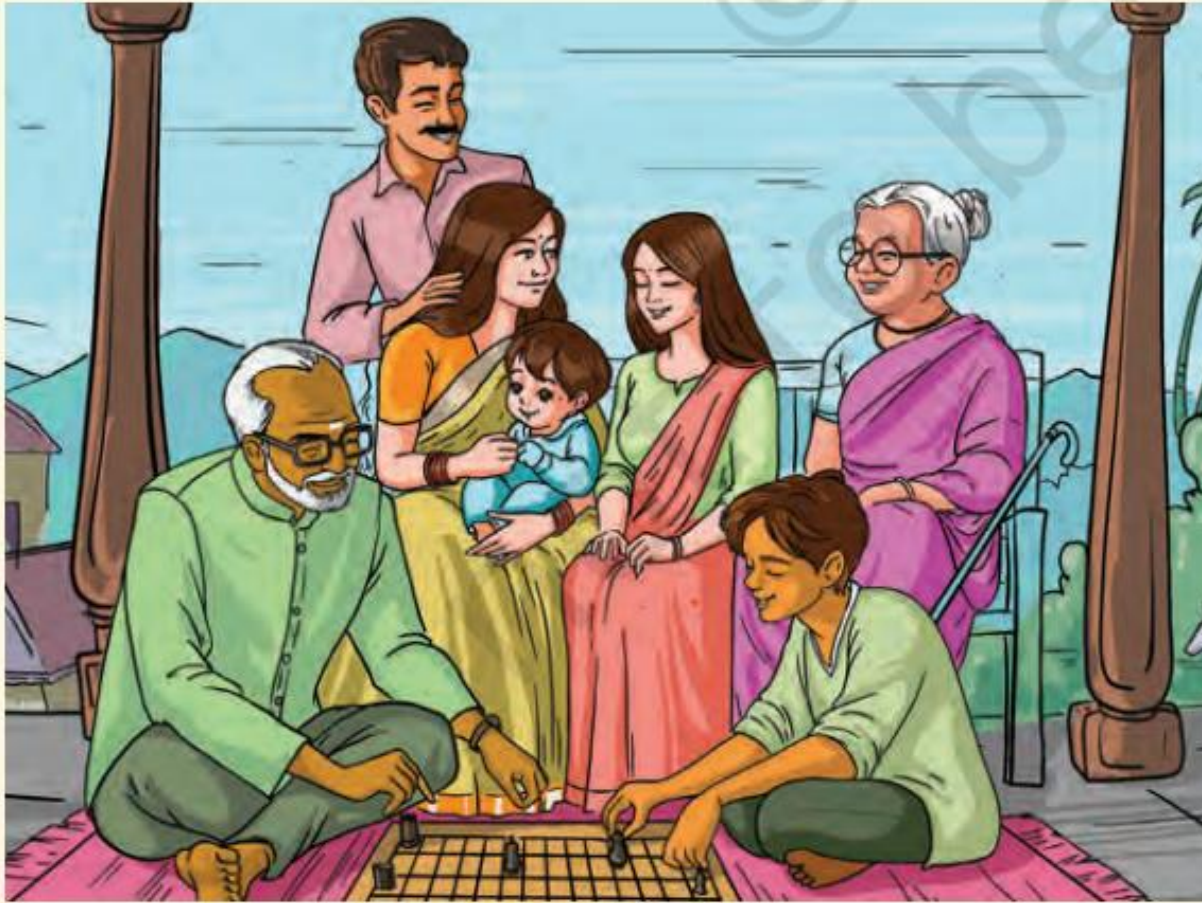




CLASS: VI
SUBJECT: SOCIAL SCIENCE
CHAPTER: 9 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY
BOOK: EXPLORING SOCIETY: INDIA AND BEYOND

The Big Questions?

Why is the family unit important?

What is a community and what is its role?



Family

- The family is the fundamental and most ancient unit of society.
- In India today, there are various types of families, such as **joint families** and **nuclear families**.



Joint family

- A **joint family** includes multiple generations living together, such as grandparents, parents, uncles, aunts, brothers, sisters, and cousins.



Nuclear family

- A **nuclear family** consists of just a couple and their children, or sometimes a single parent and children.

LET'S EXPLORE



What types of families do you see in your neighbourhood?



List the type with the number of households for each type.



What types are more frequent?
Why do you think this is so?



