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Anthropology short notes

Demographic theories

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

11.2 Demographic theories-biological, social and cultural.

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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Demographic Theories

Definition

Errors in DNA & protein synthesis accumulate → cellular malfunction → ageing.

Thinkers

L.H. Morgan (Iroquois, 1840s - though semi-field): British Field Tradition.

Definition

Errors in DNA & protein synthesis accumulate → cellular malfunction → ageing.

Thinkers

E.A. Hoebel: "Anthropology is the study of man and his works."

Definition

Ageing is also shaped by social expectations, roles, norms, and culture.

Example / case study

Herbert Risley: Racial theory of caste; The People of India. Thurston: Castes & Tribes of Southern India. Beginning: Institutionalisation of anthropology (Dept. of Anthropology, Calcutta University - 1920). Nature: Empirical fieldwork, study of social institutions.

Thinkers

S.C. Roy (1871-1942) - First Indian Ethnographer

Definition

Mysore Tribes & Castes (4 vols.)

Example / case study

Chiapas, Mexico - Coca-cola addiction → Diabetes

Thinkers

S.C. Roy (1871-1942) - First Indian Ethnographer • Ta-ta theory(E.B Tylor) - imitation of gesture movements

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