are designed and provided by the government system all over the world. Various government agencies such as health care, education, transportation, etc. are among the institutions that play a role in providing welfare in a society. The administrative framework or system is realized under the influence of a set of maps, participants and their interactions (Momtaz, 2013). The necessary infrastructure must always be provided to advance welfare programs, and adequate funding and investment must be provided in advance. In this way and in the integrated form of societies, they can increase their social welfare in various dimensions. For example, it is the government that pays for social security, provides national health services, and provides individual services. Various government agencies, at their own discretion, provided various social, economic, and welfare services within the framework of the law, and made them available to members of the community in various forms, and in various formats. Therefore, different sectors of government in any society play an important role in providing social security in that society. Social security means more prosperity in a society. When the government adopts new policies, it affects the whole life of the citizens. One of the main goals of governments is generally to design and create the necessary policies in terms of time and place in a society. In such circumstances, different government agencies have to design different policies; Thus, social welfare in different societies can be gradually and expanded according to time periods. Over the past hundred years, many countries have expanded their social welfare dimensions to meet the needs of their communities. Social welfare is a set of government programs that take into account the economic risks of citizens and the insecurities of their lives. A variety of general social welfare programs include support for the elderly or retirees, the sick, mothers, the unemployed, and the like (Encyclopedia Britannica, 2018).

Governments are always looking for new policies and policy changes. Depending on the situation of communities and the capacities of communities, natural resources and the like, many governments reform their policies and adopt new policies in return. For example, many countries have pursued different demographic

policies over the past seventy years in order to achieve greater prosperity. For example, China pursued a one-child policy in that country from 1979 to 2015, so that they could pursue their development plans better and better. China's main goal of the one-child policy (1979-2015) was mainly to achieve greater prosperity, develop more education, improve housing, and ultimately create a better future for the Chinese government and people (Vittana, 2019). The Ministry of Health is generally responsible for all health issues, including relevant and required policymaking and policy-making, as well as the implementation of health services and the development of social welfare. Over the last half century, the Ministry of Health has pursued different policies in many countries, through which they have made significant reforms in the social services and welfare sector. In democracies, pressure groups generally play a decisive role in addressing policymakers' needs as needed. In this way, many useful reforms and policies are adopted; In a way, more social welfare emerges. Effective politics can solve social problems. Also, policymakers are effective in making laws and make them according to the needs of the law. In this way, social welfare is more established in different societies.

# **Social Policy Theories**

If there is a social problem, there is not only one solution to solve it, but different solutions can be offered by different groups. Social issues are evaluated from different perspectives by different experts, and appropriate solutions are provided. The set of solutions is called "social policies". During the years after 1950, many developing countries in different parts of the world have adopted various policies to solve their current problems. In a situation where social change is always ongoing, social issues arise. In a situation where countries can provide solutions to social problems, the efficiency and dynamism of society will improve. Various solutions to social problems are provided by various professional brokers with constructive ideas. Today's societies always use experts with expertise in various fields to achieve greater social welfare. For example, using social workers in your family context can help solve challenges within the family. Many families today face a variety of behavioral, economic, communication, and other challenges that require extensive social services. Although social issues are many and varied, at the same time, the biggest problem facing the world today is the environmental concerns that half of the world's experts agree on (Jackson et al. 2018). Theories of social welfare include the theory of social democracy, radical socialism, feminism (1960s onwards), the theory of anti-racism, environmentalism, and so on, each of which has emerged as a defender of social welfare.

Therefore, various theories have emerged in different societies in recent decades, each of which defends social welfare as much as possible. For example, in the wake of environmental pollution, proponents of a healthy environment, known as the Green Groups in European societies, have launched a number of defenses to keep the environment healthy, simply so that both current and future generations can enjoy its benefits. Human activities have always affected the environment on an unprecedented scale. This degradation is now a global issue that needs to be addressed ecologically, politically and economically (Elliot, 2004). The result of each of the above approaches leads to the solution of social problems. While the emergence of social problems, especially in developing countries, is inevitable, appropriate solutions to eliminate them must always be designed and employed Many see the welfare state as the result of social democracy. They believe that in a socialist environment, the welfare of society is realized, and individuals benefit from the results. Until 1989, a number of countries, including the former Soviet Union and its satellite countries, survived under social democracies, providing almost equal welfare and supervision for all citizens. The concept of social democracy means political, social and economic philosophy in which social justice is free in the form of a kind of democratic politics. One of its important dimensions is achieving social welfare (Adams, 1993); (Agarwal, 1989). It is noteworthy that the way of thinking and the school of socialism changed in 1989 and was almost replaced by capitalism. Also, with the spread of feminism, social welfare becomes more crystallized. Proponents of this school believe that feminism encompasses the world more than the population. If it happens, welfare will create more rights for women. This school has always been increasingly promoted and given more importance in recent decades. However, in the decades before the introduction and emergence of this school, a large part of the population (women) enjoyed rights and privileges, and generally less welfare.

