

HISTORY OPTIONAL SYLLABUS

PAPER – I

1. **Sources:**
 - Archaeological sources:
 - Exploration, excavation, epigraphy, numismatics, monuments.
 - Literary sources:
 - Indigenous: Primary and secondary; poetry, scientific literature, literature, literature in regional languages, religious literature.
 - Foreign account: Greek, Chinese and Arab writers.
2. **Pre-history and Proto-history:**
 - Geographical factors; hunting and gathering (paleolithic and mesolithic); Beginning of agriculture (Neolithic and chalcolithic).
3. **Indus Valley Civilization:**
 - Origin, date, extent, characteristics-decline, survival and significance, art and architecture.
4. **Megalithic Cultures:**
 - Distribution of pastoral and farming cultures outside the Indus, Development of community life,
 - Settlements, Development of agriculture, Crafts, Pottery, and Iron industry.
5. **Aryans and Vedic Period:**
 - Expansions of Aryans in India:
 - Vedic Period: Religious and philosophic literature; Transformation from Rig Vedic period to the later Vedic period; Political, social and economical life; Significance of the Vedic Age; Evolution of Monarchy and Varna system.
6. **Period of Mahajanapadas:**
 - Formation of States (Mahajanapada): Republics and monarchies; Rise of urban centres; Trade routes;
 - Economic growth; Introduction of coinage; Spread of Jainism and Buddhism; Rise of Magadha and Nandas.
 - Iranian and Mecedonian invasions and their impact.
7. **Mauryan Empire:**
 - Foundation of the Mauryan Empire, Chandragupta, Kautilya and Arthashastra; Ashoka; Concept of
 - Dharma; Edicts; Polity, Administration, Economy; Art, architecture and sculpture; External contacts;
 - Religion; Spread of religion; Literature.
 - Disintegration of the empire; Sungas and Kanvas.
8. **Post-Mauryan Period (Indo-Greeks, Sakas, Kushanas, Western Kshatrapas):**
 - Contact with outside world; growth of urban centres, economy, coinage, development of religions,
 - Mahayana, social conditions, art, architecture, culture, literature and science.
9. **Early State and Society in Eastern India, Deccan and South India:**
 - Kharavela, The Satavahanas, Tamil States of the Sangam Age; Administration, Economy, land grants, coinage, trade guilds and urban centres; Buddhist centres; Sangam literature and culture; Art and architecture.
10. **Guptas, Vakatakas and Vardhanas:**
 - Polity and administration, Economic conditions, Coinage of the Guptas, Land grants, Decline of urban centres, Indian feudalism, Caste system, Position of women, Education and educational institutions; Nalanda, Vikramshila and Vallabhi, Literature, scientific literature, art and architecture.
11. **Regional States during Gupta Era:**
 - The Kadambas, Pallavas, Chalukyas of Badami; Polity and Administration, Trade guilds, Literature; growth of Vaishnava and Saiva religions. Tamil Bhakti movement, Shankaracharya; Vedanta; Institutions of temple and temple architecture; Palas, Senas, Rashtrakutas, Paramaras, Polity and administration; Cultural aspects. Arab conquest of Sind; Alberuni, The Chalukyas of Kalyana, Cholas, Hoysalas, Pandyas; Polity and Administration; Local Government; Growth of art and architecture, religious sects, Institution of temple and Mathas, Agraharas, education and literature, economy and society.
12. **Themes in Early Indian Cultural History:**
 - Languages and texts, major stages in the evolution of art and architecture, major philosophical thinkers and schools, ideas in Science and Mathematics.
13. **Early Medieval India, 750-1200:**
 - Polity: Major political developments in Northern India and the peninsula, origin and the rise of Rajputs.
 - The Cholas: administration, village economy and society "Indian Feudalism".
 - Agrarian economy and urban settlements.
 - Trade and commerce.
 - Society: the status of the Brahman and the new social order.
 - Condition of women.
 - Indian science and technology.
14. **Cultural Traditions in India, 750-1200:**
 - Philosophy: Shankaracharya and Vedanta, Ramanuja and Vishishtadvaita, Madhva and Brahma Mimamsa.
 - Religion: Forms and features of religion, Tamil devotional cult, growth of Bhakti, Islam and its arrival in India, Sufism.
 - Literature: Literature in Sanskrit, growth of Tamil literature, literature in the newly developing languages, Kalhan's Rajtarangini, Alberuni's India.
 - Art and Architecture: Temple architecture, sculpture, painting.
15. **The Thirteenth Century:**
 - Establishment of the Delhi Sultanate: The Ghurian invasions - factors behind Ghurian success.
 - Economic, Social and cultural consequences.
 - Foundation of Delhi Sultanate and early Turkish Sultans.
 - Consolidation: The rule of Iltutmish and Balban.
16. **The Fourteenth Century:**
 - "The Khalji Revolution".
 - Alauddin Khalji: Conquests and territorial expansion, agrarian and economic measure.
 - Muhammad Tughluq: Major projects, agrarian measures, bureaucracy of Muhammad Tughluq.
 - Firuz Tughluq: Agrarian measures, achievements in civil engineering and public works, decline of the Sultanate, foreign contacts and Ibn Battuta's account.
17. **Society, Culture and Economy in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries:**
 - Society: composition of rural society, ruling classes, town dwellers, women, religious classes, caste and slavery under the Sultanate, Bhakti movement, Sufi movement.

