



**SapiensIAS**  
Be the Game Changer

**IAS**  
**2025**

# ANTHROPOLOGY FOUNDATION

BY PRADIP SARKAR

**ONLINE, OFFLINE  
& RECORDED**

1

5 months course duration  
(covering all topics of paper 1 & 2)

2

Answer writing skill development  
(on class assignment on spot evaluation)

3

Discussion on last 10 years  
previous year question

4

Weekly class test (with due evaluation  
and personalised mentorship)

5

Including test series  
(total 12 tests: 6 sectional & 6 full length)

6

Study materials (updated & well organised  
based on new upsc trends)



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# KNOW YOUR TEACHER

Pradip Sarkar is one of the top educator in Anthropology Optional who is teaching for past 17 years.



- **He Faced all the four interviews in UPSC (CSE).**
- **He was one of the top scorers in anthropology with 349 marks and 335 being lowest.**
- **He mentored hundreds of IAS, IFS, IPS, IRS etc in past 17 years with top ranking in Anthropology.**
- **He is proud to mentor AIR 25 Kashmira Sankhe in 2022 classroom batch and AIR 9 Apala Mishra in 2021 (online batch) recently, & many more aspirants have achieved their goal under his guidance.**



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# WE ARE PROVIDING

- Explaining every topic in the syllabus in simplified manner with case studies, examples, diagrams and flowcharts.
- Teaching biological anthropology will be child's play for students from any educational background.
- Giving framework (skeleton), for each and every topic for proper organisation of facts and developing flow in the answer.
- Discussing topic with current facts, wherever required.
- Teaching as how to write relevant introduction, structured facts in the body & effective conclusion.
- Answer writing practice through assignments with instant copy evaluation. Also, to teach how to write answer without compromising facts, within the constraints of word limit.
- Referring to relevant case studies, example for value addition.
- Study material - highly processed and well organised updated facts with relevant introduction, well-structured body with case studies, diagrams, flow charts, example and effective conclusions. It is ready to write format in the exam directly. You hardly require any source other than our study material.
- Providing test series - total 12 tests - 6 sectional tests + 6 full length tests (2 full length tests before prelims and 4 full length tests after prelims)



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# Syllabus to be Covered

## Paper-1

### 1.1 Meaning, scope & development of anthropology

### 1.2 Relationships with other disciplines:

social sciences, behavioral sciences, life sciences, medical sciences, earth sciences and humanities.

### 1.3 Main branches of anthropology, their scope & relevance

- a) Social-cultural anthropology
- b) Biological anthropology,
- c) Archaeological Anthropology.
- d) Linguistic Anthropology.

### 1.4 Human evolution and emergence of man

- a) Biological and cultural factors in human evolution.
- b) Theories of organic evolution (pre-darwinian, darwinian and post-darwinian).
- c) Synthetic theory of evolution; brief outline of terms and concepts of evolutionary biology (dollar's rule, cope's rule, gauss's rule, parallelism, convergence, adaptive radiation, and mosaic evolution)

### 1.5 Characteristics and primates, evolutionary trend and primate taxonomy: primate -adaptations; (arboreal and terrestrial) primate taxonomy: primate behavior, tertiary quaternary fossil primates; living major primates; comparative anatomy of man and apes: skeletal changes due to erect posture and its implications.

### 1.6 Phylogenetic status, characteristics and geographical distribution of the following:

- a) Plio-pleistocene hominids in south and east africa australopithecines.
- b) Homo erectus. africa (paranthropus). europe (homo erectus (heidelbergensis). asia (homo erectus javanicus, homo erectus pekinensis.
- (c) Neanderthal man-la-chapelle-aux-saints (classical type), mt. carmel (progressive type)

(d) Rhodesian man.

(e) Homo saojens - cromagnon, grimaldi and chancelade.

### 1.7 The biological basis of life: the cell, dna structure and replication, protein synthesis, gene, mutation, chromosomes, and cell division.

### (a) Principles of prehistoric archaeology.

chronology methods. relative and absolute dating methods.

### (b) Cultural evolution - broad outlines of prehistoric cultures:

- (i) Paleolithi
- (ii) Mesolithic
- (iii) Neolithic
- (iv) Chalcolithic
- (v) Copper-bronze age
- (vi) Iron age

### 2.1 The nature of culture: the concept and characteristics of culture and civilization; ethnocentrism vis-a-vis cultural relativism

### 2.2 The nature of society: concept of society; society & culture, social institution; social groups; and social stratification

### 2.3 Marriage definition and universality, laws of marriage (endogamy, exogamy, hyper gamy, hypo gpm, incest taboo); type of marriage (monogamy, polygamy, polyandry, group marriage.) functions of marriage; marriage regulations (preferential, prescriptive and proscriptive); marriage payments (bride wealth and dowry).

### 2.4 Family: definition and universality; family, household and domestic group; function of family: types of family (from the perspective of structure, blood relation, marriage, residence and succession) impact of urbanization, industrialization and feminist movements on family.







