

# **Multidisciplinary Basic History- 01**

**SL Sir**



# Why do we study history?

- BCD
- We study history because history doesn't stay behind us. Studying history helps us understand how events in the past made things the way they are today. With lessons from the past, we not only learn about ourselves and how we came to be, but also develop the ability to avoid mistakes and create better paths for our societies.
- History helps us understand change : History is full of transitions that have altered the world's story. When you build your knowledge of history, you understand more about what created our present-day society.
- We learn from past mistakes : History gives us a better understanding of the world and how it operates. When you study a war, you learn more about how conflict escalates. You learn what dilemmas world leaders face and how they respond—and when those decisions lead to better or worse outcomes.
- We gain context for the human experience : Covid Pandemic and its Effect

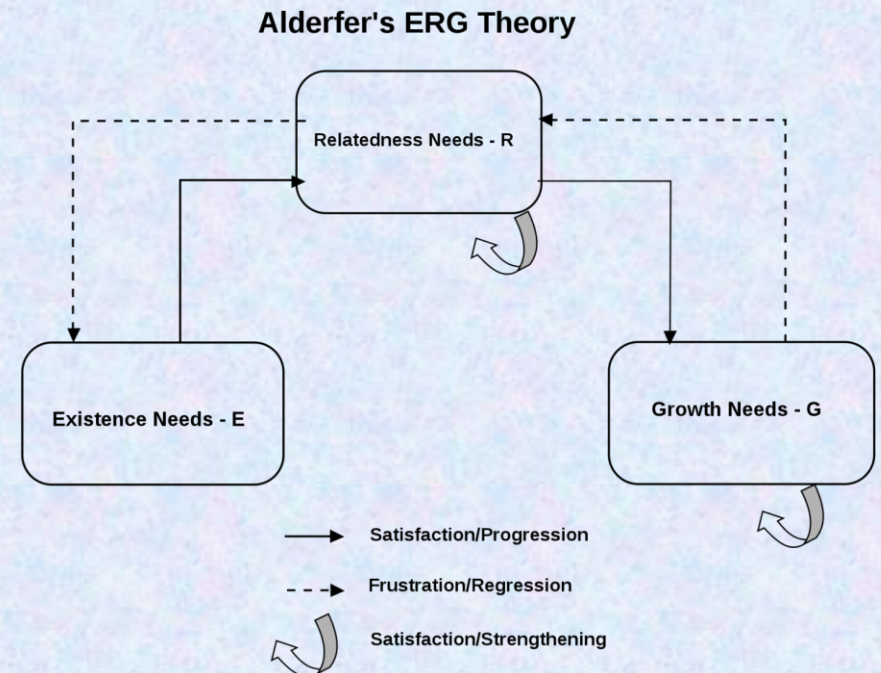
# Maslow's Hierarchy Of Needs

- According to Maslow human needs were arranged in a hierarchy, with physiological (survival) needs at the bottom, and the more creative and intellectually oriented 'self-actualization' needs at the top.
- Maslow's hierarchy of needs is a motivational theory in psychology comprising a five-tier model of human needs, often depicted as hierarchical levels within a pyramid.
- The five levels of the hierarchy are physiological, safety, love/belonging, esteem, and self-actualization.
- Lower-level basic needs like food, water, and safety must be met first before higher needs can be fulfilled.
- Few people are believed to reach the level of self-actualization, but we can all have moments of peak experiences.



# Alderfer's ERG Theory

- The ERG theory simplifies human needs into three essential categories: Existence, Relatedness, and Growth, creating the acronym ERG. Unlike Maslow's five-tier model, Alderfer's approach allows for greater flexibility. For instance, his Existence category encompasses basic life essentials such as food, water, and a sense of security. These mirror Maslow's physiological and safety-related needs.
- The second category, Relatedness, deals with our social connections and relationships with others. It includes the need for friendship, family bonds, and social esteem, which also correlates with Maslow's concepts of love and belonging.
- The third and final category is Growth, which focuses on our inner drive for personal improvement and achievement. This includes aspects like creativity, problem-solving, and achieving one's full potential, matching up with the higher-level needs in Maslow's hierarchy, particularly self-esteem and self-actualization.





