

Identifying Tools and Techniques for Picking out Cultural Bottlenecks: Another Crucial Component of the Symbiotic Approach to Socio-Cultural Change

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Abstract:- This paper is built upon our earlier papers on the symbiotic approach to sociocultural change, and extends them meaningfully in new directions. This is done by proposing different types of tools and techniques that can be used in identifying cultural bottlenecks, and can therefore be used to usher in, or bring about a faster pace of sociocultural change. We therefore, aptly and appropriately begin this paper by carrying out a brief overview of our earlier papers on sociocultural change, and by briefly laying down their various concepts and postulates. Subsequently, and resultantly, various tools and techniques for identifying and overcoming cultural bottlenecks are also proposed. These include an alignment with a cultural taxonomy, a comparative method to compare cultures, a high low analysis of values, a root cause analysis of cultural performance, analysis of cultural orientations, an evaluation of cultural performance by laying down metric and measurements and analyzing the pace of sociocultural change, etc. We also briefly discuss ethnographic techniques that can be used to evaluate cultures, including long-term ethnography and the ethnography of enculturation. Likewise, social science research methods, and components of research design are reviewed, besides some other approaches to identifying and analyzing cultural bottlenecks. We hope and anticipate that this paper will become a useful cog in the machine to bring about faster sociocultural change, and will become an intrinsic part of our globalization of science movement as well.

I. INTRODUCTION

Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything.” - George Bernard Shaw

It doesn't matter how strong your opinions are. If you don't use your power for positive change, you are indeed part of the problem.” - Coretta Scott King

Without change something sleeps inside us, and seldom awakens. The sleeper must awaken.” - Frank Herbert, Dune

This paper is built upon our earlier papers on the symbiotic approach to sociocultural change, and extends them meaningfully in new directions. This is done by proposing different types of tools and techniques that can be used in identifying cultural bottlenecks, and can therefore be used to usher in, or bring about a faster or more rapid pace of socio-cultural change. We therefore, aptly and appropriately begin this paper by carrying out a brief overview of our earlier papers on sociocultural change, and by briefly laying down their various concepts and postulates. Subsequently, and resultantly, various tools and techniques for identifying and overcoming cultural bottlenecks are also proposed. These include an alignment with a cultural taxonomy, a comparative method to compare cultures, a high low analysis of values, a root cause analysis of cultural performance, analysis of cultural orientations, an evaluation of cultural performance by laying down metric and measurements and analyzing the pace of sociocultural change, etc. We also briefly discuss ethnographic techniques that can be used to evaluate cultures, including long-term ethnography and the ethnography of enculturation. Likewise, social science research methods, and components of research design are reviewed, besides some other approaches to identifying and analyzing cultural bottlenecks. We hope and anticipate that this paper will become a useful cog in the machine to bring about faster socio-cultural change, and will become an intrinsic part of our globalization of science movement as well. This movement now appears to be gaining traction in some form or the other; for example, a recent edition of Humboldt Kosmos addressed this issue prominently. It also explored the linkages between colonialism and sciences, and featured several researchers prominently. It also echoes the views of Ecuadorian Researcher Marleen Haboud among others who argue and state that science has largely been built on Eurocentric perspectives at least for the social sciences.

The core concepts of the symbiotic approach to socio-cultural change were articulated in our two papers published by us in the years 2017 and 2018. The names of the papers were “Articulating comprehensive frameworks on socio-cultural change: Perceptions of social and cultural change in contemporary Twenty-first century Anthropology from a ‘Neo-centrist’ perspective” and “The relevance of Culture and Personality Studies, National Character Studies, Cultural

Determinism and Cultural Diffusion in Twenty-first Century Anthropology: As assessment of their compatibility with Symbiotic models of Socio-cultural change”. In the aforesaid papers, we had presented a brief overview of anthropology including social and cultural anthropology, and had reviewed the history of anthropology as well. We then proceeded to discuss the attributes of culture, the meaning and definitions of change and cultural change, before reviewing the tenets of the various schools of thought associated with sociocultural change. We had also then discussed the types of cultural change, and presented the tenets and the postulates of neocentrism. We had also then discussed the core tenets of the symbiotic approach to sociocultural change including impacting factors and absorbing factors besides the process of sociocultural change itself as per this approach, and had discussed the constituents of a cultural taxonomy as well. We had subsequently delineated the ten enablers as per our approach to sociocultural change, and had discussed the concepts of mind-orientation, cultural orientation, thought worlds, worldviews, and mindspace. It is not time to discuss various approaches and techniques that can be used to identify and isolate cultural bottlenecks. At the very outset, we would like to emphasize the concept of cultural relativism. This is a very important concept in social and cultural anthropology, and states that cultures are relative, and seldom absolute, and so are their values and virtues. Therefore, there is no universal yardstick or gold standard, and no culture is superior to others in every way. This concept was proposed by the Anthropologist Franz Boas in 1887, and as later extended by Alain Locke and others. All observations must therefore, be always ratified against this very basic concept. We would also implore and beseech readers to read the aforesaid two papers in the interests of greater clarity and train of thought.^{1 2 3 4 5}

¹ Articulating comprehensive frameworks on socio-cultural change: Perceptions of social and cultural change in contemporary Twenty-first century Anthropology from a ‘Neo-centrist’ perspective Published in ELK Asia Pacific Journal of Social Sciences Volume 3, Number 4 (July 2017 – September 2017) Sujay Rao Mandavilli

² The relevance of Culture and Personality Studies, National Character Studies, Cultural Determinism and Cultural Diffusion in Twenty-first Century Anthropology: As assessment of their compatibility with Symbiotic models of Socio-cultural change ELK Asia Pacific Journal of Social Science Volume 4, Issue 2, 2018 Sujay Rao Mandavilli

³ Attempting Diachronic extensions of symbiotic approaches to socio-cultural change: Developing techniques to assess socio-cultural changes over a period in time Sujay Rao Mandavilli IJISRT, September 2023

⁴ Towards scientific apperception tests for twenty-first century social sciences research: Formulating ‘Structured apperception techniques for socio-cultural change’ in twenty-first century social sciences research Sujay Rao Mandavilli IJISRT June 2023

