

REVISED SYLLABUS

ANCIENT INDIAN HISTORY, CULTURE & ARCHAEOLOGY

POST GRADUATE COURSE (M.A.)

Incorporating Indian Knowledge Systems

Department of Ancient Indian History Culture & Archaeology

Vidya-Bhavana

Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan

2025

MA Syllabus

Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology

This postgraduate course is specially designed after revision to be in practice from the present academic session. There are twelve compulsory courses on various aspects of ancient Indian history, culture and archaeology. These compulsory courses have been arranged chronologically as well as spatially. Areas like Brahmaputra valley, South India are included so that the students are acquainted to the development of regional histories also.

The outcome of this postgraduate course is to develop the students' interest in the discipline holistically. He or she should be confident enough of the subject by the end of the course. It will also help them to shape up their research inclinations in the broad areas of Indian Knowledge Systems. This course will be supplemented with regular workshops and seminars to broaden their area of thought process and learn new trends of research in this discipline.

The students have to compulsorily take six courses in the first semester. This has been made compulsory with the view to introduce them to the general overview of all the aspects which will be taught in the succeeding semesters as specialized optional courses. The first six courses cover topics like historical geography, archaeological background, socio economic history, religion and art of ancient India from 2nd millennium BC. The students also will learn the approaches of studying the past.

The optional specialized courses will start from the second semester. Other than two compulsory courses in each semester, they will also opt for four more optional papers from two groups of their choice. This is in view of the students interest or inclination to study and specialize in some aspects which will benefit them to have a research orientation in future.

The optional courses are divided into five broad categories of Archaeology, Socio economic, history, Epigraphy and Numismatics, Ancient Indian Religion and Ancient Indian Art and Architecture. The main idea is to impart them detail study of the options whichever they choose. So for example if anyone takes up archaeology, he or she will be studying its theory as well as field methods and also cover the cultural chronology from prehistory to medieval. Similarly anyone studying Indian Art will be studying aspects of art, iconography and architecture. New trends in research on these categories have also been included in these optional courses to keep them updated to the new researches.

- I. **Group A:** Compulsory Courses (12 Courses).
- II. **Group B:** Optional Courses (6 Courses each in areas of specialization in Archaeology, Epigraphy and Numismatics, Social and Economic History, Religion and Art and Architecture).

GROUP A:

Compulsory Courses (Each Course carries 6 credits: 12 x 6= 72 credits)

- A.1 Historical Geography of Early India
- A.2 Archaeological Background to the Study of Indian History
- A.3 Religion and Art in Early India
(From the Middle of 2nd millennium BCE to 1300 CE)
- A.4 Early Indian Social and Economic History
(From the Middle of 2nd millennium BCE to 1300 CE)
- A.5 Early Indian Epigraphy and Numismatics
(From the Middle of 2nd millennium BCE to 1300 CE)
- A.6 Approaches to the Study of Ancient India's Past
- A.7 The Emergence of State in India: Magadh
- A.8 Political Ideas and Institutions
(From the Middle of 2nd millennium BCE to 1300 CE).
- A.9 The Gupta Period in Indian History
- A.10 Deccan and South India from 300 BCE and 700 CE
- A.11 South India from 700 CE to 1300 CE
- A.12 History of Eastern India including the Brahmaputra valley
(700 CE to 1300 CE)

The Semester wise distribution of the above courses will be as follows:

- A.1 to A.6 (1st Semester)
- A.7 & A.8 (2nd Semester)
- A.9 & A.10 (3rd Semester)
- A.11 & A.12 (4th Semester)

GROUP B (Optional Courses)

A student has to take two courses each from two groups (4 courses of 6 credits each) of his or her choice in every semester. However, the choice of group has to be decided in second semester only.

Archaeology (S.1-6)

- S.1. Approaches to Archaeological Studies in India
- S.2. Archaeology: Theories and Techniques
- S.3. Prehistory of South Asia
- S.4. Protohistory of South Asia
- S.5. Historical Archaeology of South Asia (Iron Age to Medieval)
- S.6. Ethno-archaeology: Theories and Practices

Epigraphy and Numismatics (S.7-12)

- S.7. Indian Epigraphy and Palaeography -I
- S.8. Indian Epigraphy and Palaeography - II
- S.9. Indian Epigraphy and Palaeography-III
- S.10. Indian Numismatics-I

- S.11. Indian Numismatics-II
- S.12. Indian Numismatics-III

Socio-Economic History (S.13 — 18)

- S.13. Social History of India up to 400 CE.
- S.14. Gender Studies: Women in Ancient India
- S.15. Social History of India from 400 CE to 1300 CE
- S.16. Economic History of India up to 400 CE
- S.17. Economic History of India from 400 CE to 1300 CE.
- S.18. Themes in Early Indian Social and Economic History

Ancient Indian Religions (S.19- 24)

- S.19. An Introduction to Religion upto the Early Vedic Age
- S.20. Evolution of Religious Cults, Rituals and Ideas- I
- S.21. Evolution of Religious Cults, Rituals and Ideas- II
- S.22. Buddhism
- S.23. Jainism
- S.24. Tantrism

Indian Art History (S.25 -30)

- S.25. Architecture I: Proto Historic phase, Stambhas, Stupa and Rock-cut Architecture
- S.26. Architecture II: Temple Architecture (North India)
- S.27. Sculpture and Painting
- S.28. Architecture III: Temple Architecture (South India)
- S.29. Iconography I: Jain and Buddhist Iconography
- S.30. Iconography II: Brahmanical Iconography

SEMESTER WISE DISTRIBUTION OF PAPERS

Semester I (6 x 6=32 credits)

- A.1. Historical Geography of Early India
- A.2. Archaeological Background to the Study of Indian History
- A.3. Religion and Art in Early India (From the Middle of 3rd millennium BCE to 1300 CE)
- A.4. Early Indian Social and Economic History (From the Middle of 2nd millennium BCE to 1300 CE)
- A.5. Early Indian Epigraphy and Numismatics (From the Middle of 2nd millennium BCE to 1300 CE)
- A.6. Approaches to the Study of Ancient India's Past

Semester II (6 x 6=36 credits)

- A.7. The Emergence of State in India: Magadh
- A.8. Political Ideas and Institutions
(From middle of 2nd millennium BCE to 1300 CE)

- S.1. Approaches to Archaeological Studies in India
- S.2. Archaeology: Theories and Techniques
- S.7. Indian Epigraphy and Palaeography -I
- S.8. Indian Epigraphy and Palaeography - II
- S.13. Social History of India up to 400 CE
- S.14. Gender Studies: Women in Ancient India
- S.19. An Introduction to Religion upto the Early Vedic Age
- S.20. Evolution of Religious Cults, Rituals and Ideas- I
- S.25. Architecture I: Proto Historic phase, Stambhas, Stupa and Rock-cut Architecture
- S.26. Architecture II: Temple Architecture (North India)

Semester III (6 x 6= 36 credits)

- A.9. The Gupta Period in Indian History
- A.10. Deccan and South India from 300 BCE and 700 CE
- S.3. Prehistory of South Asia
- S.4. Protohistory of South Asia
- S.9. Indian Epigraphy and Palaeography-III
- S.10. Indian Numismatics-I
- S.15. Social History of India from 400 CE to 1300 CE
- S.16. Economic History of India up to 400 CE
- S.21. Evolution of Religious Cults, Rituals and Ideas- II
- S.22. Buddhism
- S.27. Sculpture and Painting
- S.28. Architecture III: Temple Architecture (South India)

Semester IV (6 x 6=36 credits)

- A.11. South India from 700 CE to 1300 CE
- A.12. History of Eastern India including the Brahmaputra Valley (700 CE to 1300 CE)
- S.5. Historical Archaeology (Iron Age to Medieval)
- S.6. Ethnoarchaeology: Theories and Practices
- S.11. Indian Numismatics-II
- S.12. Indian Numismatics-III
- S.17. Economic History of India from 400 CE to 1300 CE
- S.18. Themes in Early Indian Social and Economic History
- S.23. Jainism
- S.24. Tantrism
- S.29. Iconography I: Jain and Buddhist Iconography
- S.30. Iconography II: Brahmanical Iconography

Course Structure and Syllabus
Under Post Graduation (Four Semesters) Degree in Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology

COURSE	SEMESTER			
	I	II	III	IV
Compulsory Courses	A1 -A6 (6 credit each) =36 credits Marks =50 x 6= 300	A7 & A8 (6 credit each) =12 credits Marks= 50 x 2=100	A9 & A 10 (6 credit each) =12 credits Marks= 50 x 2=100	A 11 & A12 (6 credit each) =12 credits Marks= 50 x 2=100
Optional Courses		4 Optional papers (6 credit each) =24 credits Marks= 50 x 4= 200	4 Optional papers (6 credit each) =24 credits Marks= 50 x 4=200	4 Optional papers (6 credit each) =24 credits Marks= 50 x 4= 200
Total Credit	36	36	36	36
Total Marks	300	300	300	300
Total Credits of 4 Semesters	144 Credits			
Total Marks	1200			

A.1 HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY OF EARLY INDIA

Course Objectives: The objective of the paper is to introduce the students the concepts of historical geography and the ideas of ancient traditions. The main aim is to make the students understand historicity of ancient landscape using ancient texts and archaeological evidences.

Course Outcome: The students will have an overall perspective of the interaction of people and ancient landscape.

UNIT I

Sources for the study of Historical Geography of India

Early developments in historical geography-Cunningham's *Ancient Geography of India* vis-a-vis initiation of Buddhist Archaeology in India.

UNIT II

Geographical issues in early Indian literature: Names and Physical Divisions of India
Distribution Pattern of Archaeological Sites of Early Historic Period

UNIT III

Historical Geography of Asokan Sites

Epics and Archaeological Tradition – Sources and Debates

Early Historic Urbanism

UNIT IV

Chinese sources and Buddhist Archaeology – Pattern of Distribution of Buddhist Monastic Network in South Asia

Textual and Archaeological Sources on Indian Ocean Trading Networks

Concept of Political Geography – Scope and Sources

Early Medieval Political Geography

Select Readings:

Bhattacharji, Sukumari. 1975. Literature in the Vedic Age (2 Vols). Calcutta

Chakrabarti, Dilip .K 2010. The Ancient Routes of the Deccan and the Southern Peninsula. New Delhi.

Chakrabarti,Dilip.K. 2011. Royal Messages by the Wayside: Historical Geographical Geography of Asokan Edicts. Delhi: Aryan Books International.

Chakraborti, Ranabir 1992-93. Maritime Trade and Voyages in Ancient Bengal. Journal of the Ancient Indian History 19: 145-171

Champakalakshmi, R 1996. Trade, Ideology and Urbanization: South India 300 B.C. to A.D 1300. Delhi.

Chattopadhyaya, B.D. 1984. A Survey of Historical Geography of Ancient India. Calcutta.

Chattopadhyaya, B.D. 1994. The Making of Early Medieval India. Delhi.

- Chattopadhyaya, B.D. 2003. *Studying Early India: Archaeology, Text and Historical Issues*. Delhi.
- Cunningham, A. 1871. *Ancient Geography of India: Buddhist Period*. London.
- Dymond, D. P. 1974. *Archaeology and History: A Plea for Reconciliation*. London: Thames and Hudson.
- Erodsy, George 1988. *Urbanisation in Early Historical India*. Oxford.
- Falk, Harry 2006. *Asokan Sites and Artefacts*. Berlin.
- Gangopadhyay, Kaushik and Shoumita Chatterjee 2013. *Understanding Early Networks on the East Coast: A Preliminary Survey of the Coromandel Coast (Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh)*. *Pratna Samiksha, New Series* 4. 11-33
- Gokhale, Shobana 2008, *Lord of Dakshinapatha: Coins, Trade-Centres under the Satavahanas*. Delhi.
- Kosambi, D.D. 1985. *An Introduction to the Study of Indian History*. (reprint). Mumbai: Popular Prakashan.
- Kulke, Hermann (1995). *The State in India 1000-1700*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.
- Kunhau Raja 1962 *Survey of Sanskrit Literature*. Mumbai: Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan.
- Lad, Gauri P. 1981. *Mahabharata and Archaeological Evidence*. Pune: Deccan College.
- Law, B.C. 1954. *Historical Geography of Ancient India*. Paris.
- Majumdar, R.C. (ed.). 1954. *History and Culture of the Indian People*, vols. 2,3,4,5. Bombay: Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan.
- Majumdar, R.C. (ed.). 1943. *History of Bengal, Volume I: Ancient Period*. Dhaka
- Majumdar, R.C. 1971. *History of Ancient Bengal*. Calcutta.
- Majumdar, R.C. 1980. *Classical Accounts of India*. Calcutta.
- Mukherjee, Bratindra Nath 1990. *Kharosthi and Kharosthi-Brahmi Inscriptions in West Bengal*. *Indian Museum Bulletin* 25.
- Raychaudhuri, Hemchandra. *Studies in Indian Antiquities*. Calcutta.
- Roy, T. N. 1983. *The Ganges Civilization: A Critical Study of PGW & NBPW Periods of the Ganga Plains of India*. New Delhi.
- Sanyal, Rajat. 2013. *Beyond Explorations: A Case Study on Early Medieval Archaeology from Epigraphic Sources*. *Pratna Samiksha, New Series*, 4: 33-51.
- Sengupta, Gautam, 1995 *Archaeology of Coastal Bengal*, H.P Ray and J.F Salles (ed.). *Tradition and Archaeology: Early Maritime Contacts in the Indian Ocean*. Pp. 115-27. New Delhi.
- Sharma, R. S. 1996. *The State and Varna formation in the Mid- Ganga Plains*. New Delhi: Manohar Publishers.
- Sharma, R.S. *India's Ancient Past*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
- Thapar, Romila 1990. *From Lineage to State*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.
- Tomber, Roberta 2008. *Indo-Roman Trade: From Pots to Pepper*. London.
- Watters, Thomas. 1969. *On Yuan Chwang's Travels in India*. Delhi (reprint).

A.2

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY OF INDIAN HISTORY

Course objective: The main objective of the paper is to give an introductory overview of the discipline of archaeology and how it is an essential source for studying Indian history.

Course outcome: The students will learn to understand the various aspects of the discipline of archaeology and how it becomes an important multidisciplinary science. The broad overview will give an idea of the archaeological cultures of India, which will be taught in detail in subsequent semesters.

UNIT I

Archaeology – Definition and Scope of the study

Archaeology as an Interdisciplinary science – Archaeology as Anthropology, Archaeology as History

Development of Archaeology as a discipline in world context

UNIT II

Nature of Archaeological Record Artefacts, ecofacts, assemblage, industry, culture, site

Basic Field Techniques in Archaeology

UNIT III

Methods of Dating: Absolute and Relative Chronologies Role of Sciences in Archaeology –Case Studies

Archaeological Inquiry & Analogy, Ethnoarchaeology and Experimental Archaeology

UNIT IV

An Overview of Prehistory of South Asia

A brief Survey Protohistory of South Asia

Historical Archaeology in South Asia: Overview

Select Readings:

Aiken, M.J,1990. Science-based Dating in Archaeology, London, Longmans.

Basker P, 1982. Techniques of Archaeological Excavation, London, Batsford.

Bintliff John & Timothy Earle Eds., 2003. A Companion to Archaeology (Blackwell Companion to Archaeology), Blackwell.

Chakrabarti D.K, 1989. Theoretical Perspectives in Indian Archaeology, Munshiram Manoharlal.

Chakrabarti Dilip K. India, 1999. An Archaeological History Palaeolithic Beginnings To Early Historic Foundations, Oxford University Press

Childe, V.G. 1956. Piecing Together the Past: The Interpretation of Archaeological Data. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul.

- Clark, Grahame. 1961. *World Prehistory in New Perspective*. Cambridge: University Press
- Daniel, Glyn, E. 1981. *A Short History of Archaeology*. London : Thames and Hudson.
- Delson, Eric. 2000. *Encyclopedia of Human Evolution and Prehistory*. London: Garland.
- Embree, Lester 1987. "Archaeology: the Most Basic Science of All" *Antiquity* 61:75-78.
- Fagan, B. and C. De Corse 2005. *In the Beginning: An Introduction to Archaeology* (Eleventh Edition). New Jersey: Pearson Prentice Hall,
- Gary M. Feinman and T. Douglas Price Eds., 2007. *Archaeology at the Millennium: A Sourcebook*, Springer-Verlag New York.
- Rajan K, 2002. *Archaeology, Principles and Methods*, Tanjavur.
- Renfrew, C. and P. Bahn 2012. *Archaeology: Theories and Methods and Practice*. London: Thames and Hudson.
- Trigger, Bruce. 1989. *A History of Archaeological Thought*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Pappu, R. S. 1995. "The Contribution of Earth Science to the Development of Indian Archaeology, in *Quaternary Environments and Geoarchaeology of India*", Edited by S.Wadia, R. Korisettar, and V. S. Kale, pp. 414-434. Bangalore: *Memoirs of the Geological Society of India* 32.
- Pollard, A. M. 1999 *Geoarchaeology: an introduction*. Geological Society, London, *Special Publications* 165:7-14.

A.3
RELIGION AND ART IN EARLY INDIA
(FROM THE MIDDLE OF 2nd MILLENNIUM BCE TO 1300 CE)

Course Objectives: This is one of the compulsory introductory papers in the course. The paper surveys two interconnected fields of religion and art of ancient India. The evolution and development of religious ideas in the past and associated forms and structures of worship are studied in detail. The paper surveys the parallel developments in religion and art through the reasons for changes, characteristic features, the modes etc. It is aimed to stimulate interest among students to know the subject in depth further.

