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Anthropology short notes

Forms of descent groups (lineage, clan, phratry, moiety and kindred)

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

Forms of descent groups (lineage, clan, phratry, moiety and kindred)

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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Forms Of Descent Groups

Definition

III. Applications in Anthropological Studies

Thinkers

A.R. Radcliffe-Brown - structural-functionalism: institutions function like organs to maintain social structure. Radcliffe-Brown: Used genealogies to reconstruct descent groups and social structure in Africa. Malinowski: Used them to understand kinship and land inheritance among the Trobriand Islanders. Claude Lévi-Strauss: Used genealogical/kinship data to develop Alliance Theory, focusing on marriage and exchange between lineages. India: S.C. Roy documented Oraon genealogies; Irawati Karve used genealogical mapping to study village kinship and exogamy in Maharashtra.

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