# What is History?

- The term History derived from the Greek Word 'istoria' which means enquiry, research, exploration, information and learning.
- The Arabic word 'tarikh' stands for chronology.
- The Sanskrit Words 'itihasa' refers to Legend.
- History is a continuous process between the historian and his facts, an unending dialogue between the present and past and the chief function of historian is to master and understand the past as a key to the understanding of the Present----E.H Carr

# Historiography?

- Historiography literally means the art of writing history.
- It is the history of history or the history of historical writing.
- Historiography tells the story of successive stages of the evolution or development of historical writing.
- It comprises the study of the development of man's sense for the past.

# History Definition

- History is the essence of human experience...Dionysius
- All history is contemporary history.... Benedetto Croce
- History is a discipline which makes men wise.... Sir Francis Bacon
- History is the essence of innumerable biographies of great men.. Sir Thomas Carlyle
- History is simply a science, no less and no more.. J.B Bury.
- All history is the history of thought ...R.G Collingwood.

# Scope and Importance of History

- The scope or range of history has been ever changing and ever widening.
- Herodotus>Thucydides>church historiography>renaissance and historiography>modern Historiography
- Political history, Economic History, Social History, Cultural History, Military history, legal history, diplomatic history, intellectual history, biographical history, national history, universal history, local or regional history, subaltern history, new history.



# Objectivity and Bias in History

- Truth in the writing is attained when the historian can assemble and interpret his evidence in a way that coincides with historical actuality.
- Science is, by definition objective. Scientific knowledge is universal and anyone using the same evidence under the same conditions will come to the same conclusions.
- It seems inevitable that there must be a degree of subjectivity in all historical writing because selection of what is considered to be significant and relevant is an essential part of the historian's business.
- Scientificity, objectivity, impartiality???

# History and its Auxiliary sciences

- Chronology, Archaeology, Numismatics, Paleography (old handwriting), Graphology (connection b/w handwriting and his character), sigilliography (study of seals), philology (study of language), diplomatic (study of official documents), linguistics (evolution of language), photography, etc
- History and related subjects
- History and politics- Machiavelli
- History and Geography
- History and Economics- marx
- History and Sociology- Comte
- History and literature
- History and religion
- History and philosophy
- History and science
- History and computer

**Physiognomy: Face Reading** is the practice of assessing a person's character or personality from their outer appearance—especially the face.



# History a science, Arts or social science

- Science- an enquiry, from known to unknown, to find things out, it rests upon evidence and reasoning, scientific method of enquiry, ...Bury
- As an enquiry after truth history is a science. It is a kind of inquiry or research. It does not consist in collecting what is already known and arranging it in a pattern. Its way of explanation is from ignorance to knowledge, from indefinite to definite. history is a science it rests upon evidence and reasoning. It is built on facts as a house is built on stones; but mere accumulation of facts is no more a science than a heap of stones in a house. The collected data is scientifically analyzed, Classified and interpreted.
- Arts- writing history as a secondary and subsidiary function, absolute impartiality is impossible,
- Social science- study that is related with the society we live in.



