BA HISTORY HONOURS SEMESTER I Paper 1: The Ancient World from the Earliest Times to the 5th Century

Credits: 04 CLASS ID: 12 BHS 01 COURSE ID BHS 102

UNIT I

FORAGING AND FOOD PRODUCING COMMUNITIES IN PRE-HISTORY

1. Early and Middle Stone Age 200, 0000 to 8,000 BCE

- a) Social Organization Insights from the study of modern foraging communities
- b) Economic Activities An ethno-archaeological profile
- 2. New Stone Age, 10,000 to 4000 BCE
 - a) Agricultural Revolution
 - b) Important Centres South America, China and West Asia

UNIT II

URBAN REVOLUTION AND THE ORIGIN OF STATES

- 3. Emergence of Cities in a Changing Economy
 - a) Emergence of city life in West Asia
 - b) Early City states of Sumeria
- 4. State and Ideology in Ancient Egypt
 - a) Consolidation of Egypt as a political unit
 - b) Warriors and Priests in the age of Pyramids

UNIT III

EMERGENCE OF EARLY EMPIRES IN WEST ASIA

- 5. Elements of Imperial State Formation
 - a) The idea of an empire
 - b) The Assyrians empire (1400 BCE to 700 BCE)
- 6. A Transcontinental Empire: Persian-Achaemenids (550 BCE to 330 BCE)
 - a) Political structure
 - b) Encounters with Greek polis

UNIT IV

POLITY AND STATE IN THE GRECO-ROMAN WORLD

7. Greek City-States

- a) Changes in the idea of citizenship
- b) Political Philosophy and Literature
- 8. The Roman Empire
 - a) Economic foundations
 - b) Empire and Christianity

Reading List

- 1. A.H. M. Jones, Athenian Democracy, Oxford, 1969.
- 2. A.H. M. Jones, The Roman Economy, Oxford, 1974.
- 3. Amar Farooqi, Ancient Social Formations (also in Hindi), Delhi, 2001.
- 4. Antony Andrews, Greek Society, Harmondsworth, 1991.
- 5. Antony Andrews, The Greeks, London, 1968.
- 6. Barbara Bender, Farming in Prehistory, London, 1977.
- 7. Brian Fagan, Peoples of the Earth: An Introduction to World Prehistory, 11th Edition, 2004.
- 8. Bruce Trigger, et al, Ancient Egypt: A Social History, Cambridge, 1983.
- 9. D. Rindos, The Origins of Agriculture, New York, 1984.
- 10. D.R. Harris (ed) The Origin and Spread of Agriculture and Pastoralism in Eurasia, London, 1966.
- 11. D.R. Harris and G. Hillman, Foraging and Farming, London, 1989.
- 12. D.T. Potts, Mesopotamian Civilization: the Material Foundation, London, 1997.
- 13. E. Leacock and R. Lee (eds), Politics and History in Band Societies, Cambridge, 1982.
- 14. E. M. Balsden, The Story of Empire,
- 15. F. Dahlberg, Women the Gatherer, London, 1981.
- 16. G. Alfoldy, The Social History of Rome, London, 1985.
- 17. G. Dalton (ed), Tribal and Peasant Economies, New York, 1967.
- 18. G.E.M. de Ste Croix, The Class Struggle in the Ancient Greek World, Ithaca, 1987.
- 19. George, Roux, Ancient Iraq, Third Edition, Harmondsworth, 1992.
- 20. H.J.M. Claessen and P. Skalnik (eds), The Early State, the Hague, 1978.
- 21. J. Gledhill, B. Bender, and M.J. Larsen (eds), State and Society, London, 1988.
- 22. J. Mellart, Neolithic of the Near East, London, 1977.
- 23. J. Middleton and D. Tait, Tribes without Rulers, London, 1958.
- 24. J.N. Postgate, Early Mesopotamia: Society and Economy at the Dawn of History, London, 1992.
- 25. K. Polanyi et. al, Trade and Market in Early Empires, Glencoe, 1957.
- 26. L. De Blois and R. J. Van Der Spek, *An Introduction to the Ancient World* (Second Edition), New York, 2008.
- 27. M.D. Sahlins, Tribesmen, Englewood Cliffs, 1969.
- 28. M.I. Finley, Ancient Economy, Berkley, 1973.
- 29. M.I. Finley, Politics in Ancient World, Cambridge, 1983.
- 30. Perry Anderson, Passages from Antiquity to Feudalism, London, 1978.
- 31. R.B. Lee and I de Vore (eds), Man the Hunter, Chicago, 1968.
- 32. R.F. Wenke and D.J. Olszewski, *Patterns in Prehistory: Humankind's First Three Million Years*, fifth edition, Oxford, 2007.
- 33. Radcliff Brown, TheAndman Islander, 1922.
- 34. S. N. Eisenstadt, The Decline of Empires, New Jersey, 1967.
- 35. V. Gordon Childe, *Man Makes Himself*, With an Introduction by Sally Green, Bradford-on-Avon, 1981.
- 36. V. Gordon Childe, What Happened in History, Penguin, 1942.

BA HISTORY HONOURS SEMESTER I Paper 2: History of Early India: 6500 BCE to 400 BCE

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UNIT I

ECOLOGY AND ARCHAEOLOGY OF EARLY AGRICULTURAL SETTLEMENTS

1. Geography of the Indian Subcontinent (to be studied with maps): physical features, changing regional patterns in History.

2. Emergence of Agricultural Communities in India.

UNIT II

EARLY CITIES

3. The Harappan Civilization: antecedents, material condition, society, trade and religion

4. Decline and diffusion of the Harappan Civilization

UNIT III

EARLY INDIAN SOCIETY: SECOND MILLENNIUM BCE TO FIRST MILLENNIUM BCE

- 5. Spread of the Chalcolithic and the Iron Age Cultures.
- 6. Early Vedic and later Vedic societies.

UNIT IV

SECOND URBANISATION AND NEW RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS

7. Early States and Cities (Sixth century BCE to the fourth century BCE): *Janapadas* and *Mahajanapadas*, urban centres.

8. Buddhism, Jainism and other heterodox sects.

Reading List

- 1. Allchin, B and Allchin, R., Rise of Civilization in India, Cambridge, 1982.
- 2. Basham, A.L., The Wonder That Was India, Rupa paperbacks, 1982 (also in Hindi and Urdu)

3. Chakrabarti, D.K, India: An Archaeological History: Palaeolithic Beginnings to Early Historic Foundation,

Oxford University Press, Delhi, 1999.

4. Champakalakshmi, R., *Trade, Ideology and Urbanisation: South India 300BC-A.D. 1300*, Oxford University Press, Delhi, 1996.

- 5. Harle, J.C., The Art and Architecture of the Indian Subcontinent, Penguin, Harmondsworth, 1987.
- 6. Majumdar, R.C., et al. (eds.), The History and Culture of The Indian People, Mumbai, 1974.
- 7. Ratnagar, Shereen, Understanding Harappa Civilization in the Greater Indus Valley, Tulika 2001.
- 8. Sankalia, H.D., Prehistoric India, Munshiram Manoharlal, Delhi, 1982.
- 9. Sharma, R.S., Material Culture and Social Formations in Ancient India, Macmillan India limited, Delhi, 1983.

10. Singh, Upinder, A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India: From the Stone Age to the 12thcentury, Longman –Pearson, 2008.

11. Thapar, Romila, Ashoka and the Decline of the Mauryas, Oxford University Press, Delhi, 1978.

12. Thapar, Romila, Early India: From the Origins to AD1300. Penguin