



KARNATAKA STATE OPEN UNIVERSITY

Mukthagangotri, Mysuru-570006



History theory and Method

M.A. History I Semester



Course : MHIHC 1.1

Blocks 1,2,3 and 4

Karnataka State Open University
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M.A. HISTORY

I SEMESTER

Hard Core-1.1

History Theory and Method

COURSE - MHIHC 1.1

BLOCK-1,2,3 & 4

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Preface

Dear Learners,

Welcome to the Department of Studies and Research in History Karnataka State Open University, Mukthagangothri, Mysuru. History is the basis of all subjects of study which fall under the category of humanities and social science. It is often said to be the Queen or **Mother of the Social Science**.

At present history is no more confined to the study of political activities of man but it also includes a study of his achievements in the physical, social, economic, religious, philosophical literacy, artistic, cultural, industrial, technological and scientific fields. Starting from Ancient times upto Contemporary age, its relevance and scope is as wide as the world and as wide as the existence of man on Earth.

Building knowledge and understanding of Historical events enables us to develop a much greater appreciation for current events today, the knowledge of History should be used for inclusiveness and progress of human civilization, one of the mottoes of KSOU is to impart knowledge to the society in this background. The Department of History, has prescribed as ***History Theory and Method***, for I semester M.A. Students. This Self-Learning Material has been prepared as per UGC distance education norms, by the experts, which gives lucid information on the concepts of history and historical method.

This self-learning material, entitled ***HISTORY THEORY AND METHOD***, has been divided into 4 Blocks. 16 units, they not only help you to get M.A. Degree, but also can help you for your various competitive Exams. I hope you will make use of this study and wish you good luck.

Wish you all the best.

Dr.V.M.Ramesha
Chairman

Department of Studies and Research in History

Karnataka State Open University, Mysore

COURSE -1

BLOCK -1

INTRODUCTION

DEAR LEARNERS,

M. A. First Semester Course-I Entitled *History theory and Method* is divided into 4-Block each Block contains 4-units in total 16-units. All the units prepared by the experts on the line of learners friendly.

The Block -1 considers being the introduction to the preliminary s units. tudies in the historical methodology, which is more **essential** and important than any this else to move towards the study of himself as a independent discipline I hope you will be highly benefited by reading this block.

Block-1 is consisted unit from no 1 to 4.

Unit. 1 is on the basic understanding of the concept history and its meaning. further it describes the definitions of history which is give by many historians from Dionysius to will Durant, as well as the nature and scope of history. Theoretical aspects of history have surely offered us a fertile ground for discussion on variety of subjects,

Unit 2 explores the value, content and subject matter history. Here you will also going to analyze the structure and varies kinds of history such economic, social, cultural, religious and military history. The new kind history emerges, that is Subaltern studies, which deals with the events relating to the sub ordinate or suppressed or marginalized sections of the society.

Unit 3 analyze the history and it relation with other social science such as geography, economic, s, political science,sociology and literate, further it also explains how history has got assistance from auxiliary sciences ,like Archeology , Graphology , Epigraphy ,Sigillography,Chronology and other subjects for its full meaning and understanding.

Unit 4 examines the importance sources, nosource no history on this context source are discussed in detail about the primary sources and secondary sources for historical research, this unit also explores debates on history as a science or art or a social science and historians come to the conclusions that history is both a science and an art.

Dr. V. M. Ramesha

Chairman

exploration or information. For a long time, history was taken to mean a record of the fact. But now, it is clear that history is a record of unique events in the life of humanity. It is conserving and understanding what has happened and completing what has been going on. The completing process involves a March toward human destiny.

Concept of history

History analyses the human past, enabling us to study continuity and changes over time. Historians use all forms of evidence to examine, analyse, interpret, revisit, and reinterpret the past, including literary and archaeological sources. Historians are trained in discovering and evaluating these sources and challenging the task of making historical sense. History is meant to understand the past and present; the different interpretations of the past allow us to see the present differently and, therefore, imagine and work towards different futures.

1.2.2 Definitions of history

Defining a subject is not an easy task. Sir John Adams says that even if we ask a philosopher to define a dog well in pain of death, he might as well lose his life. History is a record of one-of-a-kind occurrences throughout humanity's history, including disasters and life vibrations. Man looks at wilderness. He was a brute and savage, and he beholds a garden that could be created out of the rich soil even as he looks. He has an eye not merely on the ditches and uneven surface of the past but also on the prospect of building a beautiful mansion for the future. Thus the nature and scope of history are too vast and complex. Let us know with a few definitions of history. Greeks were the earliest to define history. From Dionysius to will durant many scholars defined history in different ways.

1 Dionysius

Dionysius of Halicarnassus describes the history of philosophy teaching by examples. History offers us the quintessence of human experience, whose study has universal value. When lessons are drawn from real life and when those lessons are ordered to form a coherent whole. We have history’.

1.0 OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to,

- Analyse the meaning of history
- Examine the definitions of history
- Understand the nature of history
- Discuss the scope of history
- Analyse the evolution of history as an independent discipline

1.1 INTRODUCTION

We are living in a period of fast development and advancement. We would rather identify ourselves regarding where we are heading than where we have come from. Our forefathers and mothers are unimportant to us. Anything from the past is outdated and meaningless to us now that man is smarter than ten years ago. As a result, the past, especially the very recent past, is veiled in mists in most of our thoughts and only vaguely recognised; our ignorance of the past is due to apathy rather than a lack of information. We do not believe that history is important, yet it is. It is stated that whoever has power over the past influences the future. Our perceptions of the past influence how we perceive the present. This unit will investigate the meaning, definitions, and scope of history.

1.2 MEANING AND DEFINITIONS OF HISTORY

1.2.1 Meaning History

The historical method is a technique developed to present past events from their correct perspectives. It trains scholars in the art of writing history. Before we learn the techniques of writing history, we should understand the question of what is history, the meaning of history, the nature of historical explanation, and the existing scope of history.

It is the need to start our course on history with a unit of understanding the meaning of history. Our idea is to make the word 'History' clear. History is the German word 'Geschichte', meaning an intelligible and significant narrative of past events. According to some scholars, history is derived Greek word HISTORIA, which means inquiry, research,

UNIT-1

MEANING AND DEFINITIONS – NATURE AND SCOPE OF HISTORY

Structure

1.0 Objectives

1.1 Introduction

1.2 Meaning of history

1.3 Definitions of history

1.4 Nature of History

1.5 Scope of History

1.6 Answers to check your progress

1.7 Summary

1.8 Keywords

1.9 Self-assessment questions

1.10 Books for further study



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Karnataka State Open University

Department of Studies and Research in History

M. A. I Semester

Course: MHIHC 1.1 History Theory and Method

Bolck – I	Page No.
Unit - 1: Meaning and definition of history, Nature and scope of History	1-15
Unit -2: Value and subject matter of history, Structure and form of history	16-29
Unit -3: History and its relation with other social science, History and auxiliary science.	30-42
Unit-4: Sources of history, History a science or art or a social science.	43-55

2 Herodotus (484-424BCE)

Herodotus lived in the 5th century BCE and was a Greek historian. He has made significant contributions to history and anthropology. He visited Greece and western Asia. He compiled material on Greek city-states and published nine volumes as a result. 'THE HISTORY OF PERSIAN WARS' is one of them, and it deals with the Persian-Greek war. His work was the first historical writing. He was the first to state the meaning and scope of history. According to Herodotus –“**History is a record of great heroes and unique events to be remembered by the future generation**”, Herodotus has concentrated his ideas in this definition on the accomplishments of great men and significant events from which future generations can learn.

3 St. Augustine (354 to 430CE)

St. Augustine was a Christian saint and a profound thinker. He was the greatest among the church historiographers of the medieval period. His work ‘**The City Of God**’ is considered one of the world's greatest works. According to Augustine –“**History Is The Story Of The Struggle Between God And Satan, Which Unlimitedly End In The Victory Of God (Good) Over Satan (Evil).**” St. Augustine, being a church historiographer, gave more importance to miracles and saints in his writings. He strongly believed that God guided human history. History in medieval Europe was the monopoly of the churchmen for several centuries. They used both secular and religious histories as an instrument to popularize the church faith.

4 Karl Marx:(1818-1883 CE)

Karl Marx was a revolutionary socialist, philosopher, economist, sociologist, historian, and journalist from Germany. His theories were influential in the formation of social science and the development of the socialist movement. He is also regarded as one of the best economic interpreters of history's definition. "History Is A Story Of The Struggle Between The Haves And The Have Nots," Karl Marx said. In this term, Marx highlights the fight between the "haves" and the "have-nots," i.e. the rich and the poor. He claims that the exploiters and the exploited are constantly at odds. 'Das Capital' and 'Communist Manifesto' are two of his great works.

5.J.B Bury(1861-1927 CE):

J.B Bury was an Irish historian and a scholar. He worked as a professor of modern history at Cambridge University. According to him, 'History is a science. No less and no more 'bury says-every historian must, like a scientist, collect the data and valid shreds of evidence. He should critically evaluate the subject and bring out the truth without bias, but observation and experimentation are not possible in history.

Similarly, events in history cannot be re-created. Hence, history is not pure science. J.B Bury himself said,' history is the oldest art and the youngest aspirant to become a science'. Historians will have to make use of his present his subject creatively.

6. Arnold Toynbee (1889-1975 CE)

Arnold Toynbee was a British historian. He worked as a professor of history at London University. He wrote some works on religion and history. His great work 'A Study of history' is in 12 volumes. He studied 26 civilizations of the world. According to him 'History is the story of the rise and fall of civilizations". Toynbee explains that- history is the story of 'man' but not of individuals, their power, glory and battles. It is the 'people' who should be given importance. For him, history is the treasure of man's knowledge and his role in developing culture and civilization.

7. Jawaharlal Nehru(1889-1964 CE)

The study of history was particularly important to Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first prime minister. His well-known works are 'discovery of India and '**Glimpses of world history**' both were written when he was a political prisoner. 'The glimpses of world history 'are a collection of letters that he wrote to his daughter Indira Gandhi. According to Nehru – "history is a story of the man from barbarism to civilization".

Nehru feels that man, through ages, has struggled to improve at every stage. He says history involves both conflicts and harmonies, stage. he says history involves both conflicts harmonies which have helped him attain a high level of civilization. This fact can be ascertained in more than 4000 years of human history.

Aristotle states that "history contrast research into the analytical work of explanation. Just definition is significant as the term 'contrasts' brings the relative value of each fact that

must be studied to explain how one is related to another permanently and systematically. He also further suggests that history is an account of the unchanging past. The past, by its nature, can never change. *According to Polybius and Thucydides, history is "a story of things worth remembering."* Sir Francis Bacon defined history as "a discipline that makes men smart." *The ability to discriminate between right and wrong is referred to as wisdom. Wisdom is the result of history's sobriety.* Professor Henry Johnson defines that 'History in the broadest sense is everything that ever happened, it is the past itself, whatever it may be'. Professor Finlay says that history is any sequence of events traced in their relations' Professor Maitland says, "What men have done and said, above all what they have thought, that is history". In its wider sense, history is a method of explaining the present by referencing its passing stage. In the narrower sense, history explains human achievement where there would be no room for isolated facts or events. There is a continuity of growth and development in human society.

