

History Syllabus

PART-A: HISTORY OF INDIA (45%)

1. Sources: Literary Sources, Vedic Literature, Buddhist and Jain Texts, Sangam Literature, Accounts of Indian and Foreigners, Archaeological Sources
2. The Indus-Sarasvati Civilization: Discovery, Date, Extent, Major Sites, Town Planning, Society, Religion, Economic Life, Political Organization, Science and Technology, Script, Legacy, Decline Theories, and Post-Urban Culture.
3. The Indo-Aryans: Original Home of the Aryans; Early Settlements and Expansion; Political Organizations with Special Reference to Sabha and Samiti; Economic Life; Social Institutions; Religious Beliefs and Practices; Deities of the Vedic Age: Legacy. Textual Sources: Vedas, Brahmanas, Aranyakas, Puranas, Vedangas, Upanishads: Interpretation as Historical Sources.
4. India In Transition (6th Century B.C.): From Tribes to Kingdoms: The Mahajanapadas; Second Urbanization; The Shramana Movement: Challenging Vedic Orthodoxy: The Age of the Buddha and Mahavira: Socio-Political Environment, Major Doctrines; Socio-Political Impact; Legacy; Reasons for the Spread and Decline of Jainism and Buddhism; Rules of Sangha; Contemporary rulers. The Sangam Age.
5. The Rise of Magadha up to the Nandas; The Age of the Mauryas: Sources of History; Chandragupta Maurya to Ashoka; Ashoka and his Inscriptions, Dhamma, and State Ideology; Mauryan Art; Administration, Society, Economic Conditions, Causes of Decline. The Mauryan State: Centralization and Bureaucracy; Post-Mauryan Empire: The Sungas, Indo-Parthian, Indo-Scythian, The Kanvas, The Satvahanas, The Sakas, The Kharvelas, The Satraps of Taxila, Mathura, Ujjain; The Kushans; Gandhara and Mathura School of Art.
6. The Gupta Empire under Chandragupta I, Samudragupta, and Chandragupta II; The Gupta Administration, Literature, Education, Science, Art and Architecture, Socio-Religious Life, Economic Conditions, Land Grants, Causes of Decline; Post-Gupta Dynasties: Pushyabhuti, Maukhari, Maitraka, Gauda Kingdom, and Vakatakas.
7. The Vardhanas and Their Times: Sources: Harshacharita (Banabhatta), Xuanzang's Accounts, Inscriptions, Coins; Pushyabhuti Dynasty: Origin, Rulers before Harsha, Political Supremacy in the North; Kingdoms of the South; Administration; Cultural Achievements of the Age; Literature; Education; Legacy; Religion: Shift from Shaivism to Mahayana Buddhism; Assemblies: Kannauj Assembly (643 A.D.), Prayag Assembly (Mahamoksha Parishad); Patronage: Nalanda University, Literature; Society: Caste, Position of Untouchables, Urban Life (as Observed by Xuanzang).

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8. Rajputs: Debates on Origin, Sources and Historiography; Suryavanshi and Chandravanshi Rajputs; The Tripartite Struggle; Indian Feudalism; Society; Religious Life; Position of Women; Devadasis; Segmentary State; Integrative Polity; Regional Kingdoms: Pallavas, Chalukyas, Rashtrakutas, Palas, Pratiharas, Sen, Gangas, Parmaras, Chauhanas, Gahadvalas, Tomars, Chandelas, Kalachuris, Later Chalukyas, Cholas, Yadavas, Kakatiyas, and Hoysalas; Political Processes: Land Grants and Temple Architecture Nagara, Dravida and Vesara.

9. The Delhi Sultanate: Muhammad Ghaznavi and Muhammad Ghori; Slave Dynasty; The Khaljis; The Tughlaqs; The Sayyids; The Lodhis; The theory of kingship of the Sultans of Delhi, Administration; Art and Architecture; Socio-Religious Life; Iqta System: The Administrative and Revenue Mechanism.

10. Bhakti Movement: Historical Background and Rise in Medieval India; Saguna and Nirguna, Prominent Saints of the Bhakti Movement and Their Preaching Centers; Features of the Bhakti Movement: Emphasis on Personal Devotion to God, Rejection of Caste System and Rituals, Use of Local Languages, Focus on Equality and Social Reform.

