



DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY



BEJOY NARAYAN MAHAVIDYALAYA
The University of Burdwan

UNIT / LESSON PLAN

Under Semester With CBCS

Under Graduate (U.G.): (Honors)
Subject: History

Semester: I

Core Course Code Paper: CC Paper - I
History of India – I (From Earliest Time to 600 AD)

Total Credits: – I
Total Marks: 75 (60+ 10+ 5)

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DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
BEJOY NARAYAN MAHAVIDYALAYA
History of India – I (From Earliest Time to 600 AD)

Semester	Course Offered	Name of the Course/ Paper	Credit	Full Marks
SEMESTER - I	CC Paper - 1	History of India – I (From Earliest Times to 600 AD)	6	75
	CC Paper - 2	Social Formations & the Cultural Pattern of the Ancient World	6	75
	Generic Elective (GE) (Students of History Hons. should take Generic Elective Paper-I from Other Disciplines) However Hons. Students belonging to Other Disciplines have to Take the Following GE Paper if they Choose History as Generic Elective Subject)			
	GE Paper - 1	History of India (From Earliest Times to 300 AD)	6	75
	Ability Enhancement Courses (AEC)			
	AEC Paper – 1	Environmental Studies	4	100
Total	4		22	325





History (Hons) Semester – I, CC - 1		
History of India – I (From Earliest Time to 600 AD)		
Credit / Module No – 01: Reconstructing Ancient Indian History		
Credit Contents		
Unit – 1: Reconstructing Ancient Indian History		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Early Indian Notions of History 2. Sources and Tools of Historical Reconstruction 3. Historical Interpretations with Special Reference to Gender, Environment, Technology, and Regions 		
Unit – 1: Reconstructing Ancient Indian History		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Early Indian Notions of History 2. Sources and Tools of Historical Reconstruction <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Sources of Historical Reconstruction b) Tools of Historical Reconstruction 3. Historical Interpretations with Special Reference to Gender, Environment, Technology, and Regions <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Historical Interpretations with Special Reference to Gender b) Historical Interpretations with Special Reference to Environment c) Historical Interpretations with Special Reference to Technology d) Historical Interpretations with Special Reference to Regions 		
Credit / Module Objectives: - Reconstructing Ancient Indian History		
Lecture	Topics of Discussion	Remarks
Lecture – 1	Early Indian Notions of History	
Lecture – 2	Sources of Historical Reconstruction	
Lecture – 3	Tools of Historical Reconstruction	
Lecture – 4	Historical Interpretations with Special Reference to Gender	
Lecture – 5	Historical Interpretations with Special Reference to Environment	
Lecture – 6	Historical Interpretations with Special Reference to Technology	
Lecture – 7	Historical Interpretations with Special Reference to Regions	
Programme Specific Outcomes - Reconstructing Ancient Indian History		
Credit / Module No – 02: Phases of Pre-Historic Cultures		
Credit Contents		
Unit – 2: Phases of Pre-Historic Cultures		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Palaeolithic, Mesolithic & Neolithic Cultures 2. Regional and Chronological Distribution 3. New Developments in Technology and Economy 4. Subsistence, and Patterns of Exchange 5. Mehargarh 6. The Advent of Food Production 		
Unit – 2: Phases of Pre-Historic Cultures		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Palaeolithic, Mesolithic & Neolithic Cultures – Sequence and Distribution <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Palaeolithic Cultures b) Mesolithic Culture c) Neolithic Culture 		



2. Mesolithic Cultures: Regional and Chronological Distribution
3. Stone Industries and other Technological Development
4. New Developments in Technology and Economy and Rock Art
 - a) New Developments in Technology
 - b) New Developments in Economy
5. Mehargarh Civilization
6. The Advent of Food Production
 - a) The Neolithic Age and the Beginnings of Food Production
 - b) Understanding the Regional and Chronological Distribution of the Neolithic and Chalcolithic Cultures
 - c) Subsistence, and Patterns of Exchange

Credit / Module Objectives: - Phases of Pre-Historic Cultures

Lecture	Topics of Discussion	Remarks
Lecture – 1	Introduction of the Phases of Pre-Historic Cultures	
Lecture – 2	Palaeolithic Culture	
Lecture – 3	Mesolithic Culture	
Lecture – 4	Neolithic Culture	
Lecture – 5	Mesolithic Cultures: Regional and Chronological Distribution	
Lecture – 6	Stone Industries and other Technological Development	
Lecture – 7	New Developments in Technology	
Lecture – 8	New Developments in Economy	
Lecture – 9	Rock Art	
Lecture – 10	Subsistence, and Patterns of Exchange	
Module – 1	The Advent of Food Production	
Lecture – 12	The Neolithic Age and the Beginnings of Food Production	
Lecture – 13	Understanding the Regional and Chronological Distribution of the Neolithic and Chalcolithic Cultures	
Lecture – 14	Subsistence, and Patterns of Exchange	
Module - 2	Mehargarh Civilization	