Course Outcome: The student will be familiar to the history of religion and art and also they will be capable of understanding the interconnected or comprehensive nature of cultural changes in Indian society.

UNIT I

Evolution of religious ideas

Transition from Non-Iconic to Iconic: The evolution of religious practices from sacrifice to worship

From symbols to icons: transition in the objects of devotion

UNIT II

Evolution of Puranic religion and the major cults and their iconography

Religious devotion and the early history of image worship

UNIT III

Changes in Buddhism and Jainism and their icons

Tantra: its pervasive spread and impact on iconography and temple structure

UNIT IV

Canons of Iconography and Architecture: trends towards standardization

Temples- its forms and regional distribution

Select Readings:

Fergusson, J, History of Indian and Eastern Architecture, 1876

_____, Rock Cut Temples of India, 1875

Agarwala, V.S., Studies in Indian Art, Gwalior 2003

Coomaraswamy, A., History of Indian and Indonesian Art, 1972

Mitra, Debala, Buddhist Monuments, ASI

Pant, Susheela, Origin and Development of Stupa Architecture, 1976

Havell, E.B., Ideals of Indian Art, 1920

Gupta, S.P., Elements of Indian Art, 2002

Saraswati, S.K., A Survey of Indian Sculptures, New Delhi, 1957

Meister M.W., Dhaky, M.A., Deva, Krishna (eds.), Encyclopaedia of Indian Temple

Architecture: North India. Relevant Volumes

Kramrisch, Stella, Hindu Temple vols 1& 2, 1946

Zimmer, H., The Art of Indian Asia, 1955

Meister, M.W, Dhaky, M.A. (eds.) Encyclopaedia of Indian Temple Architecture:
South India.

Srinivasan, K.R., Temples of South India, 1971

Dubreuil, G.J., Dravidian Architecture, reprint, 1972

SivaramaMurti, C, The Great Chola Temples, 2007

Michell, George, Temple Art and Architecture of Early Chalukyas, 2014

A.4
EARLY INDIAN SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC HISTORY
(FROM THE MIDDLE OF 2nd MILLENNIUM BCE TO 1300 CE)

Course Objectives: The course on Early Indian social and economic history covers different aspects of Indian social system and different stages in the economy, myth of the origin of *chaturvarna* system and proliferation of various new castes and communities. The prime objective of the course is to make students understand the major division between caste, class and kin-based society and the growth of urban based industrial economy and rural based agrarian economy.

Course Outcome: The students will understand the basic concept of Varna based early Indian society and different stages in the economic condition of the Early India.

UNIT I

People in India; an Anthropological introduction; Major division between caste, society and kin-based society

UNIT II

Stages in the Evolution of social stratification; The Myth of the Origin of Chaturvarna system and the division between higher and lower Varnas; Society at the time of the Buddhism: Gahapatis, Dasas and Karmakaras: the Hina silpas and the origin of untouchability in society; Seven castes of Megasthenes

UNIT III

Towards the emergence of early historical economy and society: The nature of agrarian economy; crafts production; urbanization and urban centers; Network of trade routes - Economic expansion and its geography till the close of the Kushana period - Theory of Indian feudalism and ruralization of economy; the debate and nature of early medieval economy and society

UNIT IV

Growth of states and expansion of agrarian economy in Deccan and South India: the Agraharas, temples and agrarian expansion; guilds and trading networks
The nature of caste division in Deccan and South India

Select Readings:

Kane P.V. History of Dharmasastras, Vol-2, part-I, Poona, 1974

Thapar, R. Ancient Indian Social History, Delhi, 1978

Trautman, T. "On the translation of the term Varna" in JESH0,1964

Jayaswal S. "Caste in the socio-economic framework of early India", Presidential Address, Ancient India Section, 35th session of the Indian history congress, 1977.

Jha, V. "Stage of the history of the untouchables" in Indian Historical Review, Vol.2. No.1, 1975

Sharma, R.S. Social changes in Early Medieval India, Delhi, 1969

Dumont, L. Homo Hierarchicus, Delhi, 1970

Gopal, L. Ownership of agricultural land in ancient India in Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient. Vol-4

Gopal L. The economic life of northern India (c.700-1200)

Sharma, R.S. A survey of land system in ancient India from c.200 B.C. to A.D. 650 in Journal of the Bihar Research Society, Vol-45

Sharma, R.S. Indian Feudalism, Calcutta, 1980

Sharma, R.S. Sudras in Ancient India, Calcutta, 1980

Sircar, D.C. Land System and Feudalism in Ancient India, Calcutta, 1966

Ghosal, U.N. Contributions to the Hindu Revenue System, Calcutta, 1929

Ghosal, U.N. Agrarian system of Ancient India

Bose, A.N. Social and Rural Economy of Northern India, Vols-I-II, Calcutta, 1961

Das, D.R. Economic history of the Deccan, New Delhi, 1969

Stein, B. Peasant, State and Society in Medieval South India, 1980

Majumdar, R.C. Corporate Life in Ancient India, Calcutta, 1922

Fick, R. The Social Organization of North-east India, Calcutta, 1920

Bose, A.N. Social and Rural Economy in Northern India, Vols-I-II, Calcutta, 1961

Maity, S.K. Economic life of Northern India in the Gupta period

Venkatarama A. K. "Medieval trade, craft and merchant guilds in South India" in JIH, 1947

Stein, B. Coromandel trade in Medieval India in John Parker ed. Merchants and scholars. University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis, 1965

A.5
EARLY INDIAN EPIGRAPHY AND NUMISMATICS
(FROM THE MIDDLE OF 2nd MILLENNIUM BCE TO 1300 CE)

Course Objectives: The main aim of this course is to make students aware of what is the study of epigraphy, its use as a source for reconstructing the early history of India, its merits and demerits, eras used in the epigraphs as well as the beginning of epigraphical study. At the same time some of the inscriptions are taken into account to show their historical importance. The study of Coins is also incorporated in this course to show the students how coins are used as a source for knowing the history of early India.

Course Outcome: After completing this course, students will be familiar with the major trends in writing epigraphs. At the same time they will be aware of the history of numismatic studies in Indian subcontinent.

UNIT I

The History of Epigraphic Studies (1781-1947 and after independence)

Some general problems of Epigraphy and Numismatics

Inscriptions as source of History-Merits and limitations

UNIT II

Eras used in Inscriptions

UNIT III

Study of Inscriptions of Historical and Cultural Importance – Rummendei Pillar Inscription; Mahasthan Mauryan Brahmi Inscription; Besnagar Garuda Pillar Inscription; Takht -i-Bahi Inscription of Gondopharnes; MRE XIII of Asoka; Nasik Inscriptions Gautami Balasri; Junagarh inscription of Rudradaman; Allahabad pillar inscription; Khalimpur Grant of Dharmapala; Gwalior Prasasti of Bhoja; Leiden grant of Rajendra Chola

UNIT IV

Introduction to Numismatics

History of Numismatic Studies in India

Numismatic Studies: Terminology, Scope and Importance in the reconstruction of Political, Socio-Cultural and economic History of early India

Punch-marked coins

Indo-Greek coins, Kushanas, Guptas, Kshatrapas, Satavahanas and Cholas

Select Readings:

Diringer. David, The Alphabet: A Key to the History of Mankind, New York, 1953.

Barua, B.M. Inscriptions of Asoka, pt.II, Calcutta, 1943.

_____, Asoka and His Inscriptions, Calcutta, 1946.

Basak, R. (ed.), Asokan Inscriptions, Calcutta, 1959.

Hultzsch, E. Inscriptions of Asoka, Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum, Vol. I, Oxford, 1925.

Gupta, P.L. Coins, New Delhi, 1969.

Saloman, Richard, Indian Epigraphy, Oxford, 1998.

Sircar, D.C, Indian Epigraphy, Delhi, 1965.

_____, Indian Epigraphical Glossary, Delhi, 1966

_____, Introduction to Indian Epigraphy and Palaeography, Journal of Ancient Indian History, 4, 1970-71, 72-136.

_____, Studies in Indian Coins, Delhi, 1968.

Epigraphia Indica-Relevant Volumes

A.6

APPROACHES TO THE STUDY OF ANCIENT INDIA'S PAST

Course Objectives: The paper attempts to stimulate thoughts on nature, process and making of history. Regional specific notions of past from around the world are also introduced to the students to understand the process of history writing. The indigenous notions of past, the textual and other sources, their interpretation and the modern ideological interventions are dealt in detail.

Course Outcome: This course is to provide an insight into the notions of past, understanding history as a discipline, and the writing of history. The students are expected to develop original thinking and analytical understanding.

UNIT I

History – It's Nature, Object, Scope and Philosophy; Concept of History in the Ancient World- India, Greece, Rome, China and Arabia; Role of Hermeneutics in History

UNIT II

Ancient Indian Historical Traditions: Brahmanical, Buddhist and Jain

UNIT III

Historical Writings-Gupta and Post Gupta Periods: *Caritas*, *Vamsavalis* and Chronicles

UNIT IV

Modern Approaches to the Study of Ancient Indian Past

Role of Methodology in History - Tools and techniques of history writing with particular reference to India.

Select Readings:

- Barnes, H.E. A History of Historical Writing, New York, 1963.
Barnes, H.E. A History of Historical Writings, New York, 1963.
Basham, A.L. Wonder that was India, London, 1969.
Bury, J.B. The Ancient Greek Historians, New York, 1909.
Carr, E.H. What is History, London, 1961.
Carr, E.H. What is History, 1977.
Collingwood, R.G. The Idea of History, London, 1961.
Dentan, Robert, C. The Idea of History in the Ancient Near East, London, 1955.
Devahuti, D. (ed.), Bias in Indian Historiography, Delhi, 1980.
Finley, M.I. The Greek Historians, New York, 1971.
Gardner, C.S. Chinese Traditional Historiography, 1938.
Ghosal, U.N. Beginning of Indian Historiography and Other Essays, Calcutta, 1944.
Jain, J.C. Life in Ancient India as depicted in the Jaina Canon and Commentaries, Delhi, 1984.

Kosambi, D.D. Introduction to the Study of Indian History, Bombay, 1975.

Law, B.C.A Manual of Buddhist Historical Tradition, Calcutta, 1941.

Pargiter, I.E. Ancient Indian Historical Traditions, reprint, Delhi, 1972.

_____, The Purana Text of the Dynasties of the Kali Age, Oxford, 1913.

Pathak, V.S. Ancient Historians of India, Bombay, 1966.

Philips, C.H. Historians of India, Pakistan and Ceylon, London, 1961.

R.C.Majumdar (ed.), The Vedic Age, Bombay, 1965.

Sastri, K.A.N. Sangam Literature, Madras, 1972.

Thapar, Romila. Past as Present, New Delhi,

_____, The Past Before Us: Historical Traditions of Early North India, Ranikhet, 2013.

_____, The Past and Prejudice, Delhi, 1975.

_____, A History of India, Vol.!, Baltimore, 1966.

_____, Ancient Indian Social History: Some interpretations, New Delhi, 2010.

U.N.Ghosal, History and Historians of Ancient India in the Modern Age: in Indo-Asian Culture, IX, 1961.

Walsh, W.H. An Introduction to Philosophy of History, London, 1963.

Warder, A.K. An Introduction to Indian Historiography, Bombay, 1972.

A.7

THE EMERGENCE OF STATE IN INDIA: MAGADH

Course Objectives: This course deals with the history and ideology related to the rise of early state in India and the territorial expansion of Magadha to the time of Mauryan ruler Asoka. Further, in this course, students will be introduced to the religious practices and mechanisms of state patronage of religion.

Course Outcome: The students will be able to understand the concept of early state formation, the monarchy, republic, Mahajanapadas forms of state in early India. Most importantly, they will learn the structure of empire and the religion by the state.

UNIT I

Sources

Emergence of territories: Geographical and Archaeological background

UNIT II

Monarchies and Republics, Mahajanapadas

Territorial expansion of Magadha to the time of Asoka

UNIT III

Structure of the Empire: The problem of political organization

Ideology of Empire: Asoka's Dhamma

Organization of the Resources

Social and Religious Aspects of the Empire

UNIT IV

Disintegration of the Mauryan empire

Magadh during post-Mauryan period upto 3rd Century CE.

Select Readings:

Barua, B. M. (1955). Asoka and his inscriptions. Calcutta: University of Calcutta.

Basak, R. G. B. (1959). Ashokan inscriptions. Calcutta: Progressive Publishers.

Bhandarkar, D. R. (1923). Asoka (1st ed.). Poona: Oriental Book Agency.

Bongard-Levin, G. M. (1985). Mauryan India. New Delhi: Sterling Publishers.

Cunningham, A. (1877). Corpus inscriptionum indicarum. Vol. I: Inscriptions of Asoka. Calcutta: Survey of India.

Drekmeier, C. (1962). Kingship and community in early India. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press.

Ghosh, A. (1990). City in early historical India. New Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers.

Habib, I., & Jha, V. (2005). Mauryan India. New Delhi: Tulika Books.

Kosambi, D. D. (2023). An introduction to the study of Indian history. Mumbai: Popular Prakashan.

Lahiri, N. (2015). Ashoka in ancient India. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

- Majumdar, R. C. (1982). The classical accounts of India: Greek and Roman. New Delhi: Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan.
- Mookerji, R. (1966). Chandragupta Maurya and his times. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass.
- Mookerji, R. (1972). Asoka. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass.
- Mukherjee, B. N. (2000). The character of the Maurya Empire. New Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal.
- Raychaudhuri, H. C. (2021). Political history of ancient India: From the accession of Parikshit to the extinction of the Gupta dynasty. Charleston, SC: Legare Street Press.
- Sastri, K. A. N. (1967). Age of the Nandas and Mauryas. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass.
- Sharma, R. S. (1991). Aspects of Political Ideas and Institutions in Ancient India. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass.
- Thapar, R. (1997). Asoka and the decline of the Mauryas: With a new afterword, bibliography and index. Delhi: Oxford University Press.
- Trautmann, T. R. (2023). Kautilya and the Arthashastra. Leiden: BRILL.

A.8
POLITICAL IDEAS AND INSTITUTIONS
(FROM THE MIDDLE OF 2nd MILLENNIUM BCE TO 1300 CE)

Course Objectives: The objective of the course is to impart a theoretical perspective of concepts of polity of ancient India. It will deal with definitions related to various concepts of political ideas and institutions in ancient India.

Course Outcome: It will enable the students to understand the political dynastic histories better. The students will also have a critical understanding of the ancient polities and ideologies behind them.

UNIT I

Sources for Studying Political Ideas and Institutions

Recent trends in the study of Early Indian States

UNIT II

Communities and Community organizations: *Janas, gana, sabha, samiti, parishad, vidhata Ur, Nagaram, Nadu* etc.

Origin of State and its evolution since Vedic Times

Emergence of State and *Saptanga* Theory

Origin and Evolution of Kingship: Divine Concept of Kingship

Categories of States- *Rashtra* and *Gana Samgha* with examples *Gana Samgha* in Post-Vedic Times

UNIT III

The Idea of Mauryan State: Administration, Taxation and Judiciary; Development into an empire

Gupta Empire: Administration, Agrahara Land Administration; Idea of emerging proto-feudal polity

Cola Polity: Idea of Regional polity; the notion of segmentary state; local self-government units; growth of temple as a part of polity

UNIT IV

Evolution of the Hypothesis of Indian Feudalism

Debates on Indian Feudalism

Select Readings:

Altekar, A.S., 1972. State and Government in Ancient India, Motilal Banarasidas, Delhi

Chattopadhyaya, B.D. 2012 (second edition). The Making of Early Medieval India, Oxford University Press, New Delhi

Drekmeier, C.1962. Kingship and Community in Early India, Stanford University Press, California.

Ghoshal, U.N. 1959. A History of Indian Political Ideas, Lifespan Publishers and

Distributors, Bombay.

Kulke, H. 1997. Kings and Cults in Kulke ed. The State in India, Oxford University Press.

Noboru Karashima 2014. A Concise History of South India: Issues and Interpretations, Oxford Publications

Sharma, R.S.1968. Aspects of Political Ideas and Institutions in Ancient India, Morilal Banarasidas, Delhi.

Sharma, R.S. 1980. Indian Feudalism, Trinity Press Calcutta.

Spellman, J.W, 1964. Political Theory of Ancient India: Study of Kingship from the earliest time to Circa A.D 300, Oxford University Press New Delhi.

Subbarayalu Y.2011. South India Under the Cholas, Oxford Publications.

Stein, Burton. 1980. Peasant State and Society in South India, OUP, New Delhi.

Thapar Romila. 1999. From Lineage to State: Social Formation in the Mid-First Millennium BC in the Ganga Valley; Oxford University Press, New Delhi.

Thapar Romila. 2003. Cultural Pasts: Essays in Early Indian History; Oxford Paperback, New Delhi

A.9

THE GUPTA PERIOD IN INDIAN HISTORY

Course Objectives: This is one of the dynasty specific papers. The period of Gupta rule has a marked significance in Indian history. The paper looks into the political, religious, cultural, social and other associated aspects of the time in detail. It discusses the political structure and the reciprocal nature of many other social institutions of the Gupta period.

Course Outcome: The students get a thorough understanding of the developments of the era to assess how it was different from the previous and more importantly how it organically leads to the succeeding changes in Indian polity.