Terms to describe family

- English has a limited number of terms to describe family relationships, but Indian languages have many more.
- For example, in **Hindi**, terms like **bua** (father's sister), **tau** (father's elder brother), **tai** (father's elder brother's wife), **chacha** (father's younger brother), **mausi** (mother's sister), **nana** (mother's father), and **nani** (mother's mother) exist.
- Some languages, like **Tamil**, have distinct terms for elder and younger siblings.
- Interestingly, in many Indian languages, there is no separate word for "cousin." Instead, cousins are simply referred to as "brothers" and "sisters," highlighting the strong bonds within the family.



Roles and Responsibilities

- Family relationships are based on **love, care, cooperation, and interdependence**.
- **Cooperation** means working together, with each family member having specific roles and responsibilities towards one another.
- Parents are responsible for raising children to become happy and responsible individuals, while children, as they grow, take on more responsibilities to help other family members.
- Through daily activities, children learn to contribute to household life and often inherit traditions and practices passed down through generations.

Dharma

- **Dharma**, or doing one's duty, is a key principle in Indian culture.
- The family acts as a 'school' where children learn important values such as **ahimsa** (non-violence), **dāna** (giving), **sevā** (service), and **tyāga** (sacrifice).
- Family members often prioritize the needs of the family over their own, practicing selflessness and care for others.





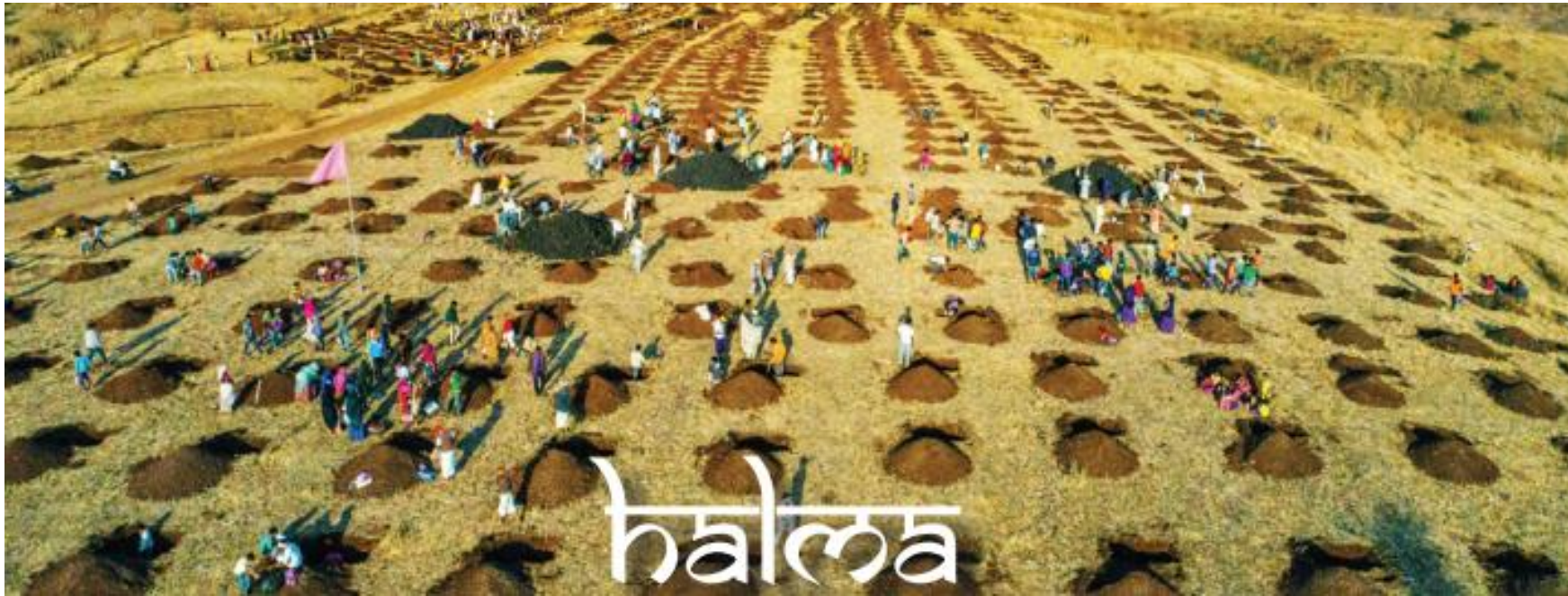
Community

- Families are connected not only within themselves but also with other families, forming a **community**.
- Communities come together for various reasons, such as celebrating festivals, organizing weddings, feasts, and other events.
- In some villages, people collaborate on agricultural activities like land preparation, sowing, and harvesting.
- Communities often agree on shared practices for using natural resources like water, grazing lands, and forest produce, a tradition seen in many tribal and rural communities.
- These unwritten **rules** ensure secure access to resources, but they also require families and individuals to fulfill specific duties for the community to function smoothly.
- 4o mini



DON'T MISS OUT

- The **Bhil community** in **Jhabua, Madhya Pradesh**, faced an acute water crisis year after year.
- Following their **halma** tradition, which emphasizes supporting others in times of crisis, the Bhils decided to plant thousands of trees and build water conservation structures, including trenches and rainwater harvesting systems.
- They carried out this work as a duty to their community and the environment, without any payment.