The anti-racist approach also emerged following a critique of racism, in which welfare is recommended for all races in a society. Thus, the anti-racist way of thinking always follows a hedonistic society, in which the population of a society is more or less racially equal. The closer we get to the present and the 21st century, the more signs of hedonism and anti-racism we see. As the international community is made up of diverse ethnic, linguistic, skin-colored races, and so on, conditions must be created for all minorities to enjoy almost equal rights. The green space or environmental movement also includes public welfare, and in this way a community can achieve greater welfare. The green space movement has become more and more crystallized in the last 50 years and has attracted more and more defenders. Having

a healthy environment leads to greater social well-being in any society. In the new machine age, the green space movement must be pursued as much as possible so that human beings can have greater access to public and natural well-being.

#### **Social Protection**

Social protection is considered a major part of welfare and is also referred to as social security. In human societies, conditions must always be provided through which social security can take place in its various forms. Under the influence of social protection, those who are unable to provide for themselves are financially supported by the government. Social protection includes policies and programs to reduce poverty and vulnerability by effectively improving the labor market, reducing the risks to which people are exposed, and capacity building through managing social risks such as unemployment, social exclusion, illness, disability and old age. Bank, 2001). Many industrialized countries have adopted such policies and have extended social protection and security to their communities. Social policy should always be formulated in countries according to time conditions; So that citizens can benefit from the results financially and services. The government and its subdivisions (relevant agencies) cover individuals through the tax system, housing, etc. In this way, the basic needs of many citizens are met. In this way, social protection can be maintained and generalized in a society. In other words, social welfare is provided to citizens in this way in a society. Meanwhile, many developed countries are always looking to create employment resources to somehow employ people covered by social security. Unemployment and lack of social security, on the other hand, lead to many social ills. Social protection is recognized and addressed as a major and effective step in most modern societies. It originated mainly in the United Kingdom, and for example, about 30 million people in the United Kingdom or about 70% of households in that country enjoy the benefits of this privilege.

Many other European countries have modeled on the British system and subsequently introduced the social security system in their own countries. Such a move creates a kind of solidarity, integration and interest in the land among the needy population. Today, developing countries must always design and implement such policies, while preventing the spread of poverty in their societies. Social protection laws in the United Kingdom state that old-age pensions have been paid to the elderly since 1906, and since 1911, many unemployed men have used the payment, or in other words, paid it. Social security salaries have been paid. In this way, many other industrialized countries of Western Europe during the twentieth

century have provided financial challenges and problems, maintenance and medical care and the like for their elderly. This movement has gradually become a kind of social norm in such countries. Social security itself is the government system that provides financial support to people in need. Such an organization is very active in the United States, Canada and European countries. In the United States, it is also referred to as welfare (Bach, 2003). Hence, less developed countries face many economic and protection problems and weaknesses due to the increase of their population in general and the increase of their elderly in particular. Social protection should cover many in old age; That is, those who have not been able to provide savings for their old age during their period of work and employment. Less developed countries face welfare and livelihood challenges. Therefore, monitoring devices of such populations and elderly families should be studied and evaluated. In other words, a separate and separate budget must always be allocated to the elderly population. Social protection addresses issues of poverty, housing for the poor, unemployment, illness, lack of education and the like. Each of these issues requires a separate budget and related planning. While the proportion of the elderly population is increasing in many developing countries today, the budget for rehabilitating this population is less. Therefore, poverty among such a population is always increasing and widespread.

## **Poverty Theory**

The development of modern organized welfare services has emerged gradually, as many people have come to realize that poverty is not a natural condition and is always the result of laziness or poor budgeting. Hence, conditions in different societies appear under the influence of various economic, social and cultural factors. At the same time, the financial strength of governments and budgeting within these countries also play an important role in reducing poverty and the emergence of poverty in these societies. Likewise, how policies themselves can create poverty, or be effective in eradicating poverty. Today, poverty in the developing world is declining in some form or another. Factors such as literacy and education of new generations, women entering the labor market, access to migration and education, each play a role in alleviating the burden of poverty. Once the dimensions of poverty became apparent, the welfare state in industrialized societies gradually took steps to reduce the poverty gap. Education has received a great deal of attention as a means by which poverty can be controlled, and consequently many areas of poverty have been replaced by greater prosperity and comfort. It is noteworthy that the

welfare space in the form of increasing welfare follows. Following the emergence of this phenomenon and following the thinking about it, studies have concluded that poor health and inadequate facilities and anti-social activities are all somehow related to poverty. Hence, according to the above-mentioned hypotheses, poverty in many cases has turned into erosive poverty, and deepens. Therefore, governments and planning agencies must always provide the conditions and conditions through which poverty and deprivation can be replaced by social welfare and development. As a result of such achievements, much attention was paid to patients, disadvantaged residents, disadvantaged housing, and criminal groups. Such movements originated mainly from industrialized countries, especially the United Kingdom. Medical care and the separation of offenders from others in society and the support of the needy led to a special expansion of the social welfare dimension in British society. This way of living and monitoring gradually spread to other communities; That is, following the expansion of literacy and the establishment of new institutions and organizations such as ministries and the like, social welfare in other societies has gradually begun in various forms. This movement and modeling continues today in developing societies in various forms; That is, a process commonly referred to as modernization or modernization.