Programme Specific Outcomes- Phases of Pre-Historic Cultures

Credit / Module No – 03: The Harappan Civilization

Credit Contents

Unit – 3: The Harappan Civilization

1. Origins; Antiquity and Extent; Settlement Patterns and Town Planning
2. Agrarian Base
3. Craft Productions and Trade
4. Social and Political Organization
5. Religious Beliefs and Practices
6. Harappan Art
7. the Problem of Urban Decline
8. The Late/Post-Harappan Traditions
9. Development of Neolithic and Chalcolithic Cultures in Post Harappan Period

Unit – 3: The Harappan Civilization

1. Origins; Antiquity and Extent; Settlement Patterns and Town Planning
2. Agrarian Base; Craft Productions



<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Trade 4. Social and Political Organization 5. Religious Beliefs and Practices 6. Harappan Art 7. The Problem of Urban Decline 8. The Late/Post-Harappan Traditions 9. Development of Neolithic and Chalcolithic Cultures in Post Harappan Period 		
Credit / Module Objectives: - The Harappan Civilization		
Lecture	Topics of Discussion	Remarks
Lecture – 1	The Harappan Civilization	
Lecture – 2	Harappa: Origins; Antiquity and Extent	
Lecture – 3	Harappa: Settlement Patterns	
Lecture – 4	Harappa: Town Planning	
Lecture – 5	Agrarian Base	
Lecture – 6	Craft Productions and Trade	
Lecture – 7	Social and Political Organization	
Lecture – 8	Religious Beliefs and Practices	
Lecture – 9	Harappan Art	
Lecture – 10	The Problem of Urban Decline	
Lecture – 11	The Late/Post-Harappan Traditions	
Lecture – 12	Development of Neolithic and Chalcolithic Cultures in Post Harappan Period	
Programme Specific Outcomes - Harappan Civilization		
Credit / Module No – 04: Cultures in Transition		
Credit Contents		
Unit – 4: Cultures in Transition		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coming of the Aryans and Aryan Debate 2. Vedic Literature 3. Expansion of Brahmavarta to Aryavarta 4. Vedic Religion and Philosophy 5. Vedic Economy and Society 6. Religious Protest Movements 7. Second Urbanisation 8. Sixteen Mahajanpadas to the Rise of Magadha 		
Unit – 4: Cultures in Transition		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coming of the Aryans and Aryan Debate or Aryan Problem 2. Vedic Literature 3. Expansion of Brahmavarta to Aryavarta 4. Vedic Religion and Philosophy 5. Vedic Economy and Society 6. Religious Protest Movements 7. Second Urbanisation 8. Sixteen Mahajanpadas to the Rise of Magadha 		
Credit / Module Objectives: - Cultures in Transition		
Lecture	Topics of Discussion	Remarks



Lecture – 1	Cultures in Transition	
Lecture – 2	Coming of the Aryans	
Lecture – 3	Aryan Debate	
Lecture – 4	Vedic Literature	
Lecture – 5	Expansion of Brahmavarta to Aryavarta	
Lecture – 6	Vedic Religion	
Lecture – 7	Vedic Philosophy	
Lecture – 8	Vedic Economy	
Lecture – 9	Vedic Society	
Lecture – 10	Religious Protest Movements	
Lecture – 11	Second Urbanisation	
Lecture – 12	Age of Mahajanpadas	
Lecture – 13	Rise of Magadha	
Lecture – 14		
Programme Specific Outcomes - Cultures in Transition		
Credit / Module No – 05: Changing Political Formations (circa 300 BCE to circa CE 300)		
Credit Contents		
Unit – 5: Changing Political Formations (circa 300 BCE to circa CE 300)		
1. The Mauryan Empire & Politics- Asoka and the Fall of the Mauryas		
2. Post-Mauryan Polities with Special Reference to the Kushanas and the Satavahanas and Gana-Sanghas		
3. Rise of the Guptas, Development of Gupta Empire, Gupta Art, Architecture and Literature		
Unit – 5: Changing Political Formations (circa 300 BCE to circa CE 300)		
1. The Mauryan Empire & Politics		
a) Asoka		
b) The Fall of the Mauryas		
2. Post-Mauryan Polities with Special Reference to the Kushanas and the Satavahanas Gana-Sanghas		
a) Kushanas Dynasty		
b) Satavahana Dynasty		
c) Gana-Sanghas Age		
3. Gupta Empire		
a) Rise of the Guptas		
b) Political Development of Gupta Empire		
c) Gupta Art		
d) Gupta Architecture		
e) Gupta Literature		
Credit / Module Objectives: - Changing Political Formations (circa 300 BCE to circa CE 300)		
Lecture	Topics of Discussion	Remarks
Lecture – 1	Changing Political Formations (circa 300 BCE to circa CE 300)	
Lecture – 2	The Mauryan Empire & Politics	
Lecture – 3	Asoka	
Lecture – 4	The Fall of the Mauryas	
Lecture – 5	Post-Mauryan Polities	
Lecture – 6	Kushanas Dynasty	



