

Peasant Worldview

PEASANT SOCIETIES

1. MORE COMPLEX TECHNOLOGIES

- *SEDENTARY*
- *CASH ECONOMY, MARKETS*
- *AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC INSECURITY*
- *EXPLOITED BY CITIES*

2. STRONG GROUP ORIENTATION

- *ETHNIC GROUPS AND/OR
SOCIAL CLASSES*

3. MANY GROUPS

- *EMERGENCE OF A SOCIAL SYSTEM
INTEGRATING DIFFERENT GROUPS*

ECONOMIC SHIFTS

Goods \leftrightarrow Goods

Goods \leftrightarrow Cash \leftrightarrow Goods

Cash \leftrightarrow Goods \leftrightarrow Cash

Cash \leftrightarrow Cash \leftrightarrow Cash

4. HIERARCHY

- *GROWING INEQUALITY***
- *RISE OF A DOMINANT GROUP***
- *EMERGENCES OF AN EXPLOITED UNDERGROUP (SLAVES, SERFS, ETC.)***
- *OPPRESSION OF THE LOWER GROUPS BY THE UPPER GROUPS***

5. ORAL AND LITERATE SEGMENTS

- *EXPLOITATION OF ORAL PEOPLES BY THE LITERATE***

6. GROWING SPECIALIZATION

7. "LIMITED GOOD"

8. FESTIVALS AND RITUALS A HEAVY FINANCIAL BURDEN

- *TAXED OF SURPLUS, SO SPEND ON FESTIVITIES, DON'T DISPLAY WEALTH***

9. HIGH RELIGION + FOLK RELIGION

- PERSISTENCE OF ANIMISM

***- EMERGENCE OF UNIVERSAL LITERATE
RELIGION THAT IS INSTITUTIONALIZED***

ORAL

- **face-to-face: immediate, personal**
- **involved, transactional, feedback**
- **limited to a few**
- **time and space bound–transient, short lived.**
- **cognitive, affective, evaluative**
- **store in stories, riddles, rituals, songs, dramas, proverbs, memories,, poetry**
- **think in terms of concrete functional logic**
- **high context – local**
- **believe what is told to you by authorities**
- **belief in the invisible**
- **circular logic**
- **‘hot’**

LITERATE

- **impersonal – detached from author**
- **no feedback**
- **low context: collapses time and space**
- **enduring: stored in inscriptions and writing**
- **mono-dimensional--mainly cognitive**
- **linear logic**
- **homogenizing**
- **open to literate--many and diverse**
- **'cold'**

