

**THE ROLE OF HISTORY AS A CONCEPTUAL AND METHODOLOGICAL CORE
WITHIN THE SYSTEM OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

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Abstract:

This article examines the place of history within the system of social sciences, emphasizing its conceptual and methodological significance in understanding social development and shaping human consciousness. The study interprets history not merely as a descriptive discipline concerned with past events, but as an analytical framework that reveals patterns, continuity, and transformation in social processes. Particular attention is given to the interdisciplinary connections between history and philosophy, sociology, political science, law, and cultural studies, highlighting their mutual enrichment within an integrated scientific paradigm.

Keywords: Social sciences, history as a discipline, historical consciousness, methodological foundations, interdisciplinary integration, social development, national identity, critical thinking, educational philosophy.

The system of social sciences represents a complex set of disciplines aimed at studying the multifaceted relationships between society and the individual, with a central focus on explaining, analyzing, and interpreting social processes. Within this system, history occupies a distinct and leading position. History is not merely a discipline that describes past events; rather, it is a fundamental field that reveals the laws of social development and plays a crucial role in shaping social consciousness and intellectual thought.

History serves as one of the methodological foundations of the social sciences, as it enables the analysis of social processes within specific temporal and spatial contexts. Every social phenomenon or process has historical roots, and an adequate understanding of the present is impossible without knowledge of past experience. In this respect, history functions as an empirical and theoretical source for such disciplines as philosophy, sociology, political science, and law. For example, historical conditions and factors are essential for interpreting sociological processes, while the formation and evolution of legal institutions can only be adequately analyzed through historical experience.

One of the key functions of history within the system of social sciences is the formation of historical thinking. Historical thinking implies understanding events not only in chronological order but also through their cause-and-effect relationships, internal contradictions, and developmental logic. This type of thinking fosters critical attitudes, analytical skills, and the

ability to approach problems comprehensively. As a result, history transforms the learner from a passive recipient of information into an active analyst and independent thinker.

Furthermore, history plays a significant educational role in shaping historical memory and national identity within society. Through historical knowledge, individuals gain an understanding of their people's past, cultural heritage, traditions of statehood, and social values. This process strengthens national consciousness, patriotism, and civic responsibility. Especially in the context of globalization, history helps younger generations preserve their identity while recognizing the harmony between national and universal values.

In the process of integrating social sciences, the role of history continues to grow. When combined with philosophical generalizations, sociological analysis, and cultural interpretation, history provides a comprehensive explanation of society's complex structure. Just as cultural studies cannot exist without historical processes, political systems and social institutions cannot be analyzed independently of their historical development. Therefore, history fulfills an integrative and unifying function within the system of social sciences.

The importance of history has become even more pronounced in modern education. Innovative pedagogical approaches and digital technologies have created new opportunities for teaching history. Through working with historical sources, comparative analysis, modeling, and problem-based learning, students develop an independent and conscious attitude toward social processes. This strengthens the role of history not only as an informative discipline but also as one that educates and develops the individual.

In conclusion, history, as an essential and foundational element of the social sciences, plays a fundamental role in understanding social life. By analyzing the origins, stages of development, and consequences of social processes, history reveals the internal patterns of societal development. Historical knowledge enables individuals to comprehend social reality more deeply and to approach existing problems objectively and systematically. This characteristic transforms history into a methodological foundation and scientific support for other social sciences.

One of the most important tasks of history is the formation of historical memory and national consciousness. An individual who understands the past of their people, cultural heritage, and socio-political development develops a strong sense of national identity, patriotism, and civic responsibility. This, in turn, contributes to social cohesion and sustainable development. Without history, it is impossible to preserve national identity or transmit it to future generations.

Moreover, historical thinking fosters the development of critical and creative thinking skills. Through analyzing, comparing, and generalizing historical events, students learn to identify cause-and-effect relationships and to approach problems from multiple perspectives. This

process contributes to the formation of independent, responsible, and creative individuals capable of making informed decisions—qualities demanded by modern society.

From a practical standpoint, history serves as a key instrument for integrating the social sciences. Closely interconnected with philosophy, sociology, political science, law, and cultural studies, it explains society as a unified system. From an educational perspective, history cultivates social engagement, moral responsibility, and respect for historical heritage among younger generations. Therefore, the role of history within the system of social sciences is invaluable not only theoretically, but also practically and pedagogically. By understanding the past, history enables society to comprehend the present and consciously shape the future, maintaining its relevance as an essential scientific and educational discipline.

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