➤ Cultural Bottlenecks

In general and in common, every day parlance, a bottleneck refers to the neck or mouth of a bottle. In other words, it refers to a constriction. At times, it may also refer to a narrow section of road or a junction that impedes smooth or fast flow of traffic. Therefore, in the context of a process, either a manufacturing process, or a non-manufacturing one, a bottleneck is a situation that prevents or stops a process or activity from progressing to its logical conclusion or next higher level. Alternatively put, and alternatively explained, a stage in a process receives more material than it can handle. Therefore, in such cases, the throughput of the system is typically very slow. Bottlenecks are caused due to several factors including insufficient capacity, inefficient processes, resource shortages, communication breakdowns: There are also sometimes issues with communication between teams, the prevalence or persistence of outdated systems using obsolete technologies, approval delays, etc. Bottlenecks can also be classified into either short-term or long-term, and long-term bottlenecks typically take much longer to resolve. To identify bottlenecks, the process is first thoroughly mapped, and the causes for low performance identified. This can be performed through the use of root cause analysis, fishbone diagram, Ishikawa diagrams and cause and effect analysis. The appropriate software may also be used for the purpose. Another technique that is now becoming popular all over the world is the “Theory of Constraints” (often abbreviated as TOC). This is a management methodology that helps identify, address, and remediate or mitigate the most crucial, critical or otherwise important constraints that prevent a process from achieving its optimum performance. This technique was developed by the Israel Management guru Eliyahu S. Goldratt in the 1980’s, and is carried out in a continuous chain or loop till the process is optimized. From the point of view of this paper, cultural bottlenecks are the most important. Cultural bottlenecks impede cultural development, and prevent a culture from moving to the next higher level. Cultural bottlenecks can be remediated through the tools and techniques proposed in this paper, and indeed, this is what this paper is all about.^{6 7 8}

⁵ Aligning theorization and hypothesis-building with cultural and cross-cultural frames of reference: A heuristic aid to better theorization and hypothesis-building Sujay Rao Mandavilli IJISRT June 2024

⁶ Jacob, Dee; Bergland, Suzan; Cox, Jeff (29 December 2009). *Velocity: Combining Lean, Six Sigma and the Theory of Constraints to Achieve Breakthrough Performance*. Free Pre. p. 320

⁷ Carol A. Ptak; Goldratt, Eliyahu M.; Eli Schragenheim (2000). *Necessary But Not Sufficient*. [Great Barrington, Massachusetts]: North River Press

⁸ Goldratt, Eliyahu M. (1998). *Essays on the Theory of Constraints*. [Great Barrington, Massachusetts]: North River Press

➤ Cultural Remediation

We must also naturally and inevitably talk about cultural remediation here. This is because cultural remediation is the next logical step in the process after cultural bottlenecks are identified. The major and the most vital stumbling block to the process and to the technique of “Cultural Remediation” emanates from the absence of a suitable yardstick for cultural benchmarking, and indeed even a satisfactory definition of the term ‘ideal culture’. An inspiration may however come from the English word and the term “Utopia” which was coined by Sir Thomas More in his 1516 book “Utopia” and describes an imaginary, an unreal or a made-up community or society of individuals that possesses highly desirable, perfect or nearly perfect attributes and qualities and meets the needs and aspirations of all its citizens in every conceivable way. Such societies of course do not exist in the real-world, and are purely imaginary; nonetheless and nevertheless, cultural remediation is indeed possible, and if implemented, will take societies and cultures to their next logical level, and to a higher level of performance. The term utopia is contrasted with dystopia; the latter represents a culture in its pits; in a rudimentary and a barbaric state.⁹

➤ Cultural Taxonomy

One possible and meritorious approach to identifying cultural bottlenecks is by preparing what is widely and commonly known as a “cultural taxonomy”. We had discussed the concept of a cultural taxonomy multiple times in our previous paper, though we will do so again in this paper in the interests of greater clarity and purpose. Cultural taxonomy classifies culture on the basis on their geographic, material, and chronological distributions. Such classification can then widely aid in further scientific study. Some commonly used examples of cultural taxonomies include that of Edward Hall's Taxonomy which focuses on key cultural factors such as context, time, and space, and Hofstede's Taxonomy which analyzes national cultures in the workplace. Taxonomy itself is the approach and a technique of classification, identification, and naming closely related or interrelated objects. It involves organizing related objects things into a well-organized hierarchical structure of classes, which are also known as “taxonomic units” or simply “taxa”. It is also the science of classification, identification, and naming. The usage of taxonomies is not limited to culture or living beings alone. They are used to classify a variety of different things, including living beings or organisms as in botany or zoology, papers, files, and documents, and audios or videos. From the point of view of this paper, it goes without saying that a cultural taxonomy is most important. It also helps identify the interrelatedness between things easily, and the schema more easily. It also makes classifications much easier, and much more user-friendly. Among the earliest scientists to adopt taxonomies widely was Carl Linnaeus, the eminent Swedish

biologist and physician who also incidentally formalized binomial nomenclature.

We had also discussed the entire approach of cultural classification in a previous paper. For example, each culture can have many subcultures. Each Culture or sub-culture then may also have subcategories or subclasses. Examples of subcategories within a culture include language, religion, music, symbols, art, folklore, cinema, marriage, drama, cuisine, other aspects of tradition etc. Culture may also consist of material items such as cars, buses, trucks which etc. form an inalienable part of every culture. While building a taxonomy, all dimensions of a culture such as values, norms, principles, dogmas, philosophies, attitudes, symbols, traditions, ideas, beliefs, ideologies, and artifacts should be included. Cultural taxonomies are important because they allow for analyses to be performed, and bottlenecks suitably identified as a starting point of an analysis.^{10 11}

➤ Comparative Method

The comparative method in social and cultural anthropology is a widely used technique for comparative analysis. To put it in layman's terms, it is a systematic approach that is used to study cultural and social aspects of different types of cultures across the globe. This approach can help us understand and throw vital clues as to how societies evolved and the disparity of conditions that led cultures to evolve the way they did. This approach and this technique can also throw vital insights into human behavior and cultural evolution. This approach was pioneered by several early anthropologists such as Lewis Henry Morgan and Edward Burnett Tylor but was later used by several other social and cultural anthropologists to perform cross-cultural comparison. We also believe and will argue that this method, approach and technique is not as widely used as it should be, and has potentially very widespread application. The steps involved in the comparative method include identifying cultural traits or phenomena to be studied, select societies to be compared with similar or different traits, performing an analysis of the similarities and differences in the data collected, drawing conclusions about societal development and diffusion of traits, etc. comparisons adopted may include synchronic or cross-cultural comparisons, or diachronic or time-based comparisons. Both are unique in their own way, and differ in terms of strategy and technique. The comparative method is based on the core philosophy and the core idea that understanding other societies and cultures can help us better understand one's own society and culture. Therefore, this

¹⁰ Judd, W. S.; Campbell, C. S.; Kellogg, E. A.; Stevens, P. F.; Donoghue, M. J. (2007). "Taxonomy". *Plant Systematics: A Phylogenetic Approach* (3rd ed.). Sunderland: Sinauer Associates.

