The meaning of history



The meaning of history – Paper Example

I The Meaning of History || || Assignment One || || January 9, 2010 || || George Wilson | Introduction: True history must weave a factual account of a given civilization from its inception to its demise if no longer in existence. The history of any civilization should be open to little interpretation as to how it begun, what it achieved and should run the gamut of all the civilization?? [™]s societal systems without breaking the chain of logic. This should be supported by empirical evidence that establishes the history of a given epoch. What Do We Mean by History History is the evidence that a civilization existed. Is History the Search for Truth There is little room for interpretation regarding a civilization??[™]s existence; the facts, based on archeological finds, provide indisputable evidence of a civilization??[™]s

A cursory examination of a truth value should reveal a reality devoid of any human emotion, nor the result of a given philosophy. In order to have any validity, it must meet the test of an inexact science standard in the very least. Any change of a conclusionary nature should be the result of more scientific methods derived over a period of time and discovered to be more accurate than the previous method. Is our understanding of what we mean by history dependent on our societal background (does it matter where we live or where we grew up) If the victors write history, the ??? facts??? will of course be heavily laden with the societal background of those that conquered or overcame. Therein, is problematic, because the victors have no reason to avoid distortion or outright untruths; the historical reality is that without an intervention by unadulterated interest into the scientific evidence of what actually happened, the possibility of ascertaining what really occured will not be historically valid.

History cannot write itself; where we live and grew up should not be a factor in determining true history. Would a urbanite in the industrialized world comprehend and accurately access the history of people in Papua, New Guinea where the latter consumes rodents and the former destroys them?? The history written by the industrialized world would reflect their culture?? ™ s values and likely discount the value system of the unindustrialized. This could easily create a bastardization due to popular beliefs instead of valid historical discoveries.

Can you think of an instance in time or place when the idea of history has been different from your definition As an African American child of ten years old, I thought Africa was a place full of savage people; I was a victim of Tarzan and Jane. Conclusion: The meaning of history should reflect a reliable account of what transpired during a given epoch. In order for a serious researcher to scientifically support any conclusion they may make toward whatever work they endeavor. A future researcher will then be able to trace the research material back to its original account.

Using more advanced methods of verification, the future scientific community will be able to elicit even more data, but the original information must be fundamentally correct.—————–

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