Sufism: Spread in India Through Sufi Saints: Concepts of Love, Devotion, and Union with God. Prominent Sufi Saints and Their Centres. Features of Sufism: Belief in One God (Tawhid), Importance of a Spiritual Guide (Pir), Practices Like Meditation and Music (Qawwali). Emphasis on Love, Tolerance, and Service.

11. The Creation of an Empire: From Babur to Bahadur Shah; Historical Sources of the Mughal Period; Religious and Rajput Policies of Akbar and Aurangzeb: Relations with Non-Muslims; Art and Architecture; Literature; Mughal Polity and Administration: The Mansabdari System. Sher Shah Suri: Central Administration; Local Administration; Judicial and Police Systems: Public and Currency Reforms: Sher Shah Suri as the Forerunner of Akbar.

12. The Vijayanagara Empire: Foundation Administration; Economy and Military Organization; Temples, Art, and Literature: Foreign Travellers. The Bahmani Kingdom: Foundation; Administrative Structure and Governance; Cultural Contributions: Role of Mahmud Gawan: Emergence of the Deccan Sultanates; Formation of Five Successor States: Golkonda, Ahmednagar, Bijapur, Bidar, and Berar. The Marathas: Shivaji; Administration; and the Peshwa Confederacy; The Rajputs, Ahoms, and Sikhs The Nawabs of Bengal, Awadh, and Hyderabad The Eighteenth-Century Transition; Regional Literature and Vernacular Culture.

13. The Establishment of the Power of the East India Company: Battle of Plassey and Buxar; Social and Economic Changes under British Rule: Land Revenue Policies; Development of Means of Transport and Communication; The Revolt of 1857 A.D.

14. Social Reform Laws under British Rule: Social Conditions of India in the 18-19th Century; Role of Reformers; Abolition of Sati (1829); Hindu Widows' Remarriage Act (1856); Age of Consent Act (1891); Child Marriage Restraint Act (1929). Development of Education in British India: Indigenous Education System before British Rule; Development

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of Education in British with special reference to Macaulay's Minute (1835), Wood's Despatch (1854 Establishment of Punjab University Lahore (1882), Role of Missionaries and Vernacular Education. Development of Press in India with special reference to Important Newspapers and Personalities; Censorship of Press Act 1799; Licensing Regulations Act 1823. Press Act (Metcalf Act) 1835; Gagging Act 1857; Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act 1931.

15. Socio-Religious Movements: Brahmo Samaj Arya Samaj; Aligarh Movement; Kuka Movement; Singh Sabha Movement: Related Movements, Works and Achievements; Contribution to Education and the National Freedom Movement.

16. Agrarian Unrest: Indigo, Deccan, Moplah (Malabar Rebellion), and Tribal Uprisings; Early Political Associations and the Formation of the Indian National Congress (1885 A.D.); Moderates and Extremists: Ideologies, Methods, and the Split (1907); Depressed Classes Movements.

17. Partition of Bengal (1905): Swadeshi, Boycott, and Revolutionary Terrorism; Muslim League; Lucknow Pact (1916): Home Rule Leagues; Constitutional Developments: Acts of 1909, 1919, and 1935. Important Events and Personalities of the Freedom Movement.

18. Rowlatt Satyagraha Non-Cooperation Movement; Khilafat and Hindu-Muslim Unity, Disintegration; The Swarajist Party; Revolutionary Nationalism; The Simon Commission; Nehru Report: Demand for Purna Swaraj; The Civil Disobedience Movement (1930-34 A.D.); Salt Satyagraha; Gandhi-Irwin Pact; Round Table Conferences; Communal Award; Government of India Act (1935 A.D.); The Rise of the Left: Congress Socialist Party; Communist Party; Growth of Peasant and Labor Movements; The All India Kisan Sabha.

19. The 1937 Provincial Elections and Congress Ministries; Rise of the Hindu Mahasabha and the Articulation of Hindu Nationalism; Pakistan Resolution (1940) and the Two-Nation Theory; The Second World War: Congress Dilemmas; Cripps Mission; August Offer; The Quit India Movement (1942): Patterns of Mobilization and Suppression; Subhas Chandra Bose and the Indian National Army (INA); Famine Unrest; RIN Mutiny (1946).