# Syllabus to be Covered

**2.5 Consanguinity and affinity;** principles and types of decent (unilateral, double, bilateral amlineal); forms of decent group (lineage, clan, portray, moiety and kindred)! descent, filiations and complimentary filiations; decent and alliance.

**3. Economic organization:** meaning, scope & relevance of economic anthropology; formalist & substantives debate; principles governing production, distribution and exchange (reciprocity, redistribution and mark), in communities, subsisting on hunting and gathering, unishing swiddening, pastoralist, horticulture and agriculture; globalization and indigenous economic systems.

**4. Political organization and social control:** band, tribe, chiefdom, kingdom and state; concepts of power, authority & legitimacy; social control, law and justice in simple societies.

**5. Religion:** anthropological approaches to the study of religion (evolut onary, psychological and functional), monotheism and polytheism; sacred and profane; my! is and rituals, forms of religion in tribal and peasant societies (animism, animalism, fetishisr, naturism and totemic); religion, magic & science distinguished; magi co-religious functionaries (priest, shaman medicine man, sorcerer and witch)

**6. Adthropological theories:**

- (a) Classical evolutionism (tylor, morgan and frazer)
- (b) Historical paricular (boas) diffusionism (british, german and american)
- (c) Functionalism, (malinowski); structural functionalism radcl fe brown)
- (d) Structuralism (l' evi strass and e' leach)
- (e) Culture and personailty(benedict, mead, linton, kardinor and cora-dub-bois)
- (f) Neo-evolutionism (childe, white, steward, salinas and service)

(g) Cultural materialism (harris)

(h) Symbolic and interpretive theories (turner, schneider and greertz)

(i) Cognitive theories (tyler, conklin)

(j) Post-modernism in anthropology

**7. Culture, language and communication:** nature, origin and characteristic of language, verbal and non-verbal communication: social context of language use

**8. Research methods in anthropology:**

(a) Fieldwork tradition in anthropology.

(b) Distinction between technique, method and methodology  
Jools of data collection; observation, interview, schedules questionnaire... genealogy, life-history, oral, history, secondary sources of information part methods.

(c) Analysis, interpretation and presentation of data.

**9.1 Human genetics:** methods and application: methods ib:

study of genetic principles family study (pedigree analysis, twin study, foster child co-twin method, cytogenetic met chromosomal & karyo-type analysis), biochemical methods, immunological methods, dn technology and recombinant technologies.

**9.2 Mundelein genetics in man-family study,** single factor, multifactor, lethal sub-lethal and polygenic inheritance in man.

**9.3 Concept of genetic polymorphism and selection,**

mundelein population, hardy-weinberg law causes and changes which bring down frequency-mutation, isolation migration, selection, inbreeding and genetic drift consanguineous and non-consanguineous mating, genetic load genetic effect of consanguineous and cousin marriages.





# Syllabus to be Covered

## 9.4 Chromosomes and chromosomal aberrations in man, methodology

- (a) Numerical and structural aberrations (disorders.)"
  - (b) Sex chromosomal aberration- Klinefelter (XXY) Turner (XO), Super female (XXX), intersex and other syndrome disorders.
  - (c) Autosomal aberrations-down syndrome, palau, edward and cri-du-chat syndromes.
  - (d) Genetic imprints' in human disease, genetic screening, genetic counseling, human dna profiling, gene mapping and genome study.
- 9.5 race & racism, biological basis of morphological variation of non-metric and characters. racial criteria, racial traits in relation to heredity and environment; biological basis of racial classification, racial differentiation and race crossing in man.

9.6 Age, sex and population variation as ge transferring, gm blood enzymes, physiological characteristics-hb level, body fat, pulse rate, marker abo blood groups, ha ho respiratory functions and sensory perceptions in different cultural and socio-economic groups.

9.7 Concepts and methods of ecclogical anthropology: bio-cultural adaptations-genetic and non- genetic factors. man's playsiological responses to environmental stresses: hot desert, cold, high altitude climate.

9.8 Epidemiological anthropology: health and disease, infectious & non-infectious diseases nutritional deficiency related diseases.

10.1 Concept of human growth and Development: Stages of growth-pre-natal nice, clicked-adolescence, maturity, senescence

10.2 Factors affecting growth-and-development genetic, environmental, biochemical nutritiona cultural and socio-econoric.

10.3 A ageing and senescence. theories & observations.

10.4 Biological and chronological, longevity. human physisque and somato types. Methodologies for growth studies.

11.1 Relevance of menarche, menopause and other bioevents to fertility, fertility patterns and differentials

11.2 Demographic theories-biological, social & cultural

11.3 Biological and socio-ecological, social-ecological factors influencing fecundity, fertility, natality and mortality

12. Applications of anthropology: anthropology of sports, nutritional anthropology, anthropology - of personal identification and reconstruction, applied human genetics -paternity diagnosis, in designing of defiance and other equipments. forensic anthropology, methods & principles genetic counseling and eugenics, DNA technology in diseases and medicine, serogenetics & cytogenetic in reproductive biology

## Paper-2

1.1 Evolution of the indian culture and civilization prehistoric (paleolithic, mesolithic. neolithic and neolithic-chalcolithic), protohistoric (indus civilization). pre-harappan. harappan and post-harappan cultures, contributions of the tribal cultures to Indian civilization.

