



HISDSC102T

HISTORY OF INDIA: FROM MAURYAN ASCENDANCY TO HARSHA ERA

Contact Hours: 45

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

Course objective:

The objective to the paper is to have a thorough understanding of the Ancient Indian History. The paper deals with the various sources that helps to reconstruct the Ancient Indian History, political achievements of the important dynasties and their administration.

Unit I: The Maurya Empire:

- i) Sources: Kautilya's Arthashastra, Indica of Megasthenes
- ii) Chandragupta Maurya: Conquests & Achievements
- iii) Ashoka's Dhamma.
- iv) Mauryan administration,
- v) The decline of the Mauryan Empire. (10 Lectures)

Unit II: Post Mauryan Empire:

- i) Shungas : Pushyamitra Shunga
- ii) Kanishka-conquests & achievements,
- iii) Kalinga ruler: Kharavela
- iv) The Satavahanas: Political achievements of Gautamiputra Satakarni, Administration. (9 Lectures)

Unit III: Imperial Guptas

- i) Imperial Guptas: Samudragupta & Chandragupta II: conquests and achievements.
- ii) Gupta Administration
- iii) Gupta Age -Golden Age
- iv) The Decline of the Gupta Power (9 Lectures)

Unit IV: India in the post-Gupta period

- i) Huna Invasion and its Effects
- ii) Maukharis: Political achievements.
- iii) Maitrakas: Political Achievements
- iv) Vakatas: Political Achievements (9 Lectures)

Unit V: Harsha Era:

- i) Harsha's Conquests & Administration.
- ii) Cultural Contribution of Harsha
- iii) Gauda under Sashanka
- iv) Account of Hiuen Tsang. (8 Lectures)

Expected learning outcomes:

After completing this course, the students will be able to understand about the political achievements of the important dynasties of ancient India and their administration on the basis of some important sources.

Suggested Readings:

- Datta, D.: History of India, Sribhumi Publishing Company, Calcutta, 1991
- Majumdar R.C and Pusalkar A.D (edited): The History of Indian People, Vol. V
- Majumdar R.C. and Pusalkar A.D (edited): The History of Indian People, Vol. IV
- Majumdar, A.K.: Bhakti Renaissance, Bhartiya Vidyabhawan, Calcutta.
- Majumdar, R.C. and Altekar, A.S Vakataka: Gupta Age, Motilal Banarasi Das, 2007.
- Majumdar, R.C, The Arab Invasion of India, Madras, 1974



- Maiti, P, Studies in Ancient India, Sridhar Prakashani, Calcutta, 1993
- Pande, Rekha: Religion movement in Medieval India, Gyanbook, New Delhi.
- Raychaudhary, H.C.: Political History of Ancient India.
- Sastri, K.A. Nilkanta: a History of South India, from Prehistoric times to the fall of Vijaynagar, 1955
- Sastri, K.A. Nilkanta: Studies in Chola History and Administration, University of Madras, 1932.
- Sen S N. Ancient Indian History and Civilisation, New Central Book Agency (P) Ltd., Kolkata, 2017
- Shastri, K.A Nilkanta: History of South India: from Prehistoric times to the Fall of Vijaynagar, 1975
- Singh, Upinder: A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India, from Stone Age to Early Medieval India,
- Tripathi, R.S: History of Kannauj to the Moselm conquest, 1986.
- Vaidya, C.V.: Early History of Rajputs (750 to 1000 A.D), Reprint, Gyanbooks, New Delhi, 2019.
- Vaidya, C.V: History of Medieval Hindu India, Reprint, Gyanbooks, New Delhi, 2018.