

Health, Culture & Medical Anthropology

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- ❑ **Culture** is the way we see and do things as a society.
- ❑ **Culture** : The term incorporates the social norms, values and traditions, knowledge and technology, food, language, the arts, and many other things.

**Phase 1 lecture, 2023 - 24
academic year, spring semester
18th April 2024 Ankara - TURKIYE**

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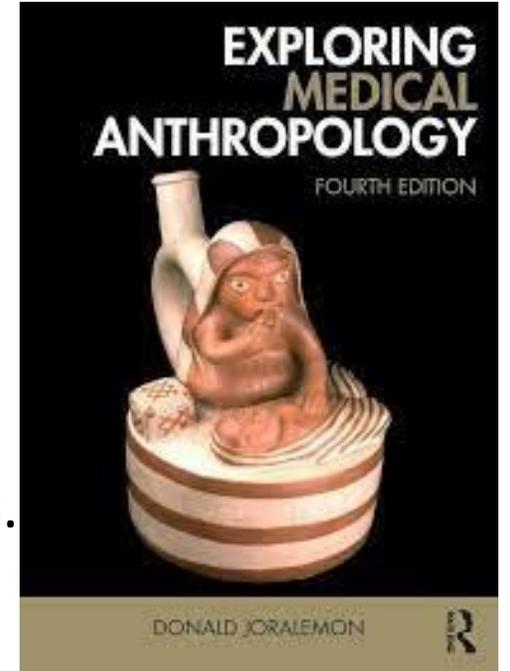
□ The basis of
Turkish Republic
is Culture.
*Culture is reading,
understanding
what you read
and training
your intelligent.*



Learning objectives....

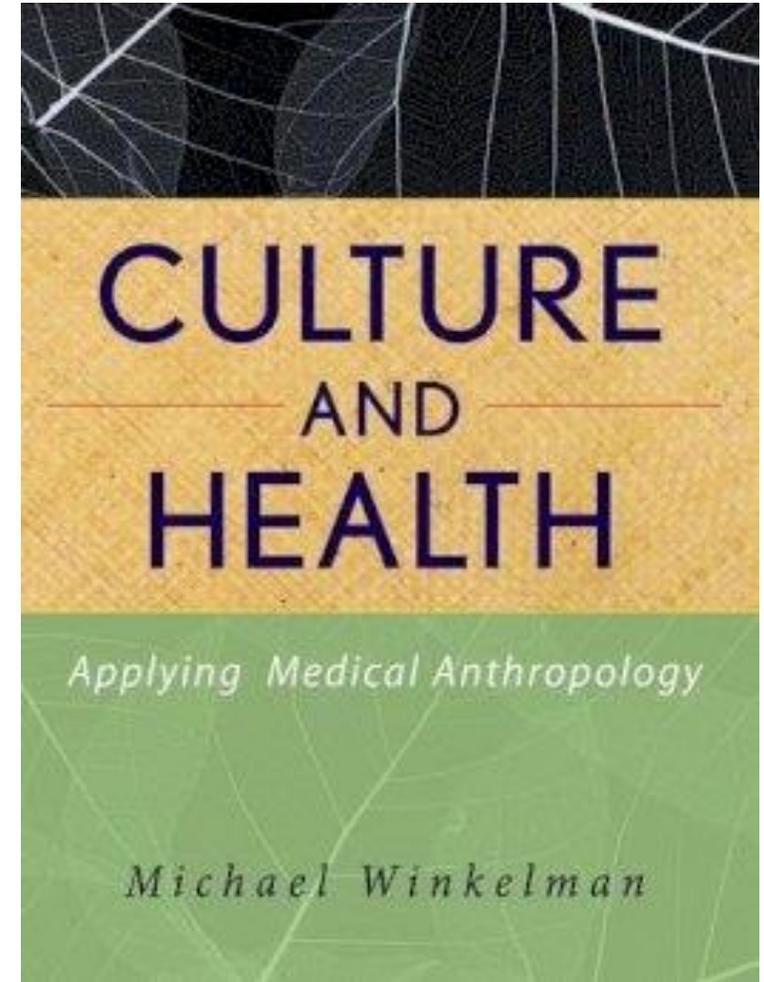
At the end of this lecture, students are expected to;

- ❖ **Define Culture** as a major institute in community life..
- ❖ **Explain** the role & contribution by ***Medical Anthropology*** to Health.
- ❖ **Share** concrete samples between **Culture** and Health problems.
- ❖ **Understand** how to utilise the *Cultural tools* to upgrade health services.
- ❖ **Gain** emphatic capability for considering *Cultural codes* of the patients.
- ❖ **Develop** a decisive attitude for rejecting anthropological - cultural preferences that are not in compliance with scientific data and potentially harmful for health.
- ❖ **Pay respect** for the cultural values of the patients but differentiating them from harmful habits for their and others' health rights.



Learning objectives

- ✓ The course provides an introduction to the field of **Medical Anthropology**.
- ✓ *It includes the application of different forms of social and cultural analysis to the study of health, illness, and healing.*
- ✓ The study of this module enables the students to understand the basic theoretical and applied orientation of **Medical Anthropology**.



Medical Anthropology

- ✓ **Medical Anthropology** is a subfield of Anthropology
 - that draws upon social, cultural, biological, and linguistic anthropology
 - to better understand those factors which influence health
 - and well being (broadly defined), - the experience and distribution of illness,
 - prevention and treatment of sickness,
 - healing processes,
 - the social relations of therapy management,
 - and the cultural importance and utilization of pluralistic medical systems.
- ✓ The discipline of **medical anthropology** draws upon many different theoretical approaches.



Life does consist of LOVE and EMPATHY!

What is Anthropology

- *Anthropos* means human and *logia* is study so that anthropology is the study of humans
- The study of human differences, cultural and biological, in the context of human nature. Anthropologists identify and compare behavior of a particular group against the full range of human behavior. These comparisons should uncover principles that apply to all human communities

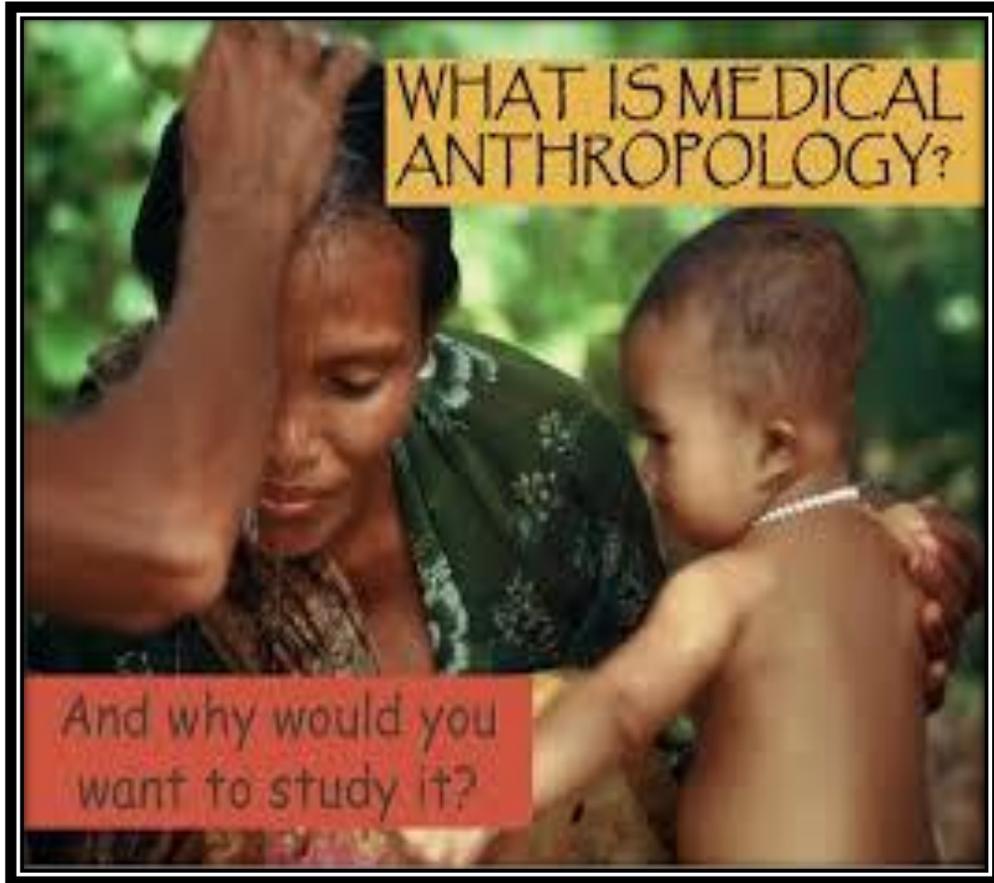


What is ANTHROPOLOGY?