20. The Cabinet Mission Plan (1946) and the Interim Government; Direct Action Day; Great Calcutta Killing; Communalization of Politics; Mountbatten Plan; Indian Independence Act (1947); The Partition: Demographic Displacement, Violence, and State Formation; Integration of Princely States: Hyderabad, Junagadh, Kashmir; Constitutional Debates: Constituent Assembly, Rights, and the Making of the Republic.

21. Role of Punjab in the National Freedom Movement With special reference to Kartar Singh Sarabha, Bhagat Singh Udham Singh, Sohan Singh Bhakna, Lala Hardial, Kishan Singh Gargaji, Baba Gurdit Singh Komagata Maru, Kartar Singh Jhabbar, Lachhman Singh Dharowali, Jallianwala Bagh Massacre; Ghadar Movement; Babbar Akali Movement; Gurdwara Reform Movement; Naujawan Bharat Sabha, HSRA (Hindustan Socialist Republican Association)

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PART-B: HISTORY OF PUNJAB (45%)

1. Punjab: Its different names and its boundaries, Five Doabs, Malwa and Bangar, Administrative Reorganization, Influence of physical features on the history of Punjab.
 2. Sources of the History of the Punjab, Difficulties regarding constructing the history of Punjab, Religious literature of the Sikhs, historical and semi historical sources in Punjabi and Hindi, historical sources in Persian, Bhat Vahis, Khalsa Darbar records, Accounts of Foreign travellers and Europeans, Historical Buildings, Paintings, Coins and proverbs.
 3. Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji:- Life, Political and social conditions of the Punjab in the beginning of the 16th century, Udasis (Travels), his teachings and Bani.
 4. Sri Guru Angad Dev Ji: Life, First Encounter with Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji, Bhai Lehna to Guru Angad Dev Ji, Standardization of Gurmukhi Script, Mall Akhara, expansion of the Langar, Role of Mata Khivi Ji, Continued the system of Sangat and Pangat, denunciation of the Udasi sect, foundation of Goindwal Sahib, meeting with Humayun, Prominent personalities of that time, contribution to Sikhism.
 5. Sri Guru Amar Das Ji:-Life, Early difficulties, Social and Religious Reforms, Strengthening the Langar, The Manji and Pirhi System, denunciation of the Udasi sect, Baoli of Goindwal Sahib, Strengthening of Sikh identity, Anand Sahib, Akbar's visit to Goindwal sahib, Prominent personalities of that time, Contribution to Sikhism.
 6. Sri Guru Ram Das Ji:- Life, Bhai Jetha ji to Guru Ramdas Ji, Ramdaspora, The Lavan and Ghorian, The Masand System, Reconciliation with the Udasis, Relation with Akbar, Bibi Bhani Ji, Prominent personalities of that time, contribution to Sikhism.
 7. Sri Guru Arjan Dev Ji:- Life, Early difficulties and Martyrdom, Prominent personalities of that time, contribution to Sikhism.
- The Adi Granth Sahib:- Compilation and Structure, Language and script, Contributors, Arrangement based on ragas, contents and significance, Adi Granth and Guru Granth Sahib.
8. Sri Guru Hargobind Sahib Ji: Life, Transformation of Sikhism, New policy, Miri and Piri, Akal Takht Sahib: Its Institutional role, Imprisonment at Gwalior, Bandi Chhor Patshah, Construction of Forts, Foundation of Kiratpur sahib, battles with the Mughals, Prominent personalities of that time.
 9. Sri Guru Har Rai Ji:- Life, Environmental Stewardship, Healthcare and Holistic Healing, Institutional Expansion, Bakhshishes, Religious preaching in the Malwa region, Prominent personalities of that time.
- Sri Guru Har Krishan Ji:- Life, The Bal Guru, The Ram Rai Rivalry, Journey to Delhi, At Panjokhra, Delhi and Epidemic, charity and Healing and The last Prophecy, Prominent personalities of that time.

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10. Sri Guru Teg Bahadur Ji:- Life, Tyag Mal to Teg Bahadur ji, Guru Ladho Re, Foundation of Chakk Nanki, Travels with special reference to Malwa and Bangar, Spread of Sikhism under Sri Guru Teg Bahadur ji, Call of Kashmiri Pandits, Causes and significance of the martyrdom and Three companions, Prominent personalities of that time.

