

UNIT I

EARLY MEDIEVAL INDIA (8TH TO 12TH CENTURY)

1. Transition from Ancient to Medieval Indian History-interpreting Early Medieval India
2. The political processes and structures of the north and south Indian Kingdoms-Rajput States and Chola polity
3. Rural society and economy, trade and urbanization, artisans and merchants
4. Art, Culture and Religion-south Indian *bhakti*, socio-economic and political role of the temples.

UNIT II

THE DELHI SULTANATE, VIJAYANAGAR KINGDOM AND REGIONAL STATES (13TH TO 16TH CENTURY)

5. The emergence of Delhi Sultanate: Early Turkish Sultans, the role of Iltutmish and Balban.
6. Delhi Sultanate under the Khaljis and the Tughlqs: Expansion under AlauddinKhalji and his military, administrative and economic measures; Muhammad bin Tughlaq's measures; the reign of Firoz Shah Tughlaq.
7. Political ideas and institutions under the Delhi Sultanate-kingship, ruling elites, *ulema* and the *Iqta* system.
8. The Vijayanagara Empire and the nature of polity, regional kingdoms of the 15th and 16th Centuries.

UNIT III

THE MUGHAL EMPIRE: 16th and 18th Century

9. Babur's conquest of northern India and the formation of the Mughal Empire, Mughal- Afghan conflict and Sur interregnum.
10. The Mughal Empire under Akbar- expansion and consolidation, administrative centralization, *mansab*, *jagir* and land revenue system, composition of the Mughal nobility and Akbar's religiouspolicy.
11. The Mughal Empire under Jahangir and Shahjahan; religious, Rajput and Deccan policies of Aurangzeb; the rise of the Marathas, Sikhs, and Jats; Maratha state under Shivaji and the Peshwas.
12. Decline and disintegration of the Mughal Empire, the successor states in the eighteenth century.

UNIT IV

ECONOMY AND SOCIETY (16TH TO 18TH CENTURY)

13. Rural Society and Economy, urban economy and trade, artisans and merchants, advent of European tradingcompanies.
14. Religion, fine arts, science and technology in Mughal India.

Reading List:

1. Catherine B. Asher and Cynthia Talbot, *India Before Europe*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2006.
2. D. N. Jha, *Early India: A Concise History*, Manohar Delhi, 2008 (chapter 9), Also inHindi.
3. Herman Kulke and Dietmar Rothermund, *A History of India*, Routledge, London, 1998, (Relevant Chapters).
4. IGNOU Reading Materials for BA Programme, EHI-03 and EHI-04, Also inHindi.
5. Irfan Habib, *Medieval India: The Study of a Civilization*, NBT, Delhi, 2007.
6. John F. Richards, *The Mughal Empire*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1993.
7. R. S. Sharma, *Early Medieval Indian Society: A Study in Feudalization*, Sangam Books, Kolkata, 2001.
8. R. S. Sharma, *India's Ancient Past*, Oxford University Press, Delhi, 2005, (Last chapter), Also inHindi.
9. Romila Thapar, *Early India: From Origins to AD 1300*, Delhi, Penguin Books, 2002, (Chapter 11, 12 and 13).
10. Satish Chandra, *Medieval India*, 2 Vols., Har-Anand Publications, Delhi, 1999, Also in Hindi.