The study of the **entire range of cultures** and societies in the world, originally the discipline tended to concentrate on **non-western** and so called **primitive societies**. (Oxford Dic of Sociology)

Social Anthropology, study of human social life or society, concerned with examining **social behavior** and **social relationships**. (* Encarta * 2006. © 1993-2005 Microsoft Corporation.)

The science of humanity which studies human beings in aspects ranging from the **biology and evolutionary history** of Homo-sapiens to the features of society and culture that decisively distinguish human from other animal.



What is Medical Anthropology?

Medical Anthropology is a subfield of Anthropology that draws upon social, cultural, biological, and linguistic anthropology to better understand those factors which influence health and wellbeing, the experience and distribution of illness, the prevention and treatment of sickness, healing processes, the social relations of therapy management, and the *cultural importance* and utilization of *pluralistic medical systems*.



Medical anthropology is the primary discipline addressing the interfaces of medicine, culture, and health behavior and incorporating cultural perspectives into clinical settings and public health programs.

Applied Medical ANTHROPOLOGY

Applied medical anthropology is the application of anthropological theories and methods to health interventions, for ex., in international and domestic health projects. Applied medical anthropologists are anthropologists employed by governmental organizations that contribute methodological techniques and cultural expertise to the design of implementation of *health education* campaign.

They also act as social activists, who scrutinize the socioeconomic circumstances behind health problems and design interventions with social reforms in mind.

How Applied Medical Anthropology helps?

The UN agency **UNAIDS** released a report stating the 30 million people worldwide are infected with HIV.

This report showed that 1/3 more persons were infected than a previously estimated number. 30% of the population in Botswana is HIV+ and similar rates have been found in Zimbabwe and Zambia.

Anthropologist Brooke Schoepf and some colleagues have worked since 1985 to incorporate a HIV/AIDS prevention program in central Africa.

The prevention programs required them to teach the population and change their sexual behaviors.

This challenge has given cultural values about sexual relations, economic conditions that have also left women more **vulnerable** to male dominance, semen and vaginal secretions.

How Applied Medical Anthropology helps?

- ❑ These anthropologist also provided the population with the transmission of HIV from a mother to an infant and how the use of sterile needles and syringes will minimize infections for IV drug users.
- ❑ *After educating the population, a follow review was completed with some participants to see if their workshops have helped.*
- ❑ As a result, the use of condoms was down and students were claiming that the use of condoms did not prevent the spread of HIV infection. (*Joralemon 2010 p. 94-95*)



School of Medicine

Medical Anthropology &
Cross Cultural Practice

What is Medical ANTHROPOLOGY?

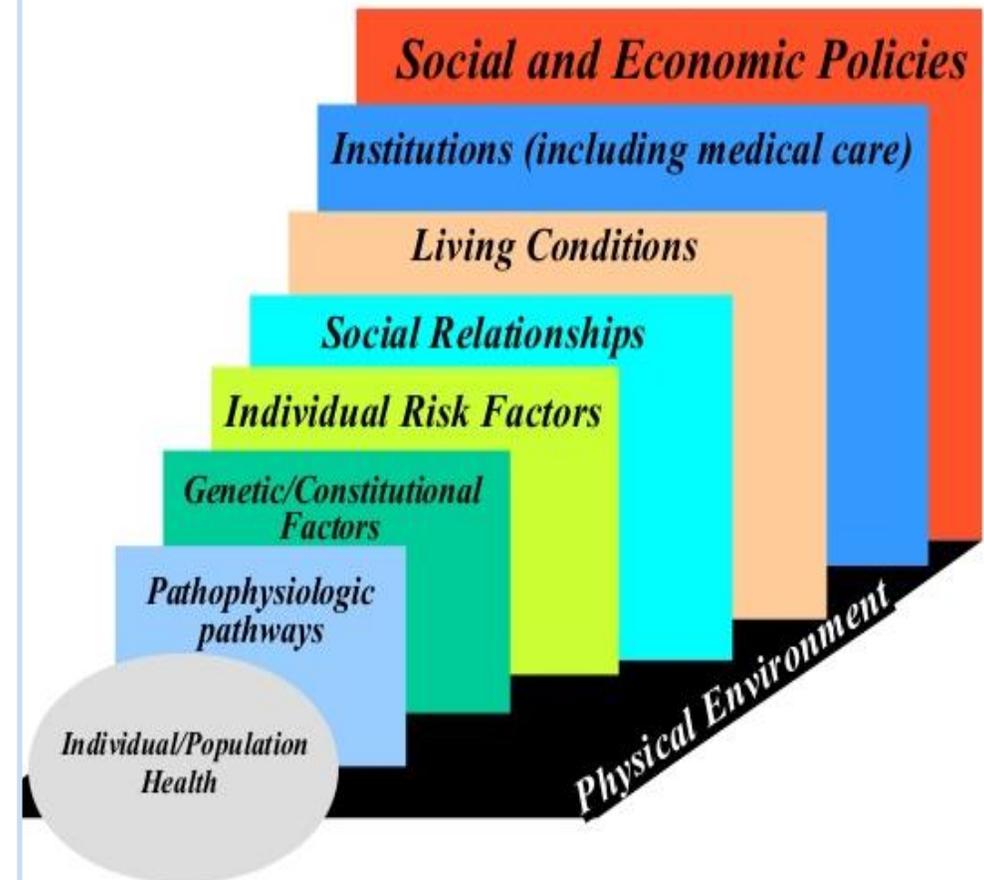
- ✓ The discipline of *medical anthropology* draws upon many different theoretical approaches. It is as attentive to popular *health culture* as bio-scientific *Epidemiology*, and the social construction of knowledge and politics of science as scientific discovery and hypothesis testing.
- ✓ **Medical anthropologists** examine how the health of individuals, larger social formations, and the environment are affected by interrelationships between humans and other species; *cultural norms* and social institutions; micro and macro politics; and forces of *globalization* as each of these affects local worlds.

Medical ECOLOGY?

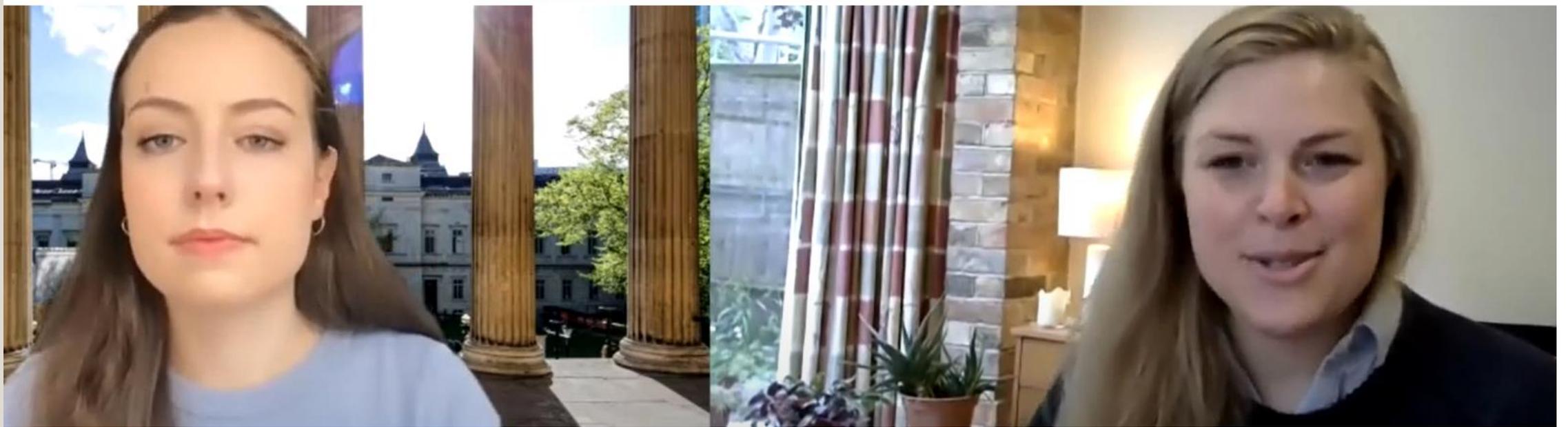
Anthropologists using an ecological perspective to understand disease patterns view human populations as biological as well as ***cultural entities***.

