definition and history

definition

The study of **psychological** and **behavioral dysfunction** occurring in mental illness or social disorganization.

historical considerations

roots in ancient times

-earliest record of mental disorder is dated **6th century BCE**.
-**Egyptian papyri** with the earliest diseases and behavioural disorders treatments.
-The **Greek, Roman & Hebrew writings** shed light on differing illnesses.
-With the development of early **medical concepts**, views on mental illness began to change.

Middle Ages

-during the middle ages, a culmination of views approached **(scientific, philosophical & religious)**
--**Renaissance**, scientific questioning reemerged in the form of **humanism movement**.

world war

- during **world war** major changes were noted in the field of psychology.
-these changes can be traced thru **three distinctive phases:**
--**Magico religious models**
--**Medical models**
--**Psycho-social models**

Magico-religious model

AKA Mistico-religious model

demonology

-Belief in the **Supernatural Forces** controlled human behaviour.
-A time when mental illness was equated to Supernatural causes**
-**treating** them in accordance to the dominant spiritual thinking that existed **(exorcism, penance)**
-Consisted of **superstitious beliefs & horrific rituals** (confinement, beating, torture, trephi-nation, bloodletting)

contd.

Psycho-social model

-A psychological and socio-cultural point of view
-Paracelsus (1490-1541), a swiss doc was an early critique of beliefs of **possession**.
-16th century **asylums**, places of refuge solely for the mentally ill grew in number
-**Mentally ill were excluded from mainstream society**

Psycho-social model pt-2

-Real focus on mental illness probably started with an attempt to **deinstitutionalize** mentally ill and demand more **humane treatment**
--many people fought for better treatment
-Philippe Pinel (France)
-William Tuke (England)
-Benjamin Rush (America)
-Dorthea dix (England)

Psycho-social model pt-3

-Start of **Mental health and hygiene Movement in the 19th ce** had a great impact.
-20th century many **reforms** were made in treating mentally ill people **including them in mainstream society**.

-**Subliminal suggestibility** is used to manipulate the patient & their caregivers.
-Most rituals practised are more inclined t cause harm than help .

Medical model

Somatogenic approach

-This model explains disorders as a **bodily disease** (somatogenic approach)
-**Hippocrates** was probably considered the first to link disorders to bodily dysfunctions **(Humoral theory)**

Categories:
--**Mania**
--**melencholia**
--**Phrenitis** (brain fever)

He believed **if the body was taken care the mind will be alright**