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Anthropology short notes

Paleolithic

UPSC Civil Services (Main) Examination · Anthropology Paper 1 · Anthropology GS 1 (Paper I)

(i) Paleolithic

Short notes by official syllabus heading.

Revision notes for the Anthropology optional. Confirm thinkers and examples against standard texts and recent papers.

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Paleolithic**Definition**

Applied anthropology demonstrates the practical value of bridging science and humanities: scientific knowledge identifies the problem, while cultural understanding determines whether the solution will actually work.

Thinkers

James George Frazer, a prominent figure in the Classical Evolutionism school, proposed a unilinear model of intellectual progress that significantly influenced early anthropological thought. He presented a significant evolutionary interpretation of religion in his classic work *The Golden Bough*. Frazer proposed that human intellectual development passed through three successive stages-magic, religion, and science. Although influential, his theory has been widely criticized by later anthropologists.

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