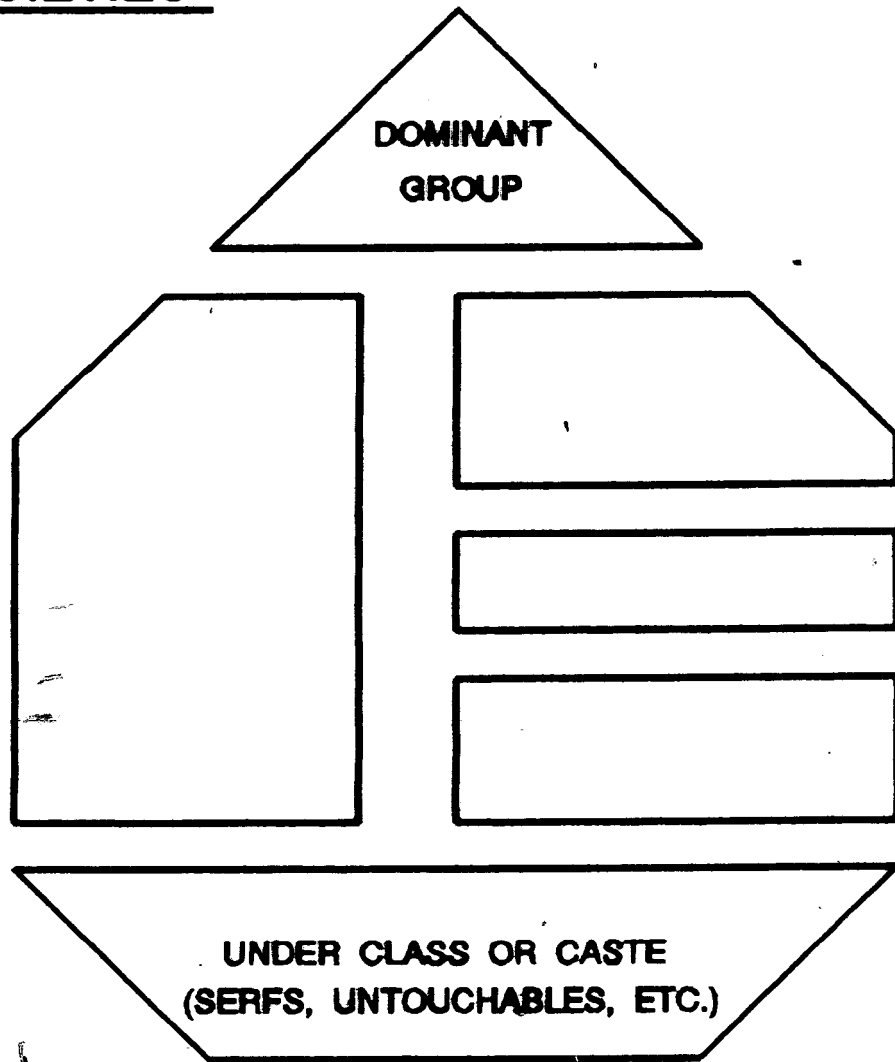
ORAL

- personal, relational
- transactional
- multivocal
- paramedia
- immediate
- nonlinear logic
- fluid
- cog, aff., eval.
- transient
- local
- diversity

LITERATE

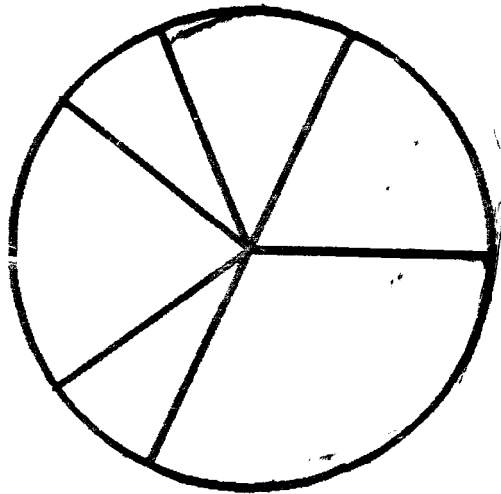
- impersonal,
- detached
- monovocal
- delayed
- linear logic
- fixed
- cognitive in focus
- stored
- cuts across time/space
- homogeneity

PEASANT SOCIETIES



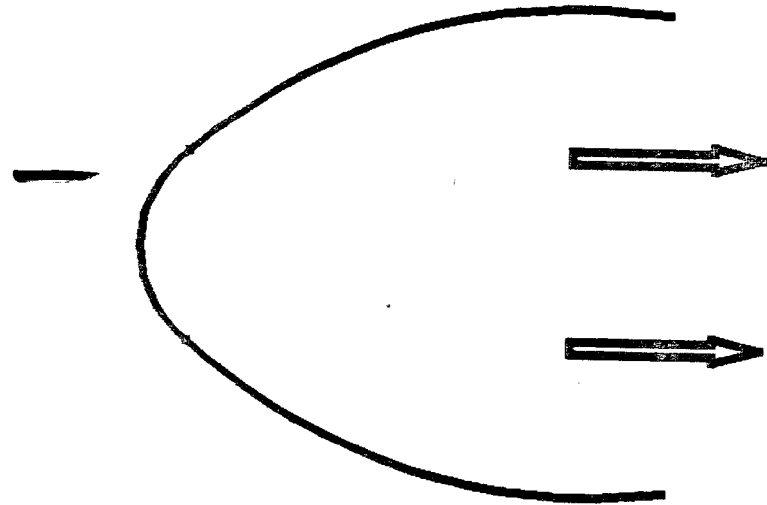
CONCEPT OF "LIMITED GOOD"