¹¹ Walker, P. M. B., ed. (1988). *The Wordsworth Dictionary of Science and Technology*. W. R. Chambers Ltd. and Cambridge University Press

⁹ *Utopia: The History of an Idea* (2020), by Gregory Claeys. London: Thames & Hudson

approach and technique can help us understand cultural bottlenecks as well, and then eventually seek out steps to overcome them. The latter is of course, not possible without the former.^{12 13}

➤ *High Low Analysis (of Values) and Dimensional Analysis*

In a previous paper that we had published a couple of years ago, we had attempted to identify personality attributes or traits that would operate in relation to a given culture, and apply to them. These would naturally represent or indicate either the mean or most common i.e. modal values of people in a specific culture. Therefore, many different types of meaningful analyses are possible including the computation of mean values for a particular culture, dimensional analyses, analysis of value distributions, computation of metrics such as standard deviations, identifying and assessment of outliers and non-conformities, and an analysis of drift (or change) in values over a period in time. Analysis across dimensions such as age, gender, income groups would also constitute another useful analysis, with major resultant downstream benefits. This would naturally help us identify cultural bottlenecks too, by probing and investigating the root causes of differences. As a matter of fact, dimensional analysis is extremely important for this purpose, and from this point of view, and must be accompanied by a thorough investigation as to the causes of variations, and movements in values. For this purpose of this analysis, and point of view of this analysis, positive attributes or traits may include attributes and traits such as the following: - Honesty - Truthfulness - Sincerity - Capability and capacity for hard-work - Obedience - Optimism - Dynamism - Creativity - Future-orientation - Discipline - Methodical approach - Punctuality - Perfectionism - Affection towards others; While on the other hand, negative attributes or traits may include - Pessimism - Cynicism - Ego - Jealousy - Greed - Snobbishness - Past-orientation - Contempt or derision toward others. Values for these may be plotted through the use of suitable quantification techniques.

Quantification techniques are commonly used to quantify qualitative techniques; this is one approach we might want to use here, and we have plenty of methods, tools and techniques available at our disposal. For example, we have Likert's scale. Likert scales represent a structured approach for researchers to gather a diverse set of opinions and attitudes on a given issues. Such scales typically allow respondents to express their agreement, disagreement, or neutrality concerning statements or questions. A five point scale or a ten point scale is typically and most commonly used. In many if not most domains in science and engineering, root cause analysis (also commonly known as RCA in short) refers to a method of problem

solving used for identifying the root causes of faults or problems. RCA can and must be used in relation to the above. RCA involves a series of distinct steps such as identifying and describing the problem clearly, establish a clear timeline from point of deviation of the normal situation until the problem occurs, distinguishing between the root cause and other causal factors, and establishing a causal graph between the root cause and the problem. This technique is often used in correlation with Pareto analysis, (for identifying relative importance of problems) cause and effect analysis, and fishbone diagrams or Ishikawa diagrams. The latter is represented diagrammatically and resembles a fishbone, hence the name. In addition, in the Six Sigma process and methodology, failure modes and effects analysis is also used, besides several other tools and techniques that are integral and intrinsic to six sigma methodology.^{14 15 16}

➤ *Foundationalism*

Foundationalism is a very important concept that needs to be borne in mind by the social scientist and the researcher, and holds that all forms of knowledge and justified beliefs are built on the foundation of non-inferential knowledge or justified true belief. Foundationalism as we see and understand it, has many profound implications in diverse fields such as scientific method and pedagogy. Foundations can be identified by tracing backward linkages, and also sometimes by performing a root cause analysis. Therefore, for example, we had postulated that Economics must be founded in Anthropology, and that twenty-first century historiography must form the basis of historiography. Likewise, many concepts in pedagogy such as time and space encapsulation would also be generally built on the principles of foundationalism. This concept is similar and akin to pulling something up by its bootstraps, so that the maximum downstream impact may result. The principles of foundationalism can be used to identify cultural bottlenecks, and identify the core causes of a cultures successes and failures too. As a matter of fact, this is the whole and sole purpose and objective of foundationalism from the point of view of this paper.¹⁷

➤ *Analysis of Cultural Orientation*

In an earlier paper, we had spoken about the “Seven Cultural Orientations” which are listed down below. These

¹⁴ Montgomery, D. C. (1991). *Design and analysis of experiments*, 3rd ed. New York: Wiley.

¹⁵ Hart, K. M., & Hart, R. F. (1989). *Quantitative methods for quality improvement*. Milwaukee, WI: ASQC Quality Press. Santosh: Pre Press

¹⁶ Juran, J. M. (1962). *Quality control handbook*. New York: McGraw-Hill

¹⁷ Building upon “Foundationalism” to achieve the objectives of contemporary science: How this can lead to faster scientific progress and inclusive science Sujay Rao Mandavilli IJISRT, October 2024

¹² Korotayev, A. (2004). World religions and social evolution of the Old World Oikumene civilizations: A cross-cultural perspective. Edwin Mellen Press

¹³ Renfrew, C., & Bahn, P. (2012). *Archaeology: theories, methods and practice*. Thames and Hudson

were past-orientation versus future-orientation, the internal or external orientation of society including xenophobia and xenocentrism. We had also then spoken about rigid or flexible cultures, individualistic versus collective cultures, material and non-material orientation, contentment versus innovation, rational-orientation versus non rational-orientation, etc. It is expected that cultural orientations of societies may change or evolve in due course, and the Cultural Anthropologist has a core and a crucial role to play here in making this happen. This aspect would be crucially and critically tied to cultural bottlenecks, and cultural performance as well, and must be borne in mind by the cultural anthropologist at all times for identifying cultural bottlenecks. These concepts must also be understood in relation to our already developed concepts of mindspace, thought worlds, mind-orientations, and worldviews. All these necessarily go hand in hand, because changing one will cause a downstream consequential effect, and a ripple effect in another. Changing any one of these productively or meaningfully has the potential to move the culture in question to a much higher trajectory or to a much higher level.¹⁸

➤ *Analysis of Mind Orientation*

The theory of mind-orientation, we had argued, could be one way of assessing the patterns of cultural and social change in society, along with the effective modification of attitudes. Mind-orientation as we saw it, referred not only to the thoughts, beliefs and values an individual in a society fills up his mind with, but also how he acts upon them to orient his attitudes, and direction in life, in such a way that could impact or effect his performance positively or negatively. We had argued that mind-orientation could be shaped by parenting and upbringing, peer-pressure, education and schooling, the effects and impact of multi-media, societal constraints and restrictions besides socio-economic status. Some of these factors are relatively more strong than the others which may be relatively or comparatively weak. Of course, the strength and weakness of each of these factors may also vary on a case to case basis. We had also additionally spoken about the different types of mind-orientation such as family-orientation, business orientation and religious orientation. Mind-orientation and cultural orientation are linked to each other both bi-directionally, and in multiple ways, and both of course impact cultural performance either positively or negatively.

