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Q7(b)

What are the major theories proposed in support of the origin of food production? How the change in subsistence economy brought revolution during this period?

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2025 · Anthropology GS 1 · 15 marks · Neolithic

(iii) Neolithic

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/what-are-the-major-theories-proposed-in-support-of-the-origin-of-food-production-how-the-change-in-subsistence-economy-brought-revolution-du/>

V. Gordon Childe

He named the Neolithic revolution: food production as a cluster of changes in subsistence, settlement and society.

Robert Braidwood

The hilly flanks theory: domestication where wild progenitors already lived, tested in Near Eastern nuclear zones.

Lewis Binford

He linked early cultivation to packing of habitats and intensification on the margins, not to life in the richest wild-food belt alone.

Mark Cohen

He emphasised population pressure and noted that early farming often brought more work and new health costs.

Mehrgarh

An early food-producing site in Baluchistan, used as the South Asian illustration of the Neolithic shift.

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