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Q3(b)

How did Clifford Geertz look at religion. Differentiate between anthropological and psychological approaches to the study of religion.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2023 · Anthropology GS 1 · 15 marks · Symbolic and interpretive theories (Turner, Schneider and Geertz)

(h) Symbolic and interpretive theories (Turner, Schneider and Geertz)

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/how-did-clifford-geertz-look-at-religion-differentiate-between-anthropological-and-psychological-approaches-to-the-study-of-religion/>

Religion as a Cultural System

Geertz's definition of religion as symbols, moods, motivations, and an aura of factuality.

Thick description

Interpretive method that recovers the public code of an action, not extra adjectives.

Durkheim

The sacred is the social group in totemic form; religion is not a private invention.

William James

Classic psychological study of personal religious experience, conversion, and mysticism.

Evans-Pritchard

Nuer religion and Azande witchcraft as coherent public thought systems.

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