Lecture – 7	Satavahana Dynasty	
Lecture – 8	Gana-Sanghas Age	
Lecture – 9	Gupta Empire	
Lecture – 10	Political Development of Gupta Empire	
Lecture – 11	Gupta Art	
Lecture – 12	Gupta Architecture	
Lecture – 13	Gupta Literature	

Programme Specific Outcomes - Changing Political Formations (circa 300 BCE to circa CE 300)

Credit / Module No – 06: Society Economy and Culture in Early India

Credit Contents

Unit – 6: Society Economy and Culture in Early India

1. Agrarian Expansion: Land Grants, Changing Production Relations; Graded Land Rights and Peasantry
2. Urban Growth: North India, Central India and the Deccan
 - a) North India (circa 1500 BCE – 300 BCE)
 - b) Central India (circa 1000 BCE – 300 BCE)
 - c) Decan (circa 1000 BCE – 300 BCE)
 - d) Tamilakam (circa 300 BCE – CE 300)
3. Craft Production: Trade and Trade Routes; Coinage
4. Social Stratification: Class, Varna, Jati, Untouchability; Gender; Marriage and Property Relations
5. The Problem of Urban Decline: Patterns of Trade, Currency, and Urban Settlements

Unit – 6: Society Economy and Culture in Early India

1. Agrarian Expansion: Land Grants, Changing Production Relations; Graded Land Rights and Peasantry
2. Urban Growth: North India, Central India and the Deccan
 - a) Urban Growth: North India
 - b) Urban Growth: Central India
 - c) Urban Growth: Deccan
3. Craft Production: Trade and Trade Routes; Coinage
 - a) Trade and Trade Routes
 - b) Coinage
4. Social Stratification: Class, Varna, Jati, Untouchability; Gender; Marriage and Property Relations
5. The Problem of Urban Decline: Patterns of Trade, Currency, and Urban Settlements

Credit / Module Objectives: - Society Economy and Culture in Early India

Lecture	Topics of Discussion	Remarks
Lecture – 1	Society Economy and Culture in Early India	
Lecture – 2	Agrarian Expansion: Land Grants	
Lecture – 3	Changing Production Relations	
Lecture – 4	Graded Land Rights and Peasantry	
Lecture – 5	Urban Growth: North India, Central India and the Deccan	
Lecture – 6	Tamilakam (circa 300 BCE – CE 300)	
Lecture – 7	Craft Production: Trade and Trade Routes	
Lecture – 8	Coinage	
Lecture – 9	Social Stratification: Class, Varna, Jati, Untouchability	
Lecture – 10	Social Stratification: Gender; Marriage and Property Relations	



Lecture – 11	The Problem of Urban Decline	
Lecture – 12	Patterns of Trade, Currency	
Lecture – 13	Urban Settlements	
Programme Specific Outcomes - Society Economy and Culture in Early India		





Reference Books

HISTORY OF INDIA- I (From Earliest Times to 600 AD)

Unit – 1: Reconstructing Ancient Indian History

Unit – 2: Phases of Pre-Historic Cultures

Unit – 3: The Harappan Civilization

Unit – 4: Cultures in Transition

Unit – 5: Changing Political Formations (circa 300 BCE to circa CE 300)

Unit – 6: Society Economy and Culture in Early India

Sharma, R.S. (2007)	India's Ancient Past	OUP, New Delhi
Sharma, R.S. (1983)	Material Culture and Social Formations in Ancient India	
Sharma, R.S. (1995)	Looking for the Aryas	Orient Longman Publishers
Agrawal, D.P. (1985)	The Archaeology of India	
Allchin, Raymond and Bridget. (1983)	The Rise of Civilization in India and Pakistan	
Basham, A.L. (1971)	The Wonder that Was India	
Chakrabarti, D.K. (1997)	The Archaeology of Ancient Indian Cities.	Paperback
Chakrabarti, D.K. (2006)	The Oxford Companion to Indian Archaeology.	New Delhi
Raychaudhuri, H.C. (1996)	Political History of Ancient India, Rev. ed. with Commentary by B. N. Mukherjee.	
Sastri, K. A. N. ed., (1966)	History of South India	OUP
Singh, Upinder. (2008)	A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India	
Thapar, Romila. (2002)	Early India from the Beginnings to 1300	London
Habib, Irfan. (2001)	A People's History. Vol. 1, Pre-History	
Habib, Irfan. (2002)	Indus Civilization: Including Other Copper Age Cultures	
Chakravarti, Uma. (1997)	The Social Dimensions of Early Buddhism	
Gurukkal, Ranjan. (2010)	Social Formations of Early South India	
Champakalakshmi, R. (1996)	Trade, Ideology and urbanization: South India 300 BC- AD 1300	



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