UNIT I

Sources

The political scenario of north India at the emergence of Gupta rule

UNIT II

The Gupta kings and their political policies

Weakening of the kingdom its disintegration and fall

UNIT III

Political structure of the Gupta state and its administrative machinery

Major social and cultural institutions of the times: Art and Culture

UNIT IV

The Vakatakas, Maitrakas, Maukharis- kingdom, rulers and political relations with contemporaries

Legacy of the Gupta Empire

Select Readings:

Raychaudhuri, H.C., Political History of Ancient India, Calcutta, 1950.

Chattopadhyaya, S., Early History of North India, Calcutta, 1968.

Majumdar, R.C., The Vakataka-Gupta Age Lahore 1946.

_____, The Classical Age, Bombay, 1962.

A.K. Majumdar, A Comprehensive History of India, vol. III part 1, New Delhi 1981

Goyal, S.R., A History of Imperial Guptas, Allahabad, 1961

Gupta, P.L., The Imperial Guptas, Varanasi, 1974

Agarwal, A., Rise and Fall of Imperial Guptas, 1989

Ganguly, D.K., The Imperial Guptas and Their Times, New Delhi, 1986

Altekar, A.S., Coinage of the Gupta Empire, Varanasi, 1957

Dandekar, R.N., A History of the Guptas

Bardwell Smith. Essays on Gupta Culture.

A.10

DECCAN AND SOUTH INDIA FROM 300 BCE TO 700 CE

Course Objectives: The peninsular region was one of the most happening spaces in early historic period. The paper discusses the transitions of societies, emergence of state, its evolution into structured forms, the dynastic rules associated with social and economic changes. It intends to include regional history, especially, the Deccan and south for the confluence of cultures and polities.

Course Outcome: The student will have a comprehensive picture of history of the period covered. It also enables the student to understand the region in context as well in relation to rest of the country.

UNIT I

The transitions from Megalithic to historic phase
Tamil Heroic Poems and the Chieftoms
From Chieftain towards Kingdom

UNIT II

State formation in Deccan- Satavahanas and their contemporaries
Successors of Satavahanas- Western Kshatrapas, Ikshvakus

UNIT III

The society and economy of Deccan and South India with focus on the maritime activities
Evolution of State in South India- the agrarian scenario, land grants

UNIT IV

The Brahmanisation of society in South India- religions, art and literary transitions

Select Readings:

- Aiyanger, S.K. Ancient India and South Indian History and Culture, 1941.
Ramanujan, A.K. Poems of Love and War
Ramanujan, A.K., Collected Essays of A.K. Ramanujan
Sastri, K.A Nilakanta. The Colas, 1955(2nd edition). A History of South India, 1975 (4th edition).
Mahalingam, T.V. Kanchipuram in Early South Indian History, 1969.
Pillai, K.K. South India and Sri Lanka, 1975.
Chattopadhyay, B.D. Coins and Currency System in South India.
_____. (ed.), Essays on South India, 1976.
_____. International Trade and Foreign Diplomacy in Early Medieval South India, pp 75-98 in Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient, Vol. XXI, 1.
Karashima, Noburu. South Indian History and Society, 1984.
Heitzman, James. Gifts of Power: Lordship in an Early Indian State, 1997.
Champakalakshmi, R. Peasant State and Society in Medieval South

India: A Review Article, pp 411-426 in the Indian Economic and Social History Review, Vol. XVII, 3 & 4.

Jha, D.N. Validity of the Brahman-Peasant alliance and the Segmentary State in Early Medieval India, pp-270-296 in Social Science Probings, Vol. 1 No.2.

Zvelebil, Kamil V. The Smile of the Murugan: On Tamil literature of South India, 1973.

Balambal, V. Feudatories of South India (800-1070), 1978.

Appadorai, A. Economic conditions in Southern India, 2 Vols, 1936.

Veluthat K. The Political Structure of Early Medieval South India, OUP, New Delhi, 2012

Narayanan, M.G.S., Perumals of Mahadayapuram, Cosmo Books, Thirussur, 2013.

A.11

SOUTH INDIA FROM 700 CE TO 1300 CE

Course Objectives: The main objectives of the paper to study the political history of the south India. The course covers the major political powers of south India and their extensions, the structure of the state, their cultural importance, administrative machinery and functions of the local assemblies.

Course Outcome: The student will have a comprehensive picture of the political history of south India during the study periods. It also enable the student to understand the dominant political powers of south India and their social and cultural influences in the history of early and early medieval south India.

UNIT I

Survey of the Sources: Sangam and Post- Sangam literature- Devotional literature: Saiva, Vaishnava- Inscriptions: Stone, Copper – Coins- Foreign Accounts.

UNIT II

Outline of the Political History of South India from 550-850 CE.- Origin of The Pallavas- Various Theories on Origin- Important Kings of the Pallavas: Mahendravarman-I and Narasimhavarman-I- Administration and Society- Bhakti cult: Bhaktism: Nayanmars and Alvars- Cultural Developments: Literature & Art and Architecture.

UNIT III

Political condition of South India in the second half of the 9th century CE: Rise of the Colas of the Tanjavur: Vijayalaya and Aditya I: Sripurambiyam battle and its Consequences: Parantaka I: The Cholas-Rashtrakutas Relation- Imperialist rulers of the Cholas- Rajaraja I & Rajendra I: their military conquests: Consolidation and Expansion of the Chola state: Successors of Rajendra I: Chola- Eastern Chalukyan alliance: Accession of Kulottunga I: Successors of Kulottunga I: Decline and Fall of the Chola Empire.

UNIT IV

Structure of state and society in south India: The Chola state: Critical review of current theories - the Pallava and Chola Administration- Local Assemblies and their function: Religious policy of the Kings: The role of royal temples and rituals in kingship: Art and Literature under the Cholas - The Chera state.

Select Readings:

Primary Sources:

South Indian Inscription (relevant chapters)

South Indian Temple inscriptions, Vols I to II

Inscriptions of the Pudukkottai state (texts)

Epigraphia Indica (relevant numbers)

Epigraphia Carnatica(relevant numbers)
 Travancore Archaeological Series (relevant numbers)
 Biddulph,C.H: Coins of the Cholas
 Geigre, W: The Mahavamsa (English translation) Colombo,1950.
 Sastri,K.A.N: Foreign notices of South India, Madras,1939.

Secondary Sources:

Aiyanger,S.K: Ancient India and South Indian History and Culture, 1941
 Sastri, K.A Nilakanta. The Colas, 1955(2nd edition): A History of South India, 1975 (4th edition).
 Mahalingam, T.V. Kanchipuram in Early South Indian History, 1969.
 Pillai, K.K. South India and Sri Lanka, 1975.
 Nagaswamy,R. Gangai-Konda-Colapuram, 1972.
 Subbarayalu, Y. The Political Geography of the Chola Country, 1973
 Chattopadhyay, B.D. Coins and Currency System in South India.
 Stein, Burton. Peasant, State and Society in Medieval South India, 1980
 ____ (ed.), Essays on South India, 1976.
 Hall, Kenneth R. Trade and Statecraft in the Age of the Colas, 1980.
 ____ International Trade and Foreign Diplomacy in Early Medieval South India, pp 75-98 in Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient, V ol.XXI, 1.
 Karashima, Noburu. South Indian History and Society, 1984.
 Heitzman, James. Gifts of Power: Lordship in an Early Indian State, 1997.
 Spencer, George W. The Politics of Expansion: The Chola conquest of Sri Lanka and Sri Vijaya. 1983.
 Champakalakshmi,R. Peasant State and Society in Medieval South India: A Review Article, pp 411-426 in the Indian Economic and Social History Review,Vol. XVII,3 & 4.
 Jha, D.N. Validity of the Brahman-Peasant alliance and the Segmentary State in Early Medieval India, pp-270-296 in Social Science Probings,Vol-1 No.2.
 Zvelebil, Kamil V. The Smile of the Murugan: On Tamil literature of South India, 1973.
 Balambal,V. Feudatories of South India (800-1070), 1978.
 Appadorai, A. Economic conditions in Southern India, 2 Vols, 1936.
 Shanmugam,P. The Revenue System of the Cholas, 850-1279.
 Veluthat Kesavan. The Political Structure of Early Medieval South India, OUP, New Delhi, 2012
 Narayanan, M.G.S. Perumals of Mahadayapuram, Cosmo Books, Thirussur, 2013.

A.12
HISTORY OF EASTERN INDIA INCLUDING THE
BRAHMAPUTRA VALLEY (700 CE TO 1300 CE)

Course Objectives: In this course the geography of eastern India including the Brahmaputra Valley is introduced. The course also includes political developments in Eastern India under major dynasties. The course will also discuss the archaeology of Eastern India and its contact with South East Asia.

Course Outcome: After the completion of this course the students will have a fair understanding of the archaeology of eastern India and its contact with Southeast Asia.

UNIT I

Geography: connotations of relevant terms

UNIT II

Political Developments of Eastern India:

Bihar and Bengal: Sasanka; Later Guptas; Palas; Senas and Chandras

Odisha: Sailodbhavas; Bhaumakaras; Imperial Guptas and Somvamsis

Brahmaputra Valley: Varmans, Salasthambhas, Kamarupa Palas

UNIT III

Archaeology of Eastern India: 700 CE-1300CE

Evolution of religious traditions and practices between 700CE to 1300 CE

UNIT IV

Contacts with South East Asia

Select Readings:

Basak, R.G: History of North-Eastern India

Banerji, R.D: Palas of Bengal

Chanda, R.P: Indo-Aryan Races

Chattopadhyay, S: Early history of North India

Majumdar, R.C: History of Ancient Bengal

_____. (ed.) History of Imperial Kanauj

_____. (ed.) The Struggle for Empire

Mitra, R.C: Decline of Buddhism in India

Mookerjee, R.K: Harsha

Paul, P.L: The Early History of Bengal

Ray, N.R: Bangalira Itihasa

Morrison, B: Political Centers and Cultural regions in Early Bengal

Sen, B.C: Some Historical aspects of the Inscriptions of Bengal

Sen, D.C: Brihat Vanga.

Sen, Sukumar: Pracina Bangala O Bangali.

Dasgupta, N.N: Bangalaya Bauddhadharma.

Majumdar, R.C (ed.): History of Bengal, Vol-I.
 Monahan: Early History of Bengal.
 Dasgupta, S.B: Obscure Religious Cults.
 Chattopadhyay, S: Evolution of Hindu Sects.
 Jash, P: History of Saivism.
 _____.History and Evolution of Vaisnavism in Eastern India.
 Bhattacharya, A: Historical Geography of Ancient and Early Medieval Bengal.
 Baruah, S.L. A Comprehensive History of Assam, Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers
 Hardcover — Dec 1995.
 Shastri, Ajay Mitra: Ancient North-East India, Aryan Books International, 2002.
 Pradhan, Sadasiba: Art and Archeology of Orissa, Aryan Books International, 2007.
 Sahu, J.K. Historical Geography of Orissa, Decent Books.
 Archaeology of Orissa (2 Vols.). Edited by K. K. Basa & P. Mohanty, Delhi, 2000.
 S, Pradhan (ed.) Orissa: History, Culture and Archaeology, New Delhi, D.K.
 Printworld, 1999.

S.1

APPROACHES TO ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDIES IN INDIA

Course Objectives: The course aims to explain the beginning and growth of Archaeology in India. It also aims to provide an overview of the various approaches and methods used by various scholars.

Course Outcome: Students will understand the developments of history of Indian Archaeology in various phases. They will understand the interdisciplinary nature of Archaeology in a much holistic way. They can critically examine the various methods and approaches used by various scholars to understand our deep past. This course can help them to develop research skills in Indian Archaeology.

UNIT I

Sense of the Past: Literature and Inscriptions, Medieval Writers on Ancient Indian History, Accounts of Foreign travellers in India, Early European Travellers and Scholars in India.

UNIT II

Beginning of Archaeological Studies in India - Role of the Asiatic Society, Early Surveys – Colin Mackenzie to Meadows Taylor, Rise of Prehistoric studies in India – Robert Bruce Foote, Archaeological Survey of India from Alexander Cunningham to John Marshall.

UNIT III

Discovery of Harappan Civilisation and its studies - R.D Banerjee and John Marshall; Indological Studies in India from early 19th century to early 20th century; Rise of Individual societies and institutions to study past, Mortimer Wheeler and Methods of Excavations.

UNIT IV

Archaeological and Indological Studies in India after Independence from 1947 to end of 20th century. Interdisciplinary and Theoretical approach in Indian Archaeology from H. D. Sankalia to V. N. Misra. Recent trends in Indian Archaeology.

Select Readings:

Chakrabarti, Dilip K. 1997. Colonial Indology: Socio-politics of the ancient Indian past. Delhi, Munshiram Manoharlal.

Chakrabarti, D. K. 1999. India: An Archaeological History. Oxford University Press. New Delhi.

Chakrabarti, D. K. 2012. Archaeology in the Third World: A History of Indian Archaeology Since 1947. D. K. Printworld (P) Ltd. New Delhi.

Kejariwal, O.P., The Asiatic Society of Bengal and the Discovery of India's Past 1784-1838, Delhi, 1988. Oxford University Press.

Paddayya, K. Essays in History of Archaeology: Themes, Institutions and

- Personalities, Delhi, 2013. Archaeological Survey of India.
- Paddayya, K. 2017. Methodological Issues in Indian Archaeology. Aryan Books. New Delhi.
- Paddayya, K. 2022. Our Deep Past Personalities and Themes in Indian Heritage Studies.
- Ray, Himanshu Prabha, Colonial Archaeology in South Asia, The legacy of Sir Mortimer Wheeler, Delhi, 2007. Oxford University Press.
- Roy, S. 1961. The Story of Indian Archaeology 1784-1947. Archaeological Survey of India. New Delhi.
- Sengupta, Gautam and Kaushik Gangopadhyay. 2009. Archaeology in India: Individuals, Ideas and Institutions, Delhi, Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers Pvt. Limited in collaboration with Centre for Archaeological Studies and Training Eastern India, Kolkata.
- Singh, Upinder, 2004. The Discovery of Ancient India: early archaeologists and the beginnings of archaeology. Delhi: Permanent Black.

S.2

ARCHAEOLOGY: THEORIES AND TECHNIQUES

Course Objectives: The course is divided into two parts — theories in archaeology and field methods. The primary objective of the first part of the course is to introduce the major theories used in archaeology. The objectives are to provide a methodological foundation for archaeological interpretation, as well give an idea of global perspective on changes occurring in the discipline. The second part introduces students to the process of archaeological investigation from the discovery of sites to their excavation and analysis of the recovered archaeological evidences. This course will also include training in field methods including excavation techniques.

Course Outcome: The students will be able to understand basic features of various theories and thoughts used in archaeological interpretations. They will also learn the practical methods of doing archaeological work.

UNIT I

Early Development of Theories since Age of Antiquarianism

Early 20th century approaches: Gordon Childe and Culture history studies

New Archaeology and Processual approaches: Middle-Range theory, Behavioural archaeology and Ethnoarchaeology

Post Processual Critique: Archaeology and gender, Marxist archaeology etc.

Archaeologies of Place and Landscape.

UNIT II

Development of archaeological field-methods in the works of General Pitt-River and Sir Flinders Petri, Mortimer Wheeler and Kathleen Kenyon.

Concept of sites in archaeology - Categories of sites.

UNIT III

Techniques of Exploration: Processes of formation of sites, Use of maps and remote sensing data, Cartography and archaeology involving GIS.

Sampling in archaeological surveys; village to village survey, importance of surface survey

Techniques of Excavation: Sondage and vertical excavation methods; Horizontal and Quadrant methods; Harris matrix.

Stratigraphy and Section drawing; Recording artefacts and features;

Post-excavation study of artefacts and ecofacts.

UNIT IV

Dating methods: Absolute and Relative Methods

Role of the sciences in archaeology

Drawing of artefacts (stone tools and artefacts) (practical)

Report writing; Field training: Excavation and Exploration experience

Select Readings:

- Atkinson, R.J.C. 1953. *Field Archaeology*. London: Methuen and Co.
- Bahn Paul. 2014. *The History of Archaeology: An Introduction Hardcover – Illustrated,* Routledge, London.
- Banning E.B. 2002. *Archaeological Survey, Manuals in Archaeological Method, Theory and Technique*, Springer. New York
- Barker, P. 1982. *Techniques of Archaeological Excavation*. Batsford, London
- Binford, L.R. 1983. *In Pursuit of the Past*, Thames and Hudson, London.
- Binford, L.R. 2001. *Constructing frames of reference: an analytical method for archaeological theory building using hunter-gatherer and environmental data sets* Berkeley: University of California Press
- Daniel Glyn 1975. *A Hundred and Fifty years of Archaeology*, Duckworth, London
- Das, Sudhir Ranjan. *Uthkhanan Vijnan (Bengali)*, Calcutta.
- David Bruno and Julian Thomas eds. 2008. *Handbook of Landscape Archaeology: Volume 1: 01 (World Archaeological Congress Research Handbooks in Archaeology)* Routledge, London.
- Deotare, B.C. 1995. Pollen recovery from minerogenic sediments: A methodological approach. *Man and Environment*, XX(2):101-105, 1995
- Hodder, I. 1995. *Theory and Practice in Archaeology*, Routledge, London.
- Hodder, I (ed.). 2001. *Archaeological Theory Today*, Oxford, London
- Joshi, R.V. and B.C. Deotare. 1983. *Chemical Analysis of Archaeological Deposits from India*. Pune: Deccan College.
- Orton, Tyres, and Vince. 1994. *Pottery in Archaeology*, Cambridge University Press, London.
- Renfrew C and P Bahn. 1991. *Archaeology*, Thames and Hudson, London.
- Renfrew C. 1984. *Approaches to Social Archaeology*, Harvard University Press.
- Trigger Bruce. 1989. *A History of Archaeological Thought*, CUP, Cambridge.
- Wheeler, R.E.M. 1954. *Archaeology from the Earth*, Harmondsworth, Penguin Books

S.3

PREHISTORY OF SOUTH ASIA

Course Objectives: The objective of this course is to introduce the concept of Prehistory, its aims and the development of prehistory as a discipline. The course also covers portions on geological time periods and human evolution to understand the evolution of humans over different periods and to study the tools, typology, contexts, and adaptations of each period. It also has fieldwork and laboratory study of artefacts.

