

**DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND CULTURE**

**Course Type (Please tick appropriate box):**

Major	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Discipline Specific Core</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ability Enhancement	<input type="checkbox"/>
Minor	<input type="checkbox"/>	Multidisciplinary	<input type="checkbox"/>	Skill Enhancement	<input type="checkbox"/>
Value Added	<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

**Course Title: HISTORY OF INDIA: PREHISTORY TO 8<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY CE**

**Semester: 1**

**Total Credits: 4**

**Lecture-Tutorial-Practical (LTP): 3L+1T**

**Maximum Marks: 100**

**No of seats: 60**

**Course Advisor Name: Mr. Rajneesh Kumar**

**Course Advisor's Email: rkumar@jmi.ac.in**

**Prerequisites: Only students admitted to BA (Multidisciplinary) programme can take up this course**

**Special Requirements (if any): NIL**

**Expected Learning Outcomes:**

**On completion of the course the students will be able to:**

- Understand the basics of early Indian political formations.
- Grasp the social and economic transitions pertaining to the period of study.
- Comprehend the genesis and progression of religious cults.
- Analyse the growth of aesthetic cultures and material heritage.

**Course Syllabus (Unit wise):**

**UNIT I**

**PRE-HISTORIC AND PROTO-HISTORIC INDIA**

1. Historical Geography. The importance of Sources.
2. Transformations from hunting gathering to food producing communities.
3. Chalcolithic Cultures and facets of Harappan Urbanization.

**UNIT II**

**SOCIAL, POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS FORMATIONS**

4. Aryan Migrations. Early Vedic Society. Later Vedic Transformations.
5. Iron Age and growth of Territorial State Formations.
6. Emergence of heterodox sects.

**UNIT III**

**RISE OF NEW POWERS**

7. Mauryan Empire.
8. Post-Mauryan political powers.
9. Socio-economic and Cultural transformations during post Mauryan period.
10. South India in Sangam Age.

**UNIT IV**

**SOCIETY AND CULTURE DURING 300 CE-800 CE**

11. The Imperial Guptas.
12. The Feudalism Debate.
13. Political and Economic Developments in South India.

## REFERENCES BOOKS:

### General Readings:

1. Avari, Burjor. (2008 rprnt.). *India: The Ancient Past, A History of the Indian Sub-continent from c.7000 BC to AD 1200*. Oxford: Routledge.
2. Basham, A.L. (2004 rprnt). *The Wonder that was India*. England: Picador. (Also in Hindi)
3. Chakravarti, Ranabir. (2016). *Exploring Early India up to c.AD 1300*. Delhi: Primus.
4. Chakravarti, Ranabir. (2020). *Bharatiya Itihasa ka Adikaal*. Delhi: Orient Blackswan. (In Hindi)
5. Singh, Upinder. ([2009] 2024). *A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India from the Stone Age to the 12<sup>th</sup> Century*. Delhi: Pearson. (Also in Hindi).

### Specific Readings

#### Unit I

1. Chakrabarti, Dilip K. (2006). *The Oxford Companion to Indian Archaeology: The Archaeological Foundations of Ancient India, Stone Age to AD 13<sup>th</sup> Century*. Delhi: OUP, chaps. 2, 3-5.
2. Childe, V. Gordon. ([1936] 2017). *Man Makes Himself*. Delhi: Aakar Books.
3. Lahiri, Nayanjot. (2005). *Finding Forgotten Cities: How the Indus Civilization was Discovered*. New Delhi: Permanent Black.
4. Lal, B.B. (1997). *The Earliest Civilization of South Asia (Rise, Maturity and Decline)*. New Delhi: Aryan Books International.
5. Law, B.C. (1954). *Historical Geography of Ancient India*. Paris: Societie Asiatique de Paris.
6. Misra, V.N. and M.S. Mate. (1964). (ed.). *Indian Prehistory*. Poona: Deccan College.
7. Ratnagar, Shireen. (2016). *Harappan Archaeology: Early State Perspectives*. Delhi: Primus.
8. Singh, Upinder. (2004). *The Discovery of India: Early Archaeologists and the Beginnings of Archaeology*. Delhi: Permanent Black.
9. Thapar, Romila. (2000). 'Society and Historical Consciousness: The Itihasa Purana Tradition'. In *Cultural Pasts: Essays in Early Indian History*. New Delhi: OUP, 123-154.

#### Unit II

1. Bryant, Edwin. (2004). *The Quest for the Origins of Vedic Culture: The Indo-Aryan Migration Debate*. UK: OUP.
2. Chakrabarti, Dilip K. (1992). *The Early Use of Iron in India*. Delhi: OUP.

