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Q2(c)

How political economy is integrated with ecological and adaptability perspectives in bio-cultural anthropology?

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2025 · Anthropology GS 1 · 15 marks · Concepts and methods of Ecological Anthropology: Bio-cultural Adaptations

9.7 Concepts and methods of Ecological Anthropology: Bio-cultural Adaptations-Genetic and Non-genetic factors. Man's physiological responses to environmental stresses: hot desert, cold, high altitude climate.

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-1/2025/how-political-economy-is-integrated-with-ecological-and-adaptability-perspectives-in-bio-cultural-anthropology/>

Cultural ecology (Steward)

A method for relating subsistence and environment to social organisation. It was later criticised for underplaying power and history.

Eric Wolf

Europe and the People without History argued that local communities sit inside global political-economic fields, not as closed ecological isolates.

Biocultural synthesis

Medical and biological anthropologists such as Goodman and Leatherman treat nutrition, growth and disease as biological outcomes of political-economic conditions.

Political ecology

It reads environmental change in land, water and toxins as structured by property, state and market, not by nature alone.

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