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Anthropology short notes

Indigenous and exogenous processes of socio-cultural change in Indian society

UPSC Civil Services (Main) Examination · Anthropology GS 2 · Anthropology GS 2 (Paper II)

5.3 Indigenous and exogenous processes of socio-cultural change in Indian society: Sanskritization, Westernization, Modernization; Inter-play of little and great traditions; Panchayati Raj and social change; Media and Social change.

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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Indigenous And Exogenous Processes Of Socio-Cultural Change In Indian Society

Definition

Indigenous and exogenous processes of socio-cultural change in Indian society

Example / case study

Policies of China toward Uyghur Muslims. Innovation explains endogenous culture change; diffusion explains exogenous change.

Sanskritization

Definition

Claimed → even tribes are backward Hindus, included in caste.

Example / case study

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. Badri Narayan (Fascinating Hindutva, 2009) → Pasi community of Bihar trace descent from Parashuram (pa+asi = grip + sword), reinterpret pig-rearing as heroic defense of women during Mughal invasions.

Westernization

Definition

Term by Prof. Shyamlal (field study in Rajasthan- 13 dists).

Thinkers

Not only British impact - also Russia, China, global influences (e.g., Bhagat Singh inspired by socialism).

Modernization**Definition**

Pioneer of village studies in India.

Thinkers

Not only British impact - also Russia, China, global influences (e.g., Bhagat Singh inspired by socialism).

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