➤ *Identification of Paradoxes*

During the process of identification of cultural bottlenecks, we must also always be on the lookout for inconsistencies and paradoxes which may either be internal or external i.e. lying within the entity, or spanning across entities; this concept is fairly important, and we had devoted and

dedicated an entire paper to it, plus almost half an entire additional paper. We had also discussed and debated the different types of paradoxes and the different classifications of paradoxes, which are somewhat irrelevant from the point of view of the principles of this paper, and are therefore given a wide berth. A paradox may be defined as a logically self-contradictory statement or a statement that comprises internally (and logically) contradictory parts. Removing or eliminating paradoxes and other forms of internal inconsistencies will elevate a culture to a much higher level, and improve cultural performance as well. We must also always look for consistency and coherence at all times, and internal and external validity as well. Consistency is the characteristic or attribute of always behaving or performing in a predictable way, or in an expected way.¹⁹

➤ *Evaluation of Cultural Performance*

This is an important and a potentially powerful concept that has not been analyzed or understood adequately in the sociological or cultural anthropological world- or so at least we believe. We believe this has the potential to become an area of focus and an important area of study in future if taken seriously by scholars and researchers. This field of study must be executed and accomplished by scholars and researcher from all over the world for maximum impact. Both emic and etic perspectives must be employed, and we had discussed all these concepts as well, along with different types of emic and etic approaches. Cultures must be assessed, analyzed and understood in terms of their actual real world performance such as scientific or technological output, (which are different forms or manifestations – even outcomes - of cultural output) and in relation to both anthropological and non-anthropological factors such as those that we have been discussing off and on in our previous papers. This observation concurs very aptly with our general idea that anthropological studies must be rooted and mired in ground-realities, and must not represent only esoteric viewpoints.

In addition, they must be combined with, if not made intrinsic to economic theory. Suitable metrics and measurements may be devised for the same including comparative ones, and those representing a trend analysis, and causes for high and low values investigated and probed further. Analyses of the pace of cultural change and sociocultural change may also be initiated, and root causes for high or low performance probed and investigated wherever necessary, as these may throw up a list of cultural bottlenecks, and evaluation and analysis of high performing cultures, and well as an evaluation and analysis of low performing cultures be performed resultantly and consequently. Analyses of cults, and ideologies associated with the culture in question may also

¹⁸ Advocating output criteria based scientific and research methodologies: Why the reliability of scientific and research methods must be measured based on output criteria and attributes Sujay Rao Mandavilli IJISRT, August 2023

¹⁹ Paradox identification and paradox resolution in scientific endeavour: Reconciliation of contradictory rulesets in the interests of better theorization and hypothesis-building Sujay Rao Mandavilli IJISRT, January 2024

be explored, including religion(s). This paper is also extremely closely related to our paper on the certainty uncertainty principle, foundationally and in many more ways than one. Kindly read our papers “Elucidating the Certainty uncertainty principle for the Social Sciences: Guidelines for hypothesis formulation in the Social Sciences for enhanced objectivity and intellectual multi-polarity”

We had used this technique to quash racism as well. To find out how and why we did this, and how we articulated this, read the paper “Quashing racism: Presenting the ‘Comprehensive sociocultural persecution complex’ as a logical extension and a practical application of the Certainty uncertainty principle for the social sciences”. Also read the paper “Elucidating the Certainty uncertainty principle for the Social Sciences: Guidelines for hypothesis formulation in the Social Sciences for enhanced objectivity and intellectual multi-polarity”. All these papers are correlated in a continuous chain. Also read our papers on the sociological ninety ten rule which may throw further light on the concepts in this paper as well as our other papers on scientific method. Cultural performance in the case of emigration and transnational scenarios are also discussed elsewhere in this paper. Therefore, the entire paper (the paper in its entirety) must be taken as a whole for the purpose of a comprehensive and a meaningful analysis. Cultural performance must also be linked to economic performance, and a root cause analysis performed. Also read our paper on anthropological economics for this purpose. The name of the paper is “Introducing Anthropological Economics: The quest for an Anthropological basis for Economic theory, growth models and policy development for wealth and human welfare maximization”. Two other extensions of this paper were also published in 2024.^{20 21 22 23 24}

²⁰ Elucidating the Certainty uncertainty principle for the Social Sciences: Guidelines for hypothesis formulation in the Social Sciences for enhanced objectivity and intellectual multi-polarity Sujay Rao Mandavilli IJISRT, March 2023

²¹ Quashing racism: Presenting the ‘Comprehensive sociocultural persecution complex’ as a logical extension and a practical application of the Certainty uncertainty principle for the social sciences Sujay Rao Mandavilli IJISRT, September 2023

²² Elucidating the Certainty uncertainty principle for the Social Sciences: Guidelines for hypothesis formulation in the Social Sciences for enhanced objectivity and intellectual multi-polarity, Sujay Rao Mandavilli, IJISRT, 2024

²³ Unveiling the Sociological Ninety-ten rules for Social Sciences research: Towards better hypothesis formulation in the Social Sciences in the interests of higher quality research and intellectual multi-polarity Sujay Rao Mandavilli Published in IJISRT, February 2023

²⁴ Introducing Anthropological Economics: The quest for an Anthropological basis for Economic theory, growth models and policy development for wealth and human welfare