G. I. Reiner says that "history is the story of men living in society". History is thus the growth of man's mind, intelligence, and how he used to discover better ways of living and build up orderly societies that he calls civilization or culture. Culture is that complex whole that includes the knowledge, belief, arts, morals, customs and any other capabilities or habits acquired by man as a member of the society. Therefore history is not merely a body of maxims supplying examples from which ordinary men could learn to be good and politicians to be great. However, it is a study of the forces, i.e., social, political-economic and Psychological, that shape the course of human progress.

Lecky says that "history is the record and explanation of moral revolutions". The emphasis in this definition is on ideological and moral values and not on factual or contingent factors. Leibnitz says that history is the true demonstration of religion. Edmund Burke thinks history is a preceptor of prudence and not of principles. Carlyle regards 'history as a record of human accomplishment and the lives of great men from the substance of history'. In other words, history is nothing but the biography of great men.

'History is past politics, and politics is present history,' adds Seeley. When Lord Acton declared, "history is the evolving story of human freedom," he gave history a new spin. An L. Rowse set that 'history is essentially the record of the life of men in societies in their geographical and physical environment'. Seignobos says that 'history is essentially a science of reasoning since all historical knowledge is indirect'. Oakhot defines history as the historian's experience'. E. H. Carr thinks that history means interpretation. Earnest Bernheim

gives a significant definition that 'history is a science that. The facts dictated by space and time of men's progress in their individual, typical, and collective activities as social beings' are investigated and presented in their framework of Psychophysical causality. Accordingly it is a science, and it is quite different from fiction. Its main job is to search, explore, investigate, and inquire about presenting the fruit of this search in the proper context, which is defined as one of causality. A history must get to the source of the problems to explain the origin of the facts, determined by mental and material variables at a specific point in time and in a specific location. The facts that are thus investigated relate to the progress or change in man's position so far as his individual or collective activity is concerned.

The business of history is the proper understanding of man by man, which does it by narrating man's unique ideas, thoughts and deeds so that we can know everything worth knowing about what man has ever done, thought or hoped or felt. Subjectively expressed, history may be regarded as the record of all that has occurred within the reality of human consciousness. Objectively treated history considers the progress and decline of the communist states with special reference to politics, morality, religion, intelligence, social organisations, economic condition, refinement and taste. We may say that no branch of knowledge has had more difficulty discovering our definite status than history.

1.3 NATURE OF HISTORY

The affairs of men and nations or constantly in motion; consequently, there has been a radical change in recent years as to the true nature and scope of history. It was merely a catalogue of events serialised descriptively in the past. We now have to study history critically and scientifically, where the historian thinks for himself instead of repeating stories found in old books. History becomes a study of reality in its aspect to becoming. The historian's job is to grasp the past to comprehend the present, not to adore the past or to be free of it. Most authorities agree that history is the story of men's experiences. These experiences are passive and active. History is a social science, and it is not merely an art of arranging and narrating past events but a deep study of the fundamental forces that determine the course of human progress. There is a vast diversity of experience in the social and political fields of different communities, nations, and civilizations. But most of this diversity is more apparent than real. The forces that influence the human mind and shape the course of human action are uniform worldwide. These uniformities discover that a true historian must turn to explain the facts of the history of any nation. A historian is greatly engaged in finding

scientific method applied to historical studies and raised three stages in human progress: theology, natural physics, and positive sciences. History which Comte calls as 'Social Physics' comes under positive sciences with the possibility of drawing general laws of human behaviour. He believes that the nature of history is to reveal the

Ultimate consequences of actions and movements of the past, their relations to later times down to the present and the drawings of positive interfaces from these moments. Napoleon and Bismarck were judged in quite a different way than their contemporaries. However, we have now a different opinion about them as we know what happened after their role in history.

As a result, the nature of history is extremely complex. It lends itself to a variety of interpretations. No branch of history is more than a single window into a huge web of events. History is a never-ending conversation between the past and the present. It changes the nature of its interest to man from time to time. Namier has beautifully summed up the nature of history 'The functions of the history and is to that of the painter and not of the photographic camera; to discover and set forth, to single out and stress that which is of the nature of the thing and not to reproduce indiscriminately all that meet the eyes that matters history is the great outline and the deadly mass of irrelevant narrative. History is therefore necessarily subjective and individual'. Believe that history repeats itself is not correct, for historical records do not repeat since every fact is unique. Similar facts occurring at different times are not the same but similar facts. Similar historical situations can recur. There would be a revolution, a reformation, a colonization, a dictatorship, a political upheaval, a social change and economic transformation but all these cannot be identical. Trevelyan is right when he says that history repeats itself, and history never repeats itself or both equally true. It is not always true that a political or social revolution is followed by military despotism. George Washington was not a military despot although he led a political revolution.

1.4 SCOPE OF HISTORY

With the passage of time and scope of history has been widened. And new areas are being included in it. History is assuming three dimensions. Instead of all old restrictions to the study of kings and dynasties wars and conquests and so on, a more human conception is now envisaged which includes ordinary social functions such as games, manners, customs, commerce and everyday business transactions and all the things which constitute the substance

out what happened, how it happened, and why. History can be of events or the memory of events.

There is a continuity of growth and development in human society and history. Take note of these developments to present them in their proper context, time and space. In history, there are facts and events rationally related to one another. History is not merely a record of some kings and courts, war and peace, revolts and rebellions, but it should be simply the development of something complex out of something simple. It is a phenomenon that we ought to deal with scientifically. It shows that events are not merely in order of time but also as links in a chain of cause and effect. It is the business of the historian to explain this chain of cause and effect through the process of interpretation.

There has been no unanimity so far as the nature of history is concerned. Conflicting views have been expressed on this behalf. A few scholars think that history repeats itself, and others refute this idea vehemently. The former based their conclusion on the fact that human nature remains the same at all times. The variations are about the degree but not of kind. It is the nature of man to fight, and hence wars are a psychological factor seen through the ages. The difference has been seen in the mode of fighting, but fighting has been a constant factor. Those who oppose this view think that change is the law of nature, and even if two events appear alike, they are so far. History is a record of unique individualistic and remarkable events. Some thinkers hold that all history is contemporary history. Croce strongly advocates this view of contemporaneity in history, by the past and present or links in one chain of common processes. Events of all types are connected systematically. Add the historian of any age looks at the events of the past from his angle, contemporaneity cannot be avoided.

Likewise there are several other aspects connected with the nature of history. Which make the subject very profound? History is regarded as exceedingly dynamic. It concerns itself with the ever changing drama of life, and is related to the rise, growth and decay of a culture. E. H. Carr uses the view that history is an unending dialogue between the present and past. It is not merely a catalogue of

Events but a critical study and an intensive mental work in the reflective spirit. It calls for imagination which varies from person to person. Hence interpretation and explanation are agential without which history would be reduced to a mere grocer's list. History is the mode of thought using past as reference and rationalization. It is the contemporary consciousness of

the philosopher who investigates that forms the essence of history. The dead the data must be brought back to life by re-enacting the past through reflective thought. A history without a problem to solve or an idea to display is a bare chronicle, play sort of catalogue lacking soul and meaning fit only to be the material for a philologist. To a historian past is an unexplored region waiting to be discovered. Having discovered the past he has to pass judgement.

This brings us to whether value judgment is desirable in history. Lord Acton says it is desirable and essential to a historian's work. Evaluation of events which year history and studies is not completely avoidable. Acton indulges in such moralizing statements as "power corrupt man and absolute power corrupts absolutely". Best tendency to exalt history to a rank of a supreme court that apportions blames and rewards virtues is repugnant to Ranke, whose aim was to describes events as they happened. He would not advocate any indulgence into value judgements in the historical reconstruction. But others do not agree with this view, and think that history indicates good and chastisement of evil. It shall be dereliction of duty on the part of history and if he takes an indifferent attitude in drawing proper conclusions. Acton believes that 'the greatest achievement of histories to develop the perfect and arm conscience'. However too much moralization is not justified in history.

Besides, the nature of history will change according to the prevailing philosophy of history and even from historian to historian. For example countries like India, which are liberated from imperial control recent and kind of history written by their erstwhile masters, would like to rewrite the whole history themselves. This is a very delicate job in which emotions would play a dominant part, and subjectivity would creep in. the nationalist historians of India are likely to commit historiographical errors of a different sort, known as patriotic error. Play historians outlook on society will have an impact on his writing. At the height of British historians like Greece, Freeman, Seeley and others regarded history, as the root and politics as the fruit, and all that history is past politics. In the 19th century it was a fashion to regard every important discipline as science. Bury sent to say that 'history is a science no less and no more'. When Karl Marx enunciated his ideology of economic determinism, he gave a different slant to history through his materialistic interpretation of this subject. Thus a historian's outlook will also have an impact on his writing.

Yet another approach in recent times is to use history as an interpretation of the past in order to predict the future. History becomes a prophecy in rivers, demonstrating the past as a meaningful preparation for the future. The dominant role of a historian is interpretative.

History is the occurrence of events in time and space. It is temporal and material, and not metaphysical or supernatural of non-rational will stop they should come within the experience or record of man and they should be the product of man's activity in order to comprehend the world around him. Historical activity deals with those measures which have profound effect of the posterity. What seems to be a person purely private activity will not constitute history unless such activity has public consequence like Henry VIII's marriage with Anne Bolyne. History is mostly concerned with the life and doings of consequential person.

As history deals with the past it cannot foretell what the future would be. Hence prediction is beyond the reach of history. I dealing with the history and is not concerned with everything that happened, not everybody that lived. Only important men and events attract his attention. He is selective in his concern, but he is careful to pick what is relevant and thw real, possible, and useful. Having made up his mind what to choose, the historian goes deep into the dim antiquity to trace the beginning or the root of the problem. He is confronted with the three issues of a problem: 'what', 'how', and 'why'. The importance of time, space, nature and extent of the issue or all discussed in a manners as to construct the story in its entirety. In this process history picks up both the whole and their continents to make the story full and comprehensive.

History is dynamic and never static, and at most in time. Different cultures have considered this moment in time in different ways. Some call it cyclical, returning to the starting point described as 'eternal return'. Others have linear consumption, a straight line from a unknown and unpredictable future. It is a movement along this line starting from the past, passing through the present to the future to stop a third view that regards this moment as 'progress; a movement from the left decides to a more desired and desirable condition. Acton said, 'The law of all progress is the evolution of the simple into complex by successive differentiation'. Biological data is handy to understand this point. A seed so simple is appearance causes infinite capacity to the complex. The moment it is shown into the soil at germinates and evolves itself into a mighty tree bearing flowers and fruits and yielding millions and millions of such other seeds. But in order to produce this result it has to pass through successive differentiation. The idea of progress is related to the idea of evolution. Sociologists like Vico anticipated Darwin. Earlier planning had already said that the ages progressively improving. Comte who profound do positive school of thought believe that the

of the daily life of men, women and children. History is no longer a branch of literature or politics, but of culture, which constitutes knowledge, belief, art, morals, customs, and any other capabilities or habits acquired by man as a member of society.