Emergence of dissenting Sikh Sects: Udasis, Minas, Ramraias, Dhirmalias.

11. Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji:- Life, Fortifications, Relations with The hill chieftains, battles, Pir Budhushah, Martyrdom of the Sahibzadas, Literary and philosophical contributions, Court poets, The Zafarnama, Prominent personalities of that time.

The Foundation of Khalsa: The five beloved ones, Khande di Pahul, Meaning of Khalsa, Panj Kakars (The five Ks) New identity, Impact of The Foundation of Khalsa.

12. Baba Banda Singh Bahadur: Life, The Meeting with Guru Gobind Singh Ji, The Mandate & The March North, Establishment of the First Sikh State (Khalsa Raj), The Abolition of the Zamindari System, achievements with special reference Samana and Sirhind, Siege of Gurdas Nangal and Martyrdom, the great Sikh companions of Baba Banda Singh Bahadur.

13. Punjab after Martyrdom of Baba Banda Singh Bahadur with special reference of Abdus Samad Khan, Zakaria Khan and Mir Mannu, First Ghalughara (Holocaust) and Martyrdoms.

14. Rise of the Dal Khalsa: The creation of Dal Khalsa, Budha Dal and Taruna Dal, Its mode of Fighting: Guerrilla and Conventional Warfare, Rakhi system, The Sarbat Khalsa and Gurmata.

15. Sikh- Afghan Relations: Sikh- Afghan Struggle, Second Ghalughara (Holocaust) and causes of failure of the Afghans, prominent personalities of that time.

16. Origin and Growth of the Sikh Misls: Confederacy and Consolidation and Territorial Consolidation, Military Strategies and Territorial Expansion, Inter-Misl Relations, Founders and powerful Sardars of Sikh Misls, Capitals, Nature of the organisation of misls, and Governance, Administration, Prominent personalities of that time.

17. Maharaja Ranjit Singh: Early life, Achievements and relations with Afghanistan and his N.W.F. Policy, Civil and Military Administration, Military reforms, Education system and Literacy during the time of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, Anglo Sikh relations up to 1839 A.D., prominent personalities of the Lahore Darbar with special reference Akali Phula Singh, Hari Singh Nalua, Fakir Aziz-ud-Din and Dewan Mohkam Chand.

18. The Anglo Sikh Wars and Annexation of the Punjab: The First Anglo Sikh Wars: Causes, events, consequences, martyrdom of Sham Singh Attariwala, Lahore Darbar after the first Anglo-Sikh war, Rani Jindan and Maharaja Dalip Singh.

The Second Anglo Sikh Wars: Causes, events, consequences, Annexation of the Punjab, Social and economic condition of the Punjab in the first half of the 19th century, Administration of Punjab under the British.

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19. Socio-religious reform movements: The Singh Sabha Movement, The Namdhari Movement, The Arya Samaj, The Ahmadiyya Movement.

Agrarian Policy of the British government: Canalization and colonization, rural indebtedness, Punjab Land Alienation Act, 1901 A.D.

20. Growth of national consciousness and freedom movement: Agrarian Unrest, 1907 A.D., Ghadar Movement, Kirti-Kisan Movement, Naujawan Bharat Sabha.

Growth of National consciousness and freedom Movement:- Jallianwala Bagh Massacre, Gurdwara Reform Movement, Babbar Akali Movement.

21. Causes and effects of the Partition of Punjab. Post-Independence Punjab: Punjabi Suba Movement, Reorganization Act of 1966 A.D., and the Green Revolution's economic impact.

Late 20th Century: Political developments, including the Punjab crisis. Great personalities of Punjab's history.

PART-C: WORLD HISTORY (10%)

1. Beginning of the Modern Age: Renaissance and Reformation, Industrial Revolution.
2. The First World War and the Second World War.
3. World-Famous Revolutions: American (1776), French (1789), Russian (1917), and Chinese (1917).
4. Unification of Italy and Germany.
5. Cold War Rivalry between the USA and USSR and the Disintegration of the USSR.

(Note: From Part A of the syllabus, 45% of the questions; from Part B, 45%; and from Part C, 10% are to be included in the question paper. From each sub-part of Parts A and B, at least 2% of the questions must be included. Regarding Part C, the paper setter may include questions at their own discretion)

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