“History” - a definition

“A chronological record of significant events occurring in the past that affect a nation or institution, often including an explanation of their causes.” Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary

1. “chronological” - the science that deals with measuring time in regular divisions and that assigns to events their proper date - presupposes lineal time

2. “record” - something that recalls or relates to past events - typically presupposes a written account of something occurring in the past, something that is literacy-based

3. “event” - something that happened or is anticipated - typically used in the context of a past

4. “past” - something that happened in a period before the present; presupposes something only remembered or imagined, something passive, without animation nor volition, and certainly no longer present nor accessible

5. “explanation” - act or process of making understandable and known - typically presupposes a particular theory (scientifically acceptable set of abstract principles) of epistemology and methodology, i.e., what is knowable and how one come to know it grounded in empiricism (capable of being verified or disproved by systematic and scientific observation or experimentation) and rationalism (assertion that formalized reason and logic are in themselves a source of knowledge superior to and independent of sense perception), all of which is based in Euro-American world view, i.e, a Cartesian, objective world view, and precludes other epistemologies

6. “causes” - something that brings about an effect or a result - typically validates causes accessible via empirical and rational methodologies, and precludes other causal conditions

So what is the meaning of Sitting Bull’s (Lakota leader and medicine man) declaration:

“History means disrespect for the ancestors!”