

SEMESTER – 1st
MAJOR / MINOR COURSE

HST122M: HISTORY (ANCIENT INDIAN HISTORY/ ANCIENT KASHMIR HISTORY)

Credits: Theory-04, Tutorial: 02

Objectives/ Expected Learning Outcomes:

The course deals with the remote past of Indian subcontinent. The course deals with the history and archaeology of Indian subcontinent from stone ages up to the beginning of early medieval times. The learner will be acquainted with the various stone-age cultures, civilizations, chiefdoms, kingdoms and empires that flourished in the Indian subcontinent. It focuses on the achievements especially in the field of polity, economy and culture. The paper aims at enabling the students to understand the origin growth and development of different socio-economic and political structures. It also aims at enabling the learners to understand the regional history in the broader context of Indian sub-continent.

The students are expected:

- a. To understand the significance of various categories of sources in the construction and reconstruction of past.*
- b. To understand the origin, growth and development of various cultures in Indian subcontinent.*
- c. To appreciate the importance of various processes of interaction and accommodation in the making of Indian plural culture.*
- d. To understand the contribution made by Indians in the field of polity, economy and culture.*
- e. To understand and appreciate the role of history in inculcating human values.*
- f. To appreciate the value of heritage.*
- g. To acquaint the students with regional heritage.*

Unit – I

- I.** Sources: Archaeological and Literary.
- II.** Pre and Proto-History: Paleolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Chalcolithic Cultures: Features.
- III.** Indus Valley Civilization: Features and Decline.

Unit-II (Vedic Age)

- I.** Vedic Ages: Polity, Economy and Culture.
- II.** Second Urbanization: Causes.
- III.** Jainism and Buddhism: Teachings.
- IV.** Rise of Magahda.

Unit-III

- I.** Mauryan Empire: Polity, *Dhamma* and Decline.
- II.** Central Asian Contacts—Indo-Greeks, Saka-Parthians and Kushans: Impact.
- III.** Sangam Age: Features.
- IV.** Gupta Empire: Polity and Culture.
- V.** Harshavardhana: State of Buddhism.

Unit-IV

- I.** Pre-historic Kashmir: Features.
- II.** Kashmir and Central Asia.
- III.** Karkotas: Empire Building.
- IV.** Utpalas: Economy.

Unit-V (Tutorial-I)

- I. Guided Museum visit and Report writing: SPS/ CCAS Museum, University of Kashmir/ Miras Mahal, Sopor/Local Museum.
- II. Essay on any of the following:
 - A. Sculptures
 - B. Numismatics
 - C. Epigraphy
 - D. Artifacts

Unit-VI (Tutorial-II)

- I. Guided Heritage Walk: Visit and Report Writing on any of the Prominent Regional sites.
- II. Towards the Making and Development of Heritage Museum: Collection of Cultural and Heritage artifacts.

Suggested Readings

- Allchin, F.R.A. and Allchin, B. 1995, *The Origins of a Civilization*. Delhi: Viking.
- Bamzai, P. N. K., A History of Kashmir, 2nd ed. Metropolitan Book Co., Delhi, 1973.
- Bandey, Ajez, A., Pre-Historic Kashmir, New Delhi, 2009.
- Gurukkal, Rajan. 2010, Social Formations of Early South India. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
- Jha, D. N., 1998, *Ancient India: A Historical Outline*, New- Delhi.
- Kak, R. C., Ancient Monuments of Kapoor, M. L., Studies in History and Culture of Kashmir, Jammu, 1976.
- Kallhana., Rajtarangini. Translated into English by M. A. Stein. 2 Vol. Reprint Delhi: Motilal
- Kashmir, New Delhi, 1971.
- Kosambi, D.D., An Introduction to the Study of Indian History (Bombay, 1956).
- NilakantaSastri, K.A., A History of South India Oxford University of Press, 1967.
- Ray, S.C. Early History and Culture of Kashmir, 2nd.revd.ed. New Delhi, Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers, 1970.
- Shali, S. L., Kashmir: History and Archeology Through Ages, Indus publications New Delhi, 1993.
- Sharma, R. S. 2003, Perspectives in Social and Economic History of Ancient India. Delhi: MunshiramManoharlal
- Sharma, R. S., 2005, *India's Ancient Past*, Oxford University Press.
- Sharma, R.S., Aspects of Political Ideas and Institutions in Ancient India, Mac Millan, New Delhi, 1983
- Singh, Upinder. 2009. *A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India from the stone age to the 12th century*. Delhi: Pearson Longman.
- Thapar, Romila Asoka and the Decline of the Mauryas, Oxford University Press.
- Thapar, Romila, Early India, Penguin Books, 2002.
- Thapar, Romila, *Interpreting Early India*, Delhi, 1999. Oxford University Press.