➤ *Multi-Dimensional Analysis: Disparity of Ethnic Groups in the UK*

Another approach and another technique is to analysis the performance – both economic and non –economic based on a variety of economic, social and cultural indicators (the last two are also extremely important from our perspective) of a cultural group, or individuals belonging to a cultural group, in diverse contexts and in diverse settings. This approach and this technique can be used to formulate meaningful takeaways. Let us now take the example of the United Kingdom. Indians, Pakistanis, and Bangladeshis are doing fairly well in the UK, with Indians leading the pack, and Bangladeshis trailing. Households with an Indian, Pakistani or White British head had the highest property ownership and asset-based wealth, and were also relatively better off in terms of earnings of income or economic performance. Those with Black or Caribbean ancestry were relatively worse off, and so were Roma gypsies. This kind of an analysis must be interfaced or meshed with levels of educational attainment of various ethnic groups, as well as the levels of opportunity available to them. Indians do relatively better abroad than they do within an Indian context or an Indian setting, though that may change with the passage of time as the overall Indian economy improves, and as future generations of Indians probably get more laid back in the West. Indians in the UK also do not tend to be as highly educated as they are in the USA. There is also the danger of illegal migration into the UK, some of it from India, and this has prompted the “stop the boats” campaign. This kind of an illegal immigration is likely to increase in future. Cultures are also not static; they are dynamic and ever-evolving. They synthesize with other cultures, as a result of which new cultural equations emerge. It remains to be seen how the next generation of Indians, or any other ethnic group for that matter, performs in the UK, or elsewhere. Indian migration to the UK began soon after India won its independence from Britain; Gujaratis too migrated to Uganda and elsewhere – mostly rich ones as businessmen, but were booted out from there by the then notorious dictator Idi Amin, and then fled to the UK mostly, but also elsewhere. While using this technique, therefore, a wide variety of issues need to be factored in, and brought into the mix for a complete and a comprehensive analysis.

➤ *Multi-Dimensional Analysis: Disparity of Ethnic Groups in the USA*

White families' average wealth in the USA was significantly higher than that of Black families and Hispanic families. The figures for immigrants tend to vary widely based on ethnicity and country of origin. Asian Americans tend to do well, and among Asian Americans, Indians have done rather

maximization, Sujay Rao Mandavilli, ELK Asia Pacific Journal of Social Sciences Volume 6, Issue 3 (April –June 2020)

well- even ahead of Chinese, Taiwanese and Filipinos. Some have even considered them to be a model minority. However, there is a problem of illegal immigration into the USA, both via its border with Mexico, and via the Canadian border in the north. Indians would normally not be expected to cross into the USA illegally, given the vast distances, but that picture is now changing. Many take the Dunki route via South and Central America, and cross via the Darien gap. Even the Chinese are now beginning to reach the USA this way. This pattern of illegal migration has been the subject of Hollywood and Bollywood blockbusters as well, and has caught on in the public and in the popular imagination. Indians may do better in the USA only because the elite and the cream of the cream migrate. They may also do better because they face more challenging situations back home. Whatever the case and the cause may be, a suitable root cause analysis needs to be performed under any circumstances to identify the cause of economic differentials between various ethnic groups.^{25 26}

➤ *Ethnography*

The term ethnography is widely used in the social sciences particularly, and most notably in social and cultural anthropology, where it also equates with fieldwork and the participant observation method. The term is of course said and thought to have originated from the ancient Greek term “ethnos” meaning “folk, people, nation” and “grapho” which means “to write”. In the past couple of centuries or so, most notably, the concept evolved to describe an analysis of cultures – alien and exotic- or more recently non-alien and non-exotic, mostly through prolonged exposure to those cultures in durations of around one year to eighteen months, typically. Both emic and etic approaches are typically used, and this approach can throw a great deal of light on individual cultures provided objectivity and rigour are pursued with passion and with gusto. Ethnography is therefore a typically and a mostly qualitative approach, though quantitative data is often brought into the mix as well, for analysis. Gerhard Friedrich Muller first developed the concept of ethnography as a separate and a distinct discipline during the Second Kamchatka Expedition, but the discipline is generally seen to have come of age in the 1920’s with the works of Bronislaw Malinowski and AR Radcliffe Brown when the technique was much more formally introduced. We had proposed a variant of the method in our 2018 paper “Presenting the ‘Structured and Annotated Participant-driven Appraisal’ technique in Ethnography: Towards the universal realization of Multivocality in Ethnographic studies”. We had also written extensively about long-term ethnography and its uses, besides introducing the technique of the ethnography of enculturation. All these we believe have the potential to greatly revitalize the field, and can be used to present and dissect cultural portraits

too, besides identifying cultural bottlenecks. The names we believe, are self-suggesting and self-explanatory, though we strongly recommend a readership of these papers.^{27 28 29}

➤ *Sociocultural Groups and Socioeconomic Groups*

From our perspective, a country, a culture or an economy, may be subdivided into sociocultural groups which is the largest unit of analysis from our perspective. Socio-cultural groups are identified by taking into account and consideration social and cultural factors. Socio-cultural groups may then be further broken up into socio-economic groups such that each socio-cultural group comprises one or more socio-economic groups. A socio-economic group is something we had proposed, conceptualized and defined in some of our previously published papers, particularly on anthropological economics. Crudely and simply defined and explained, it is nothing but a group emerging from the interaction (and intersection) of various social and economic factors. A socioeconomic class is therefore determined and defined after taking into account, a group’s economic and social status especially in relation to other socioeconomic groups. Defining characteristics of socioeconomic status may include common factors and aspects such as employment, education, and income. Sometimes, age and gender are also factored into an analysis, but there are no rigid rules, and the requirements of different studies are often the sole determining factors for categorization. In other words, the entire population of a country or a culture is broken up or subdivided into socioeconomic groups for the purposes of our study. Sociocultural groups and socioeconomic groups can then be used for the purpose of a meaningful cultural analysis, including an analysis of cultural performance, and a root cause analysis performed as well. At the same time, we must evaluate the presence or absence of intellectual classes – we had discussed both these concepts in our previous papers. This will throw some vital clues and vital insights on the cultural maturity of the culture in question, or the lack or absence of it. This is of course primarily performed by analyzing the causes of variations between groups. Therefore, and resultantly, a listing

²⁷ “Presenting the ‘Structured and Annotated Participant-driven Appraisal’ technique in Ethnography: Towards the universal realization of Multivocality in Ethnographic studies” Sujay Rao Mandavilli ELK's International Journal of Social Science Vol 4, Number 4, 2018

²⁸ Introducing Long-term Ethnography: Positioning Long-term Ethnography as a valuable tool for longterm Ethnographic research Published in IJISRT Volume 7 Issue 7 July 2022 Sujay Rao Mandavilli

²⁹ Postulating ‘Ethnography of Enculturation’: A high-level overview of various social science research techniques that can be used to study human enculturation processes, Sujay Rao Mandavilli, IJISRT July 2023

²⁵ John Keay (2011), *India: A History*, 2nd Ed - Revised and Updated, Grove Press / Harper Collins

²⁶ Sharma, Usha (2004). *Cultural and Religious Heritage of India*. Mittal Publications, 2004

of cultural bottlenecks will inevitably and invariably result.³⁰
³¹ ³²

➤ *SWOT Analysis*

The concept of a SWOT analysis finds many widespread uses in both strategic planning and strategic management. SWOT analysis (which people also sometimes call SWOT matrix), refer to a decision-making technique that seeks to identify the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats of an organization or project. Therefore, as per this analysis, the following are identified. Strengths and weaknesses are internal, while opportunities and threats are external.

