

UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS
B.A. DEGREE COURSE IN HISTORICAL STUDIES
SYLLABUS WITH EFFECT FROM 2020-2021

BHS-DSC01

CORE-I: HISTORY OF ANCIENT INDIA UPTO 1206 CE

Instr.Hrs.: 5

Credits : 4

Year : I

Semester: I

Learning Outcomes:

Students will acquire

a) adf

b) dfa

Objectives:

- To know about the political history of ancient India.
- To critically evaluate the socio-cultural ethos of Indian society.
- To understand the culture and civilization of ancient Indians.
- To know the contributions of Indian kings to ancient India.

Course Outcome:

- The course will create awareness towards our rich natural and cultural heritage.
- The course inculcates the knowledge of social developments in ancient India.
- The course familiarizes the students with the economic developments and intends to analyze it by reinterpreting the existing primary and secondary sources.
- The course will impart the knowledge of the political developments and develop the skills of the students by giving new arguments and interpretations.

Contents

UNIT I **(20 Hrs)**

Influence of Geography on Indian History – Sources for the study of Indian History – Archaeological – Epigraphical – Numismatics – Literary – Harappan Civilization – Vedic Civilization.

UNIT II **(15 Hrs)**

State formation in the second millennium B.C – Janapadas and Mahajanapadas – Rise of Buddhism and Jainism – Invasion of Alexander- Cultural contacts between Macedonia and India.

UNIT III **(15 Hrs)**

Rise and Consolidation of the Mauryan Empire – Asoka and his Administration – The Sungas and Satavahanas.

UNIT IV **(20 Hrs)**

Kanishka – Mahayanism – Gandhara Art – Rise and Consolidation of the Gupta Empire: Samudra Gupta and Chandra Gupta II – Administration – Social and Economic life – Brahmadeya land grants – Art and Culture.

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UNIT V

(20 Hrs)

Harsha's career and achievements — Accounts of Fahien and Hiuen Tsang and Itsing— Rise of Regional Kingdoms in North India – Rashtrakutas, Pratiharas and Palas – Arab Conquest of Sind.

Books for References:

1. Basham, A.L., Aspects of Ancient Indian Culture, Asia Publishing House, Delhi, 1970.
2. Basham, A.L., The Wonder that was India, Sidgwick and Jackson, 1977.
3. Burton Stein, A History of India, Oxford University Press, 2004.
4. Irfan Habib. The Indus Civilization. The People's History of India series. Tulika, 2002.
5. Jawaharlal Nehru, The Discovery of India, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2001.
6. Jonathan Mark Kenoyer. Ancient Cities of the Indus Valley Civilization. Oxford University Press, 1998.
7. Kalpana, Rajaram and R. Vidhya, Facets of Indian Culture, Spectrum Books, New Delhi, 2013.
8. Kosambi, D.D. The Culture and Civilization of Ancient India: A Historical Outline, Vikas Publishing House, New Delhi, 1971.
9. Mahajan, V.D., Ancient India, Chand and Company, New Delhi, 1990.
10. Majumdar R.C. and Srivastava, A.L., History of India (From 320 to 1206 A.D.), Surjeet Book Depot, New Delhi, 1996.
11. Nilakanta Sastri, K.A., The Age of the Nandas and Mauryas, Motilal Banarsidas.
12. Noboru Karashima, A Concise History of South India, Oxford University Press, 2014.
13. Radhakrishnan, S., Indian Philosophy, Vol.I, George, Allen and Unwin, 1973.
14. R.S.Sharma, India's Ancient Past. Oxford University Press, 2005.
15. R.S. Sharma, Indian Feudalism, Macmillan, 1980.
16. Romila Thapar. Early India from the Origins to 1300 AD. Penguin, 2015.
17. Sathianathier, R., History of India, Vol.I, S.Viswanathan Printers, Chennai, 1972.
18. Upinder Singh. A History of Ancient and Early Medieval South India, Pearson Longman, 2009.

Web Sources:

1. <https://www.clearias.com/indus-valley-civilization/>
2. <https://www.clearias.com/ancient-india-hinduism-buddhism-jainism/>
3. <http://www.columbia.edu>
4. <https://www.brittanica.com>
5. http://www.ancient.eu/Gupta_Empire
6. <https://byjus.com/pdf/Ancient-India-RS-Sharma.pdf>
7. <https://www.jagranjosh.com/general-knowledge/history-of-ancient-india-a-complete-study-material-1464928278-1>