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Q6(a)

Critically discuss the controversies related to fieldwork of Bronislaw-Malinowski and Margaret Mead.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2023 · Anthropology GS 1 · 20 marks · Functionalism (Malinowski)

(c) Functionalism (Malinowski); Structural-Functionalism (Radcliffe-Brown)

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2023/critically-discuss-the-controversies-related-to-fieldwork-of-bronislaw-malinowski-and-margaret-mead/>

Argonauts of the Western Pacific (1922)

Malinowski's Trobriand kula monograph that made long-term participant observation the disciplinary model.

A Diary in the Strict Sense of the Term (1967)

Malinowski's private field diaries, published posthumously, which contradicted the public tone of empathy.

Coming of Age in Samoa (1928)

Mead's Boasian argument that Samoan youth contradicted a universal storm-and-stress adolescence.

Derek Freeman (1983)

Published a late attack claiming Mead was misled and that Samoan culture was harsher than she wrote.

Paul Shankman

A principal later referee of the Mead-Freeman debate, arguing that Freeman overreached.

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