Taking a systems approach in research, **culture is** seen as one resource for responding to environmental problems, but genetic and physiological processes carry equal weight. The ***Evolution, Demography, and Epidemiology*** of humans are subject to ecological forces, as are other species. <file:///C:/Users/user/Documents/Downloads/MeaningandScopeofMedicalAnthropology.pdf>

Environmental Determinants of Human Disease



Modified from Kaplan, 2002



(383) Aspects of Applied Medical Anthropology - YouTube

Ethnomedicine..

The ethnomedical perspective focuses on health beliefs and practices, cultural values, and social roles. Originally limited to study of primitive or folk medicine, ethnomedicine has come to mean the health maintenance system of any society.

Health ethnographies encompass beliefs, knowledge, and values of specialists and lay people; the roles of healers, patients or clients, and family members; the implements, techniques, and pharmacopoeias of specialists; legal and economic aspects of health practices and symbolic and interpersonal components of experience of illness.

*file:///C:/Users/user/Documents/Downloads/
MeaningandScopeofMedicalAnthropology.pdf*

Ethnomedicine

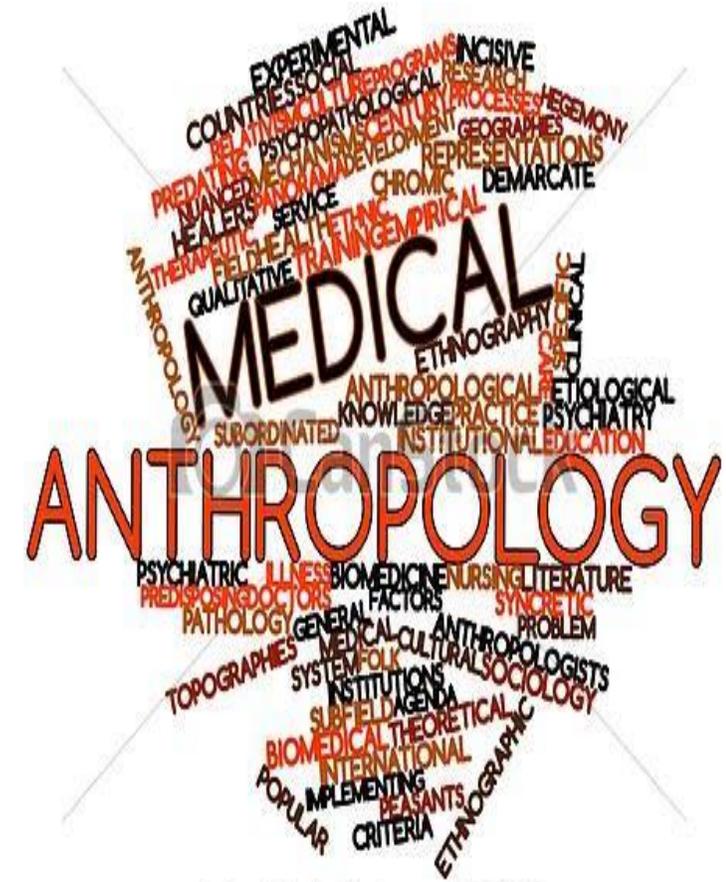
- Importance of culture
- Universality of cure and cause of diseases with religious basis
- Types of causation for disease
- World Health Organization
- Intercultural contact & diseases
 - Contact film (Brazil)
 - Rejection to Western medicine



Medical anthropologists study issues-1

1. Health ramifications of ***ecological “adaptation and maladaptation”***
2. Popular health culture and domestic health care practices
3. Local interpretations of *bodily processes*
4. Changing body projects and valued *bodily attributes*
5. Perceptions of risk, vulnerability and ***responsibility for illness*** and health care
6. Risk and protective dimensions of human behavior, ***cultural norms and social institutions***

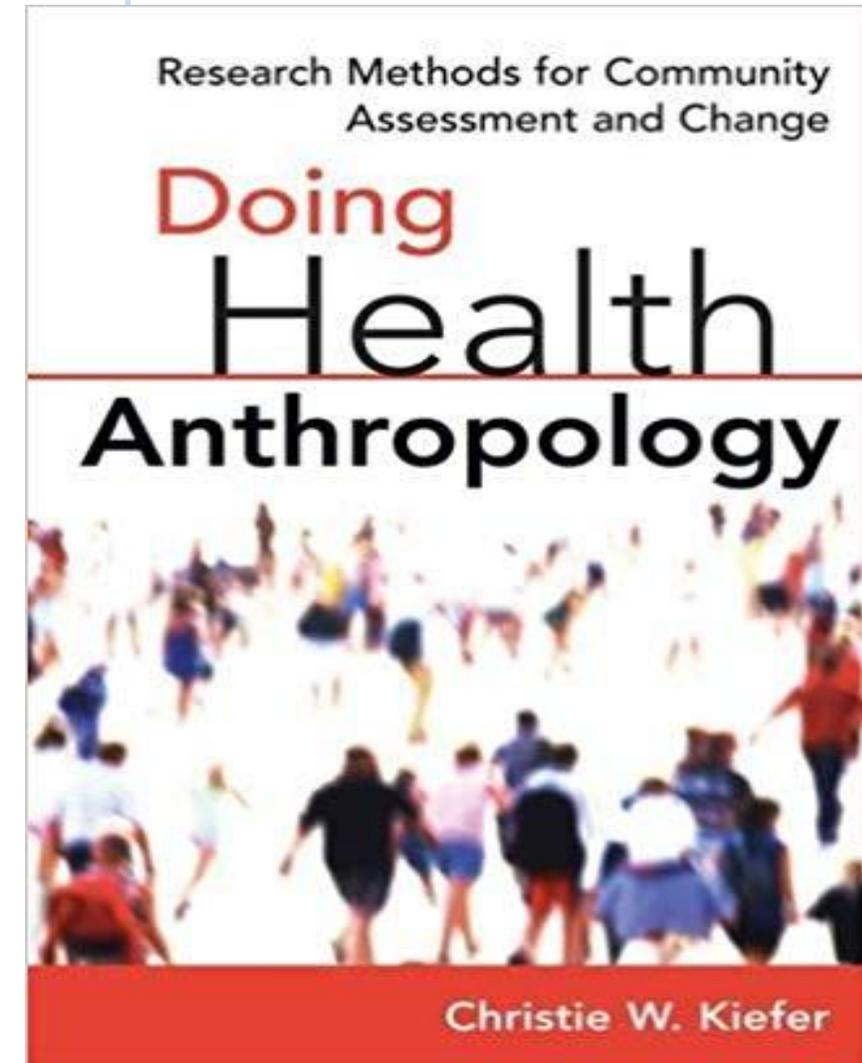
<http://www.medanthro.net/about/about-medical-anthropology/> 22.02.2019



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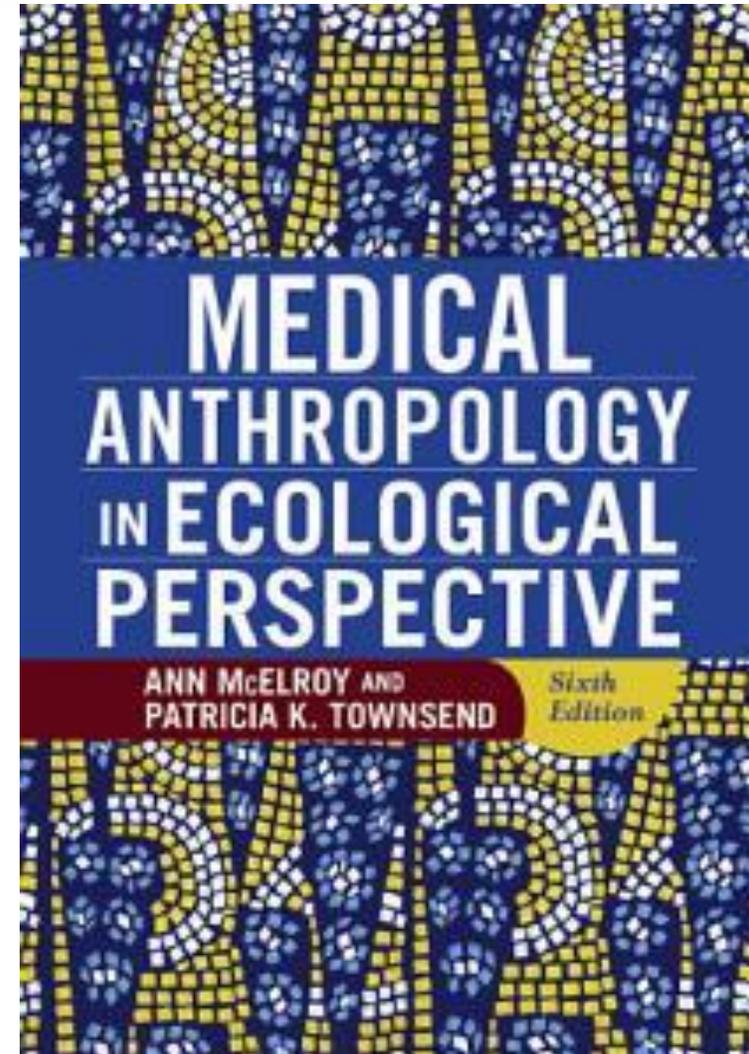
Medical anthropologists study issues-2

