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This Week in Psychology History

(July 28 – August 3)



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7 minds that shaped psychology.

From empathy to infant intelligence—each one left a mark on how we think today.



Swipe through to meet them!

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Theodor Lipps (July 28, 1851)

"The Mind Behind Empathy"

Lipps introduced the term Einfühlung—"feeling into"—laying the foundation for our modern concept of empathy.

His work shaped aesthetics, phenomenology, and even influenced Freud's ideas on inner experience.



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Muzafer Sherif (July 29, 1906)

"Conflict, Norms & Cooperation"

Sherif's Robbers Cave Experiment showed how real group conflict emerges—and how shared goals restore peace.

He also studied how social norms form in groups, impacting how we understand social influence today.



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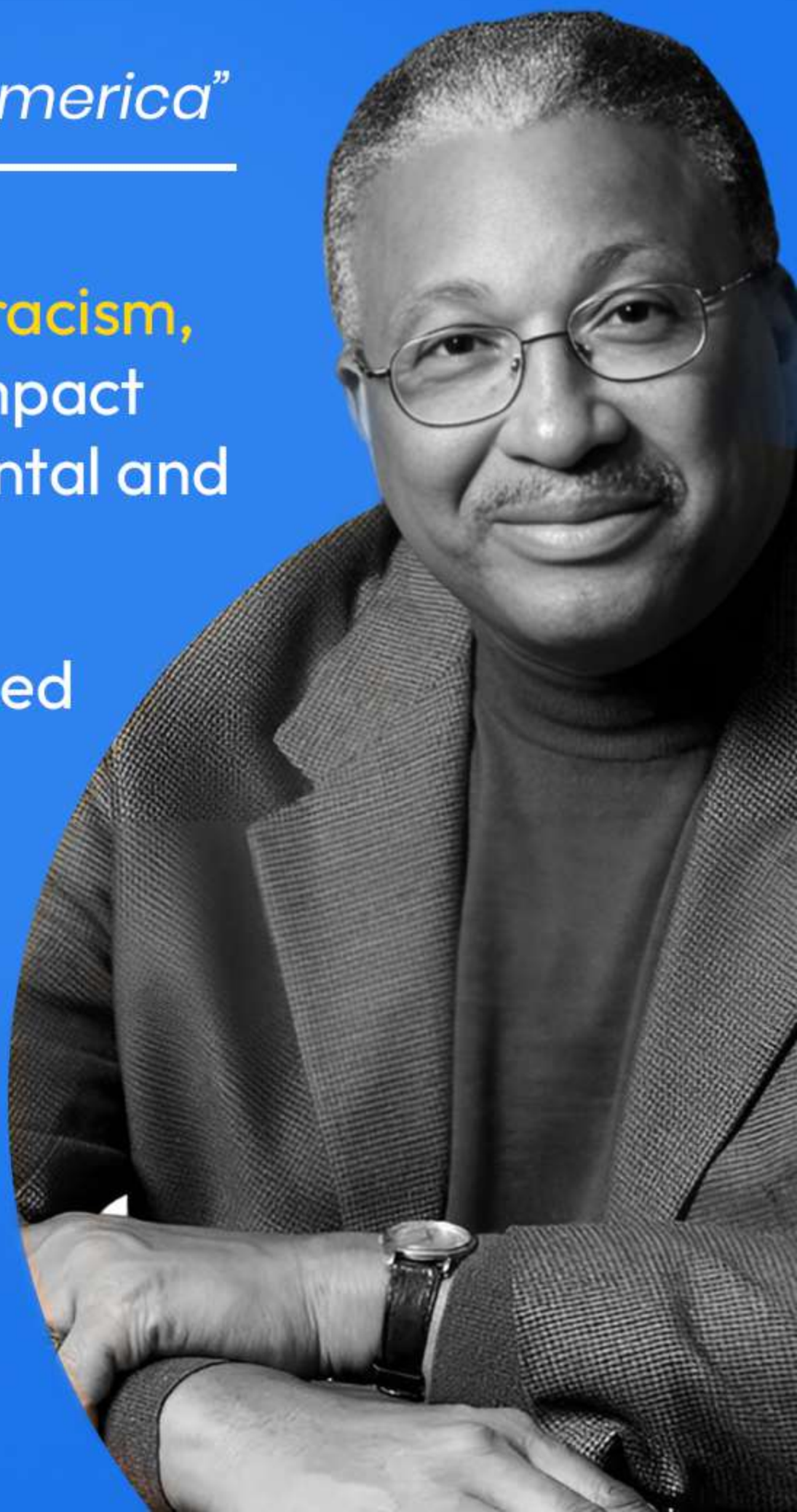
James S. Jackson

(July 30, 1944)

"Psychology of Black America"

Jackson revealed how racism, stress, and resilience impact African Americans' mental and physical health.

His research transformed how psychology and public health understand race, identity, and health disparities.



