



University of Kerala

Discipline	HISTORY				
Course Code	UK2DSCHIS100				
Course Title	INDIA- EARLY SOCIAL FORMATIONS				
Type of Course	DSC				
Semester	II				
Academic Level	100-199				
Course Details	Credit	Lecture per week	Tutorial per week	Practical per week	Total Hours/Week
	4	4			4
Pre-requisites					
Course Summary	<p>This course intends to build up an essential knowledge on ancient Indian history. Deeper understanding of the sources as tools helps the learner to explore the dissimilar histories and regional variations in the Indian subcontinent. The course will be helpful to understand the evolution of early cultures, the transition from hunting gathering communities to settled agriculturalists. The course will enable to differentiate the technological developments that underlay the sprouting of Bronze age and Iron age cultures in early India. Based on this the student will get a clear perception of the role of social processes in shaping religious and philosophical speculations, the later dissent and protests. The course is intended to develop a comprehensive understanding of the transition from lineage to state formation that occurred in Early India.</p>				

Detailed Syllabus:

Module	Unit	Content	Hrs
I	Sources and Pre-History		12
	1	Historical Geography - Sources and Historiography Archaeological, Numismatic, Epigraphical sources	
	2	Literary sources: Vedic Literary Traditions-Sanskrit, Prakrit, Pali and Tamil Anthology- Religious, non-religious-Foreign accounts: Greek, Chinese and Roman.	

	3	Pre-historic cultures - sequence and distribution -Paleolithic - stone industries –hunting gathering-Mesolithic cultures. – Neolithic Revolution- farming communities- Mehrgarh	
	4	Chalcolithic communities- regional distribution-developments in technology and economy- Ahar culture Pre-historic Rock Art - Bhimbedka, Edakkal.	
II	Proto History - Harappan Civilization		12
	5	Harappan sites-origin- extent- settlement patterns and town planning-urban nature.	
	6	Material advancement-socio-economic aspects- craft productions and trade	
	7	Harappan Script—religious beliefs and practices- Art.	
	8	Debate on decline	
III	Iron Age Cultures--Vedic and Later Vedic		12
	9	Aryan debate	
	10	Settlements-Cultural transitions- Rig Vedic society, polity, economy religion and philosophy	
	11	Forms of property- eastward movement- PGW and Megaliths.	
	12	Later Vedic- agrarian expansion- , polity, society, economy and religion -social stratification- Varna and Jati.	
IV	Towards State Formation		12
	13	Second Urbanisation - Rise of Mahajanpadas - monarchies and republics.	
	14	State formation - Material background-NBPW phase- role of iron technology-growth of urban centers	
	15	Magadhan imperialism- rise of Magadha- forces and factors	
V	Heterodox Sects		12
	16	Heterodox Sects-causes for its emergence	
	17	Jainism- Jain Councils- spread of Jainism- decline	
	18	Buddhism- doctrines- Buddhist Sangha- spread of Buddhism- social philosophy of Buddhism- Women in Buddhism -decline	
	19	Ajivikas and Charvakas- impacts of heterodox religions.	

Essential Readings

1. Basham, A. L. (1954). *The Wonder That Was India*. London: Picador.
2. Chakrabarti, Dilip, K. (1999). *India, an Archaeological History*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
3. Chakravarti, Ranabir (2016). *Exploring Early India up to AD 1300*. Delhi: Primus.
4. Jha, D. N. (1993). *Economy and Society in Early India: Issues and Paradigms*. New Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers.
5. Kosambi, D. D. (1956). *An Introduction to the Study of Indian History*. New Delhi: Sage Publications.
6. Kosambi, D. D. (1994). *The Culture and Civilization of Ancient India in Historical Outline*. New Delhi: Vikas.
7. Mukhia, Harbans (1999). *Feudalism Debate*, New Delhi: Manohar.
8. Thapar, Romila (2003). *History of Early India; From the Origins to AD1300*. New Delhi: Penguin Books.
9. Thapar, Romila (1999). *Interpreting Early India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
10. Thapar, Romila (1984). *From Lineage to State*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
11. Sharma, R. S. (2007). *Material Culture and Social Formations in Ancient India*. New Delhi: MacMillan.
12. Sharma, R. S. (2010). *Aspects of Political Ideas and Institutions in Ancient India*. New Delhi: Mac Millan.
13. Ratnagar, Shereen (2001). *Understanding Harappa: Civilization in the Greater Indus Valley*. New Delhi: Tulika.
14. Ratnagar, Shereen (2016). *Harappan Archaeology: Early State Perspectives*. New Delhi: Primus Books.
15. Singh, Upinder (2009). *A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India: From the Stone Age to the 12th Century*. New Delhi: Pearson.
16. Singh, Upinder (2017). *Political Violence in Ancient India*. London: Harvard University Press.

Course Outcomes

No.	Upon completion of the course the graduate will be able to	Cognitive Level	PSO addressed
CO-1	Analyze sources from early India and the peoples of the prehistoric period	An	PSO 2
CO-2	Examine the evolution, development, features, and decline of the Indus Valley Civilization	U, An	PSO 3
CO-3	Develop a comprehensive understanding of the Vedic and Later Vedic periods, encompassing their societal structures, religious beliefs, cultural developments, and their enduring impact on Indian civilization	U, An	PSO 3
CO-4	Analyze processes leading to state formation in ancient India	An	PSO 1
CO-5	Evaluate diverse heterodox sects and their influence on ancient Indian societies	E	PSO 7

R-Remember, U-Understand, Ap-Apply, An-Analyse, E-Evaluate, C-Create

Note: 1 or 2 COs/module

Name of the Course: Credits: 4:0:0 (Lecture:Tutorial:Practical)

CO No.	CO	PO/PSO	Cognitive Level	Knowledge Category	Lecture (L)/ Tutorial (T)	Practical (P)
1	CO-1	PSO 2	An	F	L	
2	CO-2	PSO 3	U, An	C	L	
3	CO-3	PSO 3	U, An	C	L	
4	CO-4	PSO 1	An	F	L	
5	CO-5	PSO 7	E	P	L	

F-Factual, C- Conceptual, P-Procedural, M-Metacognitive

Mapping of COs with PSOs and POs :

	PS O1	PSO2	PSO3	PSO4	PSO 5	PSO 6	PSO 7	PSO 8	PO 1	PO 2	PO 3	PO 4	PO 5	PO 6	PO 7	PO 8
CO 1		1							1							
CO 2			2													2
CO 3			2													2
CO 4	2								2							
CO 5							3				3					