- The goal of their efforts, rooted in the **halma** tradition, was to serve and protect **Mother Earth**.
- In 2019, **Shri Mahesh Sharma** of the **Shivganga movement** was honored with the **Padma Shri** award for his transformative work with the Bhil communities.

Halma

Chennai floods of 2015

- During the **Chennai floods of 2015**, roads turned into rivers, causing severe disruption. People were unable to move, and most shops and services were closed.
- In response, many **private groups**, especially **spiritual and religious organizations**, came together to cook and distribute large quantities of food to those in need.
- This is just one example of people uniting for the benefit of the community, without expecting anything in return.
- There are many other such examples of community efforts; have you heard of any in your own experience or locality?

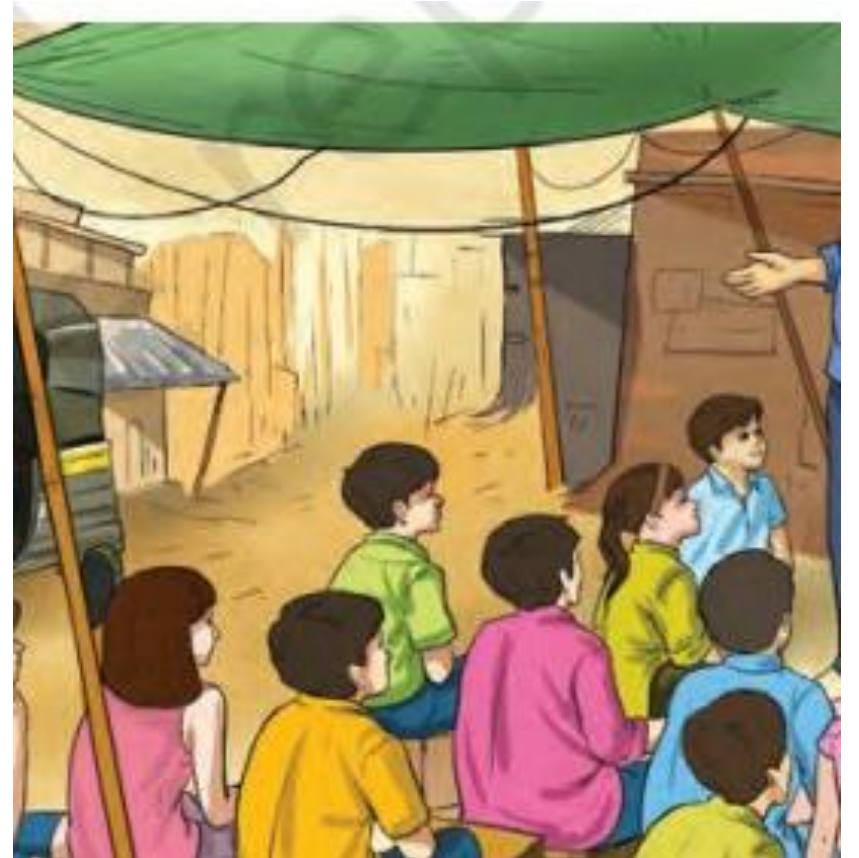


Ahmedabad (Gujarat), Kamal Parmar

- Over 20 years ago, in **Ahmedabad (Gujarat)**, **Kamal Parmar**, the owner of a small auto-fabrication workshop, noticed a group of underprivileged children on the streets.
- Many of these children had dropped out of school or had never attended school.
- Kamal decided to help by offering **free tuition** from 5:30 to 9:30 pm every day, after his regular work hours.
- He also provided the children with a **free dinner**.
- His initiative grew, and soon, **150 children** were attending the classes regularly and were highly engaged in their lessons.