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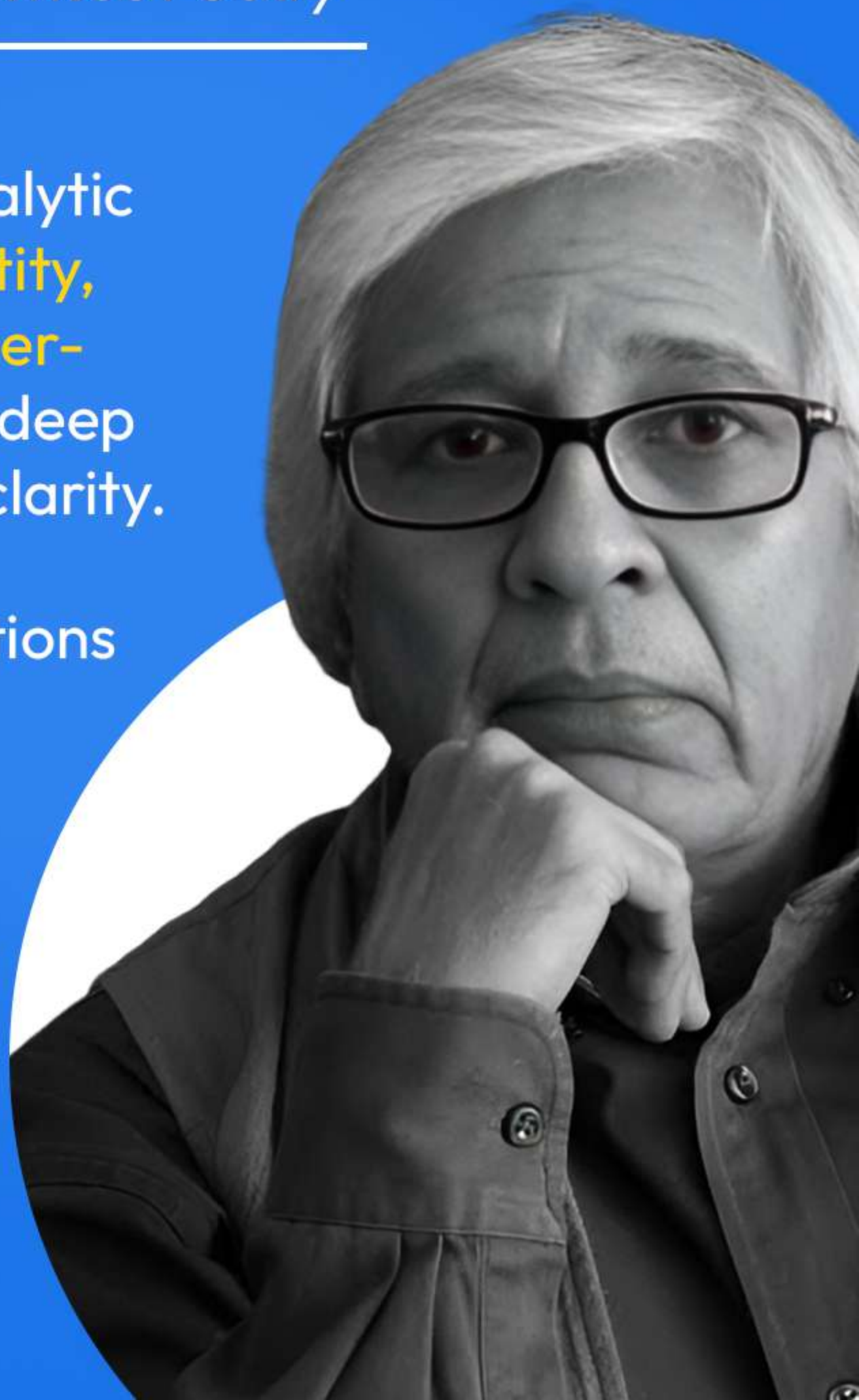
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Salman Akhtar (July 31, 1946)

"The Analyst Who Writes Poetry"

Akhtar's psychoanalytic work explores identity, immigration, and personality—blending deep insight with lyrical clarity.

With 300+ publications and the Sigourney Award, he bridges science and soul in modern psychoanalysis.



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Jean-Baptiste Lamarck

(Aug 1, 1744)

"Before Darwin, There Was Lamarck"

Lamarck proposed that species evolve through use, disuse, and inheritance of acquired traits.

Though later debated, his ideas pushed science toward evolutionary thinking and helped classify invertebrates more systematically.



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Psyche Cattell (Aug 2, 1893)

"Measuring Infant Intelligence"

Cattell developed one of the first standardized tests for babies, focusing on real-world observations.

Her scale offered scientific insight into early develop-ment, and paved the way for infant psychology and assess-ment.



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Oswald Külpe (Aug 3, 1862)

"The Imageless Thought Pioneer"

Külpe challenged Wundt's ideas by showing that thinking isn't always tied to images.

He explored abstract thought, volition, and mental sets, founding the Würzburg school—a key influence in cognitive psychology



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