# Cyclical Theory of History

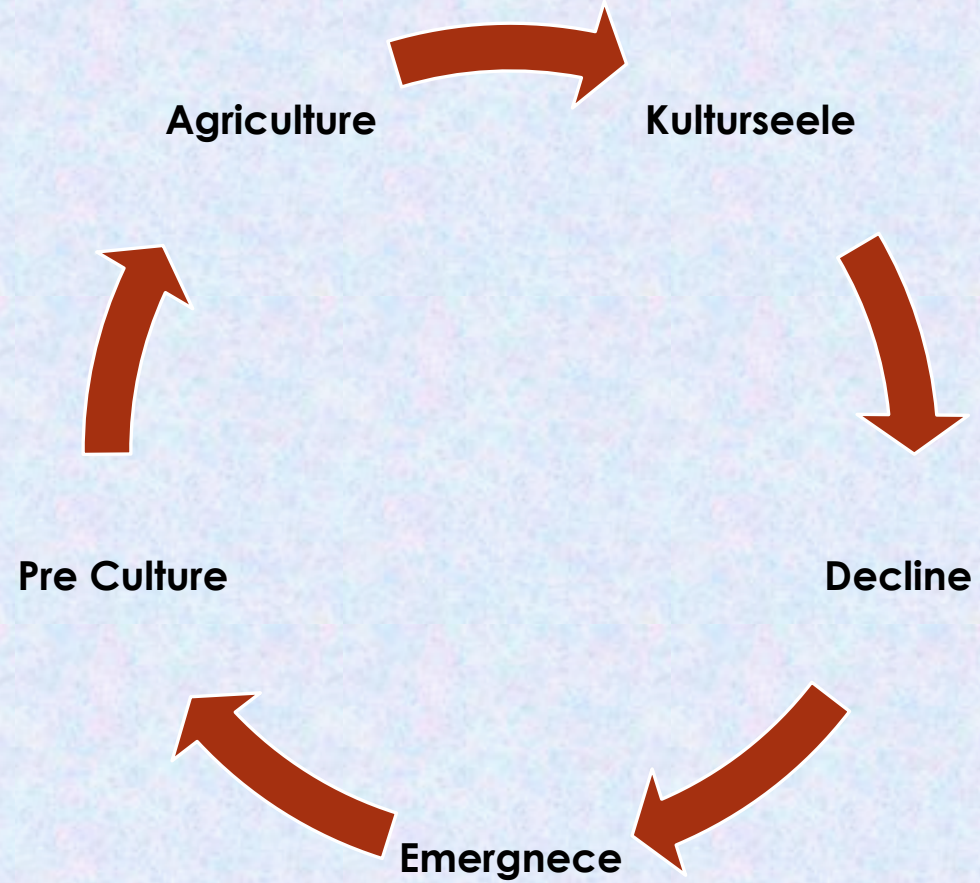
- Cyclical Theory of History was developed by Oswald Spengler (Decline of the West, 1918), Arnold Toynbee (A study of History, 1956)
- They argued that societies and civilizations change according to cycles of rise, decline and fall just as individual persons are born, mature and grow old and die.
- According to German thinkers Spengler every society has a predetermined life cycle birth, growth, maturity and decline.



# Oswald Spengler's Theory

- German philosopher, Born 29 May, 1880, Blankenburg.
- Died 8 May, 1936, Munich
- Books 1. "The Decline of the West: perspectives of World History" (1918-1922)
- 2. Man and Techniques (1931)
- Main theme:- civilizations undergo a seasonal cycle of a thousand years and are subject to grow and decay analogous to biological species.

# Cyclical Theory





# Marxist Philosophy of History

- **Karl Marx**
- **Founder of Scientific socialism.**
- **Works- German Ideology (1846), Poverty of Philosophy (1847), Communist Manifesto (1848), Das Capital.**
- **Historical Materialism . It analyses the historical process, describes the law of social development.**
- **5 different societies –primitive communist societies>slave society>Feudal society>Capitalist Society>socialist society.**
- **Economic exploitation, class struggle**
- **Marxist historiography.**

# Greek Historiography

- Ancient Greece was the cradle of Historiography.
- The earliest Greek historians were the choroniclers.
- The Greek called them Logographoi (prose writers).
- Narrative history is the oldest species of history.
- Herodotus (c.484-430 B.C)- composed – 'Histories'
- Theme- Graceo-Persian conflict.
- Source?, and criticism.,,,,Cicero called him 'The Father of History'
- Thucydides (c.460-396 BC),,,,, wrote- 'History of Peloponnesian war'
- Founder of historical method.



# Roman Historiography

- Greek influence
- Cato,,,,,Origines
- Cicero, Julius Caesar, Crispus
- Livy- History of Rome, From the city's Foundation.
- Tacitus,, - Dialogue on Orators, Agricola
- Plutarch- Parallel Lives, Moralia
- Humanistic, Secular, patriotic writing.

