

ANTHROPOLOGY By

SOSIN MAM 2022-2023

English Printed

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RELATIONSHIP OF ANTHROPOLOGY WITH OTHER DISCIPLINES

The scope of anthropology is much broader than that of any other disciplines. Eg. Economics deals only with economic behaviour, political science only with political behaviour, and so on. Anthropology, on the other hand, is concerned with all of those areas, from a comparative perspective, and specially with the interrelationships between these areas of behaviour in any particular society. It overlaps with every other discipline in at least some areas of interest, yet it stills retains its individuality.

The commonality of all disciplines along with anthropology is that, all share a common interest in understanding human behaviour and differences exist in the field of its approach. Anthropology utilizes the holistic approach to investigate all aspects of human behaviour, in all places and at all times due to the recent advancement in science and technology and due to the wider use of anthropology in developmental processes and curing the ills of traditional societies, it also has the relationship with life science, medical sciences and development science.

ANTHROPOLOGY AND HISTORY	
Anthropology	History
 This study associated with past, present and future 	- Study of past
 It studies the biological evolution of man 	It studies only the cultural evolution not biological

No anthropologist can work without an awareness on the past, of what the particular sequence of events was that led to the situation under study i.e., History In describing antoher culture, or in comparing aspects of two cultures, the anthorpologist does not ignore the historical background.

Yet history and anthropology are distinct disciplines. Historians focus on past events, and their investigation of values, motivations, and behaviour is directed toward the explanation of why things

THE IMPORTANCE OF CHARLES DARWIN

(Source: His Ideas Are a Linchpin of Modern Science Being Human 07/30/2013 19:45)

Charles Darwin is centrally important in the development of scientific and humanist ideas because he first made people aware of their place in the evolutionary process when the most powerful and intelligent form of life discovered how humanity had evolved. The theory of evolution by natural selection was first put forward by Darwin in On the Origin of Species, published in 1859, and his theory is still generally accepted as the best available explanation of the way life on this planet developed.

Darwin's father was a country doctor in and around Shrewsbury, and the young Charles grew up in an extended family who knew the countryside and its pursuits well. His grandfather was Erasmus Darwin, an eminent naturalist and poet. As a boy he collected beetles, moths and other objects of curiosity, and he and his brother did simple chemistry experiments in the attic of their large house. He attended Shrewsbury School where he did not do particularly well — he was more interested in beetles than in Latin grammar. Neither was he a very successful university student. He was persuaded by his father to study medicine, but did not complete his medical studies at Edinburgh, because he found it "intolerably dull" and could not stand the sight of blood. So he went to Cambridge University to study theology, but here too there were more interesting pursuits than his studies. At Cambridge he met a prime mover in the developing science of Geology, Adam Sedgwick, whom he accompanied on field trips to North Wales and other places. He also met and learned a great deal from Professor Henslow, a wonderful teacher and friend, with whom he chased moths and butterflies across the fens with a big net, and learned to classify plants.

In 1830, when Darwin was only 22, Henslow learned of the imminent departure of a Royal Navy survey ship, HMS Beagle, which was in need of a naturalist. Would Charles like to go? Charles jumped at the opportunity. His father reluctantly gave permission, and the ship sailed from Plymouth on 27 December 1831. The main object was to make good naval charts of parts of South America, which was the speciality of Captain Fitzroy, who was also rather fundamentalist in his religious views. It was while they were surveying the Galapagos Islands that Darwin made many observations which eventually led to his theory of evolution by natural selection, although he barely grasped the significance at the time. "The natural history of these islands is eminently curious," he wrote in his journal. And so it was: the ten rocky islands were home to many plants and animals that were like those of neighbouring South America, but with distinct differences. Half the species of

HUMAN EVOLUTION AND EMERGENCE OF MAN

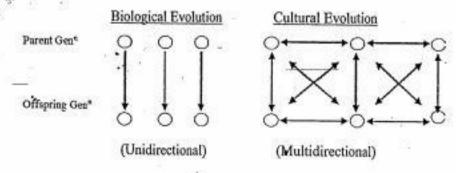
Human evolution, also known as HOMINIZATION i.e. evolutionary process for emergence of modern man. Under the aspects of Human Evolutionary, the central focus is aimed jointly at paleo-anthropological work, covering Human and primate fossils, and at comparative studies of living species, including both interpretive analysis of new and previously described material and assessments of the phylogeny and paleobiology of primate species.

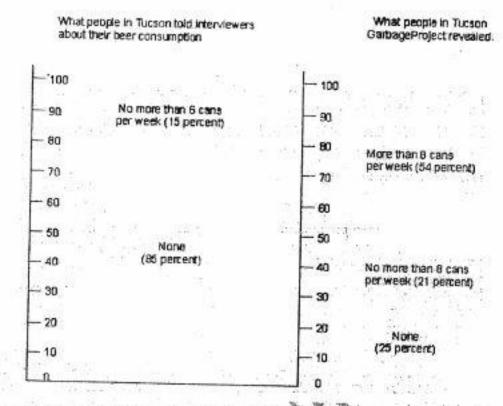
- In addition to paleoanthropological work, covering Human and primate fossils, comparative studies of living species, including both morphological and molecular evidence.
- Primate systematics, Biology and Ecology studies in the context of evolution.
- Functional studies, particularly relating to diet and locomotion
- Body size and allometric studies.
- Studies in Paleolithic archeology.
- Stratigraphical studies supporting fossil evidence for primate and Human evolution.
- Paleological and paleographical models for primate and human evolution.

BIOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL FACTORS IN HUMAN EVOLUTION (or) GENE – CULTURE CO-EVOLUTION / BIO-CULTURAL EVOLUTION

Biological evolution is a population level process guided by selection, and it leads to an increase of the adaptation of the population for the environmental circumstances in which the population lives.

Culture can be defined as the wholeness of the mental and material achievements of a society or mankind as a whole. The theory of cultural evolution provides an explanation for how cultures and societies change over time.





The Garbage Project, Tucson Arizona: An Ethno Archaeological survey among Tucson's modern inhabitants showed a marked discrepency between people's accounts of their behaviour and what excavation of their trash cans actually revealed (After Colin and Paul 1991).

2. Environmental Archaeology

Another major specialization is Environmental Archaeology. It is an interdisciplinary approach where archaeologists and specialists from other sciences study the human use of plants and animals and how societies adapted to the ever-changing environment. Environmental Archaeology is now a well-developed field in its own right. It views the human animal as part of the natural world-interacting with other species in the ecological system or ecosystem. The environment governs human life. Latitudes and longitudes landforms and climate determine the vegetation which in turn determines animal life. And all these things taken together determine how and where humans have lived, or at least what they did until very recently. With a few exceptions, little attention was paid by archaeologists to eco-factual evidence until recent decades. Sites were studied more or less as self-contained package of evidence rather than in their context within the landscape. It is now regarded as important to see sites in their setting and to consider the geo-morphological and biological processes occurring in and around them. The environment is seen now as a variable not as something which is constant or homogeneous through space and time.