7. Preventative health and *harm reduction* practices
8. The experience of illness and the ***social relations*** of sickness
9. The range of factors driving health, nutrition and health care transitions
10. ***Ethnomedicine***, pluralistic healing modalities, and healing processes
11. The ***social organization*** of clinical interactions
12. The *cultural and historical conditions* shaping medical practices and policies
13. Medical practices in the context of modernity, colonial, and post-colonial ***social formations***



Medical anthropologists issues-3

14. The use and interpretation of pharmaceuticals and forms of biotechnology
15. The **commercialization** and commodification of health and medicine
16. Disease distribution and **health disparity**
17. Differential use and availability of government and private **health care resources**
18. The **political economy** of health care provision.
19. The **political ecology** of infectious and vector borne diseases, chronic diseases and states of malnutrition, and **violence**
20. The possibilities for a critically engaged yet clinically relevant application of anthropology

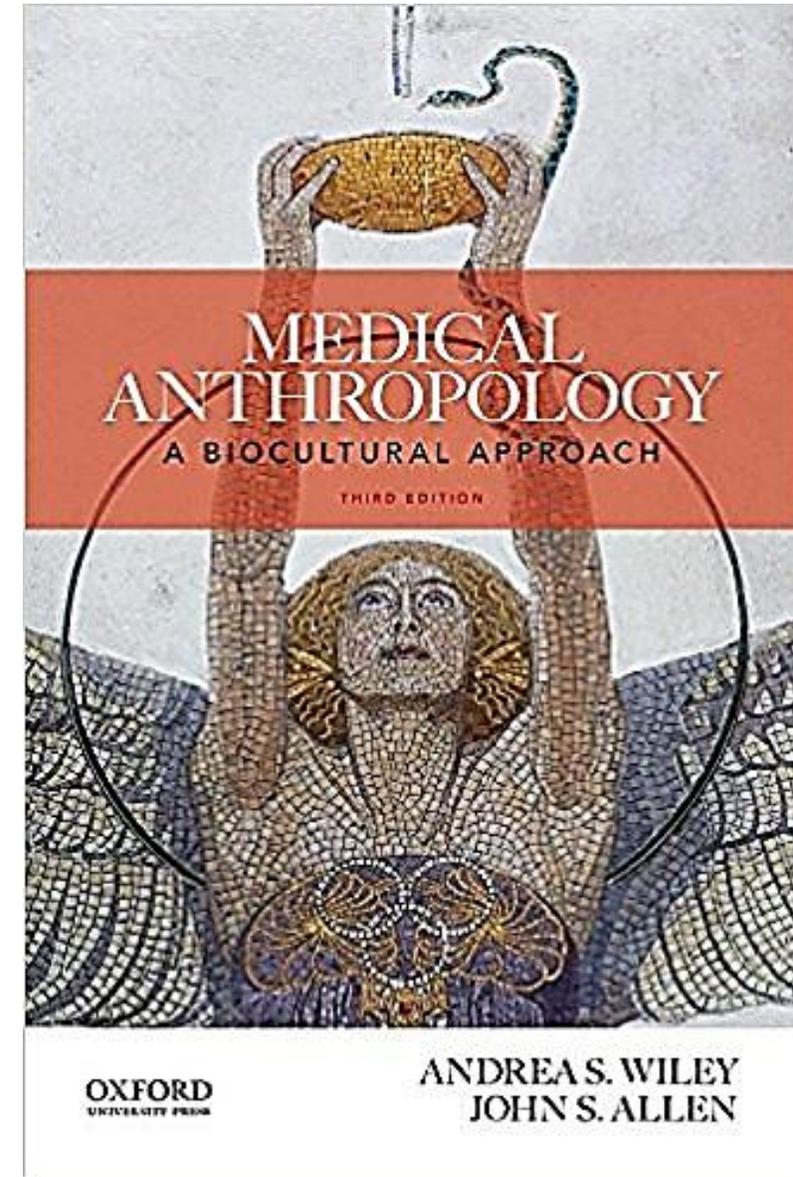
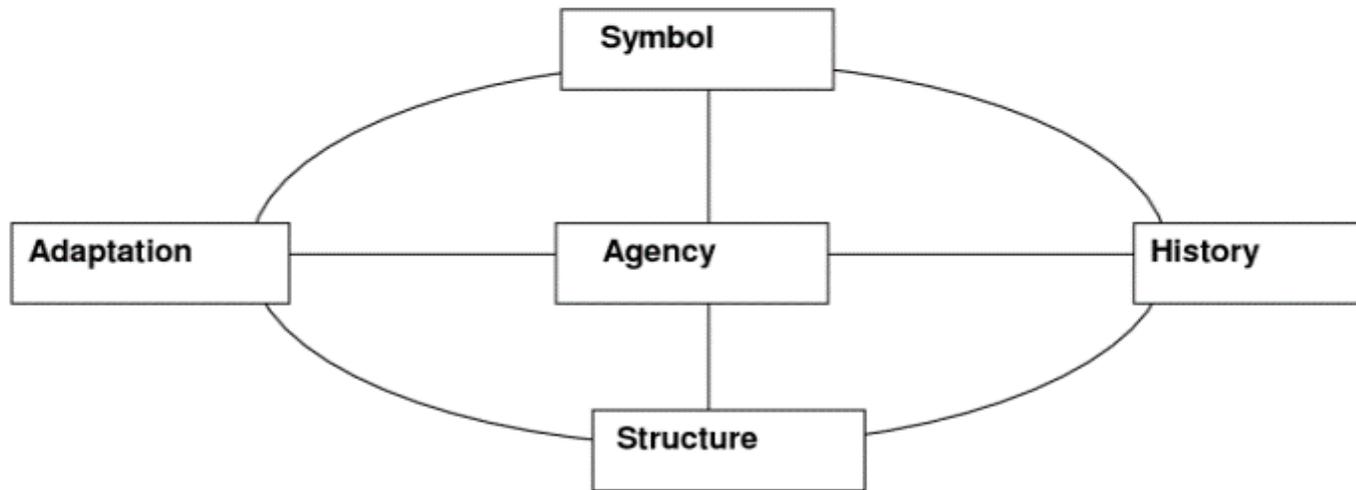


