

Abd Arrahman Mira University Bejaia
Faculty of social and human sciences
Department of social sciences
Academic year 2020/ 2021

Teacher: MAMMERI

Semester One

Module: English

Level: master 2

Lesson 3: The most known figures in Sociology

1- Emile David Durkheim

French, Jewish philosopher and Sociologist Emile Durkheim was born at Epinal, Lorraine (France), on April 15, 1858 following a long family tradition, he began as a young man to prepare himself for the rabbinate, while still in secondary school , he discovered his vocation for teaching and left Epinal for Paris to prepare for école normale , which he entered in 1879.

From 1882 to 1885, Durkheim taught philosophy in several provincial lycées. A leave of absence in 1885-1886 allowed him to study under the psychologist WILHELM WAUNDT in Germany, in 1887, he was named the lecturer in education and sociology at the University of Bordeaux, a position raised to a professorship in 1896, the first professor of sociology in France.

Durkheim 's doctoral thesis "**The Division of Labor**" appeared in 1893, Emile began by distinguishing two types of "solidarities", "mechanical," and "organic", then he studied "**suicide**" and reasons that push individuals to commit "suicide".

Emile Durkheim was the founder of 20th century Sociology, and who developed vigorous methodology for understanding and analyzing society.

Durkheim died in Paris on November 15, 1917.

2- August Comte

The French philosopher August Comte (1798-1857), developed a system of positive philosophy, he held that science and history culminate in new science of humanity to which he gave the name "**Sociology**".

August was born in Montpellier, he entered école polytechnique in 1814, and proved himself a brilliant mathematician, and scientist. He developed a theory called "**positivism**" as a term is usually understood as a particular way of thinking.

August Comte died in obscurity in 1857.

3- Karl Marx

Karl was born on May 5, 1818, a Prussian political, economist, journalist and activist, the author of the seminal works “**The Communist Manifesto**”, and “**Das kapital**” influenced generations of political leaders and socioeconomic thinkers, also known as the father of communism .Marx was educated at home by his father until high school, and in 1835 at age of 17, enrolled at Bonn university in Germany, where he studied law.

Karl was much more interested in philosophy and literature; he graduated with his doctoral degree in 1841.

While Marx remained relatively unknown figure in his life time, his ideas and the ideology of Marxism began to exert a major influence on sociologist movements.

Karl Marx died on March, 14, 1883 in London.