1. Limited Good:



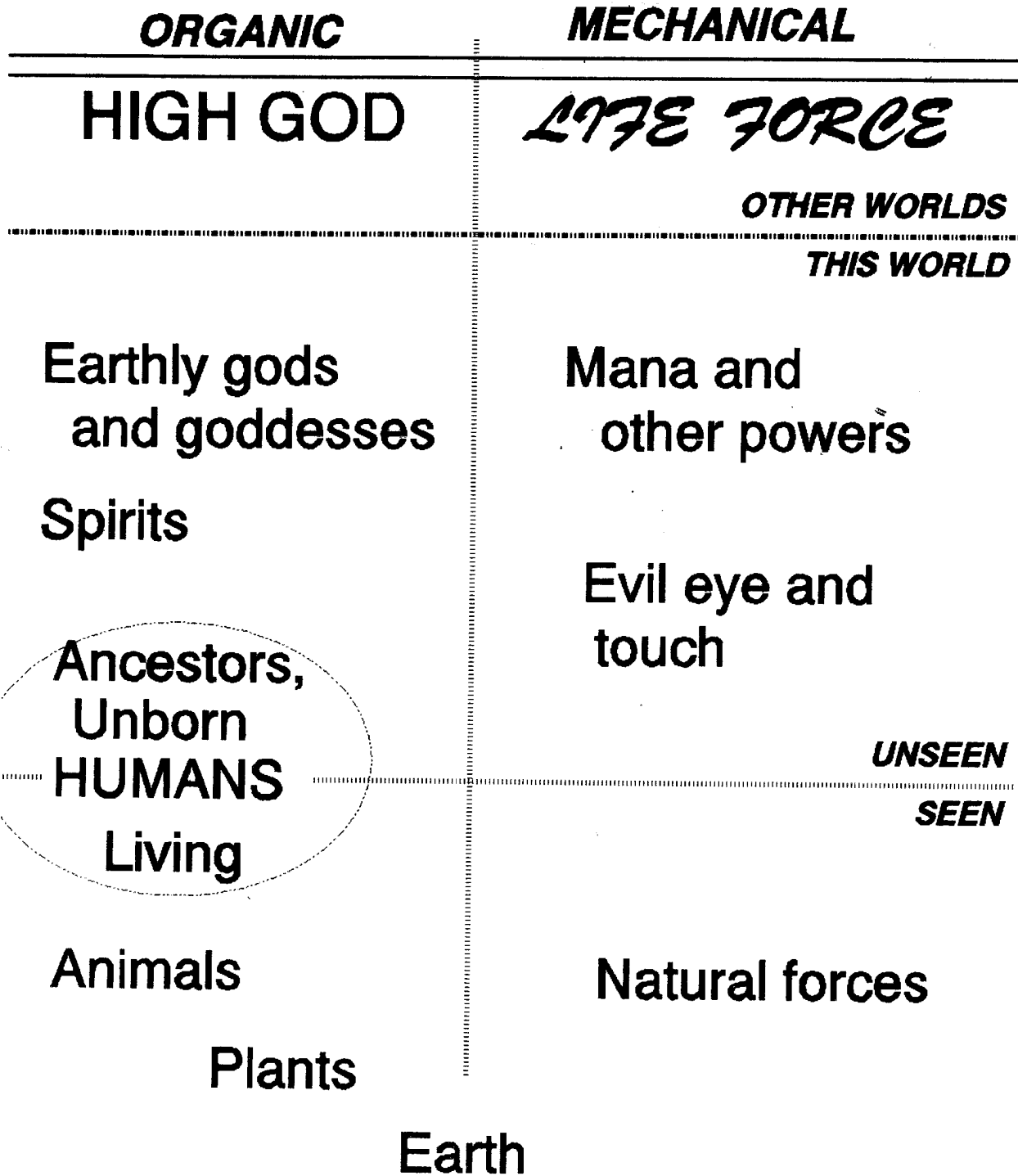
- all valuable resources such as land, friendships, and money are limited.
- your gain is at my expense.