1.2 Palaco-anthropological evidences from india with special reference to siwaliks and narmada basis (ramapithecus, sivapithecus and narmada man).

1.3 Ethno-archaeology in india: the concept of ethnoarchaeology: survivals and parallels among the hunting, foraging, fishing, pastoral and peasant communities including arts and crafts producing communities.





# SYLLABUS TO BE COVERED

2. Demographic profile of india-ethnic and linguistic elements in the indian population on the distribution indian population-factors influencing its structure and growth.
- 3.1 The structure and nature of traditional indian soup! system varana purushartha, karma, rina and rebirth
- 3.2 Caste system in tidia-structure and characteristics varna and caste, theories onog of caste system, dominant caste, caste mobility, future of caste system. tribe-case continuum.
- 3.3 Sacred complex and nature-man-spirit complex.
- 3.4 Impact of buddhism, jainism, islam and christianity of indian society.
4. Emergence, growth and development in india contributions of 18th, 19th and early 20" century scholar-administrators. Contributions of indian anthropologists to tribal & caste studies.
- 5.1 Indian village significane of village study in india, indian village as a social system; traditional and changing patterns of settlement and inter-caste relations; agrarian relations in indian villages; impact of globalization on indian village.
- 5.2 Linguistic and religious minorities and their social, political and economic status.
- 5.3 Indigenous and exogenous processes of socio-cultural change in indian society: sanskritization, westermization, modernization; inter-play of little and great traditions; panchayati raj and social change; media & social change.
- 6.1 Tribal situation in india bio-genetic variability, linguistic & socio-economic characteristics of the tribal populations and their distribution.
- 6.2 Problems of the tribal communities land alienation, poverty, indebtedness, low- literacy, poor educational facilities, unemployment, under-employment, health and nutrition.
- 6.3 Development projects and their impact on tribal displacement and problems of rehabilitation development of forest policy and tribal. Impact urbanization & industrialization on tribal population:
- 7.1 Problems of exploitation and deprivation of scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other backward classes, constitutional safeguard for scheduled tribes and scheduled castes
- 7.2 Social change and contemporary tribal societies: impact of modern democratic institutions, development programmes and welfare measures on tribes and weaker sections.
- 7.3 The concept of ethnicity; ethnic conflicts and political developments; unrest among tribal communities; regionalism and demand for autonomy; pseudo-tribulisis. social change among the tribes during colonial and post-independent india.
- 8.1 Impact of hinduism, suddhism, christianity, islam and other religions on tribes societies.
- 8.2 Tribe and nation state-a comparative study of tribal communities in india and other countries.
- 9.1 History of administration of tribal areas, tribal policies, plans programmes of tribal development and their implementation. the concept of ptgs (primitive tribal groups), their distribution, special programmes for their development. role of n.g.o.s in tribal development.
- 9.2 Role of anthropology in tribal and rural development
- 9.3 Contributions anthropology to the understanding of regionalism, communalism and ethnic and political movement.







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# OUR TOPPERS



**KASHMIRA SANKHE**  
AIR 25, UPSC 2022



**PRESKSHA AGRAWAL**  
AIR 30, UPSC 2022



**PRATIKSHA SINGH**  
AIR 52, UPSC 2022



**SANKET KUMAR**  
AIR 128, UPSC 2022



**B SARAVANAN**  
AIR 147, UPSC 2022



**MELVYN VARGHESE**  
AIR 155, UPSC 2022



**DURGA PRASAD ADHIKARY**  
AIR 162, UPSC 2022



**RUSHIKESH H SHINDE**  
AIR 183, UPSC 2022



**SANKET KUMAR**  
AIR 128, UPSC 2022



**THARUN PATNAIK MADALA**  
AIR 22, UPSC 2021



**PAVITHRA MUTYAP**  
AIR 608, UPSC 2021



**APALA MISHRA**  
AIR 09, UPSC 2020



**Dr. ABHISHEK SAINI**  
AIR 327, UPSC 2020



**SHUBHAM YADAV**  
AIR 13, UPPSC 2018



**AKASH SINGH**  
AIR 193, UPSC 2018



**M. NAVEEN**  
AIR 75, UPSC 2018



**BHARAT MITTAL**  
AIR 256, UPSC 2017



**ZAFAR IQBAL**  
AIR 39, UPSC 2016



**Dr. SACHIN K SINGHAL**  
AIR 193, UPSC 2016



**ASHIRWAD KUMAR**  
AIR 35, UPSC 2015



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