

**M.A. Examination, 2025**  
**Semester-I**  
**HISTORY**  
**Course: CC-I**

**Historical Method and Historiography**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks: 40**

Questions are of equal value

Answer *any four* questions

1. Critically analyse Historicism and its main assumptions.
2. Explain the relationship between History and Social Theory.
3. Discuss the Annales School of historiography. How did it redefine the methods of historical research?
4. Discuss the new approaches to history that emerged during the inter-war period. How did they challenge traditional political narratives?
5. Discuss the concept of Counter-Insurgency (COIN) as a subject of historical analysis. What methodological problems does it pose for historians?
6. Analyse the relationship between Memory and History. How does collective memory shape historical writing?
7. Examine the transformation of historiography in the Middle East after 1945.
8. Critically assess the impact of the Cold War on historical writing and interpretation across different regions.

**M.A. Examination, 2025**  
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**Course: CC-II**

**Medieval India: State and Politics (1206-1707)**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks: 40**

Questions are of equal value

Answer *any four* questions

1. Provide a brief discussion on the historiography of the Delhi Sultanate, with particular emphasis on Ziauddin Barani.
2. Assess the nature of relationship between the Khalifa and the Delhi Sultanate
3. Discuss how Balban consolidated political power in his hands and examine how his policies laid the groundwork for the establishment of autocratic rule in Delhi.
4. Elaborate on the administrative framework established by the Delhi Sultans.
5. How did Abul Fazl help contribute to shaping a new identity for the Mughal royalty that moved away from the institution of the Islamic Khalifa?
6. Do you agree that the Mansabdari system was essential for maintaining the stability of the Mughal administration? Give reasons?
7. Examine the impact of Aurangzeb's religious policies on the structure and functioning of the Mughal state.
8. To what extent was the Vijayanagara King primarily a ritualistic figure rather than an autocrat with bureaucratized administrative machinery? Discuss.

**M.A. Examination, 2025**  
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**Course: CC-III**

**Medieval India: Society and Culture (1200-1707)**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks: 40**

Questions are of equal value

Answer *any four* questions

1. What was the role of Ulema in medieval Indian polity? Do you think Ulema acted as a pressure group and tried to overwhelm the king?
2. Compare and contrast the features and objectives of the Bhakti-Sufi movements in India.
3. Write an essay on caste as social occupation and ideology in medieval India.
4. Do you think Akbar was out-and-out a statesman and his religious policies were designed to consolidate and sustain his power and the Mughal rule in India?
5. Who were zamindars? What was their role and status in the Indian village society?
6. Discuss the chief features of the architecture of the time of Akbar.
7. Describe the main characteristics of the Rajput paintings. How far were Rajput paintings influenced by the Mughal paintings?
8. Trace the growth of Marathi language and literature.

**M.A. Examination, 2025**  
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**HISTORY**  
**Course: CC-IV**

**History of Modern India (1707-1857), Part 1**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks: 40**

Questions are of equal value

Answer *any four* questions

1. Do you think that the incompetence of the emperors who succeeded Aurangzeb ultimately led to the downfall of the Mughal Empire?
2. What factors played a major role in the consolidation of Nawabi rule in eighteenth-century Bengal?
3. Discuss the contributions of the various Peshwas, beginning with Balaji Vishwanath, to the rise of Maratha power in the eighteenth century.
4. Analyse the role of the Dutch and French trading companies in Bengal. What was the nature of their relationship with the British East India Company?
5. In what ways did the East India Company expand its empire in India after the Battle of Buxar?
6. How, and to what extent, did the British benefit from the triangular trade in the nineteenth century?
7. After the Permanent Settlement was implemented in Bengal, what were the social origins of those who purchased zamindari estates and became new zamindars?
8. Discuss how capitalism penetrated India's agrarian-based economy during the initial decades of the British rule.

M.A. Examination, 2025  
Semester-I  
HISTORY  
Course: CC-V

Economic History: Agrarian Economy of Pre-Colonial India (1206-1707)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

Questions are of equal value

Answer *any four* questions

1. Write a note on the distribution and administration of revenue resources during the early years of the Delhi Sultanate.
2. Examine the measures undertaken by the Khalji and Tughlaq rulers to expand and enhance agricultural practices.
3. Briefly discuss cultivation practices and agrarian production during the Sultanate period.
4. What were the key features of Sher Shah Suri's land revenue administration?
5. To what extent was Emperor Akbar successful in overcoming the limitations of his predecessors' land revenue administration?
6. How were farming practices and land management organized in southern India in the medieval period?
7. Discuss the role, privileges, and power of the Zamindars within the rural society.
8. Explain, how egalitarian was the structure of village society in medieval India?

M.A. Examination, 2025  
Semester-I  
HISTORY  
Course: CC-VI

Economic History of India: Maritime History of India (1500–1600)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

Questions are of equal value

Answer *any four* questions

1. Give a comparative account of Arab dhows and Chinese junks in the Indian Ocean. Can we call the ships of South-East Asia true junks?
2. Assess the importance of Ibn Battuta's *Rehla* as a source of maritime history of the Indian Ocean.
3. Write a critical note on the ports and trade routes in the Indian Ocean up to about 1500.
4. What were the perils and pleasures of seafaring in the pre-Portuguese Indian Ocean?
5. Assess the attitudes of Asian rulers to sea trade during the ascendancy of the Portuguese in the Indian Ocean world.
6. What was 'new' about Portuguese violence in the Indian Ocean? How did they justify it?
7. Characterise the Portuguese *Estado da Índia* in terms of its political success (or lack thereof) in the Indian Ocean world.
8. What can be said of the economic impact of the Portuguese on the Indian Ocean during the sixteenth century?