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M.A I Year (2nd Semester)  
Subject:- Victorian Literature  
Teacher:- MONIKA KATHOR

① UNIT-1 (VERY SHORT)

(1) DARWIN AND THEORY OF EVOLUTION :-

① CHARLES DARWIN:-

→ Charles Robert Darwin (12 Feb 1809-19 April 1882) was an English naturalist, geologist and biologist best known for his contributions to the science of evolution. His proposition that all species of life have descended over time from common ancestors is now widely accepted, and considered a foundational concept in science. He introduced his scientific theory that this branching pattern of evolution resulted from a process that he called natural selection\*. Darwin published his theory of evolution with compelling evidence in his book "On the Origin of Species" in 1859. By the 1870s, the scientific community and a majority of the educated public had accepted evolution as a fact. Darwin's scientific discovery is the unifying theory of the life

sciences, explaining the diversity of life.

### ① THEORY OF EVOLUTION :-

- Evolution is the change in the heritable characteristics of biological populations over successive generations. These characteristics are the expression of genes that are passed on from parent to offspring during reproduction. Evolution occurs when evolutionary processes such as natural selection and genetic drift act on this variation, resulting in certain characteristics becoming more common or rare within a population. It is this process of evolution that has given rise to biodiversity at every level of biological organisation including levels of species.