

CET-2022
FOLKLORE (R22-10)

Unit–1 Folklore: Definition, Concept and Classification

Who are the Folk? - Concepts of Folklife and Folkloristics - Ethnicity - Family types - Natal, Conjugal, Nuclear, Extended (Generational and Polyandrous) - Types of relationships in Family – direct, shared, sexual and descent - Functions of Family - Kinship Terminology: Types of Kinship, Role of Kinship - Social Categories and Social Organization in the creation, transmission and sustenance of Folklore / Folklife.

Conceptual shift from ‘Popular Antiquities’ to ‘Folklore’ - Genres and Functions of Folklore: Ethnic Genres and Analytical Categories - Classification of Folklore: Verbal, Nonverbal and Intermediary Genres - Genre Theory: Alan Dundes, Richard Dorson, Ben Amos, Richard Bauman, Roger Abrahams – Functions of Folklore: William Bascom, Louri Honko – Characteristics of Folklore.

Unit–2 Historiography of Folkloristics

Folk, from ‘Savage’ to ‘Imagined Group’ - Folklore as Data and Folklore as Study – Oracy Vs. Literacy – Classical Vs. Folk - Emergence of Folklore as an Academic Discipline - Folklore Studies in Abroad - Folklore Studies in India – Subaltern Studies – Tribal Studies – Diaspora Studies – Green Studies.

Unit–3 Folk Literature

Definition and Epistemology of Folk Literature – Fields of Folk Literature: Myths, Epics, Legends, Folk Tales, Folk Songs, Proverbs, Riddles, Tongue Twisters, Speech Acts – Verbal Art in Performances (Theatre, Dance Drama, Medicinal Chants, Verbose in Play Genres, etc.) – Literary Devices - Ethnic Slurs, Rumor, Personal Narratives – Oral History.

Unit–4 Theories of Folklore – I : Diachronic Approaches

Evolutionary Theories - Concept of Evolution – Unilinear and Multilinear Approaches - E.B. Tylor, George Mudrock, Lewis Morgan, James Frazer - Myth-Ritual Theory - Solar Mythology or Comparative Philology.

Devolutionary Theories - Concept of Devolution - Types of Devolutionary Theories - Marxists and Elitists.

Diffusion Theories (Monogenesis) - Concept of Diffusion - Indianist Theory or Benfy’s Migration Theory – Egyptians School and Finnish School or Historical-Geographic Method.

Diffusion Theories (Polygenesis) - Psychic Unity - Convergence Vs. Parallelism Theories – Romantic Nationalism and its Manifestations.

Unit-5 Theories of Folklore – II : Synchronic Approaches

Structural Approaches – Basic concepts – Syntagmatic Structuralism – Concepts of Ferdinand de Saussure and Theory of Vladimir Propp — Application of Proppian Model to Folklore – Paradigmatic Structuralism – Concepts of Roman Jakobson and Theory of Claude Levi-Strauss – Application of Straussian Model to Folklore.

Functional Approaches – Basic Concepts – Social Functionalists: Bronislaw Malinowski, Radcliffe-Brown, Emile Durkheim – Symbolic Functionalists: Clifford Geertz, Victor Turner.

Psychological Approaches - Psychoanalysis – Basic Concepts - Sigmund Freud – Freud's Theoretical applications to Folklore – Analytical Psychology – Basic Concepts – Carl J. Jung – Jung's Theoretical Applications to Folklore – Jacques Lacan's Theory.

Contextual Approaches – Basic Concepts – Verbal Art as Performance – Linguistic and Communicative Models of Roman Jakobson – Oral Formulaic Theory or Parry-Lord Theory – Lauri Honko's concept of 'Multiforms'. Poststructural and Postmodern Approaches - Meaning and Tenets of Post-structuralism, New Hermeneutics, Text, Textuality, Textual Analysis - Paul Ricoeur and Theories of Interpretation - Historical Milieu of the Theories - Concept and Theory of Deconstruction - Derrida, Lacan, Foucault - Gender Theories and Approaches - Gender and Genre - Feminism and Gender Perspectives – Queer Theory.

Semiotic Approaches - Semiotic Approach to Folk Culture Studies - Ferdinand de Saussure and Charles S. Peirce on Sign System and Culture - Perspectives on Discourse Analysis.