

Review of: "Social-Cultural Anthropology in the Oldest Department of Anthropology in India: Writing History or the Suppression of Records?"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

In principle we must assume that there is a substantial difference between "Physical Anthropology", "Archaeology" and "Sociocultural Anthropology", otherwise the criticism or observation cannot be explained. In a strictly formal analysis, "archaeology" would be totally ruled out of any contradiction, leaving the difference between "physical anthropology" and "socio-cultural anthropology" to be clarified. In this respect, anthropology in general, being the scientific discipline of human culture, deals with the "socio-cultural" relations between human beings in a society or a historically determined civilisation; that is to say, it is impossible to separate the strictly "physical" from culture itself as an object of study; as, anthropology in general includes "physical" culture as well as all "socio-cultural" aspects, it does not exclude them, except for reasons of study, by abstraction.

From the above, anthropology studies culture in general as a complex and integrated phenomenon, and it is a contradiction to claim that there is a "cultural anthropology", for example, although physical anthropology and social anthropology are separated for strictly study or analysis purposes, but both are integrated into the same scientific discipline. This is what has happened in the studies carried out by the scholars listed above.

In that sense, the authors of the paper are quite right, as they show, to consider that the author of the critique is suppressing part of the reality and history of the academic department of anthropology.

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