Course Outcome: After the completion of the course, the students will get a basic perspective on prehistory, geological period, human evolution, and the different Stone Ages in the South Asian context. The students also get a better understanding of the archaeological sites and artefacts after completing the practical sessions.

UNIT I: Prehistory: Introduction

Geographical background of South Asia

Aims and Scopes of Prehistory

Beginning and main stages of the development of Indian Prehistory

Approaches to the Study of Prehistory

UNIT II: The Quarternary Period

Introduction to the Quarternary Period

Significance of the Pleistocene and Holocene periods

Methods for reconstructing the palaeoenvironment

Global climate history during the Quarternary Period

Quarternary Environments in India

UNIT III: Human Evolution

Definition and Theories in Primate Evolution

Hominoid and Hominid Evolution in Africa

The problem of Human evolution in Indian contexts

UNIT IV: South Asian Stone Age

The Lower Palaeolithic Period-

Tools Typology, Technology, Contexts and Adaptations

The Middle Palaeolithic Period –

Tools Typology, Technology, Contexts and Adaptations

The Upper Palaeolithic Period –

Tools Typology, Technology, Contexts and Adaptations

The Mesolithic Period –

Tools Typology, Technology, Contexts and Adaptations

The Neolithic Period –

Tools Typology, Technology, Contexts and Adaptations

Fieldwork and Laboratory: Study of Artefacts

Select Readings:

- Allchin, F.R. 1963. *Neolithic Cattle Keepers of South India*. Cambridge: University Press.
- Allchin, B and Allchin, F.R. 1982. *Rise of Civilization in India and Pakistan*. Cambridge: University Press.
- Bhattacharya, D.K. 1991. *An Outline of Indian Prehistory*, Delhi, Palaka Prakashan.
- Binford, L. R. 1973. *An Archaeological Perspective*, New York, Seminar Press.
- Chakrabarti, D.K. 1988. *A History of Indian Archaeology: From the Beginning to 1947*, New Delhi, Munshiram Manoharlal.
- Chakrabarti, D.K. 2009. *India – An Archaeological History: Palaeolithic Beginnings to Early History Foundation*, New Delhi, OUP.
- Childe, V.G. 1951. *Man Makes Himself*. New York, Mentor.
- Clarke, D.L. 1963. *Archaeology: The Loss of Innocence*. *Antiquity* 47:6-8.
- Daniel, Glyn. 1967. *The Origins and Growth of Archaeology*. Penguin Books.
- Fagan, B. 1988. *In the Beginning: An Introduction to Archaeology*. Glenview, Illinois, Scott, Foresman and Company.
- Feder, K.L. 2017. *The Past in Perspective (An Introduction to Human Prehistory)*. London, OUP.
- Ghosh, A. 1989. *An Encyclopedia of Indian Archaeology Vol. I &2*. Delhi, Munshiram Manoharlal.
- Hodder, I. 1986. *Reading the Past: Current Approaches to Interpretation in Archaeology*. (2nd ed.) Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.
- Jain, V.K. 2006. *Prehistory and Protohistory of India: An Appraisal: Palaeolithic, Non-Harappan Chalcolithic Cultures (Perspectives in Indian Art & Archaeology)*, New Delhi, D K Printworld.
- Lewin, R. and R. A. Foley. 2013. *Principles of Human Evolution*. New Jersey: John Wiley & Sons.
- Neumayer, E. 2013. *Prehistoric Rock Art of India*. New Delhi: Oxford University press.
- Paddayya, K. 1990. *The New Archaeology and Aftermath: A View from Outside the Anglo-American World*, Ravish Publishers.
- Paddayya, K. 2004. *Multiple Approaches to the Study of India's Early Past: Essays in Theoretical Archaeology*, Aryan Books International.
- Paddayya, K. and Sushama G. Deo. 2017. *Prehistory of South Asia. The Mythic Society*.
- Paddayya, K., D. R. Shah. 1997. *Investigations into the Neolithic Culture of the Shorapur Doab, South India (Studies in South Asian Culture)*. Brill Academic Pub.
- Pal, J. N. 1996. *Archaeology of Southern Uttar Pradesh*. Allahabad: Swabha Prakashan.
- Pratap, Ajay. 2016. *Rock Art of the Vindhyas: An Archaeological Survey*. Oxford: Archaeopress Archaeology.
- Renfrew, C. and P. Bahn 1991. *Archaeology: Theories and Methods and Practice*. London, Thames and Hudson.
- Sali, S A. 1993. *Indian Prehistory*. Pune, ISPQS.

- Sankalia, H D. 1962. Pre and Protohistory of India and Pakistan. Bombay, University of Bombay.
- Sankalia, H D. 1975. Prehistory of India, New Delhi, Munshiram Manoharlal
- Sankalia, H.D., Stone Age Tools, Their Techniques and Functions.
- Sankalia, H. D. 1974. Prehistory and Protohistory of India and Pakistan. Pune: Deccan College.
- Settar, S and Ravi Korisettar. 2004. Indian Archaeology in Retrospect: Prehistory - The Early Archaeology of South Asia (Vol 1). New Delhi, Manohar Publishers.
- Settar, S and Ravi Korisettar. 2002. Indian Archaeology in Retrospect-Prehistory Archaeology of South Asia. Delhi: ICHR and Manohar Publishers.
- Sharma, G. R. 1980. History to Prehistory: Archaeology of the Ganga Valley and the Vindhyas. Allahabad: Department of Ancient History, Culture and Archaeology, University of Allahabad.
- Sharma, G. R., and J. D. Clark. 1982. Palaeo-environments and Prehistory in the Middle Son Valley, Northern Madhya Pradesh. *Man and Environment* VI: 56-62.
- Sharma, G. R., V. D. Misra, D. Mandal, B. B. Mishra, and J. N. Pal. 1980. Beginning of Agriculture: From Hunting and Food Gathering to Domestication of Plants and Animals. Allahabad: Abinash Prakashan.
- Sinha, Prakash. 2012. Changes in Technology, Subsistence Strategies and Behavioural Pattern during the Late Upper Pleistocene in South and Southeast Asia: A Microwear Analysis. *Puratattva* 42: 59-73.
- Trigger, Bruce. 1989. A History of Archaeological Thought. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.
- Wheeler, R.E.M. 1954. Archaeology from the Earth. Clarendon Press: Oxford.

S.4

PROTOHISTORY OF SOUTH ASIA

Course Objectives: The course will cover aspects the Chalcolithic culture of South Asia starting from neo-chalcolithic cultures in various parts of the subcontinent till the appearance of iron in the late second, to early first millennium BC. One major part will be discussing Indus civilization —The focus will be on the Western India, Gangetic valley, central India, and the South, with an examination of the Chalcolithic cultures that co-existed with Harappan urbanism.

Course Outcome: On the successful completion of Protohistory of South Asia, students will develop a strong foundation and critical understanding of the subject and will be able to situate South Asian materials within wider archaeological debates.

UNIT I

History of Proto-historical research in India- Changing trends and problems

UNIT II

Pre-Harappan Culture of India and Borderlands

UNIT III

The Mature-Harappan Culture- Origin, Political forms, Settlement and Subsistence patterns, Trade, Social and Economic life

The Theory of Harappan “Decline”

The nature of the Late Harappan Cultures of Sind, Punjab, Haryana, U.P, Gujarat

UNIT IV

The Chalcolithic cultures of Central and Western India The Chalcolithic cultures of Eastern India

Early Food producing cultures in the Ganges valley

The Iron Age problem- BRW Cultures, Megalithic cultures of the South

Select Readings:

Agrawal, D.P. and D.K. Chakrabarti (eds.). 1999. Essays in Indian Protohistory, New Delhi, D.K Publishers.

Allchin, Bridget and Raymond Allchin. 1982. Rise of Civilization in India and Pakistan, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

Datta Asok. 1992. The Black and Red Ware Culture of West Bengal, Books and Books.

Deo, S.B. 1985. The Megaliths: Their culture, ecology, economy and technology, in Recent Advances in Indian Archaeology (S.B. Deo and K. Paddayya eds.), Deccan College, Pune.

Dhavalikar, M.K. 1990. First Farmers of the Deccan, Pune, Ravish Publishers.

Kumar Manmohan, Akinori Uesugi and Vivek Dangi eds. 2024. Harappan Studies Volume III Recent Researches in South Asian Archaeology, Aryan Publishers.

- Possehl, G.L. 1979 (ed.). Ancient Cities of the Indus, New Delhi, Vikas Publishing House.
- Possehl, G.L. (ed.). 1993. Harappan Civilization A Recent Perspective, New Delhi, Oxford and IBH Publishing Co.
- Possehl, G. 1999. The Indus Age, New Delhi, Oxford University Press.
- Possehl G.L. 2002 Indus Civilization: a Contemporary Perspective, New Delhi, Vistaar Publication.
- Roy, T.N. 1983. The Ganges Civilization: A Critical Study of the PGW and NBPW Periods of Ganga Plains of India, New Delhi, Ramanand Vidya Bhavan.
- Shinde, Vasant. 1994. The Deccan Chalcolithic: A Recent Perspective, Man and Environment, XIX (1-2): 169 178.
- Shinde, Vasant. 1998. Early Farming Community in the Central Tapi Basin (Study of Settlement and Subsistence Patterns), Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers, New Delhi.
- Tripathi, Vibha. 1976. The Painted Grey Ware: An Iron Age Culture of Northern India, Concept Publications, New Delhi
- Tripathy, Vibha. 2001. Age of Iron in South Asia, Legacy and Tradition. Aryan books, New Delhi.
- Moorti, U.S. 1994. Megalithic Cultures of South India, Ganga-Kaveri Publications, Varanasi,
- Mughal, M.R.1990. Further Evidence of the Early Harappan Culture in the Greater Indus Valley, South Asian Studies, 6:175-99
- Panja Sheena. 1999. Mobility and Subsistence Strategies at Inamgaon, A Chalcolithic site in Western India, Asian Perspective Vol-38 No.2, pp.154-186, 1999.
- Possehl, G. 2001. The Indus Civilization: A Contemporary Perspective. Alta Mira press, New York
- Possehl.G. 1993. Harappan civilization: A Recent perspective, Oxford and IBH, New Delhi
- Possehl,G. 1980. Indus Civilization in Saurashtra, B.R Publishing House, New Delhi
- Ratnagar, S.1991. Enquiries into the Political organization of Harappan Society, Ravish, Pune, 1991.
- Ratnagar,S. 2000. End of the Great Harappan Tradition, Manohar Publishers, ND.
- Ratnagar, S. 2002. Understanding Harappa, Civilization in the greater Indus Valley, Tulika Books, New Delhi.
- Ratnagar S. 2007. Makers and Shapers: Early Indian Technology in the Household, Village, and Urban Workshop, Tulika Books, New Delhi
- Sharma G.R. 1980. Beginnings of Agriculture , Allahabad University Press, Allahabad.
- Shug Gwen Robbins and Subhash R. Walimbe ed.2016. A Companion to South Asia in the Past. John Willey & Sons , Inc. New York.

S.5
HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY OF SOUTH ASIA
(IRON AGE TO MEDIEVAL)

Course Objectives: The Early Iron Age is a formative period in Indian Civilization and so its archaeology is of great interest. In this course the data from different parts of India is reviewed. The course also aims to initiate the students to the debates of Iron Age and Early Historic urbanism. It will deal with the ideas of archaeology of Buddhism and the manifestation of material culture in early medieval period.

Course Outcome: Students are introduced to the archaeological record of the Iron Age in India and some of the theoretical issues related to state formation and the development of complex societies

UNIT I

Concept and Development of Historical Archaeology: Debates on ‘Early Historic’ and ‘Early Medieval’ in Indian Archaeology

Significance of Archaeological Record- Interface between Archaeological Record and Literature

UNIT II

Evolution of Archaeological Cultures: OCP and Painted Grey Ware Culture in India: Chronology, Distribution and Characteristics; Major excavated sites.

Early Iron Age Cultures in India: Archaeological and literary sources on beginning of iron— history of research—theories of origin of iron in India

UNIT III

The Northern Black Polished Ware (NBPW: chronology, distribution, characteristics, allied numismatic and settlement evidences)

Regional archaeological cultures of the Indian subcontinent(6th c. BCE to 12th c. CE): Northwestern India, Western India, Central India and Deccan, South India, Eastern-Northeastern India

UNIT IV

Archaeology of Buddhism: major sites related to early Buddhism—major monastic sites— monastic Buddhism in early medieval Eastern India and Deccan

Select Readings:

Allchin, F. R. 1989. City and State formation in Early Historic South Asia. *South Asian Studies* 5:1 16.

——— 1995. *The Archaeology of Early Historic South Asia: The Emergence of Cities and States*. Cambridge.

Chakrabarti, Dilip K. 1984. Study of the Iron Age in India, *Puratattva* 13:81 85.

Chakrabarti, Dilip K. 1992. *Early Use of Iron in India*, Bombay, Oxford University Press.

- Chakrabarti, Dilip K. 2002. *Archaeological Geography of the Ganga Plains, The Lower and Middle Ganga*, Delhi.
- Chakrabarti, Dilip K. 2006. *The Oxford Companion to Indian Archaeology: Archaeological Foundations of Ancient India*, Oxford.
- Chakrabarti, Dilip K. 2008. *Archaeological Geography of the Ganga Plains: Upper Ganga*. Delhi.
- Deo, S.B. 1973. *Problem of South Indian Megaliths*, Dharwad.
- Dhavalikar, M.K. 1999. *Historical Archaeology of India*. New Delhi, Books & Books.
- Chattopadhyaya, B.D. 1990. *Aspects of Rural Settlements and Rural Society in Early Medieval India*, K.P. Bagchi & Co., Calcutta.
- Chattopadhyaya, Brajadulal 1994. *The Making of Early Medieval India*, Oxford University Press, Delhi.
- Chattopadhyaya, B.D. 2003. *Studying Early India: Archaeology, Text and Historical Issues*. Orient BlackSwan, Delhi.
- Chattopadhyaya, B.D. (2008). 'Early Historic in Indian Archaeology: Some Definitional Problems, Gautam Sengupta and Sharmi Chakraborty (eds.) *Archaeology of Early Historic South Asia*, pp. 1-14. New Delhi: Pragati Publications.
- Dhavalikar, M.K. 1999. *Historical Archaeology of India*, Book and Books, New Delhi.
- Dymond, D.P. 1974. *Archaeology and History: A Plea for Reconciliation*, Thames and Hudson, London.
- Ghosh, A. 1973. *City in Early Historical India*, IAS Simla & Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers, New Delhi.
- Ghosh, A. 1989. *An Encyclopaedia of Indian Archaeology*, 2 vols, Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers, Delhi.
- Kanungo Alok et al., 2021. Northern Black Polished Ware in Indian Archaeology: A Study of Spatial and Chronological Distribution in C. Smith (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Global Archaeology*, (https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-51726-1_3555-1) Springer Nature Switzerland.
- Lahiri, Nayanjot et al.. 2002. Historical archaeology of India: an outline of the work of the Archaeological Survey of India, in S. Settar and R. Korisettar (ed.) *Indian Archaeology in Retrospect: Archaeology and Historiography*, pp.71 115. Manohar Publishers and Distributors, New Delhi.
- Lal, Makhan 1984. *Settlement History and the Rise of Civilization in the Ganga Yamuna Doab*, Orient Book Distributors, New Delhi.
- Mehta, R.N. 1979. *Medieval Archaeology*. B.R. Publishing Corporation, Delhi.
- Panja, Sheena, A.K. Nag and S. Bandyopadhyay 2015. *Living with Floods: Archaeology of a Settlement in the Lower Ganga Plain (c. 600-1800 AD)*, Delhi, Primus Book Publication.
- Ramchandran, K. S. 1980. *Archaeology of South India, Tamil Nadu*, Delhi Prakashan.
- Roy, T.N. 1983. *The Ganges Civilization: A Critical Study of the PGW and NBPW Periods of the Ganga Plains of India*, New Delhi.
- Sharma, Y.D. 1953. *Exploration of Historical Sites*. *Ancient India* 9:116 169.
- Sen Parashar Aloka. 2024. *Handbook on Urban History of Early India*, Springer,

Singapore

Shaw Julia. 2020 (new Edition). *Buddhist Landscapes in Central India .Sanchi Hill and Archaeologies of Religious and Social Change, c. Third Century BC to Fifth Century AD*, Routledge, New York

Sengupta Gautam and Sharmi Chakraborty eds. 2007. *Archaeology in Early Historic South Asia*. Pragati Publications, New Delhi.

Tandon, P. N. ed. 1978, *Kannauj: Archaeology and Art*. Kannauj, Archaeological Museum, Kannauj, India.

