

Difference Between History and Mythology

Mythology and History appear to be complete opposites at a cursory glance yet both share the trait of narrating human endeavours at different points in history.

Mythology is the study of human myths in general or a collection of myths surrounding one particular topic. Myths are a genre of folklore containing narratives that play a role in society

History is a broad term that relates to past events as well as the memory, discovery, collection, organization, presentation, and interpretation of information about these events.

*History is an optional subject both in the UPSC Prelims and Mains segment of the exam.



This article will highlight the key differences between Mythology and History for the IAS Exam

The difference between History and Mythology is given in the table below:

Differences between Mythology and History	
Mythology	History
Mythology may either refer to the study of myths in general or a body of myths	History is a study of past events that narrate an important event or about real people who lived during a specified time period.
The main character of Myths are usually gods, demigods or supernatural human beings	History is about real individuals who have lived in the past
Mythology will find its uses in a variety of academic fields such as psychology, anthropology and folklore studies	History uses academic disciplines to study, analyze and question a sequence of past events
Mythology is not supported by any evidence, physical or otherwise, to support the narratives studied	History is backed by many pieces of evidence. Along with written accounts, oral accounts and material objects such as pottery are used to back up its narratives
<p>Areas of Study include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Military History ● Social History ● Cultural History ● Technological History ● Diplomatic History ● Economic History 	<p>Areas of Study include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Symbolism ● Theology ● Creation Mythology ● Religious Mythology ● Nature Mythology ● Hero Mythology
Examples of this can be the Odyssey, written by the Homer (Birth and Death date unknown but he is believed to have lived somewhere around 1750 BC)	Julius Ceasar's Conquest of Gaul is a historical narrative written in the third person recounting Ceasar's campaigns in Gaul (Modern-day France)