- Culture: Persian literature, literature in the regional languages of North India, literature in the languages of South India, Sultanate architecture and new structural forms, painting, evolution of a composite culture.
 - Economy: Agricultural Production, rise of urban economy and non-agricultural production, trade and commerce.
- 18. The Fifteenth and Early Sixteenth Century-Political Developments and Economy:**
- Rise of Provincial Dynasties: Bengal, Kashmir (Zainul Abedin), Gujarat.
 - Malwa, Bahmanids.
 - The Vijayanagara Empire.
 - Lodis.
 - Mughal Empire, first phase: Babur, Humayun.
 - The Sur Empire: Sher Shah's administration.
 - Portuguese colonial enterprise, Bhakti and Sufi Movements.
- 19. The Fifteenth and Early Sixteenth Century- Society and culture:**
- Regional cultures specificities.
 - Literary traditions.
 - Provincial architectural.
 - Society, culture, literature and the arts in Vijayanagara Empire.
- 20. Akbar:**
- Conquests and consolidation of empire.
 - Establishment of jagir and mansab systems.
 - Rajput policy.
 - Evolution of religious and social outlook. Theory of Sulh-i-kul and religious policy.
 - Court patronage of art and technology.
- 21. Mughal Empire in the Seventeenth Century:**
- Major administrative policies of Jahangir, Shahjahan and Aurangzeb.
 - The Empire and the Zamindars.
 - Religious policies of Jahangir, Shahjahan and Aurangzeb.
 - Nature of the Mughal State.
 - Late Seventeenth Century crisis and the revolts.
 - The Ahom kingdom.
 - Shivaji and the early Maratha Kingdom.
- 22. Economy and society, in the 16th and 17th Centuries:**
- Population Agricultural and craft production.
 - Towns, commerce with Europe through Dutch, English and French companies : a trade revolution.
 - Indian mercantile classes. Banking, insurance and credit systems.
 - Conditions of peasants, Condition of Women.
 - Evolution of the Sikh community and the Khalsa Panth.
- 23. Culture during Mughal Empire:**
- Persian histories and other literature.
 - Hindi and religious literatures.
 - Mughal architecture.
 - Mughal painting.
 - Provincial architecture and painting.
 - Classical music.
 - Science and technology.
- 24. The Eighteenth Century:**
- Factors for the decline of the Mughal Empire.
 - The regional principalities: Nizam's Deccan, Bengal, Awadh.
 - Maratha ascendancy under the Peshwas.
 - The Maratha fiscal and financial system.
 - Emergence of Afghan power Battle of Panipat, 1761.
 - State of, political, cultural and economic, on eve of the British conquest.

