



"I think it is very important to remember that first and foremost your history is a history as a human being. And, therefore your natural way of thinking of history should be of a human being living in the world, not as someone belonging to one country or another."

Sanjay Subrahmanyam

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- M.A. Economics from the University of Delhi
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Prof. Sanjay Subrahmanyam has transformed the field of early modern history for South Asia, and for much of the rest of the world. His geographical reach extends from South Asia to Southeast Asia, West Asia, Europe and Latin America. He has also contributed to a wide array of historical sub-disciplines (economic, social, intellectual and literary history).



Framing the concept of connected histories

History as a discipline teaches us about our past. We often tend to think of our collective past in terms of only certain regions or particular experiences of particular groups of people.

However, even a cursory reading of history teaches us that no human culture has developed in isolation. Different cultures and groups of people have influenced each other.

Prof. Sanjay Subrahmanyam has proposed and developed a genre of history called 'connected histories'. The concept of connected histories tells us that cultures all over the globe were interconnected. Different contemporary cultures have had enormous impact on each other through trade and other interactions. Indian history for instance has been shaped by trade and interaction with many cultures including the Persian, French, Portuguese, English and many more.

While Prof. Subrahmanyam's primary focus is the history of early modern South Asia, he has not confined himself to this region. He has transformed the study of history for the rest of the world including Southeast Asia, Latin America, West Asia and Europe.

In his work, *Explorations in Connected History*, Prof. Subrahmanyam shows the links that have connected the countries of Eurasia in times past, helping us transcend the walls that have traditionally confined the histories of Asian nations for the past century.

In addition to his contributions to history, Prof. Subrahmanyam has also contributed enormously to sub-disciplines within history such as economic, social, intellectual and literary history.