



## Concept of Culture

Throughout the process of human history, diverse cultures have developed in different geographic points of the planet, and each within the framework of their own time. Although there have existed cultures and civilizations that have tried to annex others for their own development, in some cases imposing an imperial hegemony, the human being has never before been in such a situation of becoming culturally integrated at a planetary level.

Culture can be understood as the set of responses generated by a human group throughout its process of adaptation in order to satisfy its physical, social, psychological and spiritual needs in relation to the conditionings and determinisms of their environment (natural, social and technological) and the times. The cluster of expressions that arise thereof constitute "cultural objects".

Culture is not simply a reflexive response to external conditionings and determinisms. It is most importantly the expression of human intentionality. A culture takes into account past personal and social experience, the landscape and natural conditions in which a people was formed, their productions (their art, tools, architecture, forms of production, ways of organizing, etc.), as well as their aspirations, beliefs, myths, spirituality, and codes for relationships. These tangible and intangible elements are configured in such a way as to transform existing conditions, while expressing those values that give direction and meaning on a personal and collective level.

This accumulation of historical memory which we call culture passes from generation to generation, being transmitted in many forms, and in this way that which is culture becomes acquired. For this reason, the deeper aspects of a culture may be hard to detect but they can be revealed through deepening dialogue, since culture is also the "lens" through which the world becomes interpreted.

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