PAPER – II

- 1. European Penetration into India:**
The Early European Settlements; The Portuguese and the Dutch; The English and the French East India Companies; Their struggle for supremacy; Carnatic Wars; Bengal-The conflict between the English and the Nawabs of Bengal; Siraj and the English; The Battle of Plassey; Significance of Plassey.
- 2. British Expansion in India:**
Bengal-Mir Jafar and Mir Kasim; The Battle of Buxar; Mysore; The Marathas; The three Anglo-Maratha Wars; The Punjab.
- 3. Early Structure of the British Raj:**
The Early administrative structure; From diarchy to direct control; The Regulating Act (1773); The Pitt's India Act (1784); The Charter Act (1833); The Voice of free trade and the changing character of British colonial rule; The English utilitarian and India.
- 4. Economic Impact of British Colonial Rule:**
 - (a) Land revenue settlements in British India; The Permanent Settlement; Ryotwari Settlement; Mahalwari Settlement; Economic impact of the revenue arrangements; Commercialization of agriculture; Rise of landless agrarian labourers; Impoverishment of the rural society.
 - (b) Dislocation of traditional trade and commerce; De-industrialisation; Decline of traditional crafts; Drain of wealth; Economic transformation of India; Railroad and communication network including telegraph and postal services; Famine and poverty in the rural interior; European business enterprise and its limitations.
- 5. Social and Cultural Developments:**
The state of indigenous education, its dislocation; Orientalist-Anglicist controversy, The introduction of western education in India; The rise of press, literature and public opinion; The rise of modern vernacular literature; Progress of Science; Christian missionary activities in India
- 6. Social and Religious Reform Movements in Bengal and Other Areas:**
Ram Mohan Roy, The Brahmo Movement; Devendranath Tagore; Iswarchandra Vidyasagar; The Young Bengal Movement; Dayanada Saraswati; The social reform movements in India including Sati, widow remarriage, child marriage etc.; The contribution of Indian renaissance to the growth of modern India; Islamic revivalism-the Feraizi and Wahabi Movements.

