

BACHELORS WITH HISTORY AS MAJOR (CT – III)

6th SEMESTER

HST622J3 HISTORY _ ECONOMY AND SOCIETY OF MODERN INDIA (1757-1947)

CREDITS: THEORY: 4; TUTORIAL: 2

COURSE OVERVIEW:

The course offers an understanding of British colonialism and its various manifestations in the Indian subcontinent. The course offers a detailed discussion of the economic structures, agrarian systems, and social dynamics during the colonial period and critically engages with varied effects of colonialism on different social and economic aspects of the Indian society. The colonial social policy and Indian response to it are discussed in detail. Furthermore, the role of socio-religious reformers in countering colonial critique of Indian society and religion is highlighted. This course also looks at how British colonialism affected the life and condition of different sections of Indian society viz. peasants, tribals, women, depressed classes, working classes etc.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

After successful completion of the course, the learners are expected to:

- Develop a comprehensive understanding of the economic and social transformations in India during the British colonial rule.
- Develop the ability to critically analyze historical documents, economic policies, and social reform movements.
- Apply historical analysis to understand the complex relationships between economic changes and societal developments.
- Critically evaluate the impact of colonialism on different sections of Indian society.

THEORY (4 CREDITS)

UNIT-I:

- Historiography of Colonial Economy
- Mercantilism and the Decline of Indigenous Industries
- The Drain Theory

UNIT-II:

- Restructuring the Agrarian Landscape: Permanent, Ryotwari and Mahalwari Settlements
- Commercialization of Agriculture
- De-industrialization Debate
- Rise of Modern Industry

Unit III:

- Colonial Social Policy
- Modern Education: Nature and Purpose
- Socio-religious Reform Movements: Conceptual Debate

Unit IV:

- Tribal Economy and Society
- Non-Brahmans and Dalits: Status and Position in Society
- Women Question

UNIT-V TUTORIAL (2 CREDITS):

- Group discussion on select themes of the course
- Essays on any one of the following:
- Theories of colonialism
- Colonialism and modernization
- Orientalism
- Liberalism and Utilitarianism
- Paternalism
- Visit to Archives and Museums and Report writing
- Guided visit to places of social and economic importance and submission of reports thereafter-handicraft centres, weaving communities, Fruit Mundies, Pilgrimage centres etc.
- Oral History of Traditional Social Spaces/ Prominent craftsmen/ Agriculturalists

SUGGESTED READINGS

- Thomas Metcalf; *Ideologies of the Raj*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1997
- B. Metcalf and T. Metcalf, *Concise History of Modern India*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2001
- Sumit Sarkar, *Modern Times (1880-1950's)*, Orient Blackswan, New Delhi, 2014
- Ishita Banerjee-Dube, *A History of Modern India*, CUP, India, 2014
- Seema Alavi, ed. *The Eighteenth Century in India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2002
- Shekhar Bandyopadhyay, 2004, *From Plassey to Partition and After*. Orient Longman, 2015
- Sugata Bose and Ayesha Jalal, *Modern South Asia*. Oxford University Press, 2004
- Bipan Chandra, et. al, *India's Struggle for Independence*, New Delhi: Penguin Books India, 1989.
- Kenneth W Jones, 1994, *Socio-Religious Reform Movements in British India*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Sumit Sarkar, *Modern Times*, Orient Blackswan, 2015
- B. L. Grover and Alka Mahender Mehta, *A New Look at Modern Indian History*, Shree Ram Publishers, 2021
- Irfan Habib, *The National Movement: The Struggle for Freedom (1919-1947)*, Tulika Publishers, 2022