2. Unlimited Good:

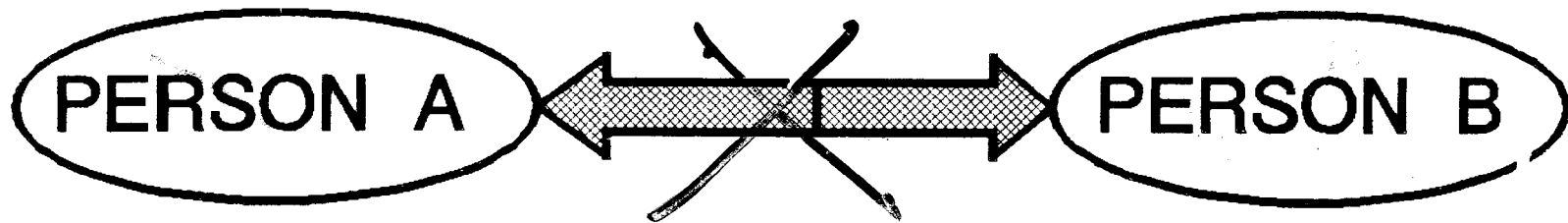


- resources are not limited, there are 'new frontiers.'
- your gain is not my loss.

TRIBAL BELIEF SYSTEMS

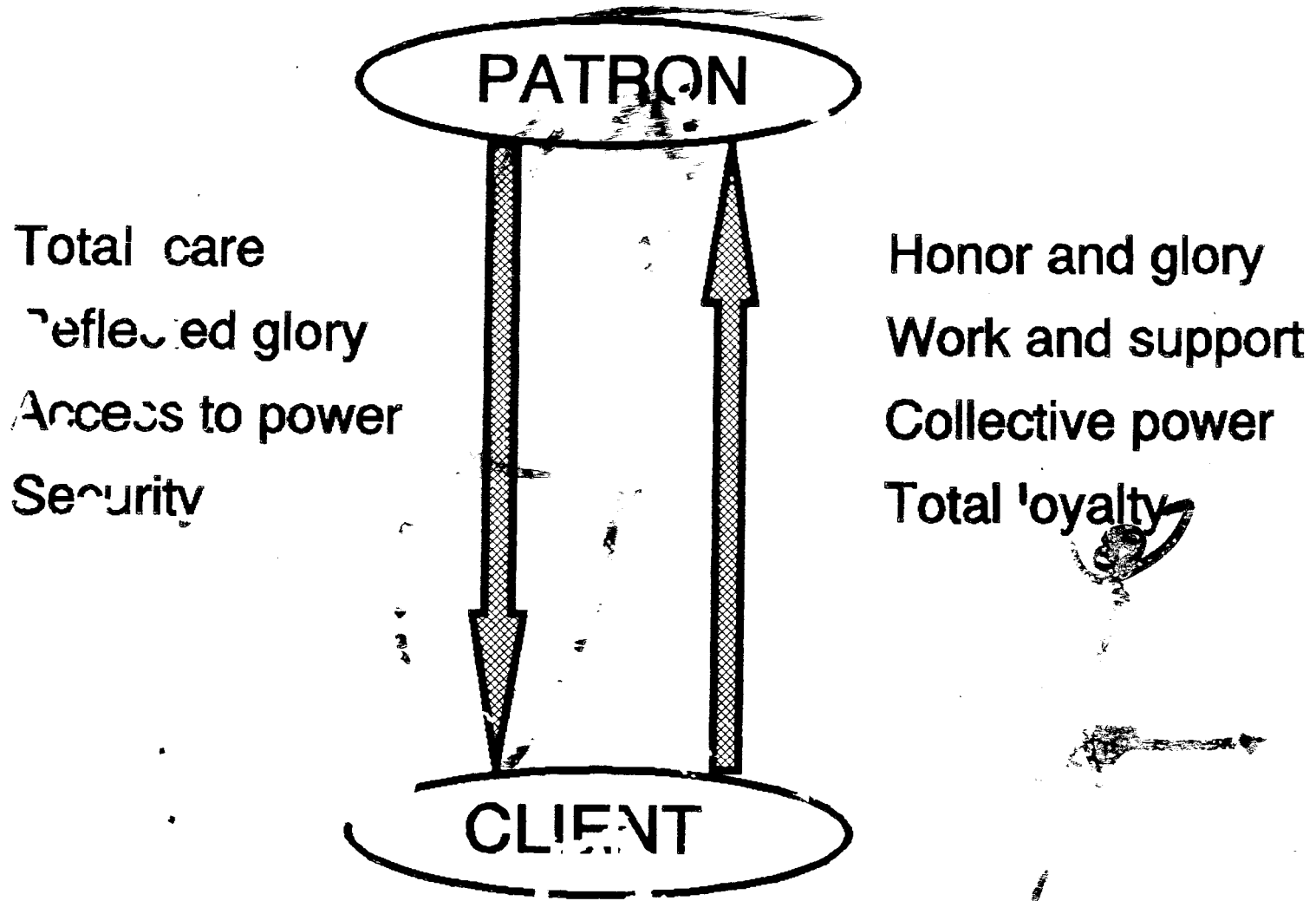


CONTRACT SYSTEM



- Individuals are equal, autonomous persons.
- Both profit from the relationship about equally.
- Each may break the relationship.
- The relationship is based on choice and contract.

PATRON - CLIENT SYSTEM



***CONTRACT
CULTURE***

A ↔ B

EQUALITY

INDEPENDENCE

CONTRACT

**AUTONOMOUS
PERSON**

***PATRON-CLIENT
CULTURE***

***A
↑
↓
B***

HIERARCHY

DEPENDENCE

OBLIGATION

**RELATIONAL
PERSON**

UNDERSTANDING RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF PATRON AND CLIENT

