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COURSE HANDOUTS

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Lesson 01**INTRODUCTION AND HISTORY of COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT****TOPIC 001-004****Topic 001: Orientation to Course Objectives**

This course will help students

- To understand about community, types of community, concept of community organization and community development.
- To analyze the setup of the community critically.
- To develop the ability to identify problem areas and identify work approaches best suited to local conditions.

What is Community?

The term community is very loosely used. It is used in different ways to mean different things. People often use the term community to refer to a **racial community**, or a **religious community** or a **national community** or a **caste community** or a **linguistic community** or a **professional community** or to refer to the entire mankind. It is used to mean an association or group and in a wider sense, it is used to refer to the entire humanity.

The word 'community' has been derived from two Latin words 'com' and 'Munis'. In English 'com' means 'to serve together'. It means, the community is an organization of human beings framed for the purposes of serving together.

Definitions of Community

Community is "a social group with some degree of "we feeling" and living in a given area". (Bogardus)

Community is "the total organization of social life with a limited area" (Ogburn and Nimkoff)

Characteristics of Community

The characteristics of community are enlisted below;

1. A group of People
2. A definite locality
3. Community sentiments
4. Natural
5. Permanence