- *Strengths*: characteristics of the culture that may give it a distinct advantage over others.
- *Weaknesses*: characteristics that put the culture at a disadvantage relative to other cultures.
- *Opportunities*: elements in the environment that the culture might be able to exploit to its advantage.
- *Threats*: elements in the environment that could prevent that culture from realizing or attaining its full potential.

Internal factors may include human resources, physical resources, financial resources, cultural baggage, legal, political and environmental factors, while external factors may include the macro environment and international reputation. Sometimes, the PESTLE analysis is used in the corporate world, but is less relevant for our purpose.³³

➤ *GINI Coefficient*

In economics, the Gini coefficient is a commonly used statistical measure. This measure is sometimes also known as the Gini index or Gini ratio, and is a measure of statistical dispersion that seeks to represent the income inequality,

the wealth inequality, or the consumption inequality within a nation or less commonly a social or cultural group using a Lorenz curve. To reiterate and recapitulate, a Lorenz curve is a graph that shows the distribution of wealth or income within a population. This measure i.e. Gini coefficient was developed by Italian statistician and sociologist Corrado Gini. Therefore, according to this metric, a Gini coefficient of 0 reflects perfect equality, where all citizens have the same income or wealth, while a Gini coefficient of 1 reflects maximal inequality among values, and a hypothetical if somewhat highly unrealistic (if not outright impossible) situation where a single individual in the economy has all the income while all others have none. Root cause analyses may be performed to investigate inequalities, and this may translate to – or reveal – cultural bottlenecks as well. There are many other factors that can count or matter as well, including the percolation of technology and the democratization of technology, but these are strictly non-cultural factors.

➤ *Surveys*

Survey research is a research method that employs standardized questionnaires or interviews to collect data about people and their ideas, thoughts, preferences, proclivities, tendencies, and other behavioral patterns that are not otherwise self-evident, observable, or easily quantifiable and measurable, in an organized, methodological and in a systematic manner. Survey method may be variously used for descriptive, exploratory, or explanatory research, and we had discussed all these in a previous paper. This method and technique may be both judiciously and beneficially employed for the study of both individuals and dyads – organizations, and groups of individuals as well. Survey techniques are classified into two primary categories, namely questionnaires and interviews.

➤ *Interviews*

In-depth interviews are intrinsic to social science research as well, and we may fruitfully, beneficially, and productively utilize and employ them as necessary. These are in technical terms, a form of qualitative data collection with many potential uses and benefits because they allow individuals to shed and explain, from their own experience, how they understand and interpret the world around them. Interviews can often be superficial and can be combined with other social science research techniques as well. Interviews as understood from the lens of social science research, may be classified into structured research, semi-structured research and unstructured research. The names are mostly self-explanatory, and need for further elucidation. Sometimes, group interviews may also be taken; these can be more representative of the characteristics and attributes of the culture as a whole. In addition, we may also propose, if somewhat controversially, and relatively less convincingly, that interviews with community leaders, and interviews with vested interest groups also be carried out as far as practically possible.

³⁰ Introducing Anthropological Economics: The quest for an Anthropological basis for Economic theory, growth models and policy development for wealth and human welfare maximization, Sujay Rao Mandavilli, ELK Asia Pacific Journal of Social Sciences Volume 6, Issue 3 (April –June 2020)

³¹ Measuring economic performance against “Cultural limits” and “Anthropological limits”: Techniques and strategies for better economic planning and economic modeling Sujay Rao Mandavilli This paper is based on my paper on Anthropological economics and has been published directly in Social Sciences Research Network (SSRN) in July 2024

³² Delineating “Cultural limits” and “Anthropological limits” as central theorems in the social sciences: Some more useful and practicable techniques for social sciences research Sujay Rao Mandavilli This paper is based on my paper on Anthropological economics and has been published directly in Social Sciences Research Network (SSRN) in July 2024

³³ Helms, Marilyn M.; Nixon, Judy (August 2010). "Exploring SWOT analysis—where are we now? A review of academic research from the last decade". *Journal of Strategy and Management*. **3** (3): 215–251

➤ *Questionnaires*

Questionnaire surveys are widely used in social studies too, and are somewhat more formal than interviews, though this is by no means a hard and a fast observation. A questionnaire is merely a ‘tool’ for collecting and recording information about a particular topic or area of interest for further downstream analysis. It contains a list of questions, but also includes a clear set of instructions and designated spaces for answers and additional comments. The objective of the questionnaire should also be clearly explained upfront as far as possible, and an introductory letter included. Questionnaires must be logically broken down into different sections, and tips and guidelines be provided wherever possible. Open ended questions may also be avoided as far as possible, and the preparer of the questionnaire must think through the various possible answers and the outcomes. While questionnaires are mostly postal, telephonic questionnaires or face to face discussions are also sometimes used, though less commonly. From our perspective and point of view, questionnaires can also be used for cultural analysis and in order to determine cultural bottlenecks.

➤ *Use of both Emic and Etic Perspectives*

Emic and etic are two approaches to research and analysis that are commonly employed in social science research. This categorization has been current since at least the 1960’s. There are, in other words, terms that are used to describe two different approaches to studying human culture and assess human behavioral patterns. Emic perspective is the insider’s perspective, which approaches the culture from within. In other words, it is an inside out approach. Emic research focuses on studying a culture in detail and in depth, by leveraging the words, articulations, perceptions, and beliefs of its members. An etic perspective on the other hand, is an outsider perspective, in other words, what unconnected aliens think or feel about a certain culture. Both these approaches have their plus points and minus points, and may be used either in isolation, or combined, and together for maximal effect. We had discussed different types of emic and etic such as representative emic or etic, non-representative emic or etic, dominant emic or etic, non-dominant emic or etic, etc. Refer our paper on cross-cultural research design for further clarity and information.