CULTURAL FACTORS in HEALTH and DISEASE

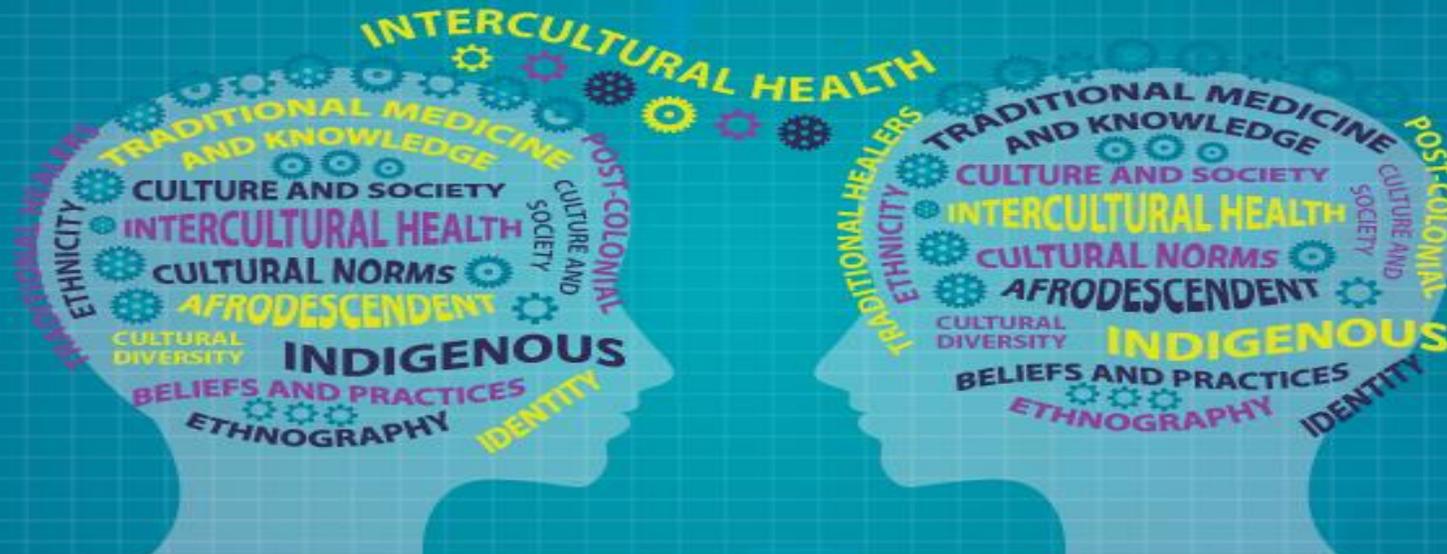
- PERSONAL HYGIENE
- *NUTRITION*
- IMMUNISATION
- *SEEKING EARLY MEDICAL CARE*
- FAMILY PLANNING
- *CHILD REARING*
- DISPOSAL of EXCRETA & REFUSE



MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY and the ANTHROPOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE



APPLYING MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY TO PUBLIC HEALTH



2 - 3:30 PM (WDC)

March 2, 2017

<http://bit.ly/2m90pUi>



Pan American
Health
Organization



World Health
Organization
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE Americas

Why study *culture* in *medical* contexts?

- Improving health care in Third World contexts (whether home or abroad) requires culturally appropriate methods.
 - What power relationship is implicit here?
- All countries of the world are increasingly divided into healthy upper classes and continuing unhealthy underclasses (WHO 1999).
 - What meanings & social practices contribute to this power structure?

NEW!!

Medical Anthropology Minor

- 18 credit hours -

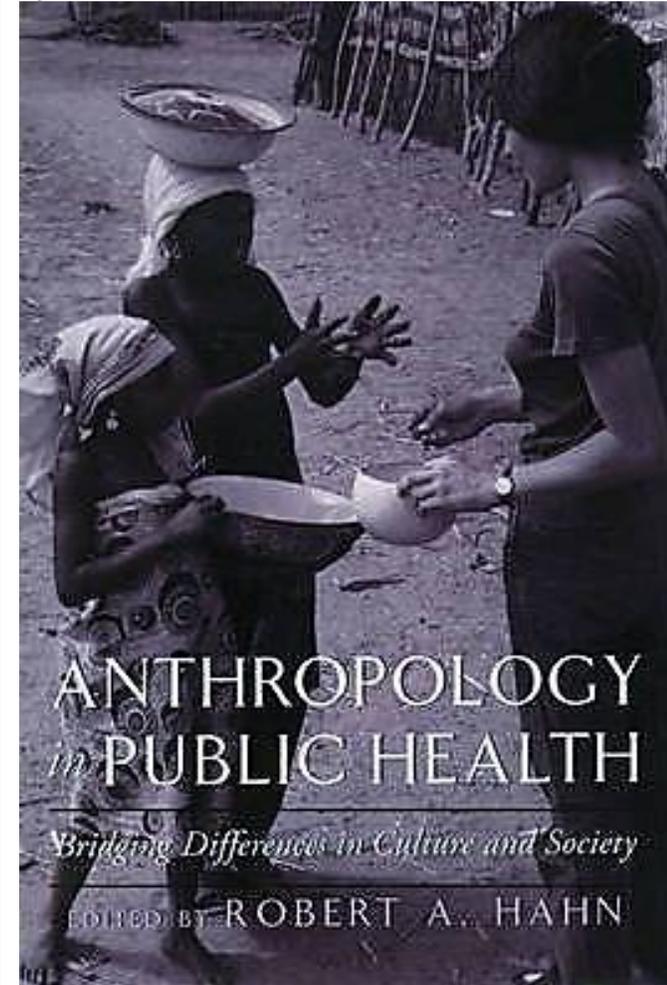
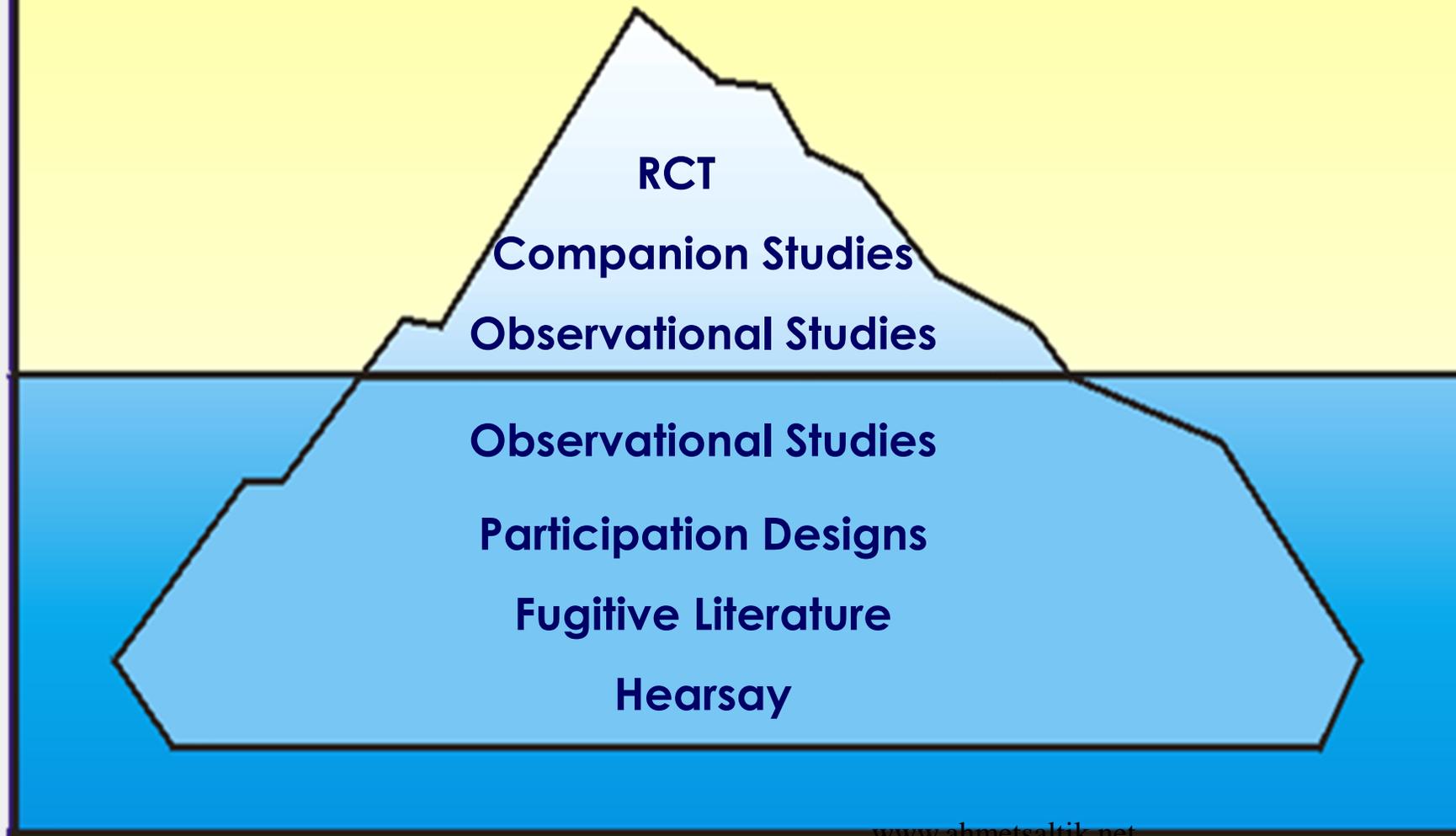
Active: Fall, 2018



- ✓ Will provide knowledge, perspectives, and insights on health, healing, medicine, society and culture
- ✓ Designed to help students prepare to provide culturally sensitive and effective health care
- ✓ Excellent for students in nursing, pre-med, public health, psychology, sociology, and related disciplines

