

Anthropology

Q7. Define applied Anthropology. How can it be utilized to solve the problems like social inequality, ethnic violence, political instability and terrorism.

1. Introduction:

Applied Anthropology is the branch of anthropology that focuses on using anthropological knowledge and methods to solve practical social issues. It addresses real world challenges by working directly with communities, governments and organizations. This field plays a vital role in fostering social ^{promoting} change, equality, and resolving conflicts by providing culturally sensitive and sustainable solutions.

2.

Applied Anthropology

Applied anthropology refers to the

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practical application of anthropological theories, methods, and findings to address real-world issues, and solve social problems. Unlike theoretical anthropology, which focuses on understanding human cultures and societies in an abstract sense, applied anthropology is action-oriented.

It involves working with communities, governments, and NGOs, and corporations to develop policies, design programs, and implement interventions that improve human well-being.

According to Margret Mead:

"Fieldwork is central to the inquiry of anthropology"

Many are notable anthropologists i.e. Fraz Boaz did his fieldwork among the Eskimos in Canadian island, and Malinowski did fieldwork on Trobriand islanders

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of Papua New Guinea.

2. Utilization of Applied Anthropology in Addressing Social Problems:

1. Social Inequality:

Anthropologists study the root causes of ~~Anthropology~~ inequality, such as class, caste, race and gender discrimination. By engaging with marginalized communities, applied anthropologists can influence policy changes, promote inclusive education, and design economic programs that empower disadvantaged groups.

For Example: In Brazil, anthropologists worked with indigenous groups to secure land rights, contributing to legal reforms that recognized those territories.

2. Ethnic Violence:

Applied Anthropologists analyze inter-group relations, cultural misunderstandings, and historical grievances that ^{can} lead to ethnic conflict. Their work often involves facilitating dialogue between conflicting communities, mediating disputes, and promoting reconciliation.

3. Political Instability:

Political instability often arises from issues like corruption, lack of representation, or cultural misunderstandings between governments and local communities. Applied anthropologists help by studying the social and political structures of different regions to ~~help~~ identify the root causes of unrest.

Example:

Anthropologists' understanding ~~about~~ of how local government ^{an} structures function and strengthening them to promote political participation.

and stability.

4. Terrorism:

Applied Anthropologists contribute to ~~an~~ counter-terrorism strategies by studying the socio-economic and ideological factors that promote radicalization. By engaging with communities at risk, they can help design programs that address grievances, promote social cohesion, and prevent extremist actions.

Example:

Designing youth engagement programs that ~~promote~~ offer alternatives to extremist ideologies through education, employment, and social integration.

4- Conclusion:

Applied anthropology plays

a crucial role in addressing contemporary global challenges by offering culturally informed solutions. By immersing themselves in local contexts, applied anthropologists act as ~~major~~ bridges between communities and policy makers, ensuring that interventions are not only effective but also respectful of cultural diversity.

Q8. Write short notes on:

4. Etic and Emic

The etic and emic are two key perspectives used in anthropological research to study cultures and societies.

1. Emic Approach

The emic perspective focuses on ~~the~~ understanding a culture from the viewpoint of the people within that culture. It is insiders' perspective.

It emphasizes subjective experiences, meanings, and interpretations that

are important to the community being studied. Anthropologist become part of their local context, learning the language, customs and beliefs to gain a deep, insider understanding.

Example:

Margaret Mead's research in Samoa involved understanding local beliefs about adolescence and gender roles through the perspectives of Samoan people.

Advantages of Emic approach:

- It provides a rich, detailed and culturally nuanced insights.
- It helps to avoid imposing external biases or misunderstandings.

2. Ethic Approach:

The Ethic perspective analyzes culture from an external, objective point of view. It applies universal categories and frameworks to compare cultures and identify patterns across societies.

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This approach often uses standardized methods, such as surveys, to gather data ^{that} can be compared across different cultural contexts.

Example:

When researching diet and nutrition, anthropologists might use scientific methods to measure caloric intake, regardless ^{of} how the local population perceives food.

Advantages of Ethic:

- It allows for cross-cultural comparisons and generalizations.
- It is useful for identifying universal human behaviours.

1. Ethnology

It is the comparative and analytical study of different cultures. It focuses on identifying patterns, similarities, and differences across cultures to understand universal human

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behaviours and cultural diversity. Ethnologists use data collected from various ethnographic studies to draw theoretical conclusions about how societies function.

Example:

Comparing marriage customs across African, Asian, and European societies to identify common cultural themes or unique practices.

Ethnography:

Ethnography is the in-depth, descriptive study of a specific culture or community through direct observation, participation, and interviews.

It focuses on understanding the daily lives, rituals, and beliefs of people within their natural environment. It

is conducted through fieldwork where anthropologists immerse themselves in the culture for an extended period.

Example:

It is studying the life style

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of an Amazonian tribe by living among them and documenting their customs, language, and social structure.

Ethnography tends to describe one culture in detail, while ethnology is about comparing multiple cultures to find patterns and differences.

2. Paleolithic Culture (2.5 million years ago)

Paleolithic culture was the culture of old stone age. There were stone tools. People were hunter-gatherers, relying on hunting animals and gathering wild plants. They used to live in small nomadic groups and they took shelter in caves, huts, or temporary structures.

They used different tools such as hand axes, scrapers and spears made from flint or bone.

Fire was discovered and was used for cooking, protection and

warmth.

Example: The Lascaux caves in France.

Mesolithic Culture: (10,000-8000 BC)

This period was termed as middle Stone Age. Their tools become more refined and specialized. In this time, people practiced a mix of hunting, fishing and food gathering. There was greater use of bows and arrows for hunting. There was domestication of animals and early stages of agriculture began.

Example: Bhimbetka rock shelters in India, show early Mesolithic cave paintings.

6. **Phratry:** A phratry is bigger than a clan. The ~~little~~^{literal} meaning of phratry in Hindi is brotherhood. It has been seen in some tribes that due to some natural calamities or other reasons many people of the clan die, in such cases two-four gotras together form a new unit. This is called phratry. Like clan, phratry is also unilineal and exogamous. Examples: Munda, Ho, Ooran etc. (all are tribes of India).

Moiety: In some communities, it is found that the whole community splits into two unilateral descent groups and these are two different moieties. This system is called dual organization.

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This means that it shows two groups of kinship. The members of one moiety are allowed to marry members of other moieties.

They are ^{also} linked clans.

