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Anthropology short notes

The Nature of Society

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

2.2 The Nature of Society: Concept of Society; Society and Culture; Social Institution; Social groups; and Social stratification.

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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The Nature Of Society

Definition

Society is the hardware, culture is the software.

Concept Of Society

Definition

Society is the hardware, culture is the software.

Thinkers

Bronislaw Malinowski - participant observation; culture exists to satisfy biological and psychological needs.

Society And Culture

Definition

Society is the hardware, culture is the software.

Thinkers

Hoebel | Anthropology and Sociology are closely related

Social Institution

Definition

Society is a collection of individuals united by relations or modes of behaviour that distinguish them from others.

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.

Social Groups**Definition**

Empiricism - observation-based, scientific & systematic.

Example / case study

Volunteering, clubs, social groups, exercise groups.

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