History has mainly two functions to perform. When the collection of data and the other is the interpretation of this data to explain the fundamental forces of history. The first part has to be objective and therefore scientific. The second part is subjective and hence artistic. According to Trevelyan there are 3 distinct functions which a historian has to perform. They are scientific, imaginative and literary. The scientific function relates to gathering material or the accumulation of facts. The imaginative function assists in selecting and fascinatingly classifying this data to make history a beautiful piece of literature. The scope of history is not merely furnishing a catalogue of events but a critical and analytical study to draw useful and constructive inferences. In other words, its main function is interpretation of the facts.

History excludes from its scope the study of nature and confines its attention to study the story of man's evolution from humble beginning to complex achievements. But nature also comes within the scope of history if it has anything to do with man. The rivers, lakes, hills, mountains and seas figure much in history in the context of their role in shaping man's destiny. Waterloo, Plassey, or Panipat would not have been heard in history but for Napoleon, Clive, and Babur. Cauvery gained importance in history only after Visveswaraya put dam across this river. Whether it did the Indus or the Ganga or the Himalayas they are all important as they played such a considerable part in the lives of the Indians. The history scope is unique to the origin of the past and determines relationships and comparisons.

The historian will attempt to trace the counters of the dynamic forces in society. History is not concerned with the quality of the past. Gibbon is not right in saying that history is little more than a register of humanity's crimes, follies, and misfortunes. The scope of history includes the brighter aspects and progress out weights retrogression in the time scale of history. Toynbee goes to the level of saying that great that great moments of history were not those when empires were built up and great statesman played there vital role, but the periods of depressions which led to important movements. History has to consider all human achievements in all their aspects such as science, technology, discoveries, inventions and adventures. But primarily the social life of man, his political achievements, his cultural attainments, his constitutional arrangements and his economic enjoy are from the main scope

of history, as they affect his welfare from day to day; and it is through the media of state and society that the personality of man fulfil itself.

Nevertheless, the history of ideas, the history of science, the history of art are all quite relevant to us. Even the commoner is within the scope of history. Although the common person has not done such to attract the historian's attention, only the great man has become the focus of attention. Yet the common person has suffered enough, endured, aided and abetted benevolence and tyranny and has played a role in assisting great man in achieving fame. From the pyramids of Egypt to sky-capers of modern times he has played an important part behind the scene, and hence deserves to be brought in increasing measure within the scope of history.

Thus the history and takes interest in great variety of sub-divisions of history, of entire humanity. He takes interest in many subjects of neighbouring disciplines such as economics, sociology, psychology and literature. With literature he has very close affiliation, as history often becomes literature. From the 19th century the scope of history has been much widened. The 19th century called 'The century of History' has humanised history and made it a centre of reality and thought.

1.5 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

I Fill in the blanks

1. -----were the first to start historical writings
2. The author of City of God was-----

II Question to be answer in one line each

3. Who is called as father of scientific history?
4. What is meant by subaltern study

III Answer the following true or false

5. History make men to wise
6. History never repeat

IV Answer the following multiple choice question

7. History is '*Unending dialogue between past and present*' defined by

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| A. R G Collingwood | C. Thomas Carly |
| B. Karl Marx | D. E H Car |

8. History is the '*Unfolding story of human freedom*' said by

A. Lord Acton

B. Voltaire

C. J.N . Sarkar

D. Pannikar

Answer

1. Greeks
2. St Augustine
3. Thucydides
4. Study of social group that exclude from dominant power structure
5. True
6. False
7. D
8. A

1.6 SUMMARY

Thus, no branch of knowledge had more difficulty discovering its definitive status than history. The historical past only exists because the mind's vision re-creates it. Histories are related to something changing instead of something constant or repeat itself. It includes both nature and humanity in their chances of growth or declain face. Regards to the scope and nature history is never expanding Herodotus has the father of history was nearly an excellent story teller only thirteen year later his successors to see Thucydides happen to be almost a scientific historian. During 19th century historian dealt largely with government and greatened with development of national conscious an growth of political liberalism. the twenty century witness a change in emphasis towards economic, social, history and present century focuses of urban history , global history and subaltern history. Further the scope history has been enlarge objective empiricism to historicism the nineteen century which is called the century of history has humanized history and made it a centre of reality and thought.

1.7 KEY WORDS

- **Historian:** Enquiry or examine passed event

- **Historicism:** Explain the past event based on cause and effect
- **Historical:** Actual and factual event
- **Historical philosopher:** One who propagated ideals ,principles and historical Laws in history
- **Historian or Historicist:** One who examine the cause and effects of events

1.8SELF-ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

1. Write a note on the meaning and definitions of history
2. Critically analyse the nature and scope of the history
3. Write a note on Greek historians
4. Analyse Karl marks and Arnold Toynbee definitions to history
5. Examine subject history as independent discipline.

1.9 BOOKS FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. B.Sheik Ali, History Its Theory And Method, Macmillan Publisher, Delhi , 2009.
2. Laxmi Jain, Historical Methods and Histography, Vayu Education of India,2020.
3. Y K Chandrashekar, Historical Research Theory And Method, Swasthick Publisher, 2012.
4. K N Chitnis, Research Methodolgy In History, Athletic Publisher, 2020.
5. Renier. G. I., History-It's Purpose And Method, George Alen And Unwin, 1947.
6. Carr. E. H, What Is History, Pelican Pub,1947.
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Dr. V. M. Ramesha

UNIT 2

SUBJECT MATTER OF HISTORY AND KINDS OF HISTORY

STRUCTURE:

2.0 Objectives

2.1 Introduction

2.2 Subject Matter of History

2.3 Kinds of History

2.4 Answers to check your progress

2.5 Summary

2.6 Key Words

2.7 Self-Assessment Questions

2.8 Books for Further Study

2.0 OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit you will be able to,

- Analyse the content of history
- Describe the subject matter of history
- Examine the various kinds of history
- Critically evaluate the value of history
- Discuss the environment history and women's history

2.1 INTRODUCTION

History enables us to comprehend how the world came to be the way it is. It introduces us to interesting individuals and women and encourages us to understand human nature better. It connects the present with the past, observing how man has discovered better ways of life and built organised societies known as civilizations. Studying history is not a frill or a luxury, but rather a necessity. A nation that forgets its history will perish. History mainly concerned with human beings and what they have done. Therefore the subject matter of history in man and his activities. Only a few are unique, outstanding and individualistic from the core of history. Hence it is curious to understand what the subject matters of history is? Hence here is an attempt to understand the subject matter of history. History is a broad subject that deals with many aspects, such as political, social, economical, cultural, etc.

2.2 SUBJECT MATTER OF HISTORY

There has a serious debate as to the elements that constitute the subject matter of history, which is different from the subject matter of those studies loosely called their natural science. History is a different mode of experience. History knowledge, according to Collingwood, "is the knowledge of what man has done in the past". History is the record of human experience but what is human experience? It is an abstract concept which concerns with thoughts. This God is capable of re-enactment in the historians mind. What has happened earlier is being renewed at present not physically but mentally. The perpetuation of past acts in the present is the main job of the historian. Therefore, the subject matter of

history is not a mirror object, but it is an activity of thought that is re-enacted in the historian's mind.

There has been a new approach in recent years so far as the subject matter of history is concerned. The exponent of this new concept R. G. Collingwood, in his book *The Idea of History* tells us that the subject matter of history is not a general fact like a battle or a campaign or a great personality. However, it is a thoughtful stop he says that mere object of experience cannot be history. There is and, can be no history of nature, although natural changes may also be genuinely creative and may not be mere repetitions of fixed cyclic phases.

But all this will not prove that the life of nature is historic. When a seed is sown in it undergoes metamorphosis, those changes are biological and not historical. It would be a history of nature only when the events of nature result in some thinking persons' actions. Secondly comma even experience is not as such the object of historical knowledge, for it cannot be re-Enacted. Thus the preliminary phase that the history is the individual's knowledge is too wide and too narrow and does not convey the true meaning. Unless we introduce the element of thought into history, history remains without a soul. There can be no history without thought. In our introspective mindset, the past has never been more acceptable as it is now. One criterion must be met before historical knowledge may be gained. The time gap between the historian and his object must be large enough for the object to revive itself in the historian's mind, and the historian's mind must be large enough to accommodate the resurrection. organic unity of his entire experience

Thus historical knowledge hash for its proper object thought not things thought about, but the act of thinking itself. This is the central idea one has to bear in mind. The emphasis is more on the act of thinking. What has survived from the past is not any object of material type but an idea of that object or happening. It is like abusiness of the historian to review the idea and he does that through his mental activity by a very careful study of the source of the past. This approach has helped us distinguish history from natural science on the one hand, and psychology on the other, as the study of direct experience, sensation, and feeling, which, while a mental activity, is not the same as thinking. "Thought" main certain form of experience or mental activity whose peculiarity may negatively described by saying that it is not carried away by the flow of consciousness. The difference between simply feeling and being able to express "I feel Cold" illustrates the contrast between mere feeling and

cognition. The peculiarity of thought is that it is not Consciousness but self-consciousness. Thus historical thinking is always reflection, for reflection is thinking about the act of thinking and only reflective thought could become the subject matter of history and not any other particular act of thought. It must be an effort to something of which we have a conception before we do it and like the effort to remember to a forgotten name or to perceive a confused object. A reflective activity is one which we do following a pre-conceived notion we have about it. It is an act which we perform by knowledge in advance how to perform it.

To counter his argument certain critics, like Samuel Butler, says that even unreflective, just as an infant knows how to suck. As a result, reflective acts can be broadly defined as the advertisements we make on purpose, and these are the only acts that can become historical subjects. Politics, in this sense, is something that can be studied historically. This is because politics allows for creating a plan of action in advance of its execution, and a politician's success is proportional to his ability to carry out his programme. History came into the picture when this policy is already executed and not while still in execution. As the historian is not the originator of this policy, the Question of reflective thought comes in 'as he allows his mind to be a mirror where this policy is reflected. In other words the historian reconstruct the past policy or thoughts, re-enacts the thought Again there can be a history of morals for, in moral action we are doing certain things on purpose in his mind and gives expression to this re-enactment. Conscious effort is called for both in the case of a politician and of a historian. If a person without thinking or an idea of what he was doing, proceeds with his work, and merely waits to see consequences, he is no politician and his action are blind and irrational. So also there can be a history of warfare.

Play intentions of military commanders or easy to understand. From the recorded account of the acts we can reconstruct in our minds and plan of campaigns which he tried to carry out. So also any economic activity can have a history. A man who built the factory or started a bank is acting on purpose that we can understand to bring our practical life into harmony with the ideal of what ought to be. Duty cannot be done by accident or in adventure. Here, the purpose is conceived, a theoretical activity, and then executed, which is practical. Hence, both men's practical life and the world of thought should be considered. The idea that history concerns itself only with politics, warfare, economic life, and the world of practice is wide-spread and almost universal. Hegel's view that history's proper subject matter is society and the state, the practical life or objective mind, remind as expressing itself outwardly an

action and institutions. Today art, science, religious and philosophy are proper subjects of historical study. Because in studying the subjects the historian is performing the same task of thinking about those activities. The purpose of a historian is to discover what there is to put down on paper and between dos lines of latitude and longitudes in the character sea of the reflective world. That means every actual enquiry starts from a certain problem and the purpose of the enquiry is to solve that problem.

