

M.A. Examination, 2026
Semester-II
History
Course: CC-VII
Medieval India: State and Economy (1200-1707)

Questions are of equal value
Answer any four questions

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

1. Write an essay on the similarities and the dissimilarities in Iqta and Jagirdari systems.
2. Examine the power and functions of Muqaddam, Khot and Chaudhuri.
3. What do you understand by the concept of hydraulic Empire? Is it correct to call the Mughal Empire a hydraulic state?
4. Discuss the structure, character and basic technology of crafts production in the Sultanate-Mughal period.
5. Write a note on India's overland and overseas foreign trade during the period of your study.
6. Describe the putting-out system and formation of merchant capital in Mughal India.
7. What do you know about mint-farming? What were the advantages and disadvantages of the mint-farming?
8. Discuss about various categories and characteristics of towns and cities in Mughal India.

M.A. Examination, 2026
Semester-II
History
Course: CC-IX
History of India-Part II (1707-1857)

Questions are of equal value
Answer any four questions

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

1. Discuss the shifting ideologies of rule of the English East India Company in India during 1757 and 1857.
2. Can we designate the English East India Company as a Company-state? Discuss with reference to its career in India.
3. Discuss the nature of interaction and negotiation between the Europeans and the Indians regarding the issue of public education during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.
4. What were the nature of changes in social and urban life during East India Company's rule in India.
5. Critically discuss the recruitment policy of the pre-1857 Bengal Army.
6. The Bengal Renaissance was a limited affair. Comment.
7. Discuss the context in which the telegraph emerged as a novel technology in the subcontinent. Did telegraph play an important role in the revolt of 1857?
8. What does recent historiography say about the role of so called marginal areas and communities in the revolt of 1857?

M.A. Examination, 2026
Semester-II
History
Course: CC-X
History of Modern India: 1857-1916

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

All questions are of equal value
Answer any four of the following questions

1. What were the points of agreement and disagreement among the different schools of historians explaining the character of Indian nationalist movement focussing the arguments of the Marxist School and the Subaltern School.
2. What led to the foundation of Indian National Congress? Why did Wedderburn make a false statement about A.O. Hume in his book?
3. Identify the demands of the moderate politicians along with the responses of the British administration in each case.
4. Identify and discuss the three channels of drainage of wealth as suggested by the economic historians during later half of nineteenth century in India. Was there any significance of the 'Drain of Wealth Theory' for the mature phase of the Indian nationalist movement?
5. Do you think that Syed Ahmad Khan's political philosophy was guided by 'majority phobia'? Give justification for your answer.
6. Was there any link between 'Hindu revivalism' and the rise of Extremism during the first decade of the twentieth century India? Give arguments for your answer.
7. Do you consider the Swadeshi movement as a 'popular revolution'? Give justification for your answer.
8. Were the revolutionaries successful in acting as a 'pressure group' on the British administrative policy?

M.A. Examination, 2026
Semester-II
History
Course: CC-XI
Economic History: Maritime History of India (1600–1700)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

All questions are of equal value
Answer any four of the following questions

1. Write a note on the early attempts of European merchants and adventurers to gain access to the maritime world of the East, especially India, during the late sixteenth and early seventeenth century.
2. Outline the nature of India's overseas trading world at the beginning of the seventeenth century.
3. Write a short essay on the organization and administration of the East India Company. How did the formation of permanent joint-stock system help in the expansion of its network in India?
4. How different were the nature and organization of the Dutch East India Company from those of the English East India Company? Did these differences enable the Dutch Company to pursue a more aggressive policy in the East?
5. How was overseas trade in the Coromandel region organized during the seventeenth century?
6. Assess the nature of Indian mercantile presence and the challenges posed to the Europeans in the Gujarat trade during the seventeenth century.
7. To what extent were the Malabar and Kanara trades regulated by smaller coastal polities during the seventeenth century?
8. Give an account of Bengal's overseas trade, with special reference to the role of the Dutch East India Company during the second half of the seventeenth century.

