

Dr. Mohd Ahamar Khan

Class. B.A. (Hons) 1st Year

Paper - 1st Fundamental Psychology

Topic - Definition of Psychology

Psychology is the science of mind and behavior. Psychology includes the study of conscious and unconscious phenomena, as well as feeling and thought. It is an academic discipline of immense scope. Psychologists seek an understanding of the emergent properties of brains, and all the variety of phenomena linked to those emergent properties, joining this way the broader neuroscientific group of researchers. As a social science, it aims to understand individuals and groups by establishing general principles and researching specific cases.

Researcher or professional practitioner is called a psychologist and can be classified as a social, behavioral, or cognitive scientist. Psychologists attempt to understand

the role of mental functions in individual and social behavior, while also exploring the physiological and biological processes that underlie cognitive functions and behaviors.

The word psychology derives from Greek roots meaning study of the psyche, or soul. William James defined psychology as "the science of mental life, both of its phenomena and their conditions." This definition enjoyed widespread currency for decades.

John B. Watson defined the concept of psychology as the acquisition of information useful to the control of behavior. James defined this term more strongly connotes techniques of scientific experimentation.