



SEMESTER VII

HISDSC401T

IDEA OF BHARAT

Contact Hours: 60

Full Marks = 100 [ESE (70) CCA (30)]

Course Objective:

The course aims to provide thorough knowledge regarding the primitive life and cultural status of the people of ancient India. To provide knowledge about the society, culture, religion, economic and political history of ancient India and the knowledge of changing socio-cultural scenarios of ancient India.

Unit I: Concept of Bharatvarsha:

1. Understanding of Bharatvarsha (12 Lectures)
2. Indian Concept of Time and Space
3. The glory of Indian Literature: Veda, Vedanga, Upanishads, Epics, Jain and Buddhist Literature, Smriti, Puranas etc.

Unit II Indian Knowledge Tradition, Art, and Culture:

(12 Lectures)

1. Evolution of language and Script: Brahmi, Kharoshiti, Pali, Prakrit, Sanskrit, etc
2. Salient Features of Indian Art & Culture
3. Indian educational system
4. The Ethics of Indian Valor

Unit III Dharma, Philosophy and Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam:

1. Indian perception of Dharma and Darshan (12 Lectures)
2. The concept of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam: Man, Family, Society and World
3. Polity and governance
4. The concept of Janapada & Gram Swarajya

Unit IV Science, Environment and Medical Science:

1. Science and Technology in Ancient India (12 Lectures)
2. Environmental conservation: Indian View
3. Health Consciousness (Science of Life): Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy
4. Indian numeral system and Mathematics

Unit V Indian economic traditions:

1. Indian economic thoughts (12 Lectures)
2. Concept of land, forest and agriculture
3. Industry, inland trade commerce
4. Maritime Trade

Expected learning outcomes:

After completing this course, the students will be able to acquire knowledge regarding the primitive life and cultural status of the people of ancient India. They will gather knowledge about the society, culture, science, economic and political history of ancient India and they will also acquire the knowledge of changing socio-cultural scenarios of the ancient India.

Suggested Reading:

1. B. Chattopadhyaya, The Concept of Bharatavarsha and Other Essays
2. A.I Basham: The Wonder that was India, Rupa, Delhi 1994
3. A.S Altekar, Education in Ancient India, Nand Kishore & Bros, Varanasi 1944
4. Balbir Singh Sihag: Kautilya: The true founder of Economics,
5. Dharampal: The Beautiful Tree, Other India Press, Delhi 1995
6. Faith Robertson Elliott: Gender Family and Society, St. Martin Press, New York, 1996



7. Radha Kumud Mookerji: Indian Shipping, Pub. South Asia Books, 1999
8. Thomas Maurice: Indian Antiquities, Pub. T. Maurice, 1806, London
9. Will Durant: The Story of Civilization, five communication, US, Jan. 1993(11 Vol)
10. R.K Mookherjee: The Fundamental Unity of India
11. G. R. Kaye, Indian Mathematics
12. C. N. Srinivasiengar, The History of Ancient Indian Mathematics
13. D. C Sircar (ed), The Bharata War and Puranic Genealogies
14. D. K Chakrabarti, Nationalism in the Study of Ancient Indian History.
15. D. K Chakrabarti The Oxford Companion to Indian Archaeology: The Archaeological Foundations of Ancient India: Stone Age to Ad 13th Century.
16. D. K Chakrabarti, The Geopolitical Orbits of Ancient India: The Geographical Frames of the Ancient Indian Dynasties.
17. D. K Chakrabarti, B D Chattapadhyaya, Studying Early India: Archaeology, Texts, and Historical Issues
18. Hemchandra Raychaudhuri, Studies in Indian Antiquities