M.A. Examination, 2026

Semester-II

Course: CC-XII

Economic History of India: Agrarian History of Colonial India

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

Questions are of equal value

Answer any four questions

1. Write a critique of the Rangpur Dhing.
2. What necessitated the introduction of new land settlements in colonial India?
3. Describe how the Mahalwari System affected agrarian society in the colonial period.
4. Account for peasant rebellions in the Ryotwari areas in the light of the Deccan Riots.
5. Trace the circumstances leading to Bengal Tenancy Act of 1885. Did it lead to any improvement in the condition of ryots?
6. Explore the major trends in the Munda Rebellion.
7. Were famines in colonial India man-made rather than effects of natural disasters?
8. Would you argue that emergence of landless agricultural labour in India was an outcome of colonial rule?

M.A. Examination, 2026
Semester-II
History
Course: CC-VIII
History of Medieval India: Regional Powers-1

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

All questions are of equal value
Answer any four of the following questions

1. Why did Timur invade India?
2. Characterise the fifteenth century in India, with special reference to gender and caste.
3. How Islamic were the sultanates of the Indian subcontinent in the so-called 'long fifteenth-century' (i.e., 1388-1555)?
4. Give an account of the Perso-Islamic notion of political authority as it evolved in Central Asia between the eleventh and thirteenth centuries.
5. Contrasting political strategies of the Tughluqs for upper and lower Deccan produced two distinctly different states—Bahmani and Vijayanagara—in these areas in the mid-fourteenth century. Explain.
6. Discuss how the arrival of north Indian Sufis in the Deccan during the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries wrought deep changes in the region's political and religious fabric, with special reference to Gisu Daraz.
7. Assess the significance of the career of Mahmud Gawan in the history of the Deccan. Was it the best example of a general sociopolitical trend in the Deccan?
8. How was political authority indigenised in medieval Bengal between Bhaktiyar Khalji's conquest of the region and the Hussain Shahi dynasty?

M.A. Examination, 2025
Semester-II
History
Course: CC-VII
Medieval India: State and Economy (1200-1707)

Questions are of equal value
Answer *any four* questions

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

1. Write an essay on the nature and types of taxation during the Sultanate-Mughal period?
2. Examine the structure and character of trade and commerce in India during the 16th and 17th centuries.
3. Discuss the nature and character of land grants during the Mughal period.
4. Trace the growth of irrigation technology in medieval India with emphasis on the Persian wheel.
5. Examine the power and functions of Zamindars in the agrarian society.
6. What were the chief agrarian industries in medieval India? Do you think textile production surpassed all industries?
7. Do you think Mughal India witnessed a new phase of urbanization? Discuss.
8. Examine the growth of banking system in Mughal India with special reference to Bills of Exchange and *Hundi* system.

M.A. Examination, 2025
Semester-II
History
Course: CC–VIII (Compulsory)
History of Medieval India: Regional Powers–1

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

All questions are of equal value
Answer *any four* of the following questions

1. How Islamic were the sultanates of the Indian subcontinent in the so-called “long fifteenth-century” (i.e., 1388–1555)?
2. Discuss the related dimensions of religion, gender and caste, as experienced in fifteenth-century India.
3. Give an account of the Perso-Islamic notion of political authority as it evolved in Central Asia between the eleventh and thirteenth centuries.
4. The variant Tughluq administrative strategies for upper and lower Deccan produced two distinctly different states—Bahmani and Vijayanagara—in these areas in the mid-fourteenth century. Explain.
5. Assess the significance of the career of Mahmud Gawan in the history of the Deccan. Was it the best example of a general sociopolitical trend in the Deccan?
6. The reign of Jalal al-Din Muhammad was a watershed in the history of the Bengal Sultanate. Discuss.
7. Give an account of the Mewar kingdom of the fifteenth century, with special reference to temple construction under the Rajputs.
8. Write short notes on *any two* of the following:
 - a. Timur’s invasion of India
 - b. Cultural achievements of the Gujarat Sultanate
 - c. Jaunpur Sultanate
 - d. Malwa

