



# INTRODUCTION TO ANTHROPOLOGY

**ANTH 101**  
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## Types of Food Production



1. A revolution in the way people fed themselves developed between 12,000 and 10,000 years ago after millions of years during which hunting and gathering was the *only* basis for human subsistence.

This was the **Agricultural Revolution** of man, and it included domestication of animals and plants.

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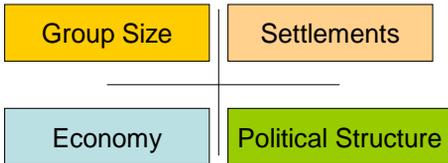
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## Types of Food Production



2. The importance of food production lies in the fact that how a society gets its food may effect its:



see Table 11-1

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## Types of Food Production

3. Essentially **four different food production adaptations** have emerged in human civilization:



**a. Food Collection (hunting/gathering)**

(← 10kya and back)

**b. Pastoralism (raising animals)**

(~10kya – present)

**c. Farming (horticulture, agriculture)**

(~10kya – present)

**d. Intensive Farming** (1900 – present)

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## Types of Food Production

**a. Food Collection (Hunting/Gathering/Fishing) societies typically:**



- a. are small;
- b. are seasonally nomadic;
- c. are “egalitarian” (a type of ‘primitive communism’);
- d. practice “balanced reciprocity” (give and take).

**Example Culture:**

The [Inupiaq Eskimos](#) of Alaska ([pic](#))



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## Types of Food Production

**b. Pastoralist (animal husbandry) cultures have:**



- a. at least 50% subsistence from herd animals (e.g. cows, goats, reindeer)
- b. larger, more settled groups than foragers;
- c. trade reliance.

**Example culture:**

The [Sami](#) of NW Scandanavia;

The [Nuer](#) of Ethiopia. ([vid](#))



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## Types of Food Production

### c. i. Farming – Horticulture



- Relies on simple technology
- Settled populations
- Economies of surplus
- New techniques:
  - 'Swidden' horticulture (slash and burn)
  - Irrigation
  - Animal and tool labor
  - Fertilizers



**Example Culture:** The [Dani](#) of New Guinea

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## Types of Food Production

### c.ii. Farming - Agriculture



- The [difference between horticulture and agriculture](#) = **scale** *horti-* means 'garden'  
*agri-* means 'field'
- Technology more integrated into farming practices than horticulture
- Creates large surplus
- Creates population growth and social stratification



**Example culture:**

The [Afghanis](#) of Afghanistan

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## Types of Food Production

### 3.d. Intensive farming = Modern farming

- i. CAFOs (Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations)
  - [Cattle farming](#) (Michael Pollan, NY Times)
  - [Pig farming](#) (John Robbins, *Diet For a New America*)
  - [Chicken farming](#) (Sierra Club)



- ii. Commercial fishing
  - Declining ocean population articles [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#)
  - on [Marine Protected Areas](#)

- iii. Side effects: [deforestation](#), [erosion](#), [health](#), [food safety](#)

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## Review: Types of Food Production

The importance of food production lies in the fact that how a society gets its food may effect its:



Group Size

Settlements

Economy

Political Structure

Domestication and civilization brought forth new types of human organization, the social institution. **A social institution is an organization of large numbers of people into formal relationships governed over by social norms, rules, and laws.** Examples of social institutions are the Family, Education, Religion, *Economy and Politics*.

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## Economic Systems



Once **new food production techniques** were invented, surplus food eventually became available which **led to the first trading relationships.**

These **trading relationships are called "distribution systems"** by anthropologists and there are generally three kinds...

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## Economic Systems

### 1. Distribution Systems



Throughout history, social groups have exchanged goods and services based on **three basic types of distribution:**

- a. *Reciprocity*
- b. *Redistribution*
- c. *Market or commercial exchange*

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## Economic Systems

### a. **Reciprocity consists of giving and taking without the use of money.**



#### i. **Generalized (or Delayed) reciprocity**

- Long-term expectation on return; typical of foraging societies like the !Kung.

ex: Birthday gifts

#### ii. **Balanced reciprocity**

- Short-term expectation on return; a **barter system**

ex: Christmas gifts;

ex: [The Kula Ring](#) - Trobrianders of New Guinea;

ex: the [Koha](#) practice of the Maori

ex: the [Kwakiutl](#) (NW Native American) [potlatch](#) (video)

#### iii. **Negative reciprocity:** when the exchange benefits one more than the other

#### **Social class effect: leveling**

Reciprocity may be used as a **social leveler**, so that **power is shared** amongst the group or tribe – ex: The *!Kung* ridiculed Lee; Trobrianders exchange *symbols of social status*

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## The Kula Ring of the Trobriand Islands



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## Economic Systems

### b. **Redistribution is take and give.**



It is **the accumulation of goods or labor by a particular person or in a particular place, for later distribution.**

Ex: Native granaries (food insurance)

Ex: [Direct taxation](#)

**Social class effect:** Redistribution can be important in societies that have developed / are developing a **political hierarchy**, because **power defines the haves and have-nots** (video: [Chiapas cargo system](#))

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## Economic Systems

### c. Market (or Commercial) Exchange is “gimme mine!”



#### i. Resembles balanced reciprocity, but an intermediate step is involved.

##### Money system:

- Intervening in the barter system is **money**. The first monetary systems trace back to the origins of civilization (~3,500 B.C.E.).

##### Why was money created?

- When trade or barter needed to become more *efficient* (and thus more *competitive*). Also, money is linked to political control and the development of language.

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## Economic Systems

### c. Market (or Commercial) Exchange



#### ii. Market: exchanges or transactions in which the “prices” are subject to supply and demand, whether or not the transactions actually occur in a commodity marketplace.

Advanced market ideology states that anything can be bought and/or sold, such as transactions of labor, land, energy, water (see *The Corporation* 1:40:30 – 1:44:30), credit, information, and now even *the blueprint of life itself* (for example, genetic copyrighting has become important to intensive agricultural).

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## Economic Systems

### c. Market (or Commercial) Exchange



#### iii. Markets created “consumer societies” by creating “false needs”

a. Complex societies create “**false needs**” and fulfill them via complex marketing (Herbert Marcuse 1961). The creation of false needs depends on:

- Vast surplus** (all true needs are satisfied; extra income needed);
- Marketing devices** (advertisement creates desire);
- Leisure time** (used to enjoy the new ‘diversions’).

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**THE CORPORATION**

**Topic: contemporary global corporatism**

**THE CORPORATION** is the dominant institution of our time. This gives it the power to ignore law in a way that individuals cannot. (see film, 35:30)

Questions that arise from an investigation of corporations:

Is [profit overcoming](#) all other desires and emotions? ([gold](#))

Is [corporate "plundering"](#) justified or even sustainable?

Is it our responsibility to see [beyond our workaday lives](#)?

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