Thakuria Tilok. 2017. *Society and Economy during Early Historic Period in Maharashtra: An Archaeological Perspective in Heritage: Journal of Multidisciplinary Studies in Archaeology* 5: 2017

Tripathi Vibha. 1976 *The Painted Grey Ware: An Iron Age Culture of Northern India*, Delhi.

Tripathi Vibha. 2012. *Rise of Civilization in the Gangetic Plain: The Context of the Painted Grey Ware*, Delhi.

Tripathi, Vibha. 2008. *History of Iron Technology in India (from Beginning to Pre-Modern Times)*, New Delhi.

S.6

ETHNOARCHAEOLOGY: THEORIES AND PRACTICES

Course Objective: The objective of this course is to introduce ethnoarchaeology and discuss its major role in archaeology for interpretations. The course also discusses key concepts of ethnoarchaeology with case studies both from India and different parts of the world. The last unit in this course deals with the emerging concepts to make the students aware of the recent trends in ethnoarchaeology.

Course Outcome: After the completion of the course, students will be familiarized with the concepts of ethnoarchaeology, important ethnoarchaeological case studies from India and abroad and the key role played by ethnographic data as a source to understand archaeological data.

UNIT I:

Ethnoarchaeology: Method and Theory, Definition and Scope, history of its development; the importance of ethnoarchaeology in archaeological research; nature and interrelationship of archaeological and ethnographic records; principles of analogy in ethnoarchaeological research; problems in analogical reasoning; Middle Range Theory.

UNIT II:

Ethnoarchaeology and the reconstruction of past material culture; settlements and subsistence strategies; social identity; monuments, architecture and communities; households; Technology – Specialist Craft Production; rituals; Experimental archaeology and its role in archaeological interpretation – lithic experimental studies; metallurgical experimental studies.

UNIT III:

Ethnoarchaeological practice in South Asia – “Living Traditions” – Case Studies: forager/collector, living hunter-gatherers, present day shifting cultivation practices, early agro-pastoral chalcolithic communities, living megalithic tradition, fishing (inland and coastal) economies; Ceramic Tradition, Boat-building; Ethnoarchaeological Studies Outside India; Case Studies: The Eskimos of Alaska, the Bushmen of the Kalahari Desert and the Australian Aborigines.

UNIT IV:

Emerging concepts in Ethnoarchaeology; The use of traditional ecological knowledge in archaeological interpretation; Indigenous perspectives on archaeological interpretation.

Select Readings:

Ajay Pratap. 2000. *The Hoe and the Axe: Ethnohistory of Shifting Cultivation in Eastern India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Allchin, B. (ed.) 1994. *Living Traditions: South Asian Ethnoarchaeology*. New Delhi:

- Oxford & IBH Publishing Co. Pvt. Ltd.
- Binford, L. R. 1988. *In Pursuit of the Past*. New York: Thames and Hudson.
- David N. and C. Kramer. 2001. *Ethnoarchaeology in Action*, Cambridge, CUP.
- Fuchs, S. 1973. *The Aboriginal Tribes of India*, Delhi, Macmillan India.
- Gould R.A. 1980. *Living Archaeology*, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.
- Griffin, P. B. and W. G. Solheim II. 1990. "Ethnoarchaeological Research in Asia". *Asian Perspectives* 28 (2): 145-161.
- Lee, R. B. and I. Devore (Ed.) 1975. *Man the Hunter*, Chicago, Aldine Publishing Co.
- Meehan, B. and R. Jones (eds.) 1988. *Archaeology with Ethnography: An Australian*
- Pakem, B. Bhattacharya, J.B., Dutta, B.B. and B. Datta Ray. 1980. *Shifting Cultivation in North-East India*, North East India Council for Social Science Research, Shillong.
- Richard Ford (Ed.). 1994. *The Nature and Status of Ethnobotany*, Museum of Anthropology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.
- Sankar Kumar Ray. 1984. *Aspects of Neolithic Agriculture and Shifting Cultivation, Garo Hills, Meghalaya*. *Asian Perspective*, XXIV(2), pp.193-221.
- Sinopoli, C. M. 1991. "Seeking the Past through the Present: Recent Ethnoarchaeological Research in South Asia". *Asian Perspectives* 28 (2): 145-161.

INDIAN EPIGRAPHY AND PALAEOGRAPHY-I

Course Objectives: The main purpose of this course is to teach the students how to use an inscription as a historical document. This is done by analyzing the contents of the inscriptions and the significant terms in their historical context. The language and script used in the inscriptions is also incorporated in this course.

Course Outcome: After completing the course the students will have a familiarity with the contents of the inscriptions mentioned above and the significant terms used in it. The students will be familiar with palaeography which is a study of language and script. It will be of immense help to students in reading the inscriptions.

UNIT I

Ashokan Edicts

Nature, Geographic distribution, Categories, Language and script.

Decipherment of major Rock Edicts (Girnar version) Rock Edicts- II and XIII, Bairat Edict.

UNIT II

Study of Inscriptions of Historical and Cultural Importance.

Hathigumpha inscription of Kharvela (EI,XX, IHQXIV); Junagadh inscription of Rudradaman (EI, VIII); Sarnath Image Inscription of the time of Kanishka; Nasik Prasasti of Gautami Balasri (EI, VIII)

UNIT III

Study of seals-sealings and their importance in Ancient Indian History.

Legends on the Seals

Political, Administrative and Religious Seals

UNIT IV

Study of Copper-plate Inscriptions - Its nature, material used, language and script, format of writing Copper plates - Importance of Copper - plate inscriptions.

Select Readings:

Barua, B.M. Inscriptions of Asoka, pt. II, Calcutta, 1943.

____. Asoka and His Inscriptions, Calcutta, 1946.

Basak, R.G. (ed. by), Asokan Inscriptions, Calcutta, 1959.

Hultzsch, E. Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum, Vol. I, Inscriptions of Asoka, 1925.

Sen, A.C. Asoka's Edicts, Calcutta, 1956.

Sircar, D.C. Select Inscriptions bearing on Indian History and Civilizations, Vol. I, Calcutta, 1942.

Indian Historical Quarterly, Vol. VIII (ii); Vol. XIV (iii).

Epigraphia Indica, Vol. VIII (iv, v, vi, vii); Vol. XX (iii)

S.8
INDIAN EPIGRAPHY AND PALAEOGRAPHY-II

Course objectives: The purpose of the course is to teach the students the use of reading and writing the major scripts of Indian subcontinent. The origin and development of scripts are also incorporated in this course.

Course Outcome: After completing this course the students will have a familiarity with the reading and writing the major scripts of Indian subcontinent. The knowledge of scripts will help them in reading and interpreting the original inscriptions.

UNIT I

Origin of writing and Script in Indian Context
Harappan Script-Problems and Issues.

UNIT II

The Brahmi Script and its derivatives; The name of the Script; Geographical and Chronological range; Theories regarding the origin of Brahmi; Development of Early, Middle and late Brahmi; The Kharosthi Script-an overview.

UNIT III

Regional variations; Siddhamatrika; Proto-Bengali and Nagari.

UNIT IV

Transcription of early Brahmi from Roman Script

Select Readings:

Buhler.G, Indian Palaeography, New Delhi, 1980 (reprint).

Dani. A. H, Indian Palaeography, Delhi,(2nd.ed.)1986.

Dasgupta,C.C, The Development of Kharoshti Script,Calcutta,1958.

Diringer. David, The Alphabet: A Key to the History of Mankind, NewYork, 1953.

Saloman. Richard, Indian Epigraphy, Oxford, 1998.

Sircar, D.C. Introduction to Indian Epigraphy and Palaeography, Journal of Ancient Indian History,4,1970-71,72-136.

Verma,T.P. The Palaeography of Brahmi Script, Varanasi,1971.

S.9

INDIAN EPIGRAPHY AND PALAEOGRAPHY-III

Course objectives: The main objective of the course is to teach the use of inscriptions as historical documents. Analytical study of the contents and significant terms in historical context will be expected.

Course outcomes: After completing the course the students will be familiar with how to use the inscriptions as historical documents.

UNIT I

Typological Survey of Inscriptions (300 CE-1200 CE): Prasasti, Land Grants(royal), Donative Inscriptions(Common), Miscellaneous

UNIT II

Reading Inscriptions: Prasastis

Allahabad Prasasti of Samudragupta, Aihole Prasasti of Pulakesin II, Gwalior Prasasti of Bhoja I, Deopara Prasasti of Vijaysena

UNIT III

Reading Inscriptions: Land Grants –North India

Damodarpur Copper-plates of Kumaragupta I, Banskhera Inscription of Harsha, Khalimpur Inscription of Dharmapala, Nalanda Inscription of Devapala, Jagjivanpur Copper- plate of Mahendrapala I

UNIT IV

Reading Inscriptions: Land Grants-South India

Sanjan Copper-plates of Amoghavarsha, Uttaramerur Inscription of Parantaka II

Select Readings:

Bhandarkar, D.R. Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum, Vol.III, New Delhi,1981.

Fleet, J.F. Inscriptions of the Early Gupta Kings and their successors, Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum, Vol.III, Calcutta,1888.

Maitra, A.K.Gaudalekhamala, Calcutta, 1914.

Maity, S.K. Corpus of Bengal Inscriptions, Calcutta, 1967.

Majumdar, N.G.Inscriptions of Bengal, Vol.III, Raj shahi, 1929.

Sircar, D.C. Select Inscriptions bearing on Indian History and Civilizations, Vol.1, Calcutta, 1942.

_____.Select Inscriptions bearing on Indian History and Civilizations, Vol.II (From the sixth to the eighteenth Century A.D.), Delhi, 1983.

_____.Indian Epigraphical Glossary, Delhi, 1965.

South Indian Inscriptions, Vol.III.

Epigraphia Indica (Relevant Vols.).

S.10

INDIAN NUMISMATICS-I

Course Objectives:

Present course is an introductory paper on Numismatics which is one of the important branches of Archaeology which specifically deals with the study of coins. The course aims to understand the beginning and minting of coins in ancient times. It also aims to cover the History of Numismatic studies in India.

Course Outcome -

Students will understand the importance and relevance of Numismatics as an important source to understand Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology. Through the study of coins students will understand Political, Social, Economic and Religious background of Ancient India in a more holistic way. They will be able to have a grasp of various technical terms of coins.

UNIT I –

Definitions and Terminology, Importance of Numismatics in the reconstruction of political, socio-cultural and economic history of ancient India, Origin and Antiquity of Coins in India.

UNIT II –

Literary references of Coins, Techniques of Minting Coins – Punch-marked, Casting, Die-Struck and Repoussé.

UNIT III –

Punch Marked Coins, Uninscribed Cast Copper coins, Local Coins, Tribal Coins, Coins of the City states.

UNIT IV –

History of Numismatic studies in India – Phase I (Early 19th Century to 1947) – Phase II (Post Independence Period), Recent Trends in Numismatics.

Select Readings:

- Goyal, Shankar. 1998. Ancient Indian Numismatics: A Historiographical Study. Kusumanjali Book World. Jodhpur.
- Gupta, P.L. 1969. Coins. National Book Trust. New Delhi.
- Gupta, P. L and T.R. 1985. Hardaker. Ancient Indian Silver Punch-Marked Coins of the Magadha – Maurya Karshapana Series. Nasik.
- Handa, Devendra. 2007. Tribal Coins of India. Delhi: Aryan Books International.
- Mukherjee, B.N. 1988. Technology of Early Indian Coinage, Calcutta..
- Mukherjee, B. N. 1992. Takakari abhirbhava yuga(in Bengali), Calcutta, 1992.
- Prakash Satya and Rajendra Singh. 1968. Coinage in Ancient India. New Delhi. The Research Institute of Ancient Scientific Studies.
- Rajgor Dilip. 2001. Punch-marked Coins of Early Historic India. California: Reesha Books International.
- Sircar, D.C. 1968. Studies in Indian Coins. Motilal Banarsidas. Delhi.

S.11 INDIAN NUMISMATICS-II

Course Objectives: This paper introduces the coins issued by various rulers in India. The course aims to give a basic idea of various types of coins issued in Ancient period. It aims to explore various elements of coins such as script, symbols and iconography.

Course Outcome - Students will be able to identify the ancient coins. They can also understand the legend and art on the coins. They will also learn the ancient Numerals that appear on the coins.

UNIT I –

Indo-Greek coins, Coins of the Indo-Scythians and Coins of the Indo-Parthians

UNIT II –

Coins of the Kuṣāṇa rulers, Pre-Sātavāhana coins, coins of the Sātavāhanas.

UNIT III –

Western Kṣatrapas coinage (The Kṣaharātas and the Kārdamakas) and related numismatic traditions, coins of the Traikutakas, Ikṣvaku coins.

UNIT IV –

Numismatic Art – Religious Symbols, Iconography (Gods and Goddesses), Script on Coins (Various types of Legends on Coins and their Palaeographic features.)

Select Readings:

Bopearachchi, O. Indo-Greek, Indo-Scythian and Indo-Parthian Coins in the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, 1993.

Bopearachi, O and Sushmita Basu Majumdar. 2020. From Hindu Kush to Salt Range: Mauryan, Indo-Greek and Indo-Scythian Coin Hoards. The ink: beyond imagination: Kolkata.

Cribb, Joe and D. Jongeward. 2015. Kushan, Kushano-Sasanian, and Kidarite Coins, a Catalogue of Coins from the American Numismatic Society (Edited), American Numismatic Society, New York.

Gupta, Parmeshwari Lal. 1996. Coins. New Delhi: National Book Trust.

Jha, Amiteshwar and Dilip Rajgor. 1994. Studies in the Coinage of the Western Kṣatrapas. Indian Institute of Research in Numismatic Studies: Nasik.

Lahiri, A.N. 1965. Corpus of Indo-Greek Coins, Poddar Publications. Calcutta.

Mirashi, V.V. 1981. The History and Inscriptions of the Satavahanas and the Western Kshatrapas, Nagpur: Maharashtra State Board for Literature and Culture, Bombay.

Mukherjee, B. N. 2007. Numismatic Art of India. M. Manoharlal Publishers. Delhi.

Rajgor, Dilip. 1998. History of the Traikūtakas: Based on coins and Inscriptions. Harman Publishing House: New Delhi.

Shastri, A.M. 1998. The Satavahanas and the Western Kshatrapas. Dattsons. Nagpur.

Subrahmanyam, R. 1979. A Catalogue of the Ikshvaku Coins in the A.P. Govt. Museum. The Government of Andhra Pradesh: Hyderabad.

S.12

INDIAN NUMISMATICS-III

Course Objectives: The course aims to give introduction of coins issued by major rulers from ancient to early medieval period. It covers Gupta rulers, Vākāṭakā rulers, Vishṇukundins and many other rulers. It aims to give an introduction of Principal Early Medieval coin types of North India. It also aims to teach students the various scientific methods used to study the coins.

Course Outcome – The course will help the students develop the necessary skills to help with the identification, Documentation and classification of the coins. Students will be able to write a basic report on coins in an excavation.

UNIT I

Coins of the Gupta rulers, coins of the Vākāṭakā rulers, Coins of the Vishṇukundins. coins of the Kalachuris.

UNIT II

Principal Early Medieval coin types of North India – Indo-Sassanian Coins, coins of the Hunas, Bull and Horsemen type Coins.

UNIT III

Coins of the Rāshtrakūṭas, Coinage of the Yādavas, Coins of the Kadambas, Pallava Coins and Coins of the Cōḷa rulers.

UNIT IV

Scientific Studies in Numismatics, Documentation and Classification of coins, Excavation Report writing of coins.

Select Readings:

- Altekar, A. S. 1957. The Coinage of the Gupta Empire. NSI. Varanasi.
- Chattopadhyay. B. D. 1977. Coins and Currency System in South India, c. AD 225 – 1300. Munshiram Manoharlal Oriental Book Publishers. New Delhi.
- Jantakal, G, B Kapadia and P Jinjvadiya. 2019. History and Coinage of the Rashtrakutas. IIRNS Publications LLP. Mumbai
- Kumar, Sanjeev. 2017. Treasures of the Gupta Empire: A Catalogue of Coins of the Gupta Dynasty. USA: The Shivlee Trust.
- Kumar, Sanjeev. 2024. Treasures of the Gupta Empire: A Numismatic History of the Golden Age of India. Archaeopress Archaeology: Oxford.
- Maheshwari, K. K. 2010. Imitations in Continuity: Tracking the Silver Coinage of Early Medieval India. IIRNS Publications Pvt. Ltd. Mumbai.
- Mitchiner, Michael. 1998. The Coinage and History of Southern India. Hawking. London.
- Mukherjee, B. N. 1992. Coins and currency system in Gupta Bengal (AD 320-550). New Delhi: Harman Publishing House.
- Pieper, Wilfried. 2021. Ancient Indian Coins: A Comprehensive Catalogue. IIRNS Publications Pvt. Ltd. Mumbai.
- Raven, Ellen. 1994. Gupta gold coins with a Garuda-banner: Samudragupta-Skandagupta, 2 vols, Groningen, Egbert Forsten.

S.13

SOCIAL HISTORY OF INDIA UPTO 400 CE

Course Objectives: This course will concentrate on the aspects of social history in the early historic period. It will begin with an analytical discussion around the use of sources in understanding social history.

Course Outcome: The students are expected to learn the basics scholarship in social history by the conclusion of this paper.

UNIT I

Sources – Literary (Indigenous and Foreign) – Archaeological.