M.A. Examination, 2025
HISTORY
Course: CC-IX
History of Modern India (1707–1857) Part-2

Questions are of equal value
Answer *any four* questions

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

1. Write a critical note on the notion of Orientalism as propounded by Edward Said. How did Orientalism affect the framing of colonial policies?
2. How did the Bengal Army and the Bombay Army differ in their treatment of *Purbaiyas*?
3. The colonial legal system represented more continuity than change till the early decades of the 19th century. Comment.
4. What were the circumstances leading to the rise of English education in colonial India?
5. The reliance of the reformers on religion and religious sanction was a major weakness of the 19th century reform movement in Bengal. Would you agree with this notion?
6. What were the inherent contradictions in the Widow Remarriage Act of 1856?
7. What role did local factors play in the development of the telegraph in colonial India?
8. How has recent historiography on 1857 looked at the role of Dalits and so called marginal areas?

M.A. Examination, 2025
Semester-II
History
Course: CC-X
History of Modern India (1857-1916)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

All questions are of equal value
Answer ***any four*** of the following questions

1. On what points do schools of historians vary in their opinion regarding the character of the nationalist movement of India? Discuss the arguments of the Neo-traditionalist and Cambridge School of historians.
2. Discuss the varied reasons behind the acceptance of the 'Safety-Valve' theory by different schools of historians. What role did A.O. Hume play in the foundation of the Indian Nationalist Congress?
3. Discuss in detail the contribution of moderate politics in shaping the critique of British rule in India.
4. Do you think that the Aligarh movement led by Syed Ahmad Khan was not adequate to represent the political ambition of the Muslims of India? What was the reaction which emerged among the Muslims of north India against Syed Ahmad Khan's line of politics?
5. Critically analyse the emergence of extremist politics against colonial rule in India. What were the factors that led to its decline?
6. How far successfully did Hindu revivalism contribute to the ideological base of the extremist politics in India?
7. Do you think that the Partition of Bengal (1905) was 'an administrative necessity'? Give justification for your answer.
8. What was the contribution of the revolutionary activists to the anti-British sentiment that started to crystallize since the first decade of the 20th century?

M.A. Examination, 2025
Semester- II
History
Course: CC-XI

Economic History of India: Maritime History of India (1600-1700)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

Questions are of equal value
Answer *any four* questions

1. Describe the organization of Indian overseas trade at the beginning of the seventeenth century.
2. What role did monopoly charters from the English Crown play in establishing the East India Company's trading operations?
3. Analyze the contribution of the Dutch East India Company to Indian overseas trade during the seventeenth century.
4. Discuss the emergence of Gujarat as a key hub for overseas trade in the Indian Ocean region during the seventeenth century.
5. What was the impact of the Dutch conquest of Cochin in 1663 on the pepper trade in the Malabar and Canara regions?
6. Do you agree with the view that Asiatic trade was the main strength of Bengal's overseas commerce during the seventeenth century? What were the major commodities exported from Bengal?
7. To what extent did the long coastline, along with the richer and more expansive hinterland contribute to the success of Coromandel trade during the period under study?
8. Write a brief essay on the multifaceted role played by the mercantile community in seventeenth century maritime India.

M.A. Examination, 2025
Semester-II
Course: CC-XII
Economic History of India: Agrarian History of Colonial India

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

Questions are of equal value
Answer *any four* questions

1. Discuss the major trends in the historiography of the agrarian history of colonial India.
2. Trace the circumstances leading to Act X in Bengal in 1859. Did it lead to any improvement in the condition of *ryots*?
3. Describe how the Ryotwari System affected agrarian society in the colonial period.
4. Would you argue that colonial land settlements brought about significant changes in the status and role of rural moneylenders in nineteenth and early twentieth centuries?
5. How would you explain peasant rebellions in the colonial period?
6. Explore the major trends in the Santal Hool.
7. Write a critique on classification of peasants in the last century of colonial rule.
8. Do you think Champaran and Kheda peasant movements facilitated M.K. Gandhi's entry into politics?