Thus subject matter of history according Collingwood is reflective thought. It works based on the re-enactment of the experience. The past is never a given fact to the historian which he can apprehend or understand empirically by perception. He cannot see the past with his own eyes and hence he has to do the job with his mind. He knows quite well that is only possible knowledge of the past his meditative or inferential or direct and never empirical. The second argument is that witness has no bearing on this meditation. The historian does not know the past by relying on a witness who witnessed the events in question and testified on the record. It would provide him with the most benefit, not information, but belief. As a result, the historian must mentally re-enact the past. When a person thinks historically, he has specific documents or remnants of the past. His job is to figure out what happened in the past to leave these antiques behind. If the relics are written records, he must figure out what the person who penned them thought of him. The historian must think for himself to discover what this thought was.

The image is the greatest way to communicate this topic. Suppose the historian is reading the edicts of Ashoka. Merely reading those edicts and translating them would not mean knowing their historical significance. He must envisage the situation Asoka was trying to deal with, and envisage it as that emperor envisaged it. He must see for himself, just as Asoka had seen it. If the historian work to do this he is re-enacting his mind the experience on the emperor, and only in this respect he has historical knowledge are the meaning of the edict. The historian has visualise the same sorrow, suffering and misery which Ashoka felt at the sight of hundreds of thousands killed, wounded and rendered destitute in the battle of Kalinga; he has to undergo similar remorse and feel for the pain of others as Ashoka did, all his activity in which he is enacting the drama of the past exactly in the way Asoka did.

Such a historian is a great historian in proportion to the richness and fullness with which he reconstruct the past, as if his mind is a photographic camera which has received the

full image of the past. Viewed from the angle of history has become an abstract activity in which its subject matter is a kind of thought which we call “reflective thought”.

We should examine this point critically. Re-enact an experience of the past, re-think a thought, or revive an idea, means one of the two things. Either it means acting an experience or performing an act of thought resembling the original or the first act, or it means enacting an experience or performing an act of thought identical with the first. But no experience can be identical with another; therefore, presumably, the intended relation is one of the resemblances only. Knowing the past through re-enactment implies that the knower has a duplicate of it. Second, if an event could be replicated exactly, it would result in an instantaneous identification between the historian and the person he was attempting to comprehend. The object would be simply incorporated in the subject. The past is not known and only the present is known. This idea prompted that great Italian philosopher, Benedetto Croce, to expand his famous doctrine of the contemporaneity of history, which means all history is contemporary history.

Here there are two objections to this view. First, there may be much use in re-enacting two acts of the same kind. If Euclid has proved long ago that the base angles of an isosceles triangle are equal, if we also proved the same, there would not be any new thing, and search activity is not fully possible. However, much a historian may try, he cannot become an Ashoka to review the same impulses, emotions, path and feelings as that great emperor did. If he does review some of them, these acts are of the historian and not of Ashoka. How can we check that they are carbon copies of the Ashokan thought? When we re-enact a thought, it becomes our own. It becomes subjective and not objective. It becomes present and contemporary, and not past. This is what Oakeshott maintains that the historian only arranges with what is in reality his own experience, and what Croce in effect admits when he says that all history is contemporary history. Thus mere re-enactment of another's thought does not make historical knowledge, and this

Complete and faithful re-enactment of the past thought is also impossible. Historical thinking is a type of activity that is a function of self-awareness, a type of cognition that can only be accomplished by a mind aware that it is thinking in that way. Despite these two objections the theory of Collingwood that the subject matter of history is reflective thought still possesses much truth. The central ideas are the assertion that the historian is concerned with the thoughts and not with the physical manifestation of those thoughts.

Because of the nature of historical material, history is a reflective concept. Historical events are historical occurrences, hence they cannot be known in the same way as current events. Historical events are one-of-a-kind and classified by the United Nations. History describes human acts, words, and thoughts, not the behaviour of dead matter, which is the subject of science. Historical events have an incredible richness and complexity. There is great force in the statement of Oakeshott that history is said to form a world of ideas, which it is the historians' business to create and construct. If the historical past be known about it must belong to the present world of experience, if it be unknowable, history is worse than futile, it is unable history deals with human action under the aspect of their being planned and reasonable under the circumstance and hence the subject matter is sui generis or unique.

2.3 KINDS OF HISTORY

History is a broad subject with many aspects to deal; search has political history, constitutional history, legal history, diplomatic history, military history, economic history, intellectual history, etc.

2.3.1. Political history

As a sphere of human activity, politics brings about radical, rapid, and drastic changes. Politics plays an important role in determining the country's constitutional, legal, diplomatic, military, economic, and even social issues. As a result, political history has long been a favourite of historians. The English school of historians even goes so far as to claim that all history is political history, that history is the root and politics is the fruit, and that past politics is current history. From the dawn of time till now, monarchy, oligarchy, aristocracy, Plutocracy, tyranny, democracy, and dictatorship have all held power and ruled humanity's lives. At all times and in all places, and across all nations, only a few have ruled the many. As history records one-of-a-kind events, the story of a shepherd, rather than a flock of sheep with predictable behaviour, captures the public's attention. The king has been referred to as his people's shepherd. History is made by modern presidents, prime ministers, parliaments, senates, and other political bodies. Every society supports the elite, which becomes the guardians of the power seized by the great man, the hero, who leads others. The good part of the historical material relates to politics. Political History is the main stream of all history and demands the lion's share of his attention.

2.3.2 Constitutional History

Constitutional history assists in the understanding of the polity of any period. Constitutional history defines political institutions, rules and regulations, rights and responsibilities, land justice, executive legislative, and administrative functions, economic and financial ramifications, bureaucratic nature, and fundamental principles of state policy. Certain countries have written constitution which are raised read it others have unwritten constitution such as England which is extremely flexible. Constitutional history deals with the origin and development of political institutions. The evolution of the constitutions' principles is a subject matter of history. Search history is impersonal and its subject is the history of institutions.

2.3.3 Legal History

Legal history is becoming increasingly important in today's society, particularly in societies where the rule of law is a way of life. the last of Manu, the code of Hammurabi, Justinian code, Napoleonic code, Macaulay's Indian panel code, holdwoths history of English law, black stones commentaries of the laws of England and P.V. Kanes history of the Dharmashastra are all very important works on legal history.

2.3.4 Diplomatic History

Diplomatic history is a subset of political history that studies the foundations of international relations. Ambassadors are the keepers and practitioners of diplomacy and the bridges between national states. In recent years, topics such as the balance of power, the cold war, and international diplomacy have gained prominence.

2.3.5 Military History

Military history is an important part of political history because it includes wars, battles, campaigns, and conquests. It discusses the cost of labour, military strategy and tactics, war weaponry, fighting machine divisions, and various other issues. Thucydides' Peloponnesian War history, Claredon's Great Rebellion, and various other histories of the American Civil War, the Indian Mutiny, the First World War, and the Second World War have all contributed significantly to the historical literature. science wars are psychological factor in the life of humanity, and Since no age and no country is free from them, military

history is as important as political history N Sarkar's military history of India and Robert Orme's history of military transactions in India are important books on military history.

2.3.6 Economic History

Economic history has become popular in recent years. Since the time of Buckle, Comte and Marx it is assuming increasing importance. Since the days of the materialism interpretation of history, there has been a shift in historical perspective. And as such class struggle, man's skill in earning his daily bread, means of transport and communication, consumption, distribution and production, agriculture, industry, trade and commerce, land revenue, assessment of taxes are all very essential aspects which the historian has to note under the economic history. Since Darwin spoke of the struggle for existence, which is to a great extent economically motivated, modern historians tend to give high priority to economic history Adam Smith's wealth of nation, Gunnar Myrdal's Asian drama are important books on economic history.

2.3.7 SOCIAL HISTORY

Social history deals with such activities of man like religious practices, morals food, dress, family life, art and letters excluding politics and military history. Trevelyan's Social History of England is classic example of how this branch of history is written. Social history concerns itself with the origin and development of institutions. It emphasizes the cultural aspects of the evolution of man from savagery to civilization. It is the daily life of the inhabitants in past ages. The nature of family and domestic life, labour and leisure conditions, man's attitude toward nature, the culture of each age as it developed from these general conditions of life, and the changing forms in religion, literature, music, art, architecture, learning and philosophy, manners, and customs

2.3.8 UNIVERSAL HISTORY

Universal history or world history is yet another form of historical writing developed in recent years. H.G. Wells's Outlines of World History attempted to glimpse universal history. Buckle's History of Civilization in England paved the way for such adventures. Will Durant's volumes on Story of Civilization deserves to be remembered with great respect which is the most magnificent effort in this direction. The UNESCO has recently undertaken the survey of human culture in several volumes.

2.3.9 Intellectual History

Intellectual history is a more sophisticated field that deals with the basic ideas and ideologies that drive human history. It examines the evolution of intellectual classes' ideas, beliefs, and attitudes from ancient times. According to Dr. Johnson, no part of history is as useful as that which pertains to the advancement of the human mind. As evidenced by improvements in science, art, philosophy, education, and the advancement of the intellectual world, the progression of reason is both educational and fascinating.

It is known as the "History of Ideas in the Western World." This category includes works on historiography, history of political thinking, history of economic thought, and history of science. *The Decline of the West* by Spengler and *Study of History* by Toynbee are both excellent books. "The actual history of mankind is its history of ideas," remarked Schiller. History, according to Collingwood, is "the expression of human thoughts." Intellectual history is concerned with analysing what men say, think, and experience in their minds. The intellectual historian tries to assess the nature of an idea's or a group of ideas' impact on human events. He is up against the age-old difficulty of making value judgments, in which he must distinguish between common and distinctive features in ideas and attitudes. Intellectual history is more than a compilation or synthesis of material related to philosophy, literature, religions, science, and the arts; it is "the cartography of ideas," in which an attempt is made to trace and explain the impact of those ideas on a particular culture. At its most basic level, intellectual history tells us who, where, when, and how achieved what intellectual or cultural achievements. It comes close to being a collection of man's cultural knowledge at its broadest. Intellectual history aims to understand the relationship between creative ideas and their impact on non-intellectual variables. Intellectual historians are more likely to be thinkers than storytellers. Intellectual history has become increasingly popular in the United States, linking historians and social scientists. Intellectual history has reached a high level of expertise in England, France, and Germany, producing Buckle, Comte, Marx, Hegel, Croce, Spengler, Toynbee, and many other great writers historians. Intellectual history necessitates a philosophy, and it is astonishing that India, the birthplace of ideas, the home of philosophy, and the cradle of higher learning, has yet to create a single historian philosopher worthy of comparison to any in the West. If history is the cause of a nation's permanent identity that connects the past with the future, it can only do so through a chain of ideas, so it is important

to pay more attention to them. It is claimed that by studying intellectual history properly, we can link Solomon's wisdom to Socrates' guidance.

2.3.10 Cultural History

Culture places vital role in our daily life. We can barely ignore its effects regardless of where we reside on the planet. However, different cultures exist worldwide, which most students are interested in. Many variables influence the culture of certain locations. One of them is the sociopolitical issue. Food habits, in addition to geographical elements, people, and lifestyles, have a lot to do with cultural variations. This branch of history thus represents a completely new dimension in history, demonstrating the global cultural changes over time. Scholars worked in this regard Will Durant wrote “story of civilizations”, A.L. Basham’s “The wonder that was India”. R.C.Majumdar “History and culture of Indian people”, B.N.Lunia’s “History of Indian culture are important”.