UNIT II

Composition of Society in the Subcontinent – Homogenous (pre-literate/ pre-historic/ tribal) communities and heterogenous/hierarchical communities.

UNIT III

Perspectives on Social Composition – Brahmanical – Concept of Varna-jati, roots of Jati and its proliferation, Ashrama System, Notion of Untouchability – Slavery.

UNIT IV

Buddhist and Jaina Perspectives on Family Life and Renunciation- composition of Society as Revealed in Early Tamil Sources.

Gender Issues – Position of Women – Marriage System

Select Readings:

- A.L.Basham, The Wonder That was India, 1954.
A.S.Altekar, Education in Ancient India, Banaras, 1948.
A.S.Altekar, The Position of Women in Hindu Civilization, Banaras, 1956.
Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's History and culture of the Indian people, Vols.I-III.
D.D.Kosambi, Culture and Civilization of Ancient India in Historical Outline, London, 1965.
D.D.Kosambi, Introduction to the study of Indian History, Bombay, 1956.
Dev Raj Chanana, Slavery in Ancient India, Delhi, 1960.
G.N.Jha (ed.), Manu Smriti-Medhatithi Bhasya.
G.S.Ghurye, Caste and Class in India, New York, 1950.
K.M.Kapadia, Marriage and Family in India, Oxford, 1958.
N.K.Dutt, Origin and Growth of Caste in India, Calcutta, 1931.
Pillay, K.K. Social Life of Early Tamils.
P.N.Prabhu, Hindu Social Organizations, Bombay, 1963.
P.V.Kane, History of Dharmasastra, Vol.II, Poona, 1974.
R.C.Majumdar, Corporate Life in Ancient India, Poona, 1922.
R.Fick, Social Organization in North-Eastern India, Calcutta, 1920.
R.K.Mookherji, Education in Ancient India, London, 1926.
R.S.Sharma, Light on Early Indian Society and Economy, Bombay, 1966.
S.Chattopadhyaya, Social Life in Ancient India, Calcutta, 1965.
S.Manickam, Slavery in Tamil Country, CLS, Madras, 1982.
Sastri K.A.N. (ed) A Comprehensive History of India, Vol. 2

S.14

GENDER STUDIES: WOMEN IN ANCIENT INDIA

Course Objectives: This course will introduce the students with the concept of Gender itself. The work will attempt to historicize the concept to better understand changes in the given paradigm over time. The study will then attempt to study the history of ordinary women, their lives as represented in the normative texts. This will include a study of their economic agency within the bounds of ritual constraints. The course will conclude with a brief study of certain extreme practices forced upon by the patriarchal setup. This includes the study of the Sati system, Devadasi system and the idea of Widowhood.

Course Outcome: The course will learn to historicize the concept to better understand changes in the given paradigm over time.

UNIT I

Introduction: Gender as a category in Historical analysis, its contribution towards understanding social relations in ancient society.

UNIT II

Women in early India- Prehistoric Ancient world: Technology, Social organization and Religious beliefs -- Female Principle- Women in various religious traditions- Brahmanical, Buddhist, Jaina, Bhakti, Tantrik- Understanding of Women through the Ancient Indian Literatures.

UNIT III

Women during the Maurya and Post- Mauryan periods- Gupta Age- A Historical Perspectives on Women's Property Rights- issue of *Stridhana*-Women and Marriage.

UNIT IV

Socio Cultural and Economic Status of Women in ancient India- Practice of Sati- Slavery- Origin and Growth of Devadasi system- Widowhood- women and religion- Royal women and Polity.

Select Readings:

- A.S.Altekar, The Position of Women in Hindu Civilization, Banaras, 1956.
K.M.Kapadia, Marriage and Family in India, Oxford, 1958.
A.L.Basham, The Wonder That was India, 1954.
S.Chattopadhyaya, Social Life in Ancient India, Calcutta, 1965.
D.D.Kosambi, Introduction to the study of Indian History, Bombay, 1956.
Aravind Sharma, Sati- Historical and Phenomenological Essays, Delhi, 1962.
C.M.Agarwal, Nan: Facets of Indian Womanhood, Delhi, 2000.
Jagadish Chandra Jain, Margaret Walter, Women in Ancient Indian Tales, Delhi, 1987.
R.C.Majumdar, History of Ancient India, Banaras, 1952.

- _____. (ed.), *The Classical Age*, Vidhya Bhavan Series, Bombay, 1970.
- S.K.Pandit, *Women in Society*, New Delhi, 1998.
- Ramnath Sharma, *Indian Society and Social Institutions*, Delhi, 1981.
- R.P.Sharma, *Women in Hindu Literature*, New Delhi, 1995.
- Leslie Orr, *Donors, Devotees and daughters of God: Temple Women in Medieval Tamilnadu*, Oxford, 2000.
- A.K.Singh, *Devadasi System in Ancient India (A Study of Temple Dancing Girls in South India)*, 1990.
- Clarisse Bader, *Women in Ancient India: Moral and Literary Studies*, New Delhi, 2013.
- Gayatri Gupta, *Status of Women in Ancient India*, Delhi, 2012.
- Vijaya Lakshmi Singh, *Women and Gender in Ancient India: A Study of Texts and Inscriptions*, New Delhi, 2014.
- L.K.Tripathi, *Position and Status of Women in Ancient India*, Seminar Papers, Vol.I, Banaras, 2008.
- Kumkum Roy (ed.), *Women in Early Indian Societies*, New Delhi, 1999.
- Saraj Gulate's, *Women and Society*, New Delhi, 1985.
- Vijay Kaushik, Bela Rani Sharma, *Indian Women through the Ages*, New Delhi, 1998.
- Sakuntala Devi, *Tradition and Modernity among Indian Women*, Jaipur, 1998.

S.15

SOCIAL HISTORY OF INDIA FROM 400 CE TO 1300 CE

Course Objectives: This will be a continuation of the paper mentioned above. It will discuss the social history of the Early Medieval period. So this course will attempt to instruct the students in sources from the Early medieval period, and methods of interpreting them. The course will discuss on the Vaishyas and the Sudras whose number swell with the changes in the agrarian dynamics; the new professional classes like the Kayasthas and the Rajputs in context of the early medieval society and study of Education system exemplified in Nalanda, Vikramshila and similar places of learning.

Course Outcome: The courses will impart the students a critical understanding of the various aspects of caste system and other aspects of early medieval society.

UNIT I

Sources for the Study of Social History—An Overview of Early Medieval society and recent study on social aspects.

UNIT II

Concept of Varna-Jati from interdisciplinary perspectives- Changes in the status of Varna- Relative Position of the Vaishyas and Sudras- Differentiation in the Sudra Community.

UNIT III

Rise of the New Professional Castes- Kayasthas and Rajput- Changes in the social organizations- New Features in Social Milieu - Inter-Action between socio economic classes in Early Medieval Period- Land and Power as base for Social Ranking- Extent of Early Medieval serfdom.

UNIT IV

Educational System and Institutions: Brahmanical and Buddhist- Changes in the Status of Women in Early medieval Society- Society in Early Medieval South India.

Select Readings:

- Ratnagar Shereen: Bharatiya Itihas Ke Shroot, Prachin Kal, Bhag-I, Bhopal, 2001.
Sharma, R.S: Perspective in Social and Economic History of Early India, Delhi, 1983.
_____.Sudras in Ancient India, New Delhi, 3rd Edition, 1990
_____.Early Medieval Indian Society, Calcutta, 2001
Thapar Romila: Interpreting Early India, OUP, 1992.
_____.Ancient India Social History, New Delhi, 1978
_____. (ed.) Recent Perspective of Early Indian History, Bombay, 1995.
Prabhu, P.11: Hindu Social Organizations, Bombay, 1958
Ghurye, G.S: Caste and Class in India, New York, 1950
Das, S.K: The Educational System of Ancient Hindu, Calcutta, 1930
Dutta, N.K: Origin and Growth of Caste in India, Vol-2, Calcutta, 1986
A.S Altekar: Education in Ancient India, Banaras, 1948
Chattopadhyaya, B.D: The Making of Early Medieval India, OUP, 1994
Gupta Chitrlekha: The Kayasthas, Calcutta, 1996
Thakur, V.K: Social Dimensions of Technology: Iron in Early India, Patna, 1993
Chattopadhyay, S: Social Life in Ancient India, Calcutta, 1965
Basham, A.L (ed.): Cultural History of India, OUP, 1975
Jaiswal Suvira: Caste, Origin, Functions and Dimensions of Change, New Delhi, 1998

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ECONOMIC HISTORY OF INDIA UP TO 400 CE

Course Objectives: As the title of the course suggests, this paper will be an in-depth study of economic history in the Early Historic period. Concept like mode of production, factors of production, distribution of labour etc, will be elucidated in the introduction of this course.

Course Outcome: Pursuing this paper, the students are expected to learn the immense scholarship in the reconstruction of the economic past. This hopes to inculcate the concept of economic analysis of the ancient past and critical mindset of the students.

UNIT I

Source Materials for the study of Economic History- Trends and perspectives on Economic History up to 400 CE.

UNIT II

Economic condition of India from 600 BCE to 400 BCE- Agriculture and Craft Production-

Changes in Agrarian structure.

UNIT III

Mauryan Economy, Agriculture, Process of cultivation, Crops, Irrigation and states interest

UNIT IV

Trade and Commerce- Inland and Foreign- Trading Networks and Urbanisation from 600 BCE to 300 CE

Industry and Trade Organizations- Revenue System- Types of revenue of early states.

Select Readings:

Majumdar, R.C: The Vedic Age, Bombay, 1951

_____.The Age of Imperial Unity, Bombay, 1951

_____.Corporate Life in Ancient India, Calcutta, 1922

Thakur, V.K: Urbanization in Ancient India, New Delhi, 1981

Rai, J: The Rural Urban Economy and Social Changes in Ancient India, Varanasi, 1974

Sharma, R.S: Material Culture and Social Formation in Ancient India, New Delhi, 1983

Saletore, R.N: Early Indian Economic History, Bombay, 1993

Choudhury, R.K: Economic History of Ancient India, Patna, 1982

Chakravarti, Ranbir (ed.): Trade in Early India, Calcutta, 2001

Singh, Ajoy Kumar: Indo-Roman Trade (An Archaeological Perspective), Patna, 1981

Chattopadhyay, B.D (ed.): Essays in Ancient Indian Economic History, New Delhi, 1987
 Jain Beena: Guild Organization in Northern India from earliest times to 1200AD, New Delhi, 1990
 Ghosal, U.N: Agrarian System of Ancient India Hindu, Calcutta, 1930
 Lahiri, N: The Archaeology of Trade Routes, New Delhi, 1992
 Chakraborti, H: Trade and Commerce in Ancient India
 Motichandra: Sarthavaha, Patna, 1983
 _____.Trade and Trade Routes in Ancient India, Varanasi, 1968
 Srivastava, B: Trade and Commerce in Ancient India, Varanasi, 1968
 Prasad, P.C: Foreign Trade and Commerce in Ancient India

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ECONOMIC HISTORY OF INDIA FROM 400 CE TO 1300 CE.

Course Objectives: Under the overarching paradigm of the feudalism debate, the Early medieval economy will be discussed in this course. The study ensues with the critical examination of the concept of ownership of land. This will lead to the study of agrarian structure and methods of craft production in the changed economy. The relationship between feudalism and polity will also be discussed to understand the correlation between these two dominant aspects of the past.

Course Outcome: The students are expected to retain ample understanding of Early Medieval Period by the end of this course. They will also gain experience in methods of dealing with primary sources. Finally, the students are expected to gradually develop a better sense of analysis and critical thinking for their future endeavors.

UNIT I

The Economic History of India up to 1300 CE: Trends and Perspectives.

UNIT II

Ownership of land- System of Land grants and Agrarian Expansion in Guptas and Post- Gupta period.

UNIT III

Agriculture and Craft Production: Northern India 400 CE to 1300 CE. Extant and expansion of Agriculture, Irrigation, Crops, Craft Production and Organization of Craft production- Changes in Agrarian structure in Gupta and Post Gupta Period.

UNIT IV

Trade and Market Centers in Gupta Period- debates on Urban Decay- Arguments for Decline.

Debate on Indian Feudalism- Economy and State structure in Early Medieval Period.

Select Readings:

Gopal, L: The Economic Life of Northern India (AD 700-1200), Banaras, 1965.

Sharma, R.S: Indian Feudalism, Calcutta, 1965.

Chattopadhyay, B.D: The Making of Early Medieval India, OUP, New Delhi, 1997.

Chakrabarty, Ranbir: Trade and Traders in Early Indian Society, New Delhi, 2002.

Thakur, Vijay Kumar: Historiography of Indian Feudalism, Patna, 1989.

Yadav, B.N.S: Society and Culture in Northern India in the 12th century A.D, Allahabad, 1973.

Maity, S.K: Economic Life in Northern India in the Gupta Period, Patna, 1970.

Niyogi, P: Contribution to the Economic History of Northern India from the A.D 10th -12th Century, Calcutta, 1962.

Jha, D.N: Revenue System in Post-Maurya and Gupta Times, Calcutta, 1967.

Hussaini, S.A.Q: The Economic History of India, Vol-1, Calcutta, 1962

Singh, R.C.P: Kingship in Northern India, Patna, 1968

Kulke, Herman: State in India, A.D 1000-1700, New Delhi, 1995

Appadorai, A: Economic condition in South India, Madras, 1936

Meenakshi, C: Social life and Administration Under the Pallavas, Madras, 1977

Majumdar, R.O (ed.): Vidya Bhavana Series, Vols. IV-V-VI, Bombay, 1965.

Thorner, Daniel: Feudalism in India in R.Conlborn (ed), Feudalism in history, Princeton

Thakur, V.K: Regional Patterns of Early Medieval Formations in India: A Study of Gupta Towns, Presidential Address, Section-I, P.I.H.0 Se Session, 1997

Mukhia, Harbans: Was there Feudalism in India? Presidential Address, Sections-IIP.I.H.C, 40th Session, Waltair, 1979, pp:229-38

_____. (ed.) The Feudal Debate, New Delhi, 2000

Jha, D.N: The Feudal Order, New Delhi, 2000

_____.Ancient India, New Delhi, 1995

S.18

THEMES IN EARLY INDIAN SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC HISTORY

Course Objectives: This paper deals with concepts and terminologies in the study of early Indian social and economic history. The inherent and the given meanings of society and economy itself will be discussed. It will also include an extensive review of the urbanization process and the debates around monetization of economy and guild system will also be discussed. The most important aspect of this paper is to equip the students to indulge themselves in further research on the theme.

Course Outcome: This would help them to better choose for themes of ancient social and economic history that they might be interested.

UNIT I

Society: Perception and Idea

UNIT II

Varna-Jati: Proliferation; Changing Norms of Marriage and property

Samskaras: Purpose of Samskaras; constituents; Various Samskaras in Hindu rites.

UNIT III

Labour in Ancient India; Division of Labour; Social structure and occupations; Institutions of Slavery; Guilds – Its origins and Function.

UNIT IV

Trade – Inland and Maritime; Merchant Communities; Trade Routes.

Urbanization and Urban Life; Trade, market centers, urban settlement;

Growth of towns- trade networks and Itinerant- Trade- trade routes

Select Readings:

R.C.Majumdar, Corporate Life in Ancient India, Poona, 1922.

P.V.Kane, History of Dharmasastra, Vol.II, Poona, 1974.

Sharma, R.S: Perspective in Social and Economic History of Early India, ND, 1983.

_____. Early Medieval Indian Society, Calcutta, 2001

_____. Urban Decay in India AD 300-1000, New Delhi 1987.

Thapar Romila: Interpreting Early India, OUP, 1992

_____. Readings in Early Indian History, New Delhi, 2003.

_____. (ed.) Recent Perspective of Early Indian History, Bombay, 1995.

Chattopadhyaya, B.D: The Making of Early Medieval India, OUP, 1994.

_____. (Ed.) Essays in Ancient Indian Economic History, New Delhi, 1987.

Chakravarti, Ranbir Indian and the Indian Ocean: Issues in Trade and Politics. 2020

_____. Trade in Early India, Calcutta, 2001.

_____. Trade and Traders in Early Indian Society, New Delhi, 2002.

Maity, S.K: Economic Life in Northern India in the Gupta Period, Patna, 1970.

Rajbali Pandey, Hindu Samskaras, Delhi, 1991.

Lallanji, Gopal. The Economic Life of Northern India, Varanasi, 1966.

S.19

AN INTRODUCTION TO RELIGION UP TO EARLY VEDIC AGE

Course Objectives: The paper initiates the student to the origin and evolution of religion in India. The earliest text based religious practices, rituals, purpose and importance in the context are discussed. The concepts of deities, forces, nature etc as known from the sources will provide the student a historic perspective into the origin of religions.

Course Outcome: The student will have an understanding of religious ideas and practices of ancient India from an academic and historic perspective.

UNIT I

Definition and Meaning of Religion

Antiquity of Religion-Primitive religions and beliefs

UNIT II

Harappan beliefs and practices

UNIT III

Early Vedic Religion –Sources

Early forms of religion-Nature Worship, Polytheism, Anthropomorphism, Henotheism,

Concept of Rigvedic gods and goddesses, Sacrifices in Rigvedic age, Monotheism.

UNIT IV

Rigvedic Religion-philosophy and Importance

Ethical ideas in Rigveda , Concept of Rita.

Rigveda and Avesta: A Comparative study

Select Readings:

H.D. Bhattacharya, The Cultural Heritage of India, 2nd ed., Vol. IV, 1969.

