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Anthropology short notes

Linguistic Anthropology.

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

(d) Linguistic Anthropology.

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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Linguistic Anthropology**Definition**

Studies language across time & space

Example / case study

Malinowski's study of Trobriand Islanders. The Enduring Voices Project (National Geographic) documents endangered languages through audio-visual records.

Definition

Cultural Anthropology is the study of learned behaviour, beliefs, customs, traditions, institutions, and values of different human societies.

Example / case study

Information is reconstructed almost entirely through archaeological evidence. Together they explain humans from biological, cultural, linguistic and historical perspectives. Anthropology today extends far beyond the study of tribes.

Thinkers

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

Definition

Drives cycle of suffering until Moksha is attained.

Example / case study

over-consumption of resources → karma teaches restraint. Lucia Michelutti (The Vernacularisation of Democracy, 2008) → Yadavs of UP link identity to Krishna descent. John Cort (Jains in the World, 2001) → Oswals consider themselves superior to other Jain castes (Shrimals, Porwals). Anuja Agrawal (Chaste Wives and Prostitute Sisters, 2008) → Bedia community narrates their Rajput origin despite prostitution as occupation.

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