2.3.11 Environmental History

This relatively new branch of history concerns the environment and its different components. It studies the effects and influence of human activity and interact on the shaping of the environment. Chakrabarty Ranjan edited a books on “Situating Environmental History” and “Does environmental matter”. Hughes J.D.Wrote “Global Environmental History”, Ramachandra Ghuha wrote “Environmentalism – A Global History” are important works in environmental History.

2.3.12 Women’s History

One of the prominent branches of history. Women history studies role of women throughout the major transformative in Regional, National and World history. It focusses on History of Feminism. As well as renowned women in different field of study from Science, Arts, Literature to Politics. The important works in this regard are Helen Lewi’s ‘Difficult Women – An imperfect history of Feminism’. Chelse Clinton and Alexandra Boiger’s “She persisted 13 American women who change the world, Bar bara A Olsen’s” “Women in the classical world – A History” Marth S.Jone’s “Vanguard how black women broke barriers won the vote and insisted equality for all”.

2.3.13 Subaltern studies,

Subaltern means inferior or subordinate, class, group, gender and age. This is to say Subaltern history deals with event relating to the Subordinate section of the society, such as trebles, peasants', workers women etc. in short subaltern history is non traditions locally produced sub history Subaltern history is a new kind of study. It is primarily concerned with the reaction of the 'under dogs' to suppression as manifested in their protest. Hence it is called history of protest. It started as a reaction to the elitist treatment of the nation's freedom struggle in India. Indian subaltern historians mounted their frontal attack the loop sided British imperialist historiography and Indian nationalist history writings. Ranjith Guha is pioneer in subaltern history of Indi he edited six volumes of Subaltern studies writings on South Asian history and society.

2.4. Answers to check your progress

I. Fill in the blanks

1. A----- that forgot history, will have no future
2. History attempts to give us the meaning of -----.

II. Question to be answer in one line each

3. Mention any one kind of history?
4. Who wrote the book *Wealth of Nation*?

III. Answer the following true or false

5. Jadunath Sarkar wrote a book called *military history India*
6. Historical information is constant

IV. Answer the following multiple choice question

7. R.G. Collingwood wrote the book

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| A. What is history | C. Economic history |
| B. The ideas of history | D. Cultural history |

8. 'The Wonder that was India' written by

- A. B.N. Luniya
- B. A.L. Bhashyam

- C. R.C. Mujumdar
- D. A. Smith.

Answer:

1. Nation
2. Life
3. Economic History
4. Adam Smith
5. True
6. False
7. B
8. B

2.5 SUMMARY

Thus historical events are unique and unclassifiable, unlike natural sciences like Zoology and Botany which classifies each species into groups and categories. Historical events are not subject to direct observation unlike other branches of sciences. Where direct observation, experimentation and generalisation are possible. In such circumstances reflective thoughts alone come to the rescue of history for its reconstructions. If the historical past is knowable, it must belong to the present world experience. In this sense all history becomes contemporary history with this difference that the historian puts a modern dress and old body or changes the expression he would have used a new bottle for old wine. If we have any doubt in accepting the proposition that the subject matter of history is reflective thought we do not doubt asserting that the subject matter of history is unique. Thus, as the scope of history expands, the various kinds of history emerge more importantly, history of science and technology, subaltern studies, oral history political, social, economic, cultural, environmental, women's history, and intellectual history.

2.6 KEY WORDS

- Asian drama** : A text on economics written by Gunnarmridal
- Arthashastra** : A political and administrative document written by Koutilya
- Contemporary history** : A kind of philosophy that propagated by Croce

Feminism : The advocacy of women's rights on the ground
Of the equality of sexes

2.7 SELF ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the subject matter of history?
2. What are the kinds of history? Explain.
3. Discuss the constitutional and Diplomatic History
4. Analyse the socio economic history.
5. Examine the features of women's history.

2.8 BOOKS FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. Laxmi Jain, Historical Methods And Histography, Vayu Education Of India, 2020
2. B.Sheik Ali, History Its Theory And Method, Macmillan Publisher India, Delhi - 2009
3. K N Chitnis, Research Methodolgy In History, Athlentic Publisher, 2020
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UNIT-3

HISTORY AND ITS RELATIONS WITH SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HISTORY AND OTHER AUXILIARY SCIENCE

Structure

3.0 Objectives

3.1 Introduction

3.2 History and its relation with social sciences

3.2.1 History and Geography 3.2.2 History and political science

3.2.3 History and Economics 3.2.4 History and Sociology

3.2.5 History and Psychology 3.2.6 History and Ethics

3.2.7 History and Statistics 3.2.8 History and literature

3.3 History and its relation with other auxiliary sciences

3.3.1 History and Chronology 3.3.2 History and Palaeography

3.3.3 History and Graphology 3.3.4 History and Diplomatic

3.3.5 History and Sigillography 3.3.6 History and other related subjects

3.4 Answers to check your progress

3.5 Summary

3.6 Key words

3.7 Self-assessment question

3.8 Books for further study

3.0 OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit, you will be able to,

- Analyse the relation between Geography and History
- Examine the relation between history and literature
- Discuss the history as mother of all social science
- Critically examine the assistance of archaeological evidences in reconstructing history
- Describe the help of auxiliary science to understand history and its full significance

3.1 INTRODUCTION

History studies numerous aspects of human life and is closely related to other social sciences that examine specific aspects of human life. Many academics believe that history is the core social science on which all other social sciences must be based. In other words, history is inextricably linked to other social sciences. History requires the help of various other disciplines, just as it benefits a variety of other sciences and fields. A historian must draw on researchers' findings in subjects like philology, chronology, palaeography, Graphology, Sigillography, Diplomatic, Epigraphy, Archaeology, and Numismatics. Let us study the history and its relationship with social sciences and other sciences.

3.2 HISTORY AND ITS RELATION WITH SOCIAL SCIENCES

Because of its composite nature, history has much in common with art and science subjects. It is related to Geography, Political science, Sociology, Economics, Literature etc. In recent times with the development of common research techniques closer relations with sciences too are fostered. Let us examine its relationship with some of the social science.

3.2.1 History and Geography:

It is University accepted that history and Geography have very close ties. Infact it would be practically impossible to study certain branches of history, without a rudimentary knowledge of geography. Geography is of immense use to history. If, chronology is one of the eyes of the history geography is the other. The time and space factors give history its current perspective. If history is the drama, geography is the stage on which this drama is enacted. The geographical factors are so important that an American geographer Elsworth

Huntington insisted that no nation either ancient or modern rise to the highest cultural status except under a climatic stimulus. Climate, Moisture humidity and weather are all determining factors. Aristotle and Montesquieu had advocated this climatic theory. The ice or glacial periods, which occurred earlier in history, were marked by the advance of intense cold from the poles to the equator. These geological and geographical elements conditioned man's very survival as a species in the evolutionary process. The impact of geography on history is a topic that is addressed in the opening chapter of every history treatise. The physical development of a country with a broken shoreline, such as Britain, Japan, or Greece, significantly impacted its history. This increased their naval strength and allowed them to expand their empire. The Himalayas and the Assam Jungles have served as obstacles against invaders from the north and east of India. China was isolated due to the Gobi and Mongolian deserts. Many conquerors, including Napoleon and Hitler, have died due to the harsh winters in Russia. Egypt's geography has preserved the ruins of its ancient civilization. Indus and Ganges rivers have played a significant part in our history. The geographical discoveries of the 15th and 16th centuries, such as Columbus' discovery of America and Vasco da Gama's discovery of a new path to India, have shaped world history since the Renaissance. Many historical events are caused by floods, droughts, earthquakes, mineral deposits, soil fertility, rivers, lakes, Meadows, shoreline, and other factors, therefore historians need have a good understanding of geography.

3.2.2 History and Political science

Prof has beautifully summed up the intimate relationship between history and Political science. Seeley in the form of a couplet. He says history without political science has no fruit and political science without history has no root. Prof. Acton further underlined the two sciences' intimate relationship, saying, "The science of politics is the one science deposited in the sand of a river." He considers history as the river itself. A historian is not merely concerned with tracing the history of the political processes by narrating the episodes, but has to learn the nature of fundamental political principles and basic forms of political institutions. Plato and Aristotle derived their political ideas from their study of the history of political institutions of the Greek world. Rousseau's theory of social contract and John Austin's theory of sovereignty had a powerful impact upon the course of history. The inter relation between the two branches of study is so real that several scholars have referenced their close affinity. History is uninterested in political conceptions and institutions, just as

politics is uninterested in war and diplomacy. History places a premium on chronology, whereas politics does not; history is concerned with occurrences, whereas politics is concerned with institutions. Nonetheless, both used the same research methodologies, even though politics is more selective. Political concepts are a shared interest for both.

3.2.3 History and Economics

History is also closely related with economics. Economics has assured greater importance in history from the time of Condorcet, Buckle, Comte, Marx and Bury. Since the Russian Revolution of 1917, the branch has gained so much importance as to overshadow all other branches. Since economic activity receives the greatest priority in man's existence, historians are called upon to bestow greater attention since the growth of culture is conditioned to a great extent by the prosperity of the nation. This aspect rightly deserves a high place. From the Industrial Revolution, Theories have been advanced that the main spring of historical activity, whether war or conquest, or colonization or empire building, was all economic motive. Indian historians like Hiren Mukherji, Palme Dutt, D.D.Kosambi, Muhammad Habib and others were impressed by the Marxian thought and tried to present an analysis from that particular standpoint. Their Professional knowledge of the economic forces has helped them explain a historical phenomenon in a new light. An economic interpretation of the growth of the society and the many vicissitudes humanity has passed through are essential aspects of history. Slavery, feudalism, imperialism, capitalism, and socialism have all played a role in human history.

In current times, history is so intertwined with the study of economic issues that reconstructing history would be impossible without a thorough understanding of the issues at hand. Thus a historian dealing with the history of twentieth century cannot ignore the economic crisis of the thirties, the politics of new deal, or the economic and trading structures established after the II world war.

3.2.4 History and Sociology

History and sociology are inextricably linked, and sociologists such as August Comte played crucial roles in developing historical studies. Karl Marx, a brilliant historian, was also a brilliant sociologist. History and sociology are both concerned with the study of man in society, and the only difference between the two is how they approach the subject. Originally history and sociology were closely interlinked. They separated for some time before they

came closer to each other in the recent years and realized that a fruitful interaction between the two disciplines was possible. This interaction between the two disciplines was largely due to Emile Durkheim (1858-1917), who favoured applying a precise experimental, comparative method to historical facts". In the present century the famous sociologist Max Weber (1864-1920) exercised significant influence on historical studies. Weber coined concepts and produced basic studies of certain institutions, which have dominated sociology, and history since then. Weber was a pioneer in studying the importance of bureaucracy in the growth of modern state.