Jones, Lindsay (ed.), Encyclopaedia of Religion (15 Volumes), 2005.

D.D.Kosambi, Myth and Reality, 1962.

Max Weber, The Religion of India, 1968.

N.N.Bhattacharya, Ancient Indian Rituals and Their Social Contents, 2nd ed., 1996.

A.B.Keith, The Religion and Philosophy of the Veda and Upanishads, Indian Print, 1970.

R.S.Sharma, Material Culture and Social Formation in Ancient India, 1983.

K.M.Shrimali, “The Rigveda and the Avesta: A study of their Religious Trajectories” in Irfan Habib (ed.), A Shared Heritage: the Growth of Civilizations in India & Iran, 2002.

-----, The Religious Enterprise: Studies in Early Indian Religions, Vol. I and II, New Delhi, 2022.

A.Barth, The Religions of India, Varanasi, 1985.

- S.Chattopadhyaya, Evaluation of Theistic Sects in Ancient India, Calcutta, 1962.
- S.R.Goyal, Religious History of India, Vols. I & II, Meerut.
- E.W.Hopkins, Religions of India, New Delhi, 1977.
- , Origin and Evaluation of Religion, New Haven, 1923.
- J.Gonda, Change and Continuity in Indian Religions, 1965.
- R.C. Zaehner, Hinduism, Oxford, 1962.
- D.C.Sircar, Studies in the Religious Life of Ancient and Medieval India, New Delhi, 1971
- M.Bloomfield, The Religion of the Veda, New York and London
- R.C.Majumdar, The Vedic Age, Chapters XVIII, XXII, XXVII.
- P.V.Kane, History of Dharmasastra, Vols. II, IV & V (relevant Chapter), Poona, 1972.
- S.K.Bevalkar & R.D.Ranade, History of Indian Philosophy, Vol.II, Poona, 1927.

EVOLUTION OF RELIGIOUS CULTS, RITUALS AND IDEAS — I

Course Objectives: This paper discusses the further transitions in Vedic religion with the new philosophical propositions in religious ideas. The new concepts, ideas, rituals and practices that carried the legacy of early phase and brought new flavor to the religion are introduced to the students.

Course Outcome: The student learns the progress and trajectories of religion in early India from an academic and historic perspective.

UNIT I: Approaches to the Study of Later Vedic Religion

Methodologies for studying later Vedic religion

Sources: *Samhitas*, *Brahmanas*, *Aranyakas*, and *Upanishads*

UNIT II: Later Vedic Deities and Ritual Practices

Later Vedic gods: A comparative study

Evolution of rituals: *Śrauta* and *Gṛhya* traditions

Yajña: Types and religious significance

Emergence and Character of Atharvavedic Religion: Magic, Healing, and Domestic Rites

UNIT III: Upanishadic Thoughts

Issues in the interpretation of the Upanishads

Core doctrines: *Brahman*, *Ātman*, *Samsāra*, *Karma*, and *Mokṣa*

Ethical and Metaphysical Outlook of the Upanishads

UNIT IV: Legacy, Influence and Importance of Upanishads

Upanishads and the roots of Vedānta: Śaṅkara and Rāmānuja

Upanishadic thought in Sāṅkhya, Yoga, and later spiritual texts (e.g., Gītā)

Impact on Jainism and Buddhism (parallels and critiques)

The place of Upanishadic teaching in the History of Indian religion.

Select Readings:

A. Barth, *The Religions of India*, Varanasi, 1985.

A.B. Keith, *The Religion and Philosophy of the Veda and Upanishads*, Indian Print, 1970.

Albert Churchward, *The Origin and Evolution of Religion*, 1924.

Anantanand Rambachan, *Accomplishing the Accomplished: The Vedas as a Source of Valid Knowledge in Śaṅkara*, University of Hawaii Press, 1991.

D.C. Sircar, *Studies in the Religious Life of Ancient and Medieval India*, 1971.

D.D. Kosambi, *Myth and Reality*, 1962.

E.W. Hopkins, *Origin and Evolution of Religion*, 1923.

E.W. Hopkins, *Religions of India*, New Delhi, 1895.

H.D. Bhattacharya, *The Cultural Heritage of India*, 2nd ed., Vol. IV, 1969.

J. Gonda, *Change and Continuity in Indian Religions*, 1965.

Jones, Lindsay (ed.), *Encyclopaedia of Religion* (15 Volumes), 2005.

K.M. Shrimali, "The Rigveda and the Avesta: A study of their Religious Trajectories" in Irfan Habib (ed.), *A Shared Heritage: The Growth of Civilizations in India & Iran*, 2002.

M. Bloomfield, *The Religion of Veda*, 1908.

Max Weber, *The Religion of India*, 1968.

N.N. Bhattacharya, *Ancient Indian Rituals and Their Social Contents*, 2nd ed., 1996.

P.V. Kane, *History of Dharmasastra*, Vols. II, IV & V (relevant Chapter), Poona, 1972.

Patrick Olivelle, *The Early Upaniṣads: Annotated Text and Translation*, Oxford University Press, 1996

Paul Deussen, *Sixty Upaniṣads of the Veda*, Motilal Banarsidass, 1980.

R.C. Majumdar, *The Vedic Age*, 1951.

R.C. Zaehner, *Hinduism*, Oxford, 1962.

R.S. Sharma, *Material Culture and Social Formation in Ancient India*, 1983.

Richard King, *Indian Philosophy: An Introduction to Hindu and Buddhist Thought*, Edinburgh University Press, 1999.

Robert Ernest Hume, *The Thirteen Principal Upaniṣads*, Oxford University Press, 1921.

S. Chattopadhyaya, *Evaluation of Theistic Sects in Ancient India*, Calcutta, 1962.

S. N. Dasgupta, *A History of Indian Philosophy*, Vol. 1, Cambridge University Press, 1922.

S. Radhakrishnan (Ed.), *The Principal Upaniṣads*, George Allen & Unwin, 1953.

S.K. Bevalkar & R.D. Ranade, *History of Indian Philosophy*, Vol. II, Poona, 1927.

S.R. Goyal, *Religious History of India*, Vols. I & II, Meerut, 1984 & 1986.

Satischandra Chatterjee & Dhirendramohan Datta, *An Introduction to Indian Philosophy*, University of Calcutta, 1939.

Sri Aurobindo, *The Life Divine*, Sri Aurobindo Ashram Publications, 1919.

Swami Vivekananda, *Jnana Yoga, Advaita Ashrama*, 1899.

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EVOLUTION OF RELIGIOUS CULTS, RITUALS AND IDEAS -II

Course Objectives: This paper focuses on the transformations within the religious landscape of ancient India. It examines the emergence of new normative texts, deities, religious cults, and devotional concepts. The course explores regional developments in religious ideas and practices, with special emphasis on Shaiva and Vaishnava traditions. Students will be introduced to a wider range of religious texts and traditions to comprehend these changes in depth.

Course Outcomes: By the end of the course, students will gain a nuanced understanding of the transitions and developments in ancient Indian religious thought and practices. They will be able to critically analyze region-specific factors that contributed to religious and cultural transformations.

Unit I: Śaivism – Origin and Early History

Origins and evolution of Śaivism

Development of the cult of Śiva

Major Shaiva sects: *Pāśupatas*, *Kāpālikas*, *Kālāmukhas*, *Mattamayūras*, and *Vīraśaivas*

The Kashmir Shaiva tradition (*Trika* school and its philosophy)

Unit II: Syncretic Cults and Bhakti Traditions in Śaivism

Syncretic cults: *Harihara* and *Ardhanārīśvara*

The Śaiva Bhakti movement: *Nayanmārs* and their devotional hymns

Regional spread and theological contributions of the *Nayanmārs*

Unit III: Vaiṣṇavism – Historical Development and Bhakti Movement

Evolution and growth of Vaiṣṇavism

Vaiṣṇava sub-sects: *Pañcarātra* tradition, *Vyūhavāda* (Doctrine of Emanations), and *Avatāravāda* (Doctrine of Incarnations)

Emergence and impact of the Vaiṣṇava Bhakti movement

Contributions of the Ālvārs: poetry, philosophy, and devotional ideals

Unit IV: Regional Vaishnavism and the Cults

Cult and ritual practices associated with *Jagannātha* of Puri

Later Vaiṣṇava sects: *Gopāla-Kṛṣṇa* and *Rādhā-Mādhava* traditions

Select Readings:

A. Barth, *The Religions of India*, Varanasi, 1985.

B.K. Goswami, *The Bhakti Cult in Ancient India*, Calcutta, 1924.

C.V.N. Ayyar, *Origin and Early History of Saivism in South India*, Madras, 1939.

D.C. Sircar, *Studies in the Religious Life of Ancient and Medieval India*, 1971.

E.W. Hopkins, *Origin and Evolution of Religion*, 1923.

E.W. Hopkins, *Religions of India*, New Delhi, 1977.

H.D. Bhattacharya, *The Cultural Heritage of India*, 2nd ed., Vol. IV, 1969.

- J. Gonda, *Change and Continuity in Indian Religions*, 1985.
- J. Gonda, *Visnuism and Saivism: A Comparison*, London, 1970.
- Jones, Lindsay (ed.), *Encyclopaedia of Religion* (15 Volumes), 2005.
- K.A. Nilakanta Sastri, *Development of Religion in South India*, 1963.
- Max Weber, *The Religion of India*, 1968.
- Pranabananda Jash, *History and Evolution of Vaisnavism in Eastern India*, 1943.
- Pranabananda Jash, *History of Saivism*, Calcutta, 1974.
- R.C. Zaehner, *Hinduism*, Oxford, 1962.
- R.G. Bhandarkar. *Vaisnavism, Saivism and Minor Religious Systems*, Varanasi, 1965.
- S. Chattopadhyaya, *Evaluation of Theistic Sects in Ancient India*, Calcutta, 1962.
- S.K. Bevalkar & R.D. Ranade, *History of Indian Philosophy*, Vol.II, Poona, 1927.
- S.R. Goyal, *Religious History of India*, Vols. I & II, Meerut, 1984 & 1986.
- Susmita Pande, *Birth of Bhakti in Indian Religion and Art*, New Delhi, 1982.
- Suvira Jaiswal, *Origin and Development of Vaisnavism*, Delhi, 1967.
- V.S. Pathak, *Saiva Cults in North India*, Varanasi, 1960.
- S.K. Bevalkar & R.D. Ranade, *History of Indian Philosophy*, Vol. II, Poona, 1927.
- J. Thomas Hopkins, *The Hindu Religious Traditions*, California, 1971..

S.22 BUDDHISM

Course Objectives: This paper singularly focuses on Buddhism. The origin, its milieu, the reasons and background are dealt in detail. The development of Buddhism from an order to institutionalized religion, its breaking into branches and spread across places are discussed in the paper.

Course Outcome: The student will learn the historicity of the religion, especially in its socio cultural background and material milieu.

UNIT-I

Sources- Canonical and non-Canonical Buddhist texts
The genesis of Buddhism
Social dimension of Buddhism
Contemporary religious thinkers and philosophical teachers

UNIT-II

Debates regarding the Date of the Buddha
Life and teaching of Buddha as gleaned from Buddhist texts
Buddhist Councils and growth of Buddhist Samgha
Spread of Buddhism in and outside India

UNIT-III

Great division in the Buddhist Order, Rise of Mahayana School
Doctrines, concept of Bodhisattva- Avalokitesvara and Manjusri
Mahayana texts, Mantrayana.

UNIT-IV

Later phase of Buddhism – Vajrayana and Tantrayana
Places associated with Buddhism- Lumbini, Sarnath and Bodhagaya
Buddhist Universities in India.
Major trends in writing history of Buddhism in India

Select Readings:

Ajay Mitra Sastri, An outline of Early Buddhism, 1965.
P.V. Bapat (ed.), 2500 Years of Buddhism, 1956.
B.Bhattacharya, An Introduction to Buddhist Esoterism, 2009 (reprint).
V.P.Varma. Early Buddhism and its Origin, 1960.
A.K.Warder, Indian Buddhism, Varanasi, 1970.
E.Conze, Buddhism –its Essence and Development, Oxford, 1951.
_____.A Short History of Buddhism, Bombay, 1960.
A.K.Coomaraswamy, Buddha and Gospel of Buddhism, New Delhi,1985.
_____.Hinduism and Buddhism, New Delhi, 1996.
N. Dutta, Mahayana Buddhism, Calcutta, 1976.

R.C.Majumdar and A.D.Pusalkar (ed.), The History and Culture of Indian People, Vols.I-V, Bombay, 1980-89.

G.S.Pande, Studies in the Origins of Buddhism, Delhi, 1983.

Rhys Davids, T.W., History of Indian Buddhism, London, 1897.

E.J.Thomas, Life of Buddha as Legend and History, London, 1957.

-----, History of Buddhist Thought, London, 1923.

Richard H. Robinson, The Buddhist Religions, Calcutta, 1970.

T.R.V.Murti, The Central Philosophy of Buddhism- the Madhyamika System, London, 1955.

N.K. Wagle, Society at the Time of Buddha, 1966.

R.C.Mitra, The Decline of Buddhism in India, 1981.

K.T.S. Sarao, The Decline of Buddhism in India, 2012.

Uma Chakravarti , Social Dimensions of Buddhism, New Delhi,1996.

N.N.Bhattachayya, History of the Tantric Religion, New Delhi, 1982.

S.23 JAINISM

Course Objectives: The Course introduces students to the core principles of Jainism, Its development and contribution to society. The course will introduce students to various Tirthankaras in Jainism and their teachings. It will give them a basic idea of Jain Monastic organisation.

Course Outcome: Students will be able to articulate the basic fundamental principles of Jainism. They will understand the development of the religion with reference to Literary and archaeological sources. The course will introduce them to Jain Art and various pilgrimage centres.

UNIT I

Origin and Antiquity of Jainism, Sources – Literary and Archaeological.

UNIT II

Introduction to Twenty Four Tirthankaras, Life and Teachings of Pārśvanātha and Mahāvīra, Principles of Jainism and Jain Philosophy.

UNIT III

Monastic Organisation, Major Sects and Subsects in Jainism.

UNIT IV

Distribution and Spread of Jainism to various parts of India, Introduction to Jain Art and Architecture and Pilgrimage sites.

Select Readings:

Chatterji, Asim Kumar. 2000. A Comprehensive History of Jainism, 2 vols. Revised edition. New Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers Pvt. Ltd.

Deo, S.B. 1956. History of Jaina Monasticism from Inscriptions and Literature. Poona: Deccan College.

Dundas, Paul. 1992. The Jains. London: Routledge.

Flügel, Peter, ed. 2006. Studies in Jaina History and Culture. London and New York: Routledge.

Ghosh, A., ed. 1974-75. Jain Art and Architecture. 3vols. New Delhi: Bharatiya Jnanpith.

Jain, K. C. 2010. History of Jainism (3 vols). D. K. Printworld Pvt. Ltd. New Delhi.

Shah, C. J. 2007. Jainism in North India (800 BC – AD 526). D. K. Printworld Pvt. Ltd. New Delhi.

Shah, U. P. 1987. Jaina-Rūpa-Manḍana. New Delhi: Abhinav Publications.

Shah, U. P., and M. A. Dhaky, eds. 1975. Aspects of Jaina Art and Architecture. Ahmedabad: Gujarat State Committee.

Tiwari, Maruti Nandan Prasad, and Kamal Giri. 2010. Encyclopaedia of Jainism vol.1. Jain Art & Architecture. Varanasi: Parshwanath Vidyapeeth

S.24

TANTRISM

Course Objectives: Tantrism is a major branch of Indian religious practice. It has been applied to the worship of deities from different cults. The paper surveys its origin, development and adoption into different religious sects and practices. It also discuss how the Tantrism is a continuing legacy in Indian belief system.

Course Outcome: The students are expected to understand the practices as a social phenomena and intellectual by product of beliefs and practices of ancient India

Unit I: Origins and Indigenous Foundations of Tantrism

Tantric elements in Pre-Vedic and Vedic traditions

Nigūḍha Jñāna (hidden knowledge) and esoteric aspects of Vedic rituals

Unit II: Tantric Development within the Indian Śāstric Tradition

Integration of Tantric knowledge into: Brahmanical Hinduism – *Dharmaśāstra* and *Smārta* traditions; Vaisnava Samhitās – *Pancharātra* and *Vaikhānasa* systems; Śaiva Āgamas – *Kashmir Śaivism*, *Siddhānta*, *Nātha* traditions; Sakta Tantras – *Śrīvidyā*, *Kulamārga*, *Kaula*, and left-hand paths

Intersections with *Ayurveda*, *Nāṭyaśāstra*, *Yoga* and *Jyotiṣa*

Unit III: Tantrism in Mahāyāna and Vajrayāna Buddhism

Evolution of Mantrayāna and Vajrayāna in Indian Buddhism

Role of *maṇḍala*, *mantra*, and *mudrā* in Buddhist Tantric practices

Interaction between the Brahmanical and Buddhist Tantric systems

Unit IV: Survival of Tantrism

Material milieu of Tantric practice: rituals, yantras, temples, and sacred geography

Tantric representation in architecture, sculpture, dance (*Nāṭya*) and iconography

Continuity of Tantric traditions in modern yoga, healing systems, and popular worship

Select Readings:

Bagchi, P.C. (1989). *Evolution of the Tantras, Studies on the Tantras*. Kolkata: Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture.