Poverty alleviation practices are one of the oldest components (quotas / tasks) that governments have addressed. Such a move historically dates back to 1960 in England. Since then, efforts have been made to reduce poverty to a minimum among different strata, and thus to replace welfare by building different organizations. The move also helped increase life expectancy in that community in general. The study of population poverty is important because it provides a central picture of social policies and different sectors and contexts have effective roles in eradicating poverty. For example, improving the state of agriculture will eliminate food poverty, and the creation of roads and communications will help eliminate diseases. Ministries such as labor and social affairs provided employment and welfare, and so on. Thus prosperity generally began during the twentieth century in industrial societies. The process gradually spread to developing countries as well; That is, what continues today in various forms under the headings of social, economic, cultural, agricultural, medical and similar planning in these countries.

#### **Health Services**

The history of health indicates that in the 19th century, hospitals in England were run by the poor and the rich were mostly treated at home. This was simply because

the health standard in the hospital system was poor. Gradually, following industrial development and health services, hospital centers became more important, and were introduced as a sign of well-being in British society. The movement gradually spread to other Western European countries; So that today one of the important health indicators in countries is the existence of hospitals and how they provide services. Thus, health services reached non-industrialized countries during the twentieth century, and subsequently brought more health and well-being to such countries; That is, what made the population last longer and the average life expectancy longer. Today, however, health is more likely to result from better nutrition and better housing and employment conditions. In recent years, countries and industrial societies have paid much attention to working hours, type of work in terms of gender and occupational health; In a way that can help the health of more people and society. In addition, improving nutrition, housing, and facilities have contributed to greater community health. Therefore, in addition to hospital services, housing and nutrition services are on the agenda of governments; That is, what is most responsible for the welfare of society.

Following the development and prosperity of hospital beds and blood transfusion services, ambulance services, which began in British society from the mid-twentieth century onwards (1939), gradually moved to provide greater health guarantees for the population. It created the country. This has boosted life expectancy not only in the UK but also in other European societies. As a result, the planning system has enacted more inclusive laws in favor of its population; So that they can have more welfare services. As societies progress, the number of sick people is increasing, which in turn follows changes in the level of health and wellness. Access to health care has always been on the rise in such communities. Therefore, by taking such cases, the development of societies has continued and they have enjoyed more opportunities. This cycle has always been going on, and based on different age groups, they have a better chance of survival. Therefore, investing in the health sector has always been on the agenda of industrial governments. This trend has gradually spread to less developed countries, and such countries are trying to pave the way for the necessary infrastructure in the form of education development, tax improvements and benefits. Many Asian countries have made progress in this area in recent years. Quality of life due to health itself is a concept that has evolved since the 1980s and encompasses all aspects of quality of life, and it also affects how healthy it is (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2000).

Following the advances in science and technology, there has been a great demand for more medical services; That is, a movement that has led to longer life expectancy and increased life expectancy. Many of the diseases and weaknesses that have appeared in the past have been responded to positively by medical services in recent decades, and have been remedied. This means that more health is provided for the population. In other words, the set of the mentioned process is presented and given meaning in the form of social welfare. It should be noted that this has happened in industrialized and developed countries since the mid-19th century, while in developing countries it has started since the mid-20th century. As a result, developed countries have become more familiar with the areas of social welfare. The range of health-related items and services has led to longer life expectancy for European populations. This situation has started for the developing country since 1950.

## Factors Affecting the Health of People in Society

Literacy, gender, income, how the pressures and stresses at home, nutrition, alcohol and addiction, housing, geographical area, mortality rate, life expectancy, mental health, racial group, lifestyle, social class, employment, unemployment, workplace and Similarly, each of the above has some role in health services. Therefore, governments should always pay enough attention to the creation and arrangement of the above infrastructures and invest in them. In this way, health services and the achievement of social welfare are achieved.

#### Conclusion

We may draw different conclusions from the present article. The main general conclusion is that the extent of social welfare breaks into public welfare which is for all people of any age, race, sex and communal group such as schools, parks, hospitals, and many more. Receivers of social welfare are many, and ever increasing. Now-a-days, as societies are becoming industrial and urban more than ever before, their dependency on public welfare is extending in an unprecedented manner. So, countries need to be equipped with the necessary infrastructure. On the other hand, the dimensions of welfare is extending because multi-dimensional development which is appearing, and as a result of which poverty, is disappearing. Governments are looking for new policies and policy changes. Many industrialized countries have adopted such policies, and extended social protection and security to their communities.

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