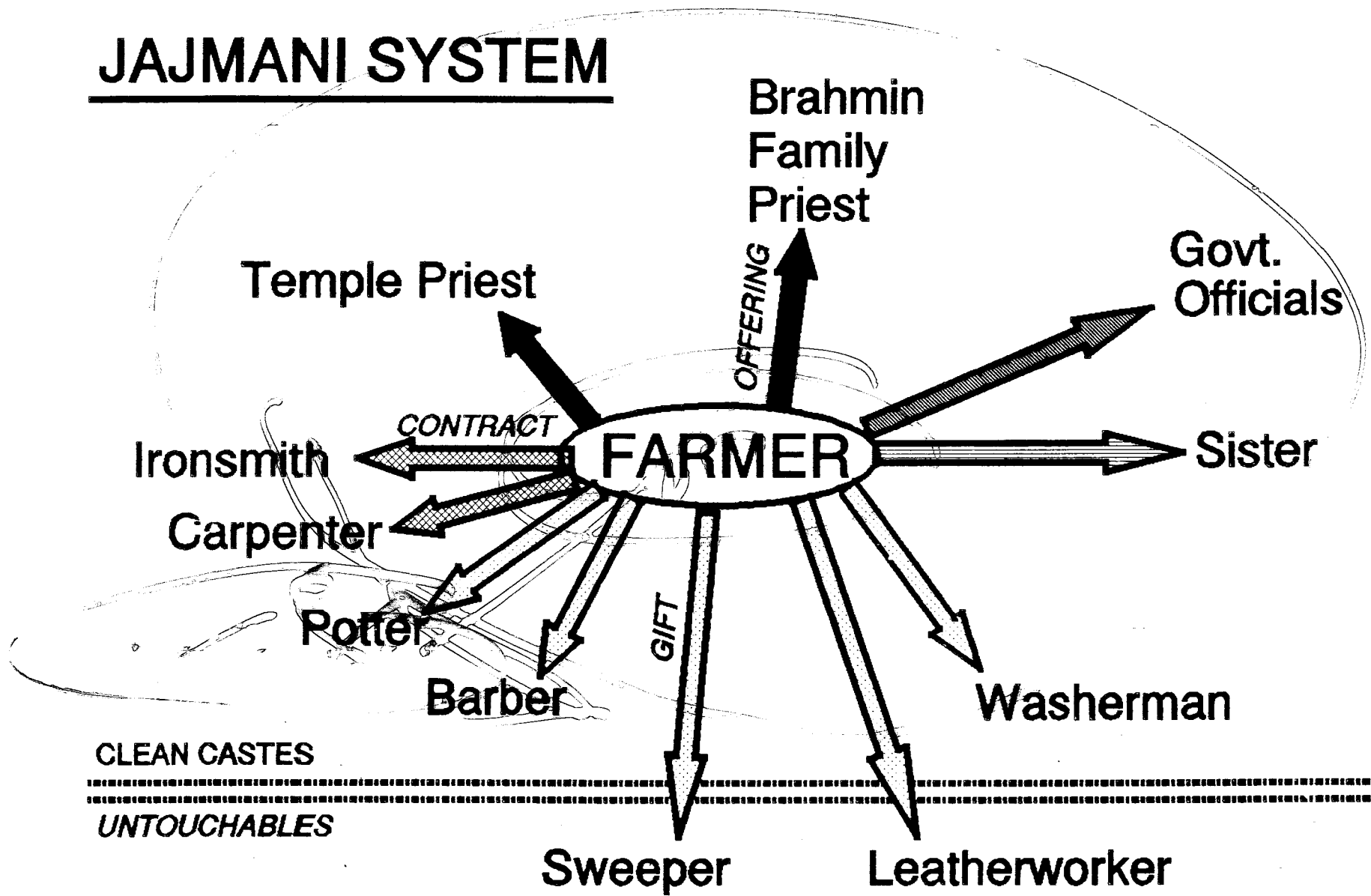
PATRON

- food
- festivals
- weddings
- funerals
- health
- cloths
- schooling

CLIENT

- loyalty
- service
- honor-praise
- work
- faithfulness
- security

JAJMANI SYSTEM



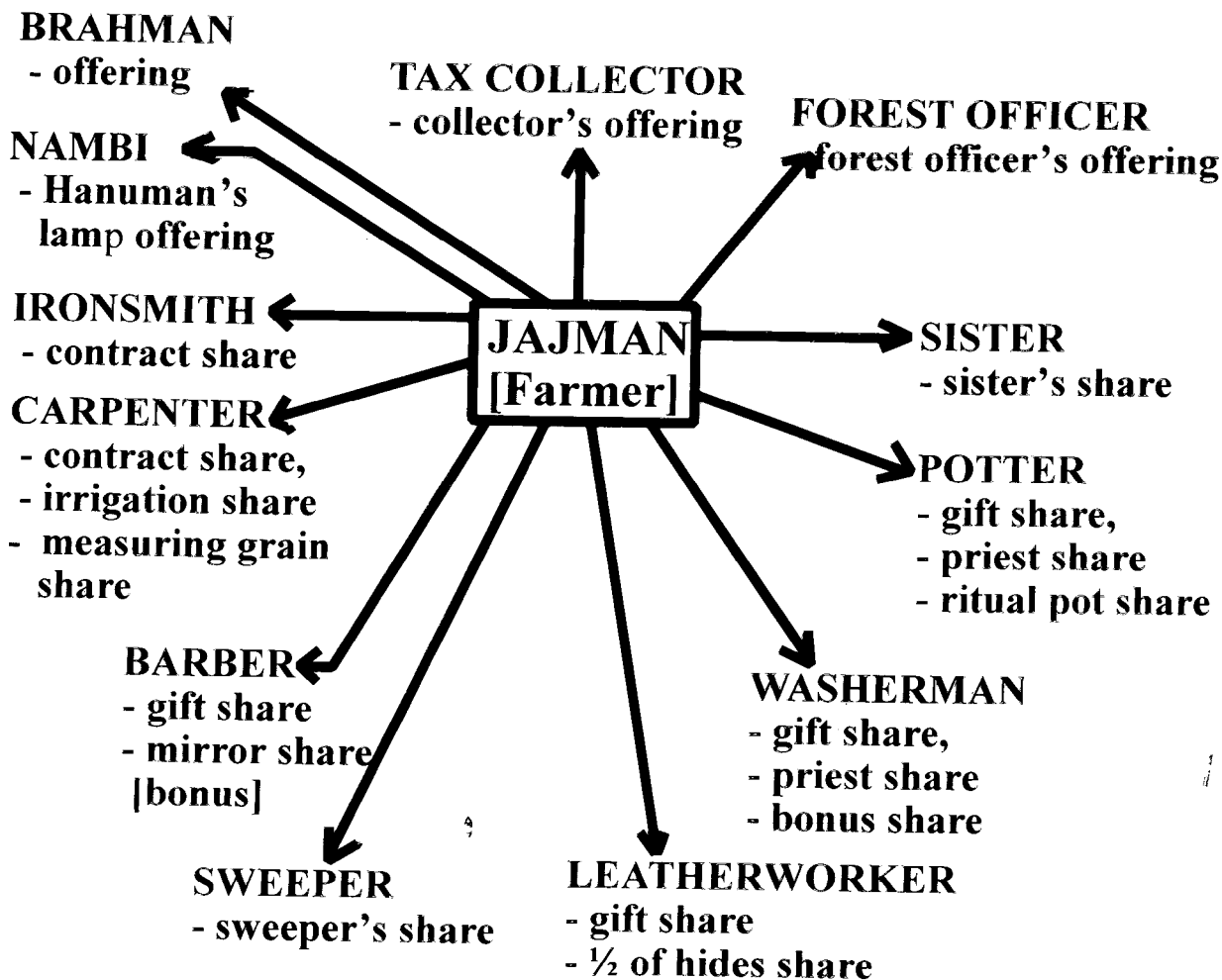
ECONOMIC SYSTEMS: *Jajmani*

SUPERIOR
- offering

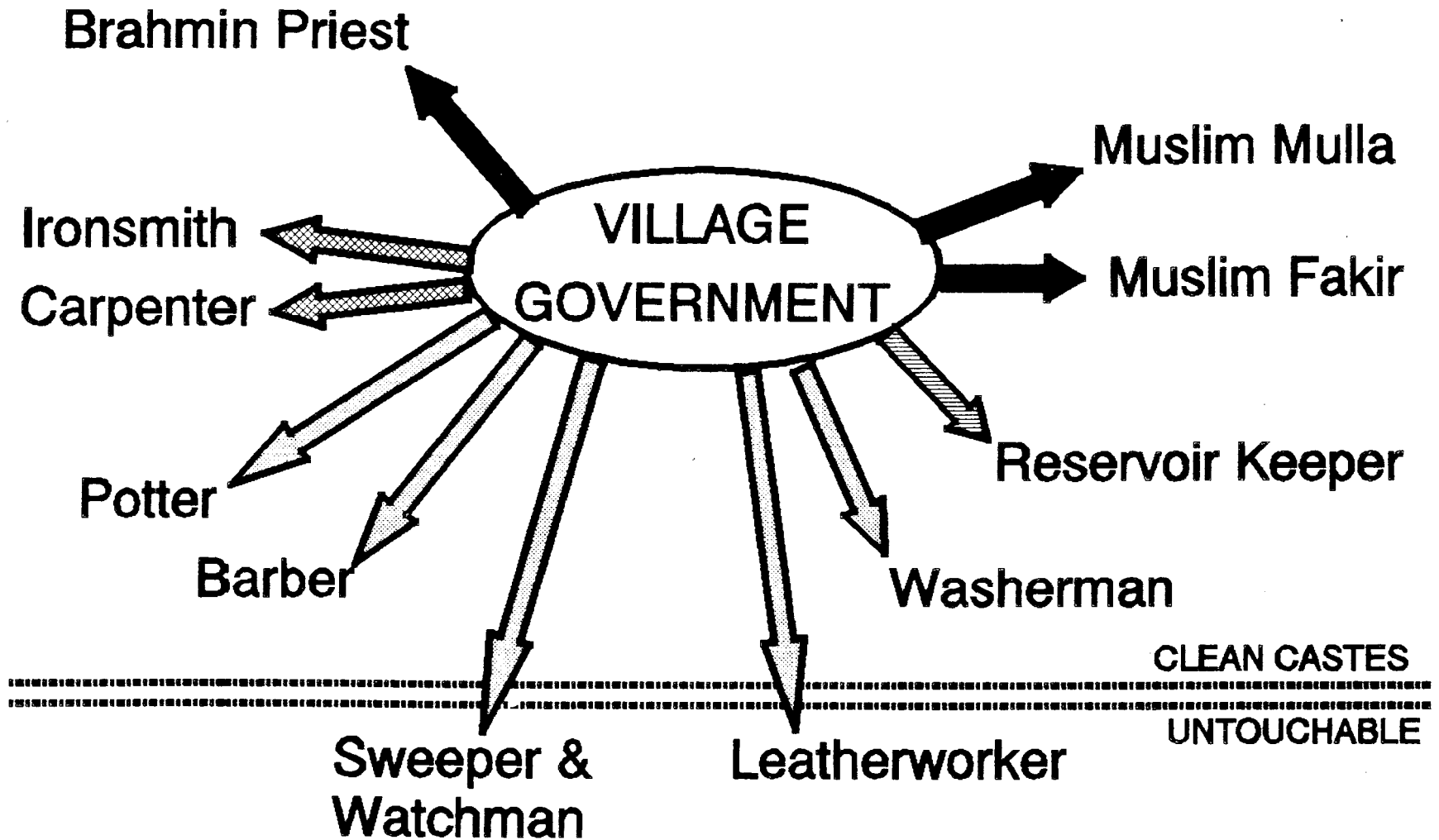
EQUALS
- contract shares

SUBORDINATES
- gifts

UNTOUCHABLES
- gifts



BEGARI SYSTEM



SYSTEMS OF ECONOMIC DISTRIBUTION

1. GIFT EXCHANGE:

- *gifts, awards, gratuities, bribes*
- *sacrifices, offerings*
- * to develop relationships
- * to distribute property

2. REDISTRIBUTION:

- *patron-clientage*
- *taxes and redistribution*
- *corporate ownership*
- * redistribute wealth to needy

3. MARKET EXCHANGE;

- *barter, contractual trade, banking*
- * economic gain

MISUNDERSTANDINGS IN PARTNERSHIP

ECONOMIC WORLDVIEWS

REDISTRIBUTION

Patron-Client

Envy, jealousy

We are stewards—trust us to use the resources wisely

Resources are distributed by the patron who must take care of all his people

Danger of using funds for one's own purposes

They are uncaring. They are our older sisters/brothers

MARKET

Contract

Sense of failure

We are accountants—we must use resources for the purposes agreed on

Resources are distributed according to impersonal set of criteria and procedures

Danger of stealing and misappropriation of funds

They are ungrateful, we are doing all we can

LENDING RULES: Patron-Client

- **borrow to reinforce relationships**
- **patrons should lend to clients—they have more**
- **borrowers must repay only when the lender needs the money more than they**
- **lenders must ask for repayments**
- **borrowers only make partial repayments**
- **before paying off a loan, borrowers make a bigger loan to keep the relationship**