**Core Course 09**

**SOCIOLOGY OF KINSHIP**

**Course Objective:**This course aims to introduce general principles of kinship and marriage by reference to key terms and theoretical statements substantiated by ethnographies. The course looks at the trajectories and new directions in kinship studies.

**Outline: 1.Introduction:**

***Key Terms***: Descent, Consanguinity, Filiation, Incest Taboo, Affinity, Family, Residence

***Approaches***: Descent

1.2.2.Alliance

1.2.3.Cultural

**2. Family, Household and Marriage**

* + - * Types of Family and changes
      * Difference Between family and Household
      * Types of marriage

**3.Re-casting Kinship**

* + - * Relatedness- Concept and Type
      * Kinship and Gender
      * Re-imagining Families
      * New Reproductive Technologies
      * Types of New Reproductive techniques
      * Social implications of New Reproductive Techniques on the family system
      * Representations of Kinship and Marriage in Biographies, Popular Culture and Films would be examined by students through weekly presentations and term papers.

*COURSE CONTENTS AND ITINERARY*

1. **Key terms and approaches (Weeks 1-5)**
   1. Radcliffe-Brown, A. R. and D. Forde (eds.), 1950, *African Systems of Kinship and Marriage*, London: Oxford University Press, Introduction, Pp.1-39
   2. Evans-Pritchard, E.E., 2004 (1940), ‗The Nuer of Southern Sudan‘, in R. Parkin and L. Stone (eds.), *Kinship and Family: An Anthropological Reader*, U.S.A.: Blackwell, Pp. 64-78
   3. Fortes, M., 1970, *Time and Social Structure and Other Essays*, University of London: The Athlone Press, Chapter 3, Pp. 67-95
   4. Leach, Edmund, 1962, ‗On Certain Unconsidered Aspects of Double Descent Systems‘, *Man*, Vol. 62, Pp. 130-134
   5. Lévi-Strauss, Claude, 1969, *The Elementary Structures of Kinship*, London: Eyre and Spottiswoode, Chapters 1 & 2, Pp. 3-25
   6. Dumont, L., 1968, ‗Marriage Alliance‘, in D. Shills (ed.), *International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences*, U.S.A.: Macmillan and Free Press, Pp. 19-23
   7. Schneider, D., 2004, ‗What is Kinship All About?‘, in R. Parkin and L. Stone (eds.) *Kinship and Family: An Anthropological Reader*, U.S.A.: Blackwell, Pp. 257-274
   8. Das, V., 1994, ‗Masks and Faces: An Essay on Punjabi Kinship‘, in Patricia Uberoi (ed.), *Family, Kinship and Marriage in India*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, Pp.198-222
   9. \*Shah, A.M., 1998, ‗Changes in the Indian Family: An Examination of Some Assumptions‘, in *The Family in India: Critical Essays*, New Delhi: Orient Longman, Pp.52-63
   10. \*Freeman, J. D., 1958, ‗The Family Systems of the Iban of Borneo‘, in

J. Goody (ed.), *The Developmental Cycle in Domestic Groups*, Cambridge:

Cambridge University Press, Pp. 15-52 [Readings marked \* are repeated in Section 2]

1. **Family, Household and Marriage (Weeks 6-10)**
   1. Shah, A.M., 1998, ‗Changes in the Indian Family: An Examination of Some

Assumptions‘, in *The Family in India: Critical Essays*, New Delhi: Orient Longman, Pp.52-63

* 1. Freeman, J. D., 1958, ‗The Family Systems of the Iban of Borneo‘, in J. Goody (ed.), *The Developmental Cycle in Domestic Groups*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, Pp. 15-52
  2. Leach, E.R., 1961, ‗Polyandry, Inheritance and the Definition of Marriage with Particular Reference to Sinhalese Customary Law‘, in E. R. Leach (ed.),

*Rethinking Anthropology*, London: The Athlone Press, Pp. 105-113

* 1. Gough, Kathleen E., 1959, ‗The Nayars and the Definition of Marriage‘, in

*The Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland*, 89: 23-34

* 1. Uberoi, Patricia, 1995, ‗When is a Marriage not a Marriage? Sex, Sacrament and Contract in Hindu Marriage‘, *Contributions to Indian Sociology*, n.s. 29, 1&2: 319-45

1. **Re-casting Kinship (Weeks 11-14)**
   1. **Relatedness**
      1. Carsten, Janet, 1995, ‗The Substance of Kinship and the Heat of the Hearth: Feeding, Personhood, and Relatedness among Malays in Pulau Langkawi‘

*American Ethnologist*, 22 (2): 223-24.1

* 1. **Kinship and Gender**
     1. Gold, Ann Grodzins, 1994, ‗Sexuality, Fertility, and Erotic Imagination in

Rajasthani Women‘s Songs ‗, in *Listen to the Heron's Words: Re-imagining Gender and Kinship in North India* by Gloria Goodwin Raheja and Ann Grodzins Gold, Delhi: OUP, Pp 30-72

* 1. **Re-imagining Families**
     1. Weston, Kath, 1991, *Families We Choose: Lesbians, Gays, Kinship*, New York: Columbia University Press, Pp. 103-136
  2. **New Reproductive Technologies**
     1. Kahn, Susan Martha, 2004, ‗Eggs and Wombs: The Origins of Jewishness‘, in

R. Parkin and L. Stone (eds.), *Kinship and Family: An Anthropological Reader*, U.S.A.: Blackwell, Pp. 362-77

**Suggested Readings:**

1. Revathi, A.; V. Geetha. 2010. *The Truth About Me: A Hijra Life Story.*

Bangalore. Penguin Global.

1. Agnes, Flavia. 1990. *My Story…. Our Story of Rebuilding broken lives.*

Mumbai. Majlis