Sociologists such as Durkheim and Weber acknowledged sociology's initial reliance on history, even while history gains from the sociologist's synthesis. Sociology needs history more than history needs sociology. Sociology deals with the institutions and problems dealing with man, society, historical customs and habits, social studies and dynamics a study not of society at rest but a social change and development. It studies group life, the social causation as a whole. Besides, sociology describes social behavioural patterns, folk-way, family life, ceremonies, customs, festivals, manners, etc. These are an essential part of human life. However the conditions in the past are the business of history to investigate. Without a full knowledge of these social conditions, our knowledge of history would be incomplete. Hence, a historian should know the basic principles of sociology to bring insight into his subject. Trevelyan's Social history of England is extremely popular, which gives us a vivid picture of how society lived in the past in its diverse range of social activities. We feel that Indian historians involving themselves too much in the political and dynastic histories have neglected this aspect of the problem. Hence, in recent times more attentions is paid to their branch, and social history is becoming very popular, Just as in the united states.

3.2.5 History and Psychology

History and Psychology are also closely linked. While analyzing the motive and actions of men and societies, a historian has to show some psychological insights. Unless the historian uses the discoveries of modern psychology, historical work would be mere fiction. As Prof. Marwick has said 'social psychology may in some cases be a sine qua non of the intelligent analysis of certain historical problems. History and Psychology are related to each other in another sense too. A historian's background and environment directly impact his judgment, often imparting a slant to his narrative and making the much-desired neutrality unachievable. The impact of sociology on history is evident because historians mainly

inquired into the origin of war and neglected the consequences of war in the past. As a result of the impact of psychology, historians have studied the consequences and impact of war. For example, the effect of bombing upon civilian moral is a matter of interest to psychologists and historians. A historian can determine the soul of the masses in various revolutions if they have a good understanding of group psychology. In short the introduction of psychology has eliminated some of the imprecisions out of the formal study of history.

Prof. Barnes say "history supplies the psychologist with much concrete material illustrative of human action in the past, from the period of savagery to our day, while the data are almost invariably incomplete, history, affords examples of almost every character type which is of interest to the psychologists, and gives at least some slight clue to their behaviour patterns under varying conditions." Similarly "history may derive from psychology most important information relating to the nature of the motivations, patterns and control in human actions and beliefs."

3.2.6 History and Ethics

A close relationship exists between ethics and history. Although a good historian is not expected to pass harsh judgement on historical events and persons, he must be aware of the ethical ideas that impacted people's behaviour. It may be observed that there was no reliable ethical science in the past. Much of the principles of ethics followed were merely a reflective of the bigotry, biases, and complexes. However in recent times an attempt has been made to evolve an ethical theory based on facts of biology, psychology and sociology by writers like Stephen, Duprat Ellis, Dew etc. In short a science of conduct has been evolved. A good historian must understand and master this science of ethics to have a wider perspective of the issue.

3.2.7 History and Statistics

In the present century the writing history has been greatly influenced by the statistical data, which has become possible with the invention of computers. Historians have abandoned their previous practise of using precise words such as "majority of the people," "broad support," and "majority of the people." They have begun to use real percentages of the population and the sections that provide support. All of this is possible because computers allow for the processing of large amounts of data in a short amount of time and the collection of systematic data. Though historians may be aware of the conclusions formed based on the

data based on impressionistic evidence, this does not diminish the significance of the data because it gives solid evidence for a previously held thesis.

Similarly, historical demography viz., information regarding movement of people births and deaths, fertility rates, immigration etc., cannot be possible without the means to process and correlate the vast and complex data made available by various political records. This detailed investigation enables the historians to understand many aspects of the past. Commenting on the significance of statistics for a proper understanding of the history Prof, Lawrence stone has said, "Statistical measurements is the only means of extracting a coherent pattern from the chaos of personal behaviour and of discovering what is a typical specimen and what sort failure to apply such controls had led to much wild and implausible generalizations about, social phenomena, based upon a handful of striking and well-documented examples."

3.2.8 History and Literature

Literature is closely related with history. Scholars have gone so far as to suggest that history is a subset of literature, and this was the case until the 19th century, when a strong effort was made to raise history from literature to science. However if history is the record of life,

literature is the reflection of life. Scholars says that every thing is right in literature except names and dates, and everything is wrong in history without names and dates, the main theme of both history and literature is man in society. Whereas history deals with present and the future. Both history and literature amuse the fancy of man. Both these disciplines use imagination as its powerful weapon to make its theme more effective. In the past, picturesque details in the narration of events had reduced history to rhetoric. In the renaissance period the historian imitated the classical models in making history the instruments of rhetoric. The authors under Queen Elizabeth preferred scenes from Italian character of drama to enhance the effect. The result was magnificent art, but not history. However, the artistic presentation of the results of research is highly desirable. Bury himself speak of sympathetic imagination as to the interpretation of the past. There are many cases in which the truth can only be ascertained by methods, which are not purely scientific. It is here that imagination plays a vital part. History would retain its graces by remaining close to literature. Ranke asserted that history was not an edifying branch of literature but to the hands

of Gibbon history attained a literary garb unparalleled in later literature. Herodotus and Thucydides, Livy and Tacitus, McCauley and Trevelyan have used a literary art which has enhanced the beauty of their historical writing. The divorce of literature from history may not do any good to history, but it will certainly do substantial harm.

3.3 HISTORY AND ITS RELATION WITH OTHER AUXILIARY SCIENCES

The subject history needs the assistance of member of other disciplines and sciences. These sciences are called ancillary disciplines. They include Chronology, Palaeography, Graphology, Diplomatic, Sigillography and others. Because all academic fields are interconnected, there is a need for these disciplines. The nature of historical facts is a close relationship between one truth and the next. Each fact necessitates specific attention to verify its validity, for which the support of related disciplines would be immensely beneficial. In other words, supplementary disciplines are history's handmaids.

3.3.1 History and Chronology

In history, chronology aids in the fixation of time, which affects the narrative's very framework. The concept of time is essential to understanding history; without it, its true perspective would be lost. What we value in a child, we would not value in an adult, and this difference is solely attributable to the passage of time. In history, chronology arranges the significant events that occur in the past, in their time order and fixes the interval between them. Chronology was probably invented in the early ages for two equally utilitarian purposes: fixing dates for religious functions and ceremonies and knowing the time for agricultural operations.

3.3.2 History and Palaeography:

The systematic study of old handwriting is known as palaeography. From time to period and place to region, men formed the alphabet letters differently. The evolution of each letter in time and place is described through palaeography. The palaeographer can not only read but also date antique writings. He could tell us where they came from in the past, because education today has the effect of standardising the shape of letters on the interior of each cultural centre. There are differences even among the Roman letters used throughout Europe. The Belgians have a different handwriting than the Dutch, while the English have a different handwriting than the Belgians. Palaeography also includes the scribe's

abbreviations, which were more popular before the development of printing. The abbreviations used in manuscripts are included in dictionaries. Palaeography necessitates meticulous attention to detail. It allows for the development of empirical capacities as well as mental awareness. It enables the ability to deal with problems as they arise, rather than relying on basic concepts. A man who has done his fair share of archival work and tough document deciphering is less likely to be swayed by superficial resemblances and to take external appearances for granted, palaeography sharpening his critical capabilities.

3.3.3 History and Graphology

Graphology is that science that concerns studying a person's character by looking at his handwriting. Research has shown that undoubted connections exist between character and hand writing. Systematic study of this connection helps a historian form a correct estimate of a historical figure. Such persons who are trained in this field are called graphologists. However, before a judgment is passed on a person's character based on graphology, one should have an eye on several other factors such as the material used for writing, the place and the position of the person who wrote it, the mood or occasion or situation under which the inscription was done, if the aim is to know the character correctly for example, a person writing from a running train cannot write it well and it is no reflection of his usual handwriting. I will be wrong if based on such writing a judgment is passed, nevertheless, Graph old tells us whether it was written in haste or at leisure. It can betray the sex of the writer, his age, his mood and emotions. To a certain extent handwriting exhibits lustiness of judgment, avarice, self-indulgence, laziness or care less ness. However, such indication cannot be treated as scientific data. By looking at a doctor's handwriting most of who write shabbily, we cannot infer anything about their character.

3.3.4 History and Diplomatic

Diplomatic is a systematic study of the form of official pattern behaviour and writing. The word diplomatic which originally meant a piece of writing folded in two, has, gradually been adopted to indicate any kind of official writing and has given rise to the name diplomacy and diplomatic. It was easily observed as early as the 17th century that official bureaus such as the papal chancery used not only a rigid order for arranging the subject matter in the composition of letters and documents issued by them, but also stereotyped formulae for every part of the document; clearly, the clerks working in these offices

possessed formularies to be copied on various occasions. This is the procedure that is still followed in the civil service today. If a document claims to be from a specific office but does not reflect the style in use at that office when it bears the date, it is not genuine and must be scrutinised using every known auxiliary science. On the other hand, when palaeography and diplomatic findings agree, our trust in a document is considerably boosted.

3.3.5 History and Sigillography

Sigillography is the name given to study of seals and can be looked upon as a department of diplomatic. Sigillography describes the seals used for authenticating official the documents. It considers the shape and appearance of the seal and how it is connected to the document and the material it produces. Wax was used commonly and in warm countries, like Italy. The seals of Harappan culture have yet remained deciphered and any one who would be able to decipher would contribute a good deal to the reasons of knowledge, as we are so long ignorant what is the content of these seals. In Indian history seals were greatly used as the form of the final sanction of an order by the reigning monarch. In many cases, particularly for the Medieval period, they are the source to tell us the real name, his title, the extent of his territory, the religion he belonged to the dynasty with which he was connected, and the date of issue and purpose. Thus seals give us very useful data for historical writing.

3.3.6 History and other related subjects

We have number of other related subject helpful to history such as Archaeology, Epigraphy, Numismatics, anthropology, ethnology and linguistics, Archaeology, Epigraphy and Numismatics are the hand maids of history and unlike the mother discipline these daughter faculties are scientific in character and precise in their methodology. Ancient Indian history greatly owes a good deal to these three branches to reconstruct many of its chapters. Sir John Marshall and his team of archaeologists are responsible for the complete discovery of the Harappan culture. Exploration of archaeological sites, excavation methods, copying and reading legends on the and calculating their grain have brought to light numerous chapters in world history, practically every country and especially in India. Physical is important in determining prospective archaeological sites. Engineering and photography are summoned to the aid of the archaeologists whose business is to dig scientifically.

The researchers must have a thorough understanding of the language in which they are written and the system of appreciations used in their creation. To the present day,

Karnataka's history is largely based on epigraphy. Hundreds of inscriptions from several dynasties can be found scattered over the landscape. They are a magnificent gold mine of information on politics, literature, combat, religion, interstate relations, individual heroism, and other subjects. B.L.Rice collected about ten thousand inscriptions and subsequently scholars like R.Narasimhachar added many more to the list. These inscriptions are found either in stones or on copper plates. These records are edited, translated with copious notes, and printed in several epigraphic Carnatic volumes of epigraphia India. Epigraphia, Moslemica, Indian Antiquary which forms the storehouse of historical knowledge. Anthropologists deals with human race and their characteristics helps in history.

All the above said social sciences, allied subjects and other sciences have an intimate relationship with history. These subjects 'enriches history and takes the help of history to grow themselves.

