

Family Research - Exploring History through Ancestors - New Trends in Genealogical Investigation

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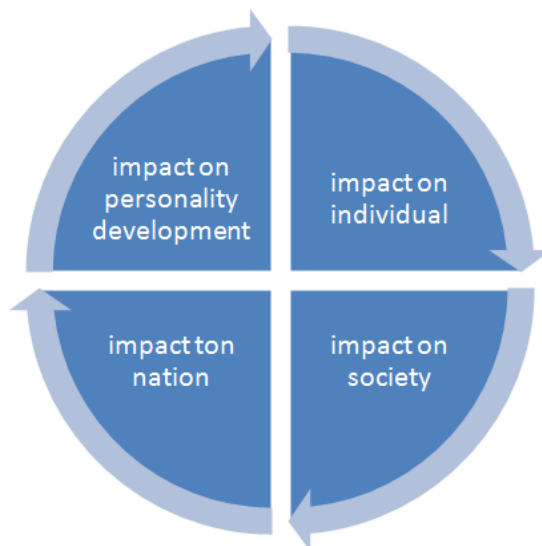
Abstract: This paper examines the facets of exploring family history through genealogical research. There is an emerging trend in searching family history. Family people are now taking up research about their ancestor's m about their genealogy, they are running to find their respective family members who are away. They are creating a family tree and producing a family chronicle to relate to their family members. Many families do not know anything about their family history except their names. Specially grandparents, their place or their occupation. Tracing family history through genealogists and family historian is a popular concept in the western countries but in India family historians are rarely seen while genealogy is traced by the local revenue department officials as per the information provided by the person in need of a genealogy tree certificate. History is replete with references from chronological arrangement in the kingship, royal houses and the nobility. history is often traced from kings and the list have been maintained through literary documents. But the genealogy of the general populace is not maintained.

Keywords: Family research, exploring history, ancestors study, genealogical investigation, new trends. Challenges

I. Introduction

The historical study of family is a new branch of social history. This study applies family history includes household composition childhood. The historical study of the family is generally regarded as a subfield of social history whose particular focus is the ways in which families live out histories of their own while participating actively in the larger arenas of national and international history. There is ultimately little historical space that family does not impinge upon. Family history, consequently, takes in such subjects and approaches as demography and household composition; childhood and other life stages; the life course; the family economy; family strategies, traditions and rituals; gender, class, race and generational relations; kinship; sexuality; and the varied forms of domesticity. Any adequate historical understanding of family must acknowledge its central role in social and political as well as personal relationships, in societal as well as biological reproduction. Although regularly classified as a *natural* or biological unit, *the family* is also very much a social construction. Despite its seemingly trans-historical elements, its meaning is grounded in specific cultures and their historical objectives.

Significance of family research- The family research becomes important because as shown in this table(1)



1. **Supports initial learning-** - parents are the initial teachers they play role model to their generation they owe a strong influence on their learning knowledge and future prospects hence , they play a stellar role in children's progression and personality development though process family research becomes necessary to provide children with supportive knowledge about the family environment , family history , family ties and family linkages.
2. **Supports social wellbeing-** There is a need for family research because the family people can add substantively towards social wellbeing through family research awareness.
3. **Supports personality development -** There is a need for family research because the family people can add substantively towards personality development through knowing about their family
4. **Supports National consciousness-** There is a need for family research because the family people can add substantively towards national consciousness by gathering information about their family ancestors achievements and contributions to national goals..

Tracing family history through genealogists and family historian is a popular concept in the western countries, but in India family historians are rarely seen while genealogy is traced by the local revenue department officials as per the information provided by the person in need of a genealogy tree certificate. History is replete with references from chronological arrangement in the kingship, royal houses and the nobility. history is often traced from kings and the list have been maintained through literary documents. but the genealogy of the general population is not to be maintained . Historical chronological study often become mixed up because the genealogy tracing becomes difficulty in the absence of perfect written or documented records. These are the important types of documents which help in the formation of family genealogy tree

1. Adoption related records
2. Alumni related records
3. Biographical related records
4. Birth related records
5. Calender related records
6. Census related records
7. City directories related records
8. Charity related records
9. Death related records
10. Diaries related records
11. Donation related records
12. Divorce related records
13. Land related records
14. Marriage related records
15. Medical related records
16. Membership to any association social or religious
17. Military related records
18. Newspaper related records
19. Obituary related records
20. Occupational related records
21. Oral history related records
22. Passport related records
23. Personal handwritten related records
24. Photo related records
25. Property related records
26. Religious related records
27. Sacred related records
28. School related records
29. Tax related records
30. Voter related records
31. Governmental related records

Conclusion

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