3. Chakravarti, Uma. (1987). *The Social Dimensions of Early Buddhism*. Delhi: OUP.
4. Chatterjee, Asim Kumar. (2000). *A Comprehensive History of Jainism: From the Earliest Beginnings to AD 1000*. Vol. I. New Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal.
5. Jaiswal, Suvira. ([1998] 2000). *Caste: Origin, Function and Dimensions of Change*. Delhi: Manohar.
6. Lal, Makkhan. (1984). *Settlement History and Rise of Civilization in Ganga-Yamuna Doab (from 1500 BC to 300 AD)*. Delhi: Orient Book Distributors.
7. Roy, Kumkum. (1990). (ed.) *Women in Early Indian Societies*. New Delhi: Manohar.
8. Roy, Kumkum. (1994). *The Emergence of Monarchy in North India: Eighth-fourth Centuries BC as Reflected in the Brahmanical Tradition*. Delhi: OUP.
9. Sahu, Bhairabi Prasad. (2006). (ed.) *Iron and Social Change in Early India*. Oxford in India Readings: Debates in Indian History and Society. Delhi: OUP.
10. Sharma, R.S. (1983). *Material Culture and Social Formations in Ancient India*. Delhi: Macmillan India.
11. Srinivas, M.N. (1992). 'Varna and Caste'. In Dipankar Gupta. (ed.) *Social Stratification*. Delhi: OUP, 28-34.

### UNIT III

1. Allen, Charles. (2013). *Ashoka: The Search for India's Lost Emperor*. Delhi: Abacus.
2. Hart, George L. (1975). *The Poems of the Ancient Tamils: Their Milieu and their Sanskrit Counterparts*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
3. Huntingford, G.W.B. (1980). *The Periplus of the Erythraean Sea*. London: Hakluyt Society.
4. Kangle, R.P. (1965). *The Kautiliya Arthashastra. English Translation with Critical and Explanatory Notes (Part III)*. Bombay: University of Bombay.
5. Lahiri, Nayanjot. (1992). *The Archeology of Indian Trade Routes (up to c. 200 BC)*. Delhi: OUP.
6. Lahiri, Nayanjot. (2015). *Ashoka in Ancient India*. Harvard: Harvard University Press.
7. Mukherjee, B.N. (2004). *Kushanas Studies: New Perspectives*. Kolkata: Firma KLM.
8. Mukund, Kanakalatha. (2012). *The World of the Tamil Merchant: Pioneers of International Trade. The Story of Indian Business*. Delhi: Penguin Random.
9. Olivelle, Patrick. (2006). (ed.) *Between the Empires: Society in India 300 BCE to 400 CE*. Oxford and New York: OUP.
10. Ray, Himanshu Prabha. (1986). *Monastery and Guild: Commerce under the Satavahanas*. Delhi: OUP.

11. Sastri, K.A.Nilakanta. ([1955]1999). *History of South India: From Prehistoric Times to the Fall of Vijaynagar*. 4<sup>th</sup> Ed. New Delhi: OUP.
12. Singh, Upinder. ([2009] 2024). *A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India from the Stone Age to the 12<sup>th</sup> Century*. Delhi: Pearson. (Also in Hindi).
13. Thapar, Romila. ([1963] 1987 rpt.). *Asoka and the Decline of the Mauryas*. Delhi: OUP.

#### UNIT IV

1. Champakalakshmi, R. (2010). *Trade, Ideology and Urbanization: South India 300 BC to AD 1300*. New Delhi: OUP.
2. Chattopadhyaya, B. (1994). *The Making of Early Medieval India*. Oxford: OUP.
3. Deyell, John S. (1990). *Living Without Silver: The Monetary History of Early Medieval North India*. Delhi: OUP.
4. Goyal, S.R. (2005). *The Imperial Guptas: A Multidisciplinary Political Study*. Jodhpur: Kusumanjali Book World.
5. Harle, J.C. ([1986] 1990). *The Art and Architecture of the Indian Subcontinent*. The Pelican History of Art series. New York: Penguin Books.
6. Huntington, Susan L. (1985). *The Art of Ancient India: Buddhist, Hindu, Jain*, New York, Tokyo: Weather Hill.
7. Karashima, Noboru. (2009). *Ancient to Medieval: South Indian Society in Transition*. Delhi: OUP
8. Karashima, Noboru. (2014). *A Concise History of South India: Issues and Interpretations*. Delhi: OUP.
9. Maity, S.K. ([1957] 1970). *Economic Life in Northern India in the Gupta period (c. AD 300-55)*. 2<sup>nd</sup> rev.edn. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass.
10. Mukund, Kanakalatha. (2012). *The World of the Tamil Merchant: Pioneers of International Trade. The Story of Indian Business*. Delhi: Penguin Random.
11. Sastri, K.A.Nilakanta. ([1955]1999). *History of South India: From Prehistoric Times to the Fall of Vijaynagar*. 4<sup>th</sup> Ed. New Delhi: OUP.
12. Sharma, R.S. (1965). *Indian Feudalism: C. 300-1200*. Calcutta: University of Calcutta.
13. Sharma, R.S. (1985). 'How Feudal was Indian Feudalism'. *Journal of Peasant Studies*. 12 (2-3), Jan-Apr, 19-43.
14. Singh, Upinder. ([2009] 2024). *A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India from the Stone Age to the 12<sup>th</sup> Century*. Delhi: Pearson. (Also in Hindi).
15. Veluthat, Kesavan. (1993). *The Political Structure of Early Medieval South India*. New Delhi: Orient Longman.