3.4 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

I. Fill in the blanks

1. Political science without history has no -----
2. Literature is the ----- of life

II. Question to be answer in one line each

3. Name any one Indian historian who impressed by Marxian thought?
4. Which are the two eyes of history?

III. Answer the following true or false

5. History deals with event while political science with institutions
6. Palaeography is the study of old stone age

IV. Answer the following multiple choice question

7. The following sociologist had significant influence on history

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| A. Aristotle | C. Seely |
| B. Condorcet | D. Max weber |

8. The study coin is known as

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| A. Epigraphy | C. Graphology |
| B. Numismatics | D. Chronology |

Answers

1. Root
2. Reflect
3. Kosambi
4. Geography and chronology
5. True
6. False
7. D
8. B

3.5 SUMMARY

Thus history is composite in character and inclusive in its scope. It is a central and pivotal social science. It is indeed a feeding ground for all social sciences and humanities. AsH C Darby has pointed out that history is basic to social science as mathematics is natural science. Marc Bloch called history as the basis of all knowledge. Since history is a study of the different facets of human life and experiences all social sciences depend on and draw heavily from history M Trevelyan aptly observed that history is a house in which all subjects dwell. And scholars went on extent referring history as Mother of all social science. Specialisation has broken knowledge into components, yet the relationship between history and other related subjects is rather close and intimate as between reciprocal lovers. Further history greatly requires the help of several auxiliary sciences particularly. Palaeography, Epigraphy, Siggilography, Chronology and archaeology disciplines to understand its full significance.

3.6 KEY WORDS

Ethnology : A study of race and its characters

Graphology: A study of person's character by looking at his handwriting

Epigraphy : A study of inscriptions

Siggilography: A study of seals

3.7 SELF -ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

- 1 Discuss the relation between history and other social sciences.
- 2 Describe the interdependency of history and other allied disciplines.
- 3 Critically examine how history needs the assistance of other disciplines.
- 4 Analyse the relation between history and economics
- 5 Examine the assistances of archaeological evidences to reconstruct history

3.8 BOOKS FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. Laxmi Jain, Historical Methods And Histography, Vayu Education Of India, 2020
2. B.Sheik Ali, History Its Theory And Method, Macmillan Publisher India, Delhi - 2009
3. K N Chitnis, Research Methodolgy In History, Athlentic Publisher, 2020
4. Y K Chandrasheer, Historical Research Theory, Swasthick Publisher, 2012
5. Renier. G. I, History Its Purpose And Method, George allen and unvin, London, 1947.
6. Collingwood. R. G, The Idea Of History, Oxford University Press, 1947.
7. Carr. E. H, What Is History, Pelican Publishers, 1947.

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UNIT-4

SOURCES OF HISTORY, HISTORY AS A SCIENCE OR ART OR A SOCIAL SCIENCE

Structure

4.0 Objectives

4.1 Introduction

4.2 Sources

4.2.1 Primary and secondary

4.3 History as a Science

4.4 History as an Art

4.5 History is both a science and an Art

4.6 Answers to check your progress

4.7 Summary

4.8 Key words

4.9 Self-Assessment questions

4.10 Books for further study

4.0 OBJECTIVES

After going through this unit you shall be able to,

- Analyse the importance of sources
- Examine the primary and secondary sources
- Discuss the history as one of the Humanities
- Describe the history as a Science
- Evaluate the history as an Art

4.1 INTRODUCTIONS

History is the mercy of sources, no sources and no history , sources can be broadly divided in to primary and secondary sources which helps the scholar reconstruct history. History is a subject to be studied by every person to know about their ancestor's nation and the world. While studying this we should as know what are the function of history and with this function , how we are going to treat the subject history. Some scholars believe that history is a science, other scholars argues that history is an art . but few others argues that history is both a science and an art. Since this type of controversy is there , we should analyse critically what exactly the history is? Let us discuss these in detail.

4.2 SOURCES

Sources are very necessary to re construct history . no sources have no history, so these are two types: primary and secondary sources. The collection historical source is not an easy work . the researcher had to face many difficulties while collecting the primary and secondary sources. Infected source means numerous fragment evidences scattered here and there . there are not available in one single book hence a researcher will have to work hard and tackle archaeological epigraphical and numismatic materials for collecting data in order to complete his research work. The scholar faces several difficulties in courses of collection of sources such as difficulty identifying the names, non-availability of research material, difficulties of deciphering , difficulty of scatter data difficulty in procuring the confidential material, and problem of expenditure.

4.2.1 Primary and Secondary

Data collection's history sources can be divided into (1)primary and (2)secondary. A primary data source is one that the researcher or scholar has developed independently. Primary sources can also be described as unique. Unless a researcher has dealt with primary source materials, he cannot be considered a skilled and legitimate historian.

In terms of secondary sources, we may state that they are the testimony of someone who was not present when the event occurred. The books authored by various historians are classified as secondary sources. The importance of secondary sources is equal to that of primary sources. Before collecting primary data, a researcher must go through all secondary sources. It will save duplication of effort. Making a distinction between primary and secondary data. It will save duplication of effort. A well-known academic distinguishes between primary and secondary sources. "The primary sources are the raw material, more meaningful to the expert historian than to the layman," writes A Marwick in an article. "The secondary sources are the coherence work of history." The intelligent layman and the historian who is embarking on a new research topic, keeping up with discoveries in his chosen field, or broadening his general historical knowledge will look for what they desire in a dissertation or book." The objective of the research determines whether the data acquired is primary or secondary; nevertheless, data collected can occasionally be classified as both primary and secondary sources. A secondary source can be used in conjunction with a primary source. The news paper is commonly thought to be a primary source, yet the information provided in the paper is not entirely based on primary sources, hence it is classified as a secondary source. Primary sources are Contemporary records , Confidential reports , Public reports, Government documents ,Public opinions.Secondary sources are Journal articles, Textbooks, Dictionaries, Political commentaries Biographies, Dissertation

4.3 HISTORY AS A SCIENCE

From the 12th century a serious controversy is raging whether history is a science or an art . A few thinkers vehemently argues that history is a science. While others oppose that view with equal vehemence . those who regard history as a science argue that the life of humanity followed a fixed and determination line . Condorcet the French revolutionary historian took the view that history should take its place as one of the sciences. In the 19th

century an attempt was made to transfer the scientific method still more decisively than before to history.

The first attempt in the direction was taken by recognizing that the object or purpose of both history and other science is just the same, namely the pursuit of truth. The hypothesis was tried in the balance repeatedly, sifted if not satisfactory, rejected, and others were tried. Though what Bacon had felt undesirable, imagination was found necessary even intuition, was needed to formulate a hypothesis. But the essence of the science was the search unflinching, unrelenting and unswerving for the one objective truth. From this scientific ideal was born a new conception of historic veracity. Records were to be searched, authorities were to be appraised, testimonies to be weighed, and other sciences' assistance was to be called into check or confirm the written witness. In short by the beginning of the 20th century definite ideas were formed to drag history into the realms of science and J. B. Bury, the celebrated professor of history at Cambridge university, declared in 1903, that, history is simply a science no less and no more". is to become more and more powerful for stripping the bandages of error from the eyes of men for shaping public opinion and advancing the cause of intellectual and political liberty, she will best prepare her disciples for the performance of the task, not by considering, the immediate utility of next week or next year, or next century not by accommodation her ideal or limiting her range but by remembering always that thought she may supply material for literary art or philosophical speculation she is herself simply a science, no less and no more".

This was the trend of thought all through the 19th century. The great German historian Leopold Von Ranke, who is known as father of modern historicism was also of the same view, when he said that the business of history was "not to Judge the past or instruct the present for the benefit of the future. It is business is only to show what happened" Simultaneously the same view was upheld in France by Auguste Comte, who is one of the strongest protagonists, of this view. Being a Professor of Mathematics, he applied the principles of the continuity characteristic of the numbers to historical process. He calls history "Positive Philosophy", another phrase for scientific thought from which supernaturalism is excluded. Thomas Buckle subscribed to this view. Science aims to predict the future. It ought to be possible for historians to predict what human beings in given circumstances will do. According to Buckle, historians have failed to do so because they had concentrated so long on Individuals rather than on masses on isolated incidents rather than

averages. The action of the individuals are unpredictable. The great men ought to disappear from history. They are only parts of one stupendous whole, mere accidents exceptions in one direction rather than general rule. Had there been no Newton, some other person would have done Newton's work. If Napoleon had been killed, another Frenchman would have won Austerlitz at Lodi. If Shivaji had not been born, some other Maratha would have founded a kingdom to explain the character of a mass of men. Their geographical position, climate, and general physical environment should be considered. If their country is volcanic or subject to earthquakes, they will be superstitious and believe as miracles. Civilizations as in Egypt and Babylonia arise when the land is fertile and great rivers make communication easy. Let the country be barren, and the nation will seek expansion abroad. If the climate be hot and enervating the people will be lazy and effeminate. But all this will be only on the average, and those will certainly be notable exceptions.

Buckle's view antagonized many sections of the historians. The church historians apposed him as he attacked the divine interference in human affairs. "The Great Man' theory of Carlyle was also exploded. The task of the historian was, Buckle maintained, to study tendencies rather than individuals, and the spirit of the age rather than the men who, for accidental reasons, had become prominent in it. History was not a glorified 'Who is who' or a series of biographies. It is the time that makes the man age. And not the man the time. Bury regarded the great men as an accident but a very disturbing one. You cannot predict his rise, no when he has risen can you predict what will be the effect of his impact on his The whole history of Germany since 1740 has been conditioned by the accident that Foredeck the Great was his father's eldest son, and was a man of very remarkable character and ability.

Apart from Buckle's History of Civilization in England in 1857, Darwin's origin, species in 1859, and the Descent of Man in 1871 had far reaching influence on historical theory. They began to apply the principles of natural selection, conformity to environment or survival of the fittest to the most absence problems of civilized history. The survival believed it of the fittest meant the right of the strong to conquer or even enslave the weak. Prussian writers advanced this claim before the war. The Italian and Japanese followed suit. People who built their faith upon the holy text of pike and gun have made Darwin's work their Bible. But these are wrong generalization from Darwin's works. No one can deny the enormous influence on man of physical forces.

Moreover, history adopts scientific methods in collecting data, but it does not proceed on fixed lines with fixed laws of mathematics. It has a method, which selects and analyses the facts according to some rational or scientific principles. Niebuhr and Ranke are the persons who brought about the scientific method which analyses the sources with microscopic criticisms. All truths requires the most exact methods. Professor Trevelyan observes, "all history is a matter of opinion based on facts, of opinion guided and limited to facts that have been scientifically discovered. History is a science as long as history claims to have truth and value. Indeed, history can never aspire to reach, a rigid scientific level in providing a device for testing its, conclusion. Yet, it is unreasonable to label this limitation as subjectivism or bias". Historians are therefore, scientists and history which was regarded as one of the oldest art became the latest science. Thus the vigorous and consisting attempt has been made since the time of Condorcet and Buckle to make history a science.

4.4 HISTORY AS AN ART

Opposed to the scientific historians, numerous other scholars maintain that history could never be a science and that it is an art. Froude is the greatest critic of Buckle and Comte. He says that these may always arise men in other than the economic sphere who will act from motives not to be predicted based on any generalization about human nature. A certain number of facts may remain for us to investigate and from these each investigator will select those that will suit his theory. Nor is there any reason to believe that any prediction could be made about the future. Gibbon believed in 1794 that age of conquerers was over, and yet within three years, a new Changizkhan in the form of Napoleon appeared on the scene. In 1853 men thought that war out of date and yet within a year the Crimean war which is described as the only perfectly useless war was fought. In 1942, Winston Churchill declared that he would not preside over his Majesty's government to liquidate the British Empire. Yet, within five years the British had to go from India, lock stock and barrel. Therefore the sole lesson taught by history is that somewhere and somehow the moral law asserts itself, for every unrighteous deed the price has to be paid. Thus, according to Froude, the boasted science, which has to turn history into a sort of astronomy, turns out to be mere guess work "feeble as to yesterday, empty as to today and futile as for tomorrow".