➤ *Proper and Judicious Research Design*

A research design provides a blueprint for the study being performed or carried out. It also lays out the aims, goals, and objectives of the proposed study that is to be carried out. It also decides what areas of study need to be emphasized, and what may be left out from the study. It also helps anticipate potential problems, and how to address them. It includes in its purview and scope, various types of research methodologies, tools, and techniques which are used to conduct and perform the research. It is also used to achieve the requisite level of internal and external consistency, and is employed with equally efficacious results, both in qualitative and quantitative

research, and in structured or semi-structured research too. Additionally, either experimental or quasi-experimental research design may be used, with the creation and operationalization of control and experimental groups. Therefore, sound research methodology is also extremely important to achieve the goals of this paper. We had also proposed that cross-cultural research design be performed and carried out as far as possible, in order to achieve and accomplish the goals of this paper. An analysis of power structures also of course needs to be performed – we have yet to emerge from the shadows of colonialism from many domains and spheres of public life.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

A literature review performs and executes a formal review and a formal summary and evaluation of already published (or, in a small number of cases, yet unpublished) works on a specific topic. The objective of a literature review is to demonstrate the researcher’s understanding of the research that has already been carried out in the field of study. Sources of study or analyses may include journal articles, monographs, books, reports, dissertations and theses. Literature reviews may also be traditional or narrative, systematic, meta-analysis (data from multiple analyses), and meta-synthesis. Literature may also be classified as primary sources, secondary sources, and tertiary sources (summaries, etc). Based on this, research may be classified into primary research, and secondary research. As a part of literature review, discourse analysis and document analysis may also be performed. We had discussed both these previously. Literature review is extremely useful for identifying and picking out cultural bottlenecks, and weaknesses in relation to a particular or a given culture.³⁴

➤ *The Ten Enablers as per our Approach to Cultural Change*

The following are the ten enablers as per our already developed approach to analyzing sociocultural change which we had more or less aptly referred to as the “Proactive-interactive-symbiotic approach to long-term cultural change”. From our perspective, these may also be referred to as facilitators and are necessary to varying degrees if change has to be effected or orchestrated, and the internal synergies and strengths of any society have to be tapped, harnessed and fulfilled. These will also mirror and shadow the maturity of the society in question, and can help us to identify cultural bottlenecks as well. We must also put aside all forms of disingenuous bickering here, and promote rock solid data-driven traditions. This is in spite of the fact that we have had concepts such as the “Clash of civilizations” put forward in the past. We must however, strive to surmount all these eventually. This is also one of the core

³⁴ Initiating “discourse analysis” as a tool to differentiate between science and pseudoscience: Another valuable tool to advance objectivity and rigour in science Published IJISRT, June 2024, Sujay Rao Mandavilli

takeaways of this paper, and the core takeaways of our previous papers as well.^{35 36 37 38 39}

- The strength of governmental institutions, the legal framework etc: These are extremely important of a country is to succeed economically or technology. Countries like Venezuela are however considered failed states, and this is reflected in the collapse of the government apparatus. India has thankfully built more robust government institutions, at least more strongly than other countries such as Pakistan, and this has been reflected in its success.
- Technological empowerment: Technological empowerment is extremely important, and India has done well in some aspects. For example, India's e-payment system is considered to be fairly robust. In some other areas such as the utilization of technology for education, India is doing relatively less well, and has a long way to go still.
- Educational systems and language policy: We have been discussing educational systems and language policy off and on in our previous papers, read them for greater clarity. India has been taking baby steps to improve its education system, but still has a long way to go.
- The cults, ideologies, thought worlds, and belief systems associated with a culture: These play a crucial role to in determining cultural success, and the absence of them can play a major role in propelling a culture to an altogether higher trajectory. The role played by religion in many if not most societies is gradually decreasing now, though we believe that the rate of change can only be relatively slow given that it still plays a major and a crucial role in public and in private life.
- Economic policy and economic infrastructure: This can

play a crucial role to in determining cultural success, and along with free market reforms, bottom up or trickle up approaches to economic development are extremely important. These can naturally be game changers, and can propel the society ahead.

- Social inclusivity and strength of social institutions: Social inclusivity and strength of social institutions are also extremely important, and we have discussed examples of such institutions previously.
- Physical infrastructure: Physical infrastructure is also extremely important, but India is still lagging behind badly here with incremental improvements happening in the recent past. This is extremely important from our perspective, though by no means in determining a culture's or a society's all-round success and comprehensive progress.
- An assessment must also be made of a culture's value system: A culture's value systems including parenting, family values, enculturation patterns are also extremely important, and we have dwelt upon them in great depth previously. Some of these are inevitably attached to progress, while many others are not.
- Harmony with nature: Environmental and ecological policies can play a role too in determining a culture's success. While this is relatively less important, it is important still, and has barely been robustly analyzed or realized.
- Social security: Social security needs to be built up over time. India is already taking baby steps in this regard, while Scandinavian countries are a lot more advanced here, and may even be regarded as welfare states. We had discussed the characteristics of a good social security system previously as well, though other economists, researchers and thinkers must build upon them.

³⁵ Ankerl, Guy (2000). *Global communication without universal civilization*. INU societal research. Vol. 1: Coexisting contemporary civilizations: Arabo-Muslim, Bharati, Chinese, and Western. Geneva: INU Press

³⁶ On the origin and spread of languages: Propositioning Twenty-first century axioms on the evolution and spread of languages with concomitant views on language dynamics Sujay Rao Mandavilli ELK Asia Pacific Journal of Social Science Volume 3, Number 1 (2016)

³⁷ Towards a comprehensive compendium of factors impacting language dynamics in post-globalized scenarios: Presenting principles, paradigms and frameworks for use in the emerging science of language dynamics Sujay Rao Mandavilli ELK Asia Pacific Journal of Social Sciences Volume 6, Issue 3 (April–June 2020)

³⁸ Developing cogent strategies for the lexical development of non-dominant languages: Empowering linguistic have-nots and maximizing linguistic performance Sujay Rao Mandavilli IJISRT, July 2024

³⁹ Observations on language spread in multi-lingual societies: lessons learnt from a study of ancient and modern India, ELK Asia Pacific Journal of Social science, 2015, Sujay Rao Mandavilli

➤ Core Drivers of Sociocultural Change

Per our approach, the following are the core drivers in any sociocultural transformation, and these will play a key role in determining the pace and direction of any sociocultural change. The cultural orientation of a society can play a major role as well, as can also individual mind orientations. Read our work on the symbiotic approach to sociocultural change as well, and also do read Hofstede's cultural dimensions theory.^{40 41}

- Forward-looking culture (Less reliance on traditions): Cultures like India are relatively more traditional, though this may eventually change. Forward-looking cultures are however, usually much more readily associated with progress and change.