Banerji, S. C. (2007). *A Companion to Tantra*. Abhinav Publications.

Basu, Manoranjan (1986), *Fundamentals of the Philosophy of Tantras*, Mira Basu Publishers

Berkson, Carmel (1986). *The caves at Aurangabad: Early Buddhist Tantric art in India*.

Bharne, V. and K. Krusche (2012). *Rediscovering the Hindu Temple: The Sacred Architecture and Urbanism of India*. Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

Bhattacharyya, N. N. (1992). *History of the Tantric Religion*. New Delhi: Manohar.

Bhattacharyya, N. N. (2011). *History of the Tantric Religion: A Historical, Ritualistic*,

and Philosophical Study. Manohar.

Brooks, D. R. (1992). *The Secret of the Three Cities: An Introduction to Hindu Śākta Tantrism*. University of Chicago Press.

Goudriaan, T. (1981). *Hindu Tantric and Śākta Literature*. Otto Harrassowitz.

Gupta, S., Hoens, D., & Goudriaan, T. (1979). *Hindu Tantrism*. E.J. Brill.

Gyatso, Geshe Kelsang (2000). *Essence of Vajrayana: The Highest Yoga Tantra Practice of Heruka Body Mandala*. Motilal Banarsidass.

Harper, Katherine Anne and Robert L. Brown (2012). *The Roots of Tantra*. State University of New York Press.

Lorenzen, David N. (1972). *The Kāpālikas and Kālāmukhas: Two Lost Śaivite Sects*. University of California Press.

Olivelle, Patrick (2011). *Ascetics and Brahmins studies in ideologies and institutions*. London New York: Anthem Press.

Padoux, A. (2013). *Tantric Mantras: Studies on Mantrasastra*. Routledge.

Padoux, A. (2013). *The Heart of the Yogini*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Raju, P.T. (2009). *The Philosophical Traditions of India*. Routledge.

Sanderson, A. (2007). *The Śaiva Age: The Rise and Dominance of Śaivism during the Early Medieval Period*.

White, D. G. (Ed.). (2000). *Tantra in Practice*. Princeton University Press.

S.25

ARCHITECTURE I: PROTO HISTORIC PHASE, STAMBHAS, STUPA AND ROCK-CUT ARCHITECTURE

Course Objectives: This paper covers the development of art from proto historic to late second millennium CE. Different religious roots of art, ideas, techniques, methods and modes of art production and construction from ancient India is discussed in detail.

Course Outcome: the student will be well versed in the early phase of Indian art, its features and characteristics.

UNIT I: Indigenous Concepts of Space and Built Form

Philosophical Foundations of Architecture in Ancient India: *Vastu, Rta, Loka, Ākāśa*

Sacred Space and Cosmic Geometry: *Mandala*, Orientation, and Axiality

Indigenous Terminology: *Prāsāda, Stambha, Veditā, Harmikā, Chhatra*

Early notions of built environments in Vedic and pre-Vedic contexts

UNIT II: Proto-Historic Architecture – Harappan Civilization

Urban Planning: Principles of Mohenjo-daro, Harappa, Dholavira, Kalibangan

Functional Zones: Citadel, Granary, Bathing Tanks, Drainage System

Residential Places: Hydraulic Engineering and Urban Infrastructure

UNIT III: Religious Architecture and its Evolution (3rd century BCE to 700 CE)- I (Stūpa Architecture)

Origin and symbolic meaning (*dharma-chakra*, relic worship, cosmic symbolism)

Evolution of stupas across regions: Central India (Sanchi, Bharhut, Satdhara);

Krishna–Godavari region (Amaravati, Nagarjunakonda); North-Western India (Gandhāra and Taxila traditions)

UNIT IV: Religious Architecture and its Evolution (3rd century BCE to 700 CE)- II (Rock-Cut Architecture)

Early Buddhist and Ajivika Traditions:

Ajivika Caves (Barabar and Nagarjuni Hills) – Pre-Buddhist Ascetic Architecture

Theravāda Rock-cut *Chaityagrhas* and *Vihāras* – Bhājā, Bedse, Karla, Kanheri

Mahāyāna influence – Ajanta (Caves 1–26), Ellora Buddhist group

Jaina Rock-Cut Caves:

Sacred Geography of Jainism and Architectural Patronage

Udayagiri and Khandagiri (Odisha): Symbolism, Iconography, and Plan

Early Jaina Cave Traditions in Maharashtra (Badami and Ellora) and Gujarat (Bava Pyara Caves)

Brahmanical Rock-Cut Architecture:

Transition from Buddhist to Brahmanical forms

Representative sites:

Udayagiri (Madhya Pradesh) – Gupta-period innovation

Aihole and Badami (Karnataka) – Early Chalukya phase

Mahabalipuram (Tamil Nadu) – Pallava rock-cut temples

Elephanta and Ellora (Maharashtra) – Shaiva narratives and cosmic symbolism

Select Readings:

- Acharya, Prasanna Kumar. *Architecture of Manasara*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1934.
- Agarwala, V.S., *Studies in Indian Art*, Gwalior, 2003.
- Brown, Percy. *Ajanta*, New Delhi, 1992.
- Brown, Percy. *Indian Architecture (Buddhist and Hindu periods)*, 1959.
- Mitra, Debala, *Buddhist Monuments*, ASI. 1971.
- Brown, Percy. *Sanchi*, New Delhi. 1959.
- Coomaraswamy, A. *History of Indian and Indonesian Art*, 1972.
- Dehejia, Vidya. *Discourse in Early Buddhist Art: Visual Narratives of India*. New Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal, 1997.
- Dhaky, M. A. *The Indian Temple Forms in Karṇāṭa Inscriptions and Architecture*. New Delhi: Abhinav Publications, 1996.
- Fergusson, J. *History of Indian and Eastern Architecture*, 1876.
- Fergusson, J. *Rock Cut Temples of India*, 1875.
- Fergusson, James, and James Burgess. *The Cave Temples of India*. Delhi: Archaeological Survey of India, 1910.
- Gupta, S.P., *Elements of Indian Art*, 2002.
- Hardy, Adam. *The Temple Architecture of India*. Chichester: Wiley, 2007.
- Havell, E.B., *Ideals of Indian Art*, 1920.
- Michell, George. *The Hindu Temple: An Introduction to Its Meaning and Forms*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1988.
- Pant, Susheela, *Origin and Development of Stupa Architecture*, 1976.
- Ramesh, K. V. *Indian Epigraphy and South Indian Scripts*. Delhi: Sundeep Prakashan, 1998.
- Roy, N.R. *Maurya and Post-Mauryan Art*, New Delhi, 1976.
- Saraswati, S.K. *A Survey of Indian Sculptures*, New Delhi, 1957.
- Soundara Rajan, K. V. *Cave Temples of the Deccan*. New Delhi: Archaeological Survey of India, 1981.

S.26

ARCHITECTURE II: TEMPLE ARCHITECTURE (NORTH INDIA)

Course Objectives: The paper is framed to understand the temple architecture of north India, because primarily, temples form the largest number of art evidences, secondly, they are identified with a regional style. This paper looks into the art and science of building temples in the past, their aesthetic appraisal, the reflection of sub regional variation and sensibilities.

Course Outcome: The student will be able to identify temples based on stylistic classifications, also understand the progress of art through time and space.

UNIT I

Introduction to Indian architecture – Origin of temples

Physical and Metaphysical meanings and distributions of Space, Landscape and Forms

Vastu Shastras, Puranas, Mahatmyas and other prescriptive texts on temple classifications and interpretations

Reading architecture as Purusha, Mandala and Yantra

UNIT II

Development and transformation of religious architecture from the Gupta period – temples, types and characteristics

Future development towards Nagara temples (definition, features, variations and geographical divisions)

UNIT III

Eastern India- Kalinga School of Art – Formative, Transitional, Mature – important case studies; Assam

Central India- Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh

Western India- Gujarat, Rajasthan

Himalayan region – Kashmir, Himachal, Uttarakhand

UNIT IV

Temporal architectures – sources

Case studies on Step wells; concept of Sala; others

Select Readings:

Fergusson, J, History of Indian and Eastern Architecture, 1876

Agarwala, V.S., Studies in Indian Art, Gwalior 2003

Coomaraswamy, A., History of Indian and Indonesian Art, 1972

Brown, Percy, Indian Architecture (Buddhist and Hindu periods), 1959

Rowland, Benjamin, The Art and Architecture of India, 1967

Meister M.W., Dhaky, M.A., Deva, Krishna (eds.), Encyclopaedia of Indian Temple Architecture: North India. relevant volumes

Kramrisch, Stella, Hindu Temple vols I & 2, 1946

Zimmer, H., The Art of Indian Asia, 1955

Bhattacharya, T., The Canons of Indian Art or A Study on Vastuvidya, 1963

Dhaky, M.A., Indian Temple Forms, 1977

SoundaraRajan, K.V., Indian Temple Styles, 1972

Donaldson, T.E., Hindu Temple Art of Orissa, 1985. Relevant volumes

Dahejia, Vidya, Early Stone Temples of Orissa, 1979

S.27

SCULPTURE AND PAINTING

Course Objectives: Sculptures and paintings form large part of ancient art evidence. They are mostly found as part of building structures and also in loose form. The development of this art tradition is studied in the backdrop of religion and greater changes in culture and society, so as to use them as sources to study the past.

Course Outcome: This study enables the student to understand the meaning, use, purposes and worth of art evidences from ancient times, especially the sculptures and paintings.

UNIT I

Concept and origin of Indian sculpture; Sacred and Temporal

Theorizing Indian sculpture – symbols, meanings and forms

Reading Sanskrit, Pali and Prakrit sources: Angas, Nikaya, Vamsas, Jataka and Pitaka texts; Chitrastuta, Purana, Shilpa Shastra

UNIT II

Art and philosophy of the Mauryans and the Shungas

Crossroads and space – Art of the Saka-Kushanas

Buddha's absence and Amaravati –Vengi School and Oriental debate

UNIT III

Gupta Art (Mathura and Saranath) and Central India

Post-Gupta Art (Pallava, Rashtrakuta and Pala, Senas, Cholas and Hoysalas)

UNIT IV

Mural paintings with special reference to Ajanta, Bagh and Chola Murals

Manuscript Paintings (Eastern and Western India of Early Medieval period)

Select Readings:

Agarwala, V.S., Indian Art, Varanasi, 1965

Barua, B.M., Bharhut, 3 vols., Calcutta, 1934-37

Banerji, R.D., Eastern Indian School of Medieval Sculptures, Calcutta, 1933

Chandra, M., Indian Art, Bombay, 1964

Coomaraswamy, A.K., History of Indian and Indonesian Art, Delhi, 1972

Ghosh, A.,(ed.) Ajanta Murals, New Delhi, 1987

Goetz, H., India (Art of the World), New York, 1959

Gupta, S.P., The roots of Indian Art, Delhi, 1980

Harle, J.C., Gupta Sculpture, Oxford, 1974

Huntington, S., The Art of Ancient India, New York, 1985

Kramrisch, S., Indian Sculpture, Calcutta, 1933

_____.The Art of India Through the Ages, London, 1954

Lannoy, R., The Speaking Tree, London, 1971

Nehru. L., Origins of the Gandharan Style, Delhi, 1989
Ray, N.R., Maurya and Sunga art, Calcutta, 1965
Rowland, B., Art and Architecture of India, New Delhi, 1970
Sarkar, H., and Nainar, S.P., Amaravati, New Delhi, 1972
Saraswati, S.K., A Survey of Indian Sculptures, New Delhi
Sharma, R.C., Buddhist Art of Mathura, Delhi, 1984
Sivaramamurti, C., Indian Sculpture
_____.Indian Paintings
Spink, W., Ajanta to Ellora, Bombay, 1967
Zimmer, H., The Art of Indian Asia, 2 vols 1968
_____.Myths and Symbols in Indian Art and Civilization, New York, 1946

S.28

ARCHITECTURE III: TEMPLE ARCHITECTURE (SOUTH INDIA)

Course Objective: The regional variety of temple building style of the peninsular region is focused in this paper. It discusses the phases of development, patrons of the art activity, the styles and variations and the methods and techniques. The paper also surveys important sites and monuments in relation to the art.

Course Outcome: The learner will be able to identify the regional styles of art, temple structures of different periods and regions.

UNIT I

Origin of temple building in South India- canonical texts

UNIT II

Dravida- definitions, features, variations and key centers

Beginnings- Badami, Aihole, Mahakuta, Pattadakallu

Formation and crystallization of Dravida style- Mahabalipuram, Kanchipuram

Expansion of Dravida style- Tanjavur, Gangaikondacholapuram, Darasuram etc.

UNIT III

Variations on the west coast- Chera temples

Deccan variations- the Andhra-Karnata style- later Chalukyas and Hoysalas

UNIT IV

The culmination- Vijayanagara

Select Readings:

Meister, M.W, Dhaky, M.A. (eds.) Encyclopaedia of Indian Temple Architecture: South India. Relevant volumes

Srinivasan, K.R., Temples of South India, 1971

Dubreuil, G.J., Dravidian Architecture, reprint, 1972

Srinivasan, K.R., Cave Temples of the Pallava, 1964

Rabe, D, Michael, The Monolithic Temples of Pallava Dynasty, 1987

SivaramaMurti, C, The Great Chola Temples, 2007

Balasubrahmaniam, S.R., Chola Temples, vols 1,2 & 3, 1975

Bhhotalingam, M., Movement in Stone: Early Chola Temples, 1985

SoundaraRajan, K.V., Architecture of early Hindu Temples of Andhra Pradesh 1965

_____, Early Temple Architecture in Karnataka and its Ramifications, 1969

Michell, George, Temple Art and Architecture of Early Chalukyas, 2014

Ramanaiah, J., The Chalukya and Kakatiya Temples, 1989

Settar, S., The Hoysala Temples, 1992

Sarkar, H., An Architectural Survey of Temples of Kerala, 1978

Kamble, M.T., Vijayanagara Temples, 2000

ICONOGRAPHY I: JAIN AND BUDDHIST ICONOGRAPHY

Course Objectives: A systematic study of Jain and Buddhist sculptures will be attempted in this paper. The evolution and development of its iconography, types of icons their features are dealt in detail. The religious nuances of art, reflection of religious changes and other contemporary aspects on art are also discussed.

Course Outcome: A student of this course will be able to identify a sculpture with its religious affinity, tentative period, the character and style.

UNIT I

Sources

Origin and development of image worship

Fundamentals of iconography

UNIT II

Buddha and Bodhisattva

Adi Buddha and Pancajinas

Female deities in Buddhism: Prajnaparamita, Tara etc

Tirthankaras

UNIT III

Yaksha, Yakshini and Sasanadevatas

UNIT IV

Miscellaneous images: Srutadevis, Vidyadevis, Dikpalas etc.

Select Readings:

Bhandarkar, D.R., Jaina Iconography, ASIAR, 1905-06

_____. Jaina Iconography, IA, XL

Bhattacharya, B., Indian Buddhist Iconography, Oxford, 1924

Bhattacharya, B.C., Jaina Iconography, Delhi, 1974

Burgess, J., DigambaraJaina Iconography, IA, XXXII & XXXII'

Chandra, R.P., Svetambara and Digambara Images, ASIAR, 1925-26

Gupte, R.S., Iconography of the Hindus, Buddhists and Jainas, Bombay, 1972

Jacobi, H., Studies in Jainism, Ahmedabad, 1946

Rowland, B., The Evolution of Buddha Images, New York, 1963

_____. The Art and Architecture of India, Penguin Books, 1977

Zimmer, H., The Art of Indian Asia 2 vols, New York, 1955

ICONOGRAPHY II: BRAHMANICAL ICONOGRAPHY

Course Objectives: The Brahmanical religion also has produced large number of icons. The paper will study the varieties of icons based on the canonical and sacred texts on which they are based. The sculptures, their features, characteristics and other aspects will be studied. It will also discuss the patrons of art.

Course Outcome: A student of this course will be able to identify a sculpture with its religious affinity, tentative period, the character and style.

UNIT I

Origin and development of image worship in early India

Debates on 'Indian-ness' and 'Classicism' in Indian sculpture

Concepts and methods of reading Indian sacred images; Text and Visuals

Terminologies and meanings

UNIT II

Divines and their iconographies - Shiva, Vishnu, Karttikeya, Surya, Ganapati etc.

Concept of Mula-Prakriti; Sattvik, Rajasik and Tamasik forms and iconography of the goddesses; Erotic body and Femininity

Syncretic Images – Harihara, Ardhanarishvara, Surya-Narayana, Narasimha, Sarabhamurti and other images

UNIT III

Semi-divines and Demi divines – Vyantara Devatas; Yakshas, Kanyas, Sura-Sundaris Nagas; Kinnaras, Gandharvas, Vidyadharas etc.

Iconography of the Grahas and Dikpalas

Divine carriers – Vahanas and Asanas; Ornamentations

UNIT IV

'Others': Popular images of Rakshasas, Bhutas, Dakinis, and Tantrikas

Beyond the norms: sculptures without text

Select Readings:

Rao, T. A. Gopinath, Elements of Hindu Iconography 3 vols, 1914

Banerjee, J.N., Development of Hindu Iconography, Calcutta 1958

Bhattachali, N.K. Iconography of Buddhist and Brahmanical Sculptures in the Dacca Museum, Dacca, 1929

Gupta, R.S., Iconography of Hindus, Buddhists and Jains, Bombay 1964

Coomaraswamy, A.K., Dance of Siva, New York, 1924.