To learn more: <https://www.kent.edu/anthropology/news/new-medical-anthropology-minor>

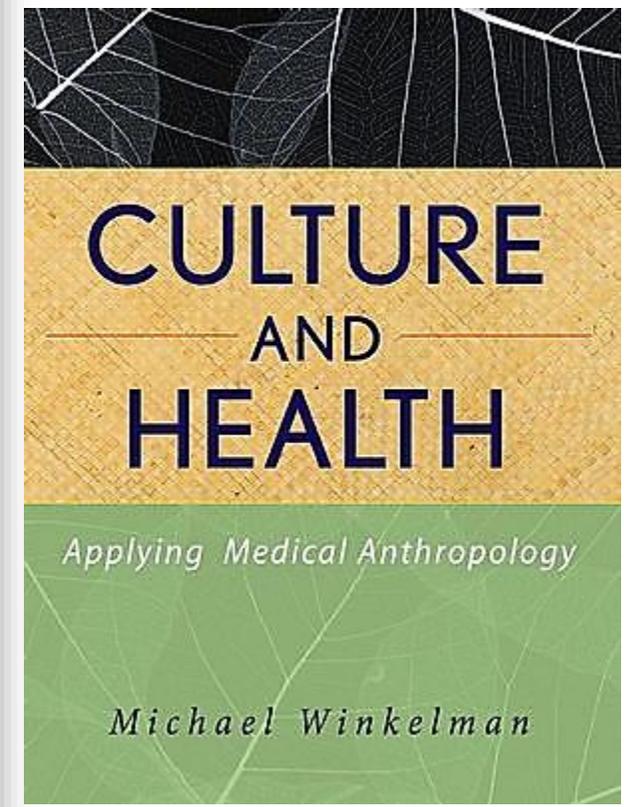
Evidence Iceberg in Health Promotion

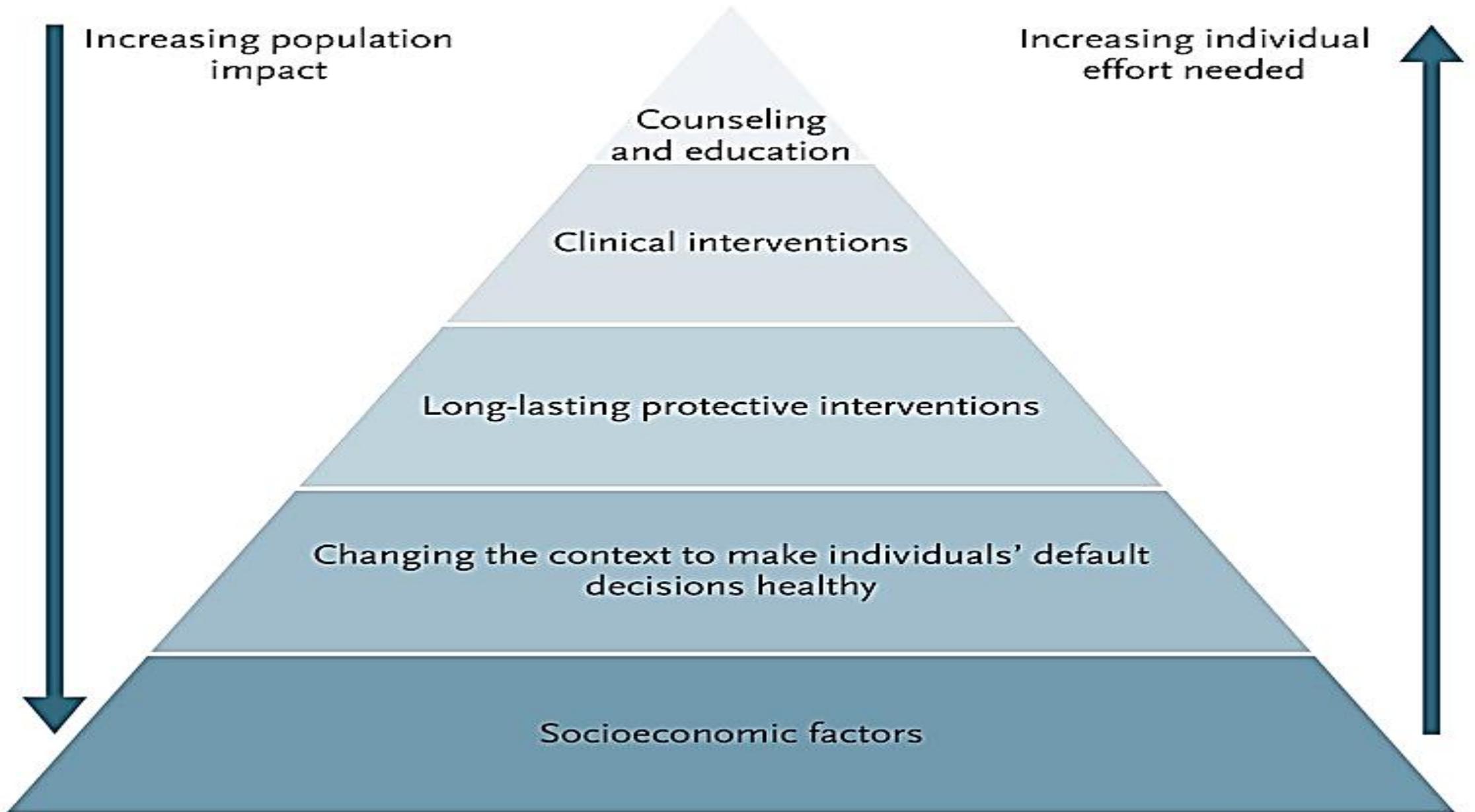


6 High-Burden Health Conditions



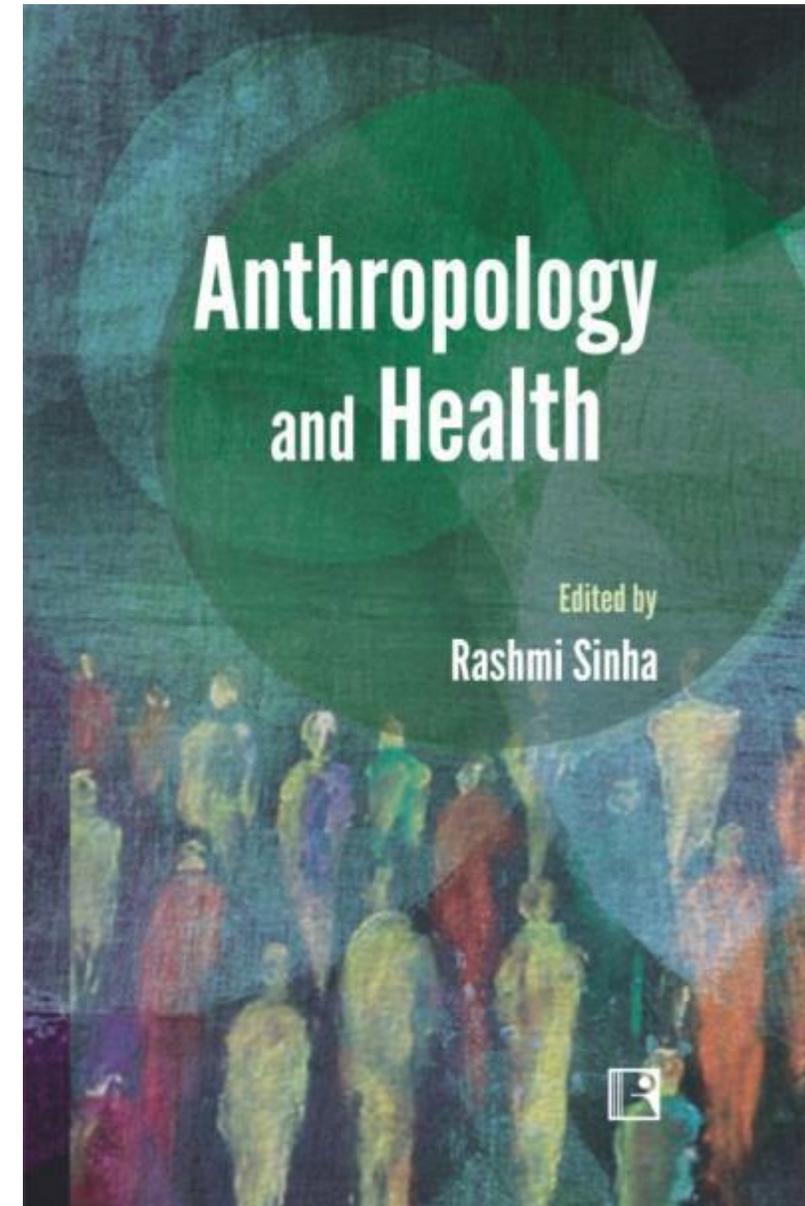
- The 6 | 18 Initiative focuses on six common and costly health conditions — **tobacco use, high blood pressure, inappropriate antibiotic use, asthma, unintended pregnancies, and type 2 diabetes** — and associated interventions with evidence of improved health outcomes and cost reduction or neutrality.
- CDC used the following criteria to choose conditions/interventions:
 - 1 Health conditions that **affect large numbers of people** and are **associated with high costs**
 - 2 Interventions that are **specific and underutilized**
 - 3 Interventions that **prevent or control** the condition and yield **short-term savings**
 - 4 Interventions that can be implemented in both **clinical and community settings**