⁴⁰ Whorf, Benjamin Lee (1941). "The relation of habitual thought and behavior to language". *Language, Culture, and Personality: Essays in Honor of Edward Sapir*

⁴¹ Taylor, Walter (1948). *A Study of Archeology. Memoir 69, American Anthropological Association*. Carbondale IL: Southern Illinois University Press

- Outwardness of a society and awareness of other cultures: Countries like India have traditionally been more inward looking, though there has been some change in the recent past. An openness of cultures has been canonically and typically be associated with change, prosperity and progress.
- Individual assertiveness, aspiration and ambition: Cultures like India are characterized by family values, and collective thinking, though this is slowly changing now. Cultures like the USA are more traditionally associated with pragmatism and individualism. Such stereotypical characterizations may vanish and evaporate as cultures talk to each other more, or blend and assimilate with each other more.
- Importance given to achievement by the members of a society and overall attitude towards development: Achievement orientation is also extremely important, though it may be assessed and measured by sociocultural groups, and socioeconomic groups. There is a wide variation across cultures here, as some cultures are more reserved or laid back, though this may change with the passage of time.
- Value attached to material progress: Countries like India have been traditionally been more religious and spiritual, though this is slowly changing now. People are now slowly getting more and more ambitious, and are also adopting western values or norms.
- Hard work: Some cultures attach a higher degree of importance to hard work, and some others, less so. The latter may be referred to more laid back cultures. Stereotyping and generalizations are in general extremely bad and counter-productive ideas, and that is why we had developed the concept and the principle of the sociological ninety ten rules in the first place.
- Risk-appetite of individuals in a society: Individuals in some societies are more risk taking, while some others less so. Risk taking and adventure, is, in the view of many, if not most, an essential prerequisite for material and non-material progress, and success as well. There could be exceptions always, some by sociocultural groups and socioeconomic groups, and some at an individual level as well.
- Importance given to innovation: Some cultures are relatively more innovation driven ones, many others relatively much less so. These attributes could make a world of difference as well. Innovation indices are being published with increasing and unfailing regularity, and India's performance leaves a lot to be desired. The performance of a host of other developing countries is not much better either.
- Acceptance of ideas having an external origin (Cultural receptivity): Cultural receptivity and openness to other cultures and the ideals of other cultures are extremely important too, as this leads to the positives of other cultures being imbibed. There are concepts such as xenophobia and xenocentrism as well, and readers may

bear these in mind as well. We had analyzed and discussed these threadbare previously, and readers can refer to the internet for more information as well.

- Desire to challenge existing ideas and paradigms: This is also an essential prerequisite for change and progress, as cultures must keep inventing and reinventing themselves all the time. Dogma and tradition are however, often inimical and antithetical to these.
- Social and cultural adaptability: Some cultures are relatively more flexible, while some cultures are not. This can make a world of difference in the success or the failure of such cultures.
- Democratic social structures and absence of class differentiation: These are also extremely important for the success of a culture or a society. India has relatively strong political structures and that is why it has succeeded. Its class and caste system is also much less rigid than before, and is slowly evaporating.
- Avocations and pastimes of individuals in a society with particular emphasis on learning: Some cultures are knowledge centric and education centric, while some others (if not most others) are not. Indians are increasingly attaching a great deal of importance to education, though progress is not uniform, as there are many outliers and laggards.
- Thrift and spending patterns: Thrift and spending patterns also play a major role in the success of a society. Indian society's spending patterns are more conservative with an emphasis on saving (credit is also frowned upon), though this may indeed change with the passage of time.
- Cultural pride and desire to see the society develop: Cultural pride and desire to see the society develop are also extremely important for a culture or for a society to succeed, though this is often barely acknowledged by intellectuals, thinkers and planners. This can, needless to say, become an important motivational and transformational factor.

➤ *Integration with our Paper on the Structured Apperception Tests for Sociocultural Change*

We must also attempt and accomplish an integration of this paper with our paper on the structured apperception tests for sociocultural change which we had rolled out some time ago. As we noted, the core objectives of this test are to study different forms of socio-cultural change in diverse contexts and situations, and derive meaningful conclusions there from. Thus, as a part of this approach, different types of "events" (which in our definition is an idea or an associated or inter-related set of ideas) which can cause or induce what we had called "Eureka points" and "Mini Eureka points" in order to accomplish and realize a major downstream effect through epiphany or the Damascus effect must be tested out on a trial and error basis before a shortlist is made. Read our paper on the structured apperception tests for sociocultural change for greater clarity. The name of the paper is "Towards scientific apperception tests for twenty-first century social sciences

research: Formulating ‘Structured apperception techniques for socio-cultural change’ in twenty-first century social sciences research”, and it was published in 2023. Of course, our approach must also be integrated with pedagogy and education, and must be intrinsically and integrally built into the process of pedagogical reform. This has indeed a huge downstream effect, and will also be compatible with the general doctrine of foundationalism.

III. CONCLUSION

This paper was almost entirely built and based upon several of our earlier published papers that dealt with the symbiotic approach to sociocultural change, and extended them meaningfully and productively in new directions. We had done this by proposing different types of tools and techniques that could be used in identifying cultural bottlenecks, and could also therefore be used to usher in, or bring about a faster pace of sociocultural change to boot. We had therefore, aptly and appropriately begun this paper by carrying out a brief overview of our earlier papers on sociocultural change, and by briefly laying down their various concepts and postulates. Subsequently, and resultantly, various tools and techniques for identifying and overcoming cultural bottlenecks were also proposed and critically analyzed. These included an alignment with a cultural taxonomy, a comparative method to compare cultures, a high low analysis of values, a root cause analysis of cultural performance, analysis of cultural orientations, an evaluation of cultural performance by laying down metric and measurements and analyzing the pace of sociocultural change, etc. We then also briefly discussed ethnographic techniques that could be used to evaluate cultures, including long-term ethnography and the ethnography of enculturation. Likewise, social science research methods, and components of research design were also reviewed, besides some other approaches to identifying and analyzing cultural bottlenecks. We hope and anticipate that this paper will become a useful cog in the machine to bring about faster sociocultural change, and will become an intrinsic part of our globalization of science movement as well that will lead to better quality science.