Mutual learning experience

- A few **teachers** from a local school noticed Kamal's classes and volunteered to help with the teaching.
- One teacher observed that despite the lack of proper seating, noisy surroundings, and no "silence zone" in the classrooms, the children were completely focused on the lessons.
- This teacher was deeply touched by the children's dedication and the love and affection they shared.
- Some older children who attended regular schools also volunteered to teach in Kamal's classes.
- One of them remarked, "We went there to teach, instead we learned a lot from them," highlighting the mutual learning experience.

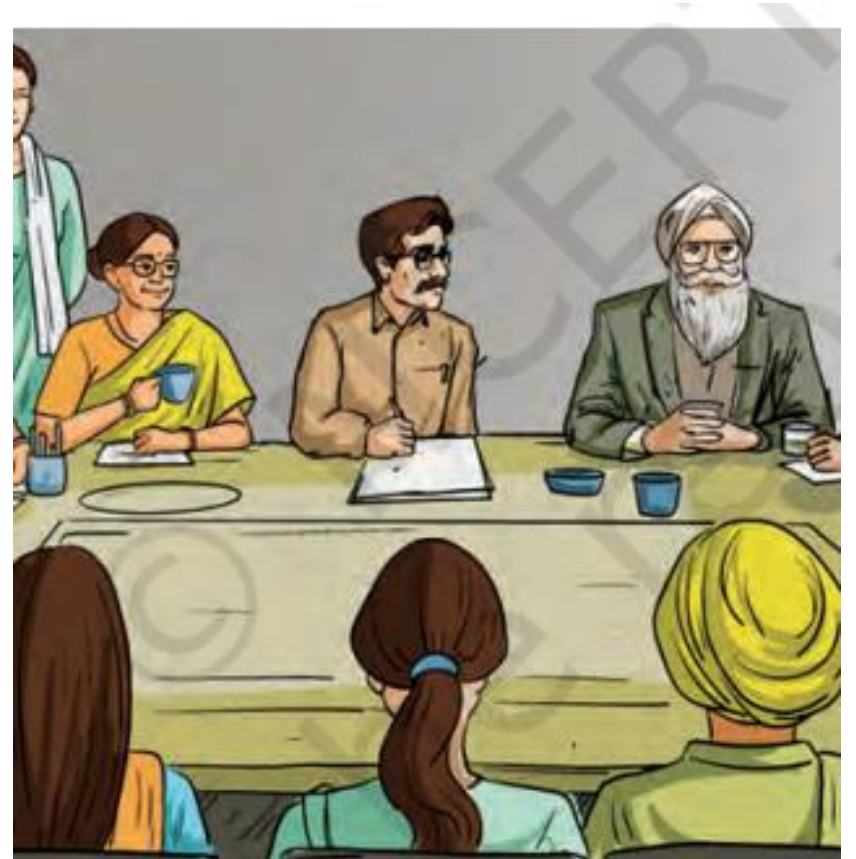


New types of communities

- In the last 30 to 40 years, **new types of communities** have emerged, such as **Residents' Welfare Associations** in urban areas.
- These communities create their own **rules and regulations** on matters like waste management, cleanliness of common areas, and pet care, with residents actively participating in decision-making.
- Communities are **interdependent**. For example, Residents' Welfare Associations rely on the **trading community** for supplies and on **municipal workers** for waste management.
- In our complex societies, everyone is interconnected and depends on various other people and communities to function smoothly.

Jāti

- **Community** is a flexible concept that can refer to different groups based on shared characteristics or interests.
- For example:
- A **jāti** (a subdivision of a caste) can be referred to as a community.
- Groups with a common **religion, region, profession, or interest** are also considered communities, such as:
 - **Mumbai's Parsi community**
 - **Chennai's Sikh community**
 - **America's Indian community**
 - **Kerala's scientific community**
 - **Our school's art community**
 - **The village's farming community**
- The list of such communities is vast and diverse.



In your school, you may belong to various communities, such as:

Your class

The sports community

National Service Scheme (NSS)

National Cadet Corps (NCC)

A science or drama club, etc.

Let's Discuss

What are some of the rules you follow in your family and neighbourhood? Why are they important?

Do you think some rules are unfair to a few people in the family or community? Why?

Describe several situations that you have observed where community support makes a difference.

A bright, airy dining room with a table set for a meal, a large potted plant, and open windows looking out onto a garden. The room features a wooden dining table with a light blue patterned tablecloth, set with white dishes and a large bowl. A large green potted plant stands to the right. Two windows with white shutters are open, revealing a garden with greenery and purple flowers. A black pendant lamp hangs on the right, and a white pendant lamp hangs in the center. The text "THANK YOU" is overlaid in the center.

THANK YOU