- 7. Indian Response to British Rule:**
Peasant movement and tribal uprisings in the 18th and 19th centuries including the Rangpur Dhing (1783), the Kol Rebellion (1832), the Mopla Rebellion in Malabar (1841-1920), the Santal Hul (1855), Indigo Rebellion (1859-60), Deccan Uprising (1875) and the Munda Ulgulan (1899-1900); The Great Revolt of 1857 — Origin, character, causes of failure, the consequences; The shift in the character of peasant uprisings in the post-1857 period; the peasant movements of the 1920s and 1930s.
- 8. Factors leading to the birth of Indian Nationalism;** Politics of Association; The Foundation of the Indian National Congress; The Safety-valve thesis relating to the birth of the Congress; Programme and objectives of Early Congress; the social composition of early Congress leadership; the Moderates and Extremists; The Partition of Bengal (1905); The Swadeshi Movement in Bengal; the economic and political aspects of Swadeshi Movement; The beginning of revolutionary extremism in India.
- 9. Rise of Gandhi; Character of Gandhian nationalism;** Gandhi's popular appeal; Rowlatt Satyagraha; the Khilafat Movement; the Non-cooperation Movement; National politics from the end of the Non-cooperation movement to the beginning of the Civil Disobedience Movement; the two phases of the Civil Disobedience Movement; Simon Commission; The Nehru Report; the Round Table Conferences; Nationalism and the Peasant Movements; Nationalism and Working class movements; Women and Indian youth and students in Indian politics (1885-1947); the election of 1937 and the formation of ministries; Cripps Mission; the Quit India Movement; the Wavell Plan; The Cabinet Mission.
- 10. Constitutional Developments in the Colonial India between 1858 and 1935.**
- 11. Other strands in the National Movement.**
The Revolutionaries: Bengal, the Punjab, Maharashtra, U.P. the Madras Presidency, Outside India.
The Left; The Left within the Congress: Jawaharlal Nehru, Subhas Chandra Bose, the Congress Socialist Party; the Communist Party of India, other left parties.
- 12. Politics of Separatism; the Muslim League; the Hindu Mahasabha;** Communalism and the politics of partition; Transfer of power; Independence.
- 13. Consolidation as a Nation;** Nehru's Foreign Policy; India and her neighbours (1947-1964); The linguistic reorganisation of States (1935-1947); Regionalism and regional inequality; Integration of Princely States; Princes in electoral politics; the Question of National Language.
- 14. Caste and Ethnicity after 1947;** Backward Castes and Tribes in post-colonial electoral politics; Dalit movements.
- 15. Economic development and political change;** Land reforms; the politics of planning and rural reconstruction; Ecology and environmental policy in post-colonial India; Progress of Science.
- 16. Enlightenment and Modern ideas:**
 - (i) Major Ideas of Enlightenment: Kant, Rousseau.
 - (ii) Spread of Enlightenment in the colonies.
 - (iii) Rise of socialist ideas (up to Marx); spread of Marxian Socialism.
- 17. Origins of Modern Politics:**
 - (i) European States System.
 - (ii) American Revolution and the Constitution.
 - (iii) French Revolution and Aftermath, 1789-1815.
 - (iv) American Civil War with reference to Abraham Lincoln and the abolition of slavery.
 - (v) British Democratic politics, 1815-1850: Parliamentary Reformers, Free Traders, Chartists.
- 18. Industrialization:**
 - (i) English Industrial Revolution: Causes and Impact on Society.
 - (ii) Industrialization in other countries: USA, Germany, Russia, Japan.
 - (iii) Industrialization and Globalization.
- 19. Nation-State System:**
 - (i) Rise of Nationalism in 19th century.
 - (ii) Nationalism: State-building in Germany and Italy.
 - (iii) Disintegration of Empires in the face of the emergence of nationalities across the World.
- 20. Imperialism and Colonialism:**
 - (i) South and South-East Asia.
 - (ii) Latin America and South Africa.
 - (iii) Australia.
 - (iv) Imperialism and free trade: Rise of neo-imperialism.
- 21. Revolution and Counter-Revolution:**
 - (i) 19th Century European revolutions.
 - (ii) The Russian Revolution of 1917-1921.
 - (iii) Fascist Counter-Revolution, Italy and Germany.
 - (iv) The Chinese Revolution of 1949.
- 22. World War:**
 - (i) 1st and 2nd World Wars as Total Wars: Societal implications.
 - (ii) World War I: Causes and Consequences.
 - (iii) World War II: Causes and Consequences.
- 23. The World after World War II:**
 - (i) Emergence of Two power blocs.
 - (ii) Emergence of Third World and non-alignment.
 - (iii) UNO and the global disputes.
- 24. Liberation from Colonial Rule:**
 - (i) Latin America-Bolivar.
 - (ii) Arab World-Egypt.
 - (iii) Africa-Apartheid to Democracy.
 - (iv) South-East Asia-Vietnam.
- 25. Decolonization and Underdevelopment:**
 - (i) Factors constraining Development; Latin America, Africa.
- 26. Unification of Europe:**
 - (i) Post War Foundations; NATO and European Community.
 - (ii) Consolidation and Expansion of European Community
 - (iii) European Union.
- 27. Disintegration of Soviet Union and the Rise of the Unipolar World:**
 - (i) Factors leading to the collapse of Soviet Communism and Soviet Union, 1985-1991.
 - (ii) Political Changes in East Europe 1989-2001.
 - (iii) End of the Cold War and US Ascendancy in the World as the lone superpower.