

CHAPTER 1. VIEW OF HISTORY

PART 3. LEOPOLD VON RANKE

Revolutions

Leopold von Ranke, (born Dec. 21, 1795, Wiehe, Thuringia, Saxony [Germany]–died May 23, 1886, Berlin), leading German historian of the 19th century, **[when/whose]** scholarly method and way of teaching had a great influence on Western **historiography** 역사 기록학.

Search for Objectivity

Ranke thought he could more successfully **attain** his ideal of **[subjectivity/objectivity]**. From 1839 to 1847 the *History of the Reformation in Germany* appeared. In 1847–48 there followed *Memoirs of the House and History of Prussia*, later **expanded** to 12 volumes; in 1852–61 *Civil Wars and Monarchy in France*, and in 1859–69, the *A History of England Principally in the Seventeenth Century* – **each consisting of several volumes that, although partly [rendering/rendered] obsolete by later research, are still worth [to read/reading] today for their great narrative skill.**

His books are subtle **accounts** of complex political events but **address** themselves only indirectly to the central problems of a changing age. History is regarded as a complex process of “historical life,” which assumes its most effective “**[real/selective]** spiritual” form in the great states and their tensions. **The historian, as [subjectively/objectively] as possible, must describe “how it really was,” keeping the whole picture in mind while extracting the essence.**

LEOPOLD VON RANKE 랑케



“My understanding of “leading ideas” is simply that they are the **[universal/dominant]** tendencies in each century. These tendencies can not be summed up in a concept.” – Leopold von Ranke

“History has been assigned the office of judging the past and instructing the present for the benefit of future ages. It wants only to show what **[actually/artificially]** happened.” – Leopold von Ranke

“We do not have to judge error and truth. He **[raises/rises]** up to us figure by figure, life by life, effect by effect. *It is our task to penetrate them to the bottom of their existence and to present them with complete [subjectivity/objectivity].*”

– Leopold von Ranke

“I see the time approaching, when we shall base modern history with the fact that they were in the possession of knowledge of facts; not on work remote from the source but rather on the narratives of eyewitnesses, and on **[genuine/fictional]** and original documents.”

– Leopold von Ranke

Ranke's insistence **[that/which]** history **[embraces/embrace]** the principle of “how things actually **[were/were like]**” was subsequently taken by many historians as their guiding principle. There has been much debate over the precise meaning of this **[phase/phrase]**. Adhering to the principle **[meaning/means]** that the historian should document facts but not **[offers/offer]** any interpretation of these facts. It also means that the historian should discover the **[facts/interpretations]**. Under this view, the aim is to “show what essentially happened”. Holy hieroglyph is God's hand in history, keeping an “eye for the **[peculiarity/universality]**”.

While Ranke's methods remain influential in the practice of history, his broader ideas of historiography and **[empiricism/idealism]** are now regarded by some as **[up to date/out-dated]** and no longer **[reliable/reliably/unreliably]**. E. H. Carr **[supported/opposed]** Ranke's ideas of empiricism as **[noble/naive]**, **[boring/bored]** and **[updated/outmoded]**, saying that historians did not merely **[report/choose]** facts, but they **[report/choose]** which facts they use, there is probably no going back in the agricultural revolution.