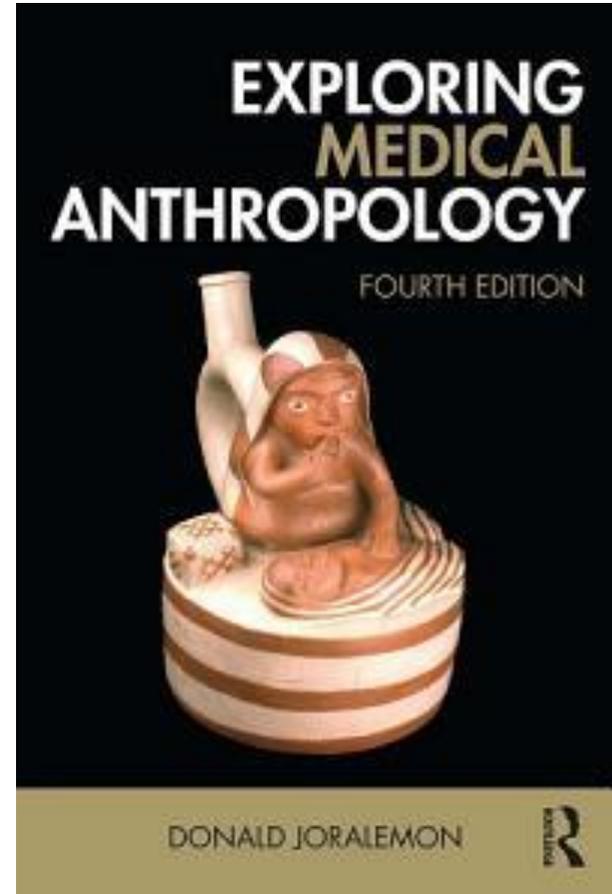




2.

- **Illness** = Anthropologists investigate the cultural experience of the "sick role."
Ex. "I have" HIV v. "I am" an AIDS patient
- **Disease** = Biomedical or scientific construction of "x condition"
- **Wellness** = Some cultures focus on health instead of "illth"
Ex. Could it be beneficial to powerful institutions to keep the sick sick and the poor sick?





CULTURE and Health..

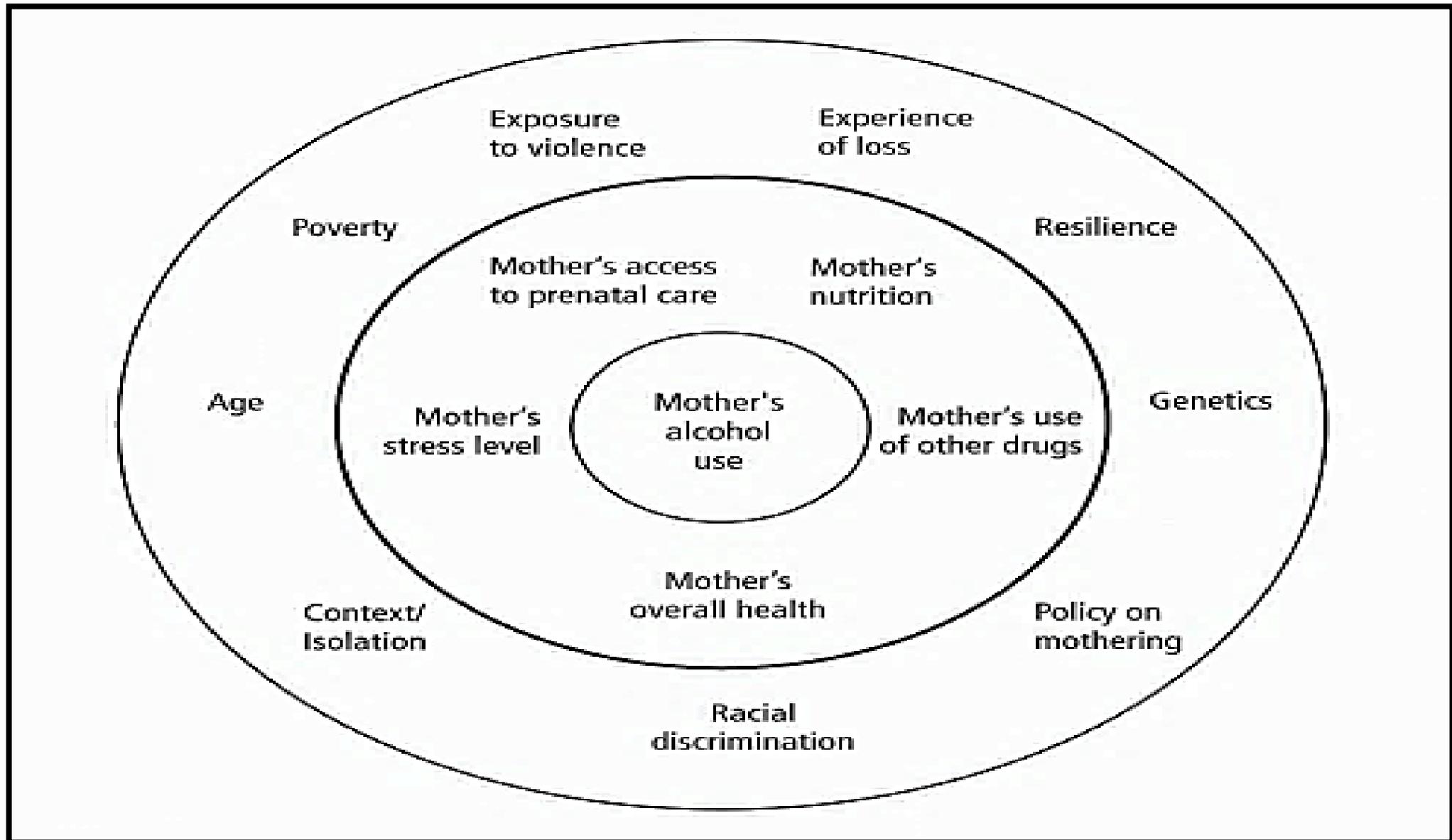
■ It's defined
as **LEARNED
BEHAVIOUR**
which
has been
**SOCIALLY
ACQUIRED..**



This Indian man like other millions, expects a health cure in the river Ganges which almost equivalent to sewage ingredient..

Why and how
we could present with him a scientific and humanistic alternative in order to replace with that pernicious cultural conditioning?