The scholars who refute history to be a science quote. Bury acknowledged that the history could not be dogmatic, nor the future precisely predicted. The accident of history are such as to disturb any calculation. Great Men Plato, Alexander, St. Paul, Frederick, Napoleon

and Gandhi had power enough to disturb or divert the stream of history. Their exceptional brains might be explained as being due to the scientific causes, but such explanations did not supply as with a calculus for the future. The Great Man is not only an accident but an unforeseen and extremely disturbing accident. Bury himself says that "Sympathetic imagination' and 'Psychological imagination' are necessary in writing history. The introduction of imagination in history puts the carpet from under feet of its being simply a science. There are many cases where not purely scientific methods can only ascertain the truth. Unless there is some bias or certain subjectivity history becomes dull and loses its true characters. An Indian historian cannot be cent percent objective while writing about either freedom movement or Indian Culture. Being a part and parcel of the movement he describes, he is likely to view it from a little different angle from a British historian. Likewise, a Maharashtrian, writing about Shivaji cannot escape certain amount of subjectivity. Nationalism supplies a powerful motive for historical investigation and quickens the study process. Apart from Nationalism, the influence of philosophy on history prevents this subject, from being a science. Whether it is Hegel or Comte, or Marx or Spengler or Toynbee, they have coined a theory into which they have forced the fact to prove their contention. Bury is harsh on them as they have constructed iron beds into which they forced living victim. He thanks that the philosophers are of opinion that the ideas within the horizon of their minds were the ultimate ideas to be sighted by man, "the last ports to be visited in his voyage down which the stream of time". Bury given the example of a few Germans who regard Christianity as the final religion of the world, Prussia as the final state and Hegelianism as the final philosophy. A generation after Bury when freedom was contracting into order and nationality is expanding into humanity; we see the truth of Buy's suggestions.

The critics of those who call history of science argue that the very nature of historical facts prevents it from being a science. Science deals with tangible facts in the scientist's presence and on which he could experiment in his laboratory. He can observe experiment, verify, generalize, repeat the experiment, control, modify and alter the condition of the phenomenon. There cannot be two simultaneous and opposite physical scientific truths. But the historical facts are not kind of treatment. Napoleon is differently estimated by different historians, who extol him in France and censure him in England. A scientist would ask, why does red litmus paper turn blue? and the answer may be the same anywhere in the world and at any time. When the historian asked why Kennedy was killed or Mujeebur Rehman was assassinated? the answer differ from place to place and from time to time. If there is so, how

can history be a science? The human motivation is difficult to answer. This makes history essentially a non-scientific subject. The scientific method is also different.

Newton put the question, why does this apple fall? He proceeded to the next question" why do apples fall? "Finally, he broadened the phenomenon by asking, " why do objects fall? He discovered that the answer that holds good in all cases. But historical enquiry would be absurd if the same method is adopted. 'How did Clive win the Battle of Plassey? is not an absurd question. "Why did British Generals win Indian battles is somewhat absurd as all British generals did not win Indian battles, and some of them like Munro, Bailey and Braithwait were objected to at Haider's hands. But the third question on the same analogy, namely why do generals win battle is absurd. Thus, the purpose of scientific and historical inquiries differs greatly.

Subject to this Historians deals with the ideas. If the subject matter of history is reflective thought that gets revived in the historian's mind, it cannot be reduced to a scientific analysis. Since the facts being to the past they are only ideas now. History is not a deductive science and there are no rules for detecting fiction. G.M. Trevelyan says that history is more a matter of rough guessing from all the available facts. And it deals with intellectual and spiritual forces which cannot be subjected to any analysis that can properly be called scientific. Trevelyan further says, "The functions of physical sciences are mainly two; direct utility in practical fields and more academic fields the deduction of the laws of cause and effect. Now history can perform neither of these functions. No one can create the steam engine, light a city, cure disease, or produce wheat near the Arctic Circle with a comprehensive understanding of history. History cannot like physical science reduce casual laws of general applications. The law of gravitations may be scientifically proved because it is universal and simple. But the historical law that starvations brings on revolt is not proved; in deed the opposite statement that starvation leads to object submission is equally true in the life circle of one frog is true of all frogs, but what is true is the life history of one man need not be true of all men. Socrates was the wisest at Greeks, yet he could not escape the punishment, although he had not committed any offence. A person in bright daylight might escape punishment under some law loophole. A.L. Rowse supports this view of Trevelyan and says that history will always remain an art.

4.5 HISTORY IS BOTH A SCIENCE AND AN ART

History certainly has elements that are undoubtedly scientific and controvertibly artistic features. In other words, history is both a science and an art. It is like logic in a normative science with both science and art aspects. Even those who have argued history to be a science admit the necessity of subjectivity in it and thus dilute its scientific character. They recognize that it is something more than science. When they have introduced a little prejudice, they have modified the absolute character of their dogma, and allow the possibility of a compromise. Science eliminates prejudice and bases its conclusions on facts alone. But history besides being a science is an art also. Clio, as professor Trevelyan puts it, is a Muse. The material statistics dispatches protocols and the like are only materials, not history itself. The useful of this materials like cooking which is an art. The same ingredient in the hands of one cook makes the dishes so delicious and insipid in the hands. Likewise, a Gibbon, a Mcaulay, a Travelyan or a Bury make history fascinating piece of literature.

However, the same material in the hands of Guicardiani would make it is repelling that when a culprit was asked whether he would prefer to go to Jail or read Cruicardini's History of Rome, he preferred to go to Jail. Compiling catalogues and calendars of state papers is different and writing of history is entirely different. The science of compitation ought to be supplemented by art. A history laden with documents is an admirable work of reference, just a hint to the public not to buy it. Such a work will rot in the cnllars of the libraries where only ants and moths will visit them, and the dustman once in a way take care of them. Stubb's Select Charters, Clarendon's works, Mommsen's Corpus of Latin inscriptions and Brewer's calendar of state papers of the Reign of Henry VIII belong to this category. Examples could be quoted from works on Indian history, but enough to remember that history requires something more than scientific activity.

Collection of materials and documents are but bricks, timber and Morter and tter and that the historian is the architect or builder who makes out of them a palace, a church, a mansion or a bridge. It depends upon the historian to subordinate the scientific or the artistic element in it or use them in the right proportion. If he neglects research to make his book popular and pleasing, sooner or later he will be found out. If he forgot style in the interest of rigid accuracy, he will not be read. The Germans take great pains G to dig the dry bones around and have been dubbed as; "horny handed sons of toil". Their works are though sound and honest but unreadable. They have a temperamental preference to laborious research

leading to great precision. However, their style is heavy, dry and un-readable “un retrieved by a figure of speech here, a bit of imagination there or a stroke of humour anywhere”. Germans write the bare truth and the French dress up with fiction. Rousseau's statement that man in a state of nature was in bliss sounds interesting but hardly true, yet it is read and appreciated by many. Those who have compared Macaulay with his authorities tell us that dull flat sentences have become bright and sparkling in scores of cases, but exaggerated. There are scores of stories of people who sent him old letters but did not recognize them, when they passed through Macaulay's mind. A score became a hundred, and a dwarf a giant. Herodotus, Tacitus, Dequincy, Livy, Hume, Froude all belong to the category, which subordinated the element of accuracy for the flavour of their style. They are on the other extreme from the German scholars and their stand could hardly be justified.

History is a science to the extent of the collection of facts, the weighing of evidence, the establishing the validity of the statements, the filling up of the missing links through constructive reasoning and framing a formula or a generalization, as far as possible in respect of general and particular facts. Lord Acton goes to the root of the problem when he says that the method in enquiry after knowledge is the same whether it be science or history and that the principal craft of the historian is the art of narrative which comes so close as to make history a branch of literature. There are two areas one preliminary and the other final in historical studies. The former is scientific and the latter is artistic, which deals with the right utilization of this material, and this work is subjective and unscientific. Bury said in so many occasion that “Science and art have found a meeting ground in history to-day. But there remains a certain difference of emphasis between literary and scientific historians. The former tends primarily to generalization and the latter to research”.

There are certain differences between a scientist and a historian. The former has a laboratory and the latter a library. The former's conclusions are precise, exact and unalterable, the latter's conclusions are always at flux and likely to be changed. The scientists use symbols, equations, and graphs, but the historians' job is narration, explanation, interpretations, and elucidation. The scientist can repeat his experiments, but a historian cannot call for a repetition of the fact. The scientist is objective but the historian is subjective. The scientist works with space as his major symbol, but the historian regards time as permanent. Historian cannot predict cannot frame general law which has universal validity. The material of the scientist is mostly inanimate but a historian deals with human materials,

which defies analysis. However history does possess three distinct functions which we may call the scientific, the imaginative and literary. The first deals with accumulating facts and sifting evidence; the other two functions are purely artistic.

4.6 ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

I. Fill in the blanks

1. The father modern historical writing was-----
2. August comet introduced ----- philosophy

II. Question to be answer in one line each

3. When did J.B Bury declared history in a science no less and no more?
4. Who advocated the great man theory?

III. Answer the following true or false

5. History is a Science
6. Historian not deals with sources

IV. Answer the following scholars following multiple choice question

7. Who support history is an art

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| A. A. L. Rowse | C. J.B Bury |
| B. Carly | D. Lord Acton |

8. The secondary sources includes,

- A. Inscriptions
- B. Speeches
- C. Gazettes
- D. History books

Answers

1. Ranke
2. Positivist
3. 1913
4. Thomas Carly
5. True
6. False
7. D
8. D

4.7 SUMMARY

Thus as a result, scholars and historians use primary and secondary materials to reconstruct the past. If the historian has gained knowledge of the context from studying secondary sources, primary sources can be very useful. Based on this basic understanding, he can slot in contemporaneous papers at relevant points and correct the secondary account. Further the history is not only a science but also an art. It adopts a scientific method to collect its material and uses its art to arrange it properly. It cannot be exclusively called a science because it does not fulfil all the condition of science. Likewise, it is not a pure art such as painting, music, sculpture or literature for the kind of imagination these arts require is different from the imagination the historian should possess. In one sense history is an art for it is criticism of life. In another sense. History is science for its goal is truth. Unlike photography history is like sculpture which has a human element in it. That is why history is half-way house between science and art.

4.8 KEYWORDS

Science:	Science is a systematic study of knowledge
Art:	Imagination and creativity in particularly in physical form
Humanities:	Study of human culture and society
Auto biography:	An account of person's life written by that person

4.9 SELF-ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS

- 1 Analyse importance primary sources for historical research
- 2 Examine secondary sources for historical research
- 3 No sources no history, Comment
- 4 Examine the arguments of scholars to treat history as science
- 5 Evaluate the arguments of scholars to treat history as an art
- 6 How do you assess history as both a science and an art?

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