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Q3

History is a series of victories won by the scientific man over the romantic man.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2022 · Essay · 125 marks · Philosophical and ethical quotes

Philosophical and ethical quotes

Core demand of the question

- **Stake:** history as science winning over romance - method over myth, not a war on feeling
- **One stand:** the romantic can found a nation or a riot; the scientific must still keep a heart
- Move through knowledge, nationalism, development, digital. Keep one honest counter
- Close on temper, not a cold machine

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with a love-lake plaque vs a catchment map. Stand:** method wins the file; feeling stays human.
- **Headings:** knowledge, nation, development, digital, then one counter.

Earn **Nehru** or 51A(h); **Ambedkar** once.

Close on temper plus a true song.

Note

This is a map, not the full 1,000-1,200 word essay.

Anecdote

A plaque says a king built a lake for love. A hydrologist later maps the catchment and the labour. Both can be true; only one can run a drought plan. The line bets that the long story is the scientific person slowly winning the file from the romantic one.

One stand

- **Scientific:** evidence, revision, a second instrument. Romantic: origin myth, destiny, a feeling that will not be audited. Write the win as temper (**Art. 51A(h)**), not as contempt for poetry.

Heading map

What the line is asking

- **Series of victories:** incomplete, reversible - myths return every election.
- **Scientific man:** a method, not a gender. Include the woman in the lab in one sentence.
- **Romantic man:** also courage, sacrifice, **Tagore's** overflow - not only delusion.

Knowledge

- Germ theory over a curse. A vaccine over a whisper.

- History as discipline vs history as serial.

Nation

- **Nehru**'s temples of modernity; also the romantic of soil and blood.
- **Partition**: romance of purity as tragedy. The scientific remainder is a census and a refugee camp.

Development

- A dam's romance vs displacement maths (cousin of forest excellence).
- 1991: a romance of the licence raj losing to a spreadsheet - with a human bill.

Digital

- A deepfake is romance with a GPU. Fact-check is a small scientific victory.

The counter

A freedom struggle needed romance - song, jail, a flag. A nurse needs feeling. Pure 'scientific man' without dharma becomes a sterilisation camp. **Ambedkar** wanted reason and a heart for the last man. The line ranks method over myth in the file, not in the funeral.

Last paragraph

- **Close**: keep the second instrument, and still carry a song that does not lie. Expand - this is only the map.

Facts & figures

Nehru

Scientific temper as a national bet - temples of modernity with a human audit still due.

Ambedkar

Reason as emancipation, not as a machine that forgets the last man.

Art. 51A(h)

Duty to develop scientific temper - the line in the Constitution.

Vaccine / germ theory

A slow victory of method over curse-talk - still unfinished in a rumour year.

Census vs myth

A count that can puncture a romantic majority - if the count is allowed.