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History and allied disciplines

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Abstract

The present study examines history's relation to other allied subjects. History is the study of past events, but a link between the past and present. The main aim is to help in progress and development. The study of human deeds, thoughts, and sufferings is closely concerned with men. However, many ancient works were limited to wars, military achievements and religion. But the scope of history has widened. It is now comprehensive because every aspect of human activities is covered. The main concern is to analyse human achievements. Therefore, modern historians are studying every phenomenon concerned with men. History is closely related to Geography, Sociology, Political Science, Economics and Psychology in different ways.

Keywords: Allied subjects, social sciences, society, past events

Introduction

Many historians define history in their own words. G. P Gooch writes, "The great revolution in the outlook of mankind, which began in Italy in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, led to the creation of some of the conditions in which objective, methods and a genetic conception of history could arise." Renier says that it is the story of men living in societies. An English historian, Seeley, also mentions that it is a part of politics. However, some say that it is the unfolding story of human freedom. No doubt, the subject area of history is wider. It deals with the way of life of the people who lived in the past and present. J. B. Bury says that it is not only studies of politics but also religion, art, governance, law and traditions and the intellectual, fundamental and emotional activities of the individual and society. History is the archetype of all subjects because every other subject has a history. Geography attempts to understand the presence of physical features in a place and has influenced the way of life. Geographical conditions influence human behaviour and play a significant role in the formation of national character. Similarly, Economics is the study of how humans obtain and use sufficient resources (income, capital, employment, etc.) to carry out their activities. History provides study material for political science, which serves as the basis for current political movements, events and relations. In the nineteenth century, Leopold Von Ranke underlined the classical form of history. During the twentieth century, J.B. Bury and E.H. Carr accepted it as a social science.

History and Political Science

An English historian, Seeley, says political science is the fruit and history is the root. A.L. Rouse has considered political science to be the backbone of history. The formation of a State or political institution is the result of a development process. At different times, humans have done many things in the political field. Therefore, it is necessary to gain a systematic knowledge of their development based on the past.

In ancient times, political institutions and states were the main subjects of history writing. Kautilya explained *Rajdharma* to the kings based on historical examples in his book, *Arthashastra*. The seventeenth-century Europe would be considered insignificant without knowing the political ideologies such as nationalism, individualism, imperialism and socialism. Hence, Historical events reflected the political ideologies, i.e. political ideologies gave birth to historical events. Karl Marx's ideas had a decisive influence on the state revolution in Soviet Russia. Lord Acton says that political science is in the stream of history, just like gold particles in the sand of the river. The present political system is studying, and a depiction of the ideal system for the future can be done through the past.

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History and Economics: The economy of society has been the main subject of history from prehistoric times to modern times. The sources of livelihood for Stone Age humans were hunting and food gathering. However, the economy of the Indus Valley civilisation was trade-based. During the Rigvedic period, agriculture and animal husbandry were the main occupations of the people. The market system and economic reforms of Alauddin Khalji, the Land Revenue and the Dahshala System of Akbar during medieval Indian history were crucial parts of the economy. Alauddin Khalji wanted to expand the empire. For this, he needed to recruit a large number of soldiers. However, this step would put financial pressure on the state because so many soldiers would have to be paid remuneration. Therefore, he controlled the prices of goods and reduced them for his imperialist policy and to expand his empire, so that the state did not have to bear the additional financial burden of paying salaries to soldiers. It is important to study the works of prominent historians and economists to understand modern Indian history. 'Poverty and Un-British Rule in India' and 'Economic History of India' are valuable works to study the economic condition of colonial India.

As a result of the industrial revolution in England and other European countries in the eighteenth century, these countries adopted the policy of colonialism and imperialism. Similarly, the global economic depression of 1929-30 is a deep concern of study for historians. Many important historical events have occurred as a result of financial activities. These activities have become the main reason behind the origin of ideologies like socialism, colonialism and imperialism. Karl Marx considered economics to be the foundation of history. It is necessary to know about the current economic events and financial conditions to gain correct knowledge regarding any system of government. Hence, there is uniformity in these two subjects. History is incumbent upon gaining knowledge of economics; an understanding of economics is to examine past events.

History and Sociology: In the twentieth century, many historians started paying special attention to the social aspect of life. Human activities have been studied throughout the past and have not developed from individuals and nations but from societies of different ages. According to Trevelyan, the daily life of humans in the past, the nature of the family, the condition of workers, cultural life, and human attitude towards nature, religion, literature, music and education produced under normal circumstances are learnt in sociology.

In sociology, the interrelationship of man as a social being with his society is studied. Comte writes that history is social physics, under which the general rules of human behaviour are analysed. A sociologist examines the general rules of human behaviour in sociology. Therefore, human behaviour and social activities are the core points of study. Max Weber believes that if man cannot be studied easily as a whole, then different sections of human existence can be understood separately. It is closest to the record as an attempt to understand man in social existence and complete interconnectedness. At present, historians try to understand ancient society like sociologists, so that the behaviour of modern society can also be understood from the perspective of the past. Arnold Toynbee has said that history is constructed from social elements. Sociology studies human society, including the general aspects of its structure and

development. The societies of the past and the changes that took place are analyzed in history. There is a contradiction between the two. However, both these subjects complement each other. Historians study the past; sociologists shed light on contemporary society. Peter Burke writes "Sociology may be defined as the study of human society, with an emphasis on generalizations about its structure and development. History is better defined as the study of human societies in the plural, placing the emphasis on the differences between them and also on the changes which have taken place in each one over time."

History and Psychology: History and psychology are also closely connected. The historian uses a psychological approach to analyse the tendencies and actions of individuals and societies. The study of social psychology is necessary for the intellectual analysis of historical problems. Psychology's influence has led historians to study the results and effects of war. Historians also determine the role of the masses in various revolutions.

History and Geography: It is a well-known fact that history and geography have a close relationship. Some branches of history, diplomatic or military, require essential geographical knowledge of the area. Michelet's idea was that history is deeply engaged in geography. The German philosopher Kant said, "Geography is at the base of history." Herder said, "History is geography set in motion." It is a fact that many geographical factors, such as climate, rivers, mountains, sea, coastline and mineral resources have favoured the development of the river valley. The Greek historian Herodotus writes that Egypt is the gift of the Nile River. The philosophers Aristotle and Montesquieu have accentuated the effect of climate on man. The physical formation of countries with broken coastlines (Britain, Japan and Greece) had deeply influenced their history. Similarly, the Himalayas and the forests of Assam have served as barriers against invasions from the north and east of India. The geographical discoveries of America and a new route to India determined the character of world history since the Renaissance. It is noteworthy that the climate of a country has influenced the nation. Geography also plays a crucial role in building national character. Therefore, geography is essential to studying the history of a particular country or region.

Conclusion

History is the study of human development through the ages. It deals with the lives of people in the past and present. Similarly, men's activities in society are intimately related to economic matters. It is also noteworthy that sociology needs history as much as history needs sociology to describe social behavioural patterns. The purpose is social welfare. We can make the present happy by studying the events of ancient times, not repeating the mistakes and moving towards social welfare by paving a path of welfare for the future. History studies every aspect of all social groups of humans. Therefore, its relation with allied subjects is self-evident.

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