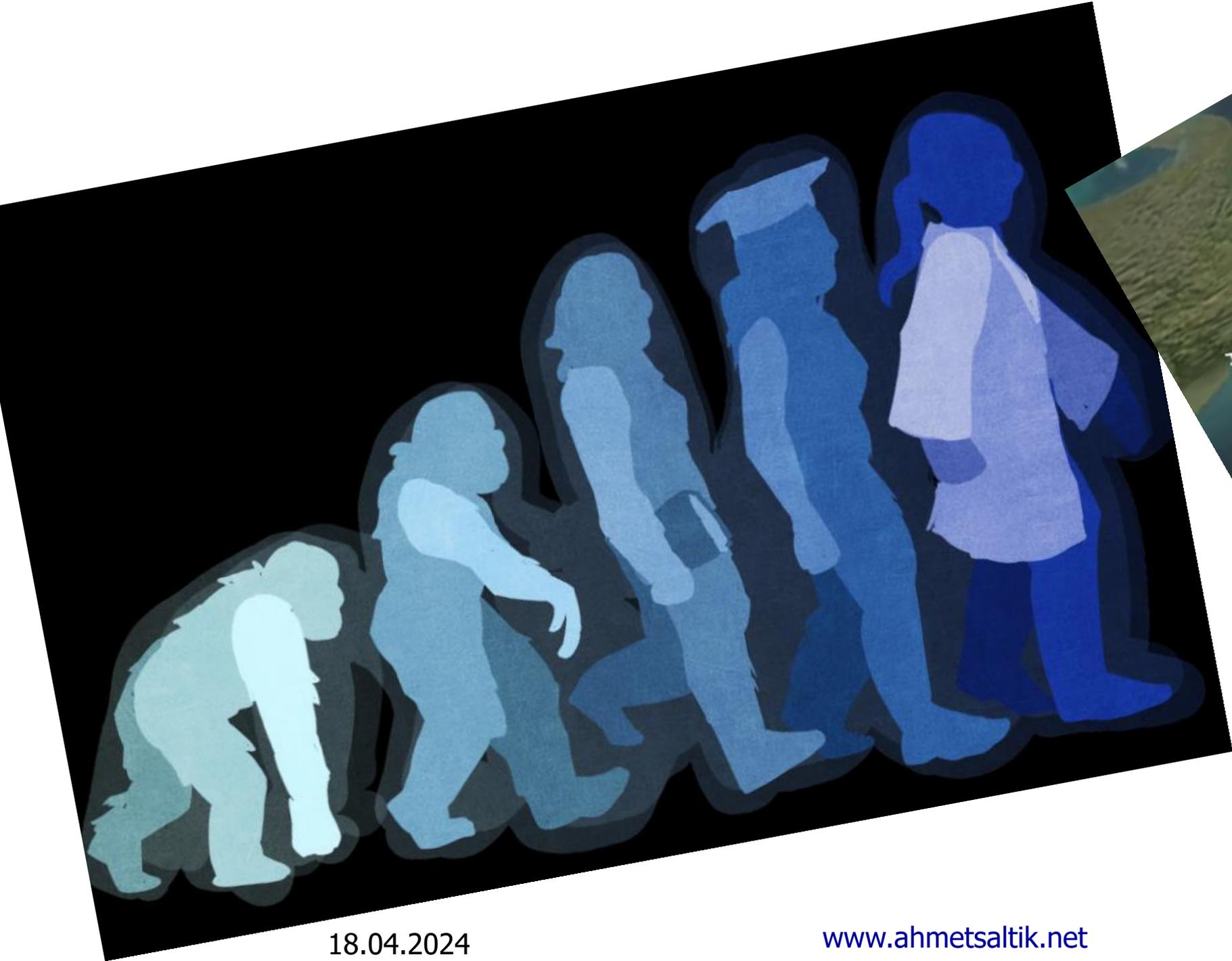
HEALTH is a MULTIFACTORIAL SYSTEM..







[Spiritual Healers Keep Watch For Plague In Uganda](#)





DISCIPLE

In Thailand, 74-year-old sect leader Tawee Nanlan held a ceremony in the forest with his followers.

His followers, who attended the ceremony, *ate Nanlan's excrement and drank his urine.*

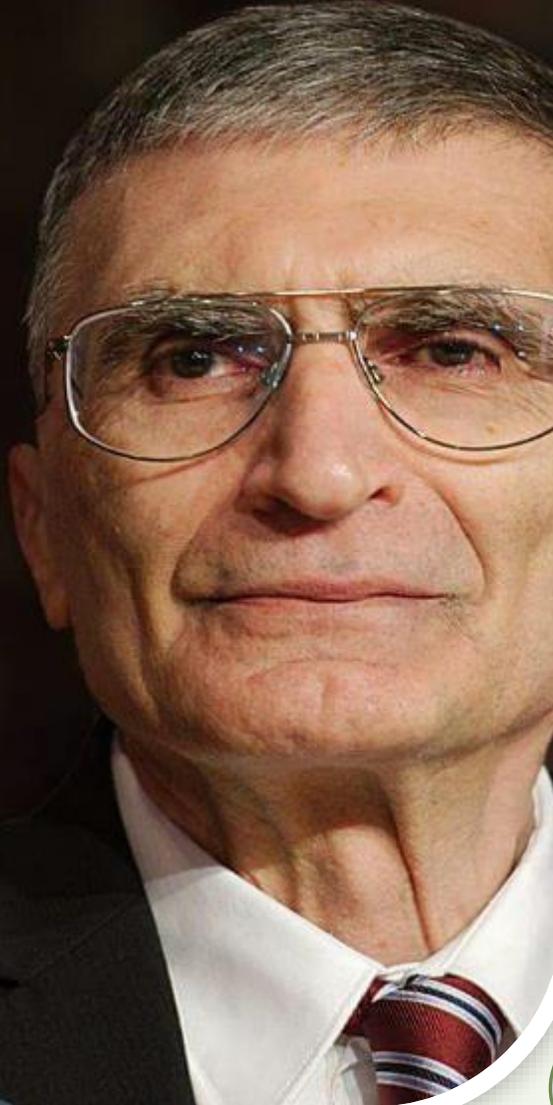
11 of his followers, including a child, died.

**

Those of us (in TR) still manage with leftovers.

ÇOĞU İNSAN
ZEKAYA İNANIR,
BEN İNANMIYORUM.
BİZİ BİRBİRİMİZDEN
AYIRAN EMEKTİR.
BEN ÇALIŞMAYA
İNANIYORUM.

-Aziz Sancar-



*"I believe in God.,
**Evolution is not a
subject of belief but
a scientific reality.***

*You can't roll up
the Sun with mud.
I have no connection
with Creationists
either."*

*Prof. Dr. **Aziz SANCAR**
Nobel Prize Owner*



Thanks
for all..



*This presentation is recommended to work with **Health Sociology** slides.*

**My health,
my right**



18.04.2024



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***Thank you
for joining***

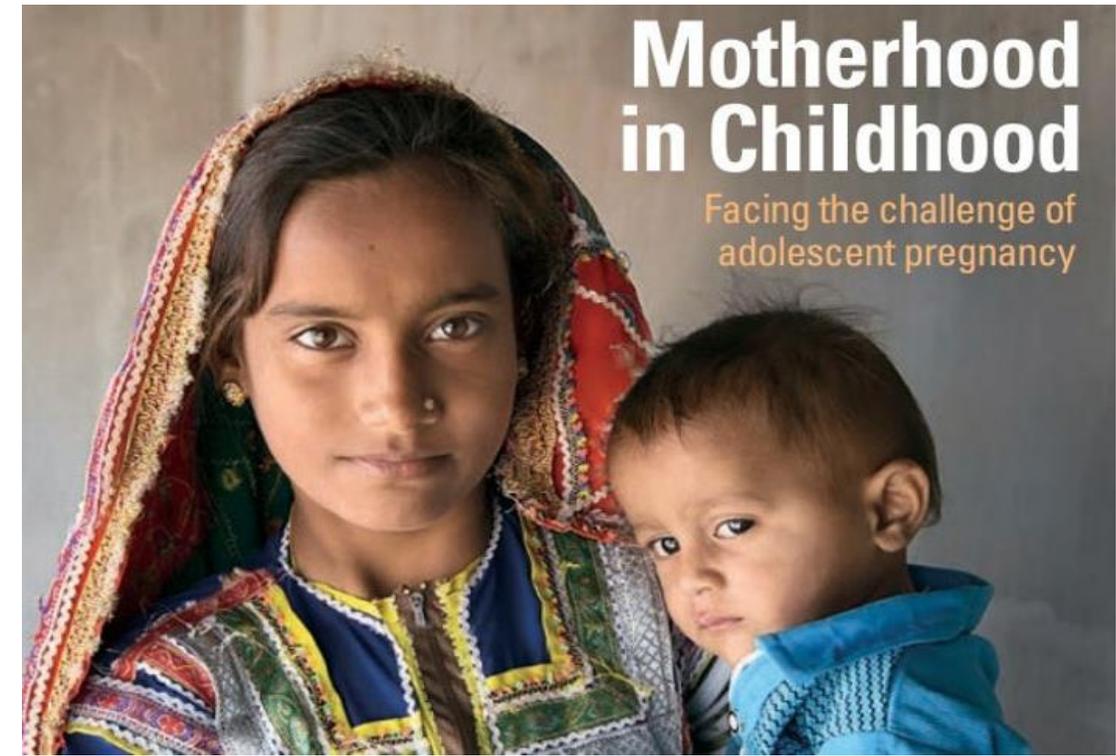
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Motherhood in Childhood

Facing the challenge of
adolescent pregnancy



*No way for child
brides & mothers!*



18.04.2024

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