# Church Historiography

- From Humanistic to theocratic.
- History as the will of God.
- Eusebius Pamphili of Caesarea ,,, Ecclestical History,,,, Father of church History.
- St. Augustine (354-430AD)- dimensional Genius,,,City of God.
- Philosophy of History.

# Renaissance and its impact on Historiography

- La Renascita or Re-birth.
- Rebirth of Classical Culture.
- Humanistic.
- Giovanni Vilani,,,Pioneer of Renaissance historiography,,,,Chroniche Fiorentine,,, history of Florentine.
- Leonard Bruni,,,, first modern historian,,,, History of Florence
- Niccolo Machiavelli,,,The prince (1513), Discourses on Livy, History of Florence, the Art of War.
- Retrieval of historical writing.
- **Reformation Historiography**,,,Revolt against the Church,,, Desiderius Erasmus,,,the Praise of Folly,,, satire.

# Colonial Construction

- Role of Christian Missionaries
- Aware about Indian language and history.
- James Mill and his Historical text
- Hindu-Muslim Division.
- History writing in 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- History writing in 20<sup>th</sup> century.



# Indology and The recovery of Indian History

- Paucity of Historical Literature on Ancient India.
- The orientalist or indological recovery of ancient indian history.
- William Jones,, Asiatic Society of Bengal (1784)
- James Prinsep
- Alexander Cunningham.

W Jones (1746-1794)	T Colebrook (1765-1837)
<p>Oriental Research polyglot Asiatic society of Bengal Asiatic Researches Journal Translation- Abhigyanam sankuntalam, Geeta Govindam Manu Smiriti- 'The Institute of Hindu Laws Concept of Golden Age</p>	<p>Oriental Research Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain 1823 Sanskritist Writing- A Digest of Hindu Law, A Sanskrit Grammar, Essay on the Vedas, The Sacred Writing of the Hindus Assumption- Sati Practice was a gross deviation from the authentic tradition.</p>
<p>Wilkins – translation of Bhagavt Geeta 1785, Hitopodesha 1787</p>	<p>J princep- Brahmi Eprigraphs Indian Antiquities 1858</p>

## Max Muller (1823-1900)

- Theory of 'common source' language
- History of Sanskrit Literature 1859
- Series Sacred Books of the East 1879-1904
- Sankrit Name- MokshaMula Bhatt



# Indigenous imagination

- Imagines the glorious past.
- Revival of nationalist consciousness
- Hindu and Islamic history writing.
- Challenge towards colonial mentality.
- National history
- Reaction against racial discrimination.
- past as a key to understanding of present.
- Regional history.
- Economic history.
- Social and Cultural History.
- Nationalist Historians- R C Dutt, R C Majumdar, B J Tilak, R G Vaidarkar, H C Raychaudhuri, Jadunath Sarkar
- Some Works- R C Dutt – Economic History of India under Early British Rule, R K Mukherjee- A History of Indian Shipping and Maritime Activity, K P Jaysawal- Indian Polity, V D Savarkar- The Indian war of Independence, S B Chaudhuri- Civil Rebellions in the Indian Mutiny, Tarachand- Influence of Islam on Indian Culture.

# Important Books

## ❑ Historiography

### **English books**

- ❑ 1. What is History- E.H Carr
- ❑ 2. The Idea of History- R.G Collingwood
- ❑ 3. A Textbook of Historiography- E. Sreedharan

### **বাংলা বই**

- ❑ কাকে বলে ইতিহাস- ই . এইচ কার
- ❑ ইতিহাস ও ঐতিহাসিক – অমলেশ ত্রিপাঠী
- ❑ ইতিহাসের উত্তরাধিকার- পার্থ চট্টোপাধ্যায়
- ❑ ইতিহাসের ধারা- সুশোভন সরকার
- ❑ ভারতের ইতিহাস ও ঐতিহাসিক- সুবোধ কুমার মুখোপাধ্যায়
- ❑ পশ্চিমের ইতিহাস ও ঐতিহাসিক- সুবোধ কুমার মুখোপাধ্যায়





Infinite patience, infinite  
purity, and infinite  
perseverance are the  
secret of success in a  
good cause.

**SWAMI VIVEKANANDA**