

22. HISTORY

The FYUG programme in History has been framed in line with the NEP framework, focusing on discipline specific courses intended to inform students about socio-economic, political and cultural developments in the Indian subcontinent from the prehistoric to post-colonial times. Also offered, are courses with a global perspective with special reference to Europe, The USA, China and Japan, to familiarize students with the major political, economic and social forces that have shaped the world in general and the history of India in particular. Further, the courses emphasise the foundational character of the discipline, highlighting the continuous dialogue that exists between the past and the present that can inform the future.

Programme Outcomes (POs):

- I. Students will be familiar with the diverse sources, landscapes and approaches to the study of the history of ancient, medieval and modern India.
- II. Will understand the major political, economic and social forces that have shaped the world in general and the history of India in particular.
- III. Students will be acquainted with the historical trajectory of India's composite cultural heritage.
- IV. Will be familiar with regional history with special reference to Northeast India.
- V. Will be equipped to undertake research on the subject and to pursue a career in academics.
- VI. Will help students sitting for competitive examinations, a career in tourism and other allied fields.
- VII. Will create informed and responsible citizens.

HIS-100: HISTORY OF INDIA: EARLIEST TIMES TO THE POST VEDIC PERIOD

(Contact Hours: 60, Credits: 4)

Objective

To introduce stages of development in the Indian Sub Continent from the Prehistoric period to the rise of Iron Age urbanization during the 5th century BCE. The focus will be on key developments in Prehistory, Proto-history and early historical India, highlighting the elements of change and continuity in socio-economic, political and religious developments.

Learning Outcome

Students will be familiar with the diverse sources, landscapes and approaches to the study of the history of ancient India as well as the major developments spanning the period under study.

Unit I Reconstructing Ancient Indian History

Geographical Background of the Indian Subcontinent: landscapes and environment; sources for the historical reconstruction of the period under study; approaches to the understanding of ancient Indian History

Unit II Pre and Proto Historic India

Palaeolithic cultures: Sequence and distribution; tool typology and technology; subsistence patterns; Mesolithic cultures: Regional and chronological distribution; new developments in technology and economy; Neolithic and the advent of food production; regional and chronological distribution; patterns of exchange; Chalcolithic cultures in India with special reference to Ahar, Kayatha, Malwa and Jorwe cultures; distribution pattern and subsistence economy.

Unit III Harappan Civilization

Origin; settlement pattern and town planning; agrarian base; art and craft, trade; socio-political organization and religious beliefs; the problem of urban decline.

Unit IV Vedic to Post-Vedic Period

Vedic culture: Early to Later-Vedic period (society, economy, polity and religion); post-Vedic period (Iron technology, trade, money economy and urbanization); the rise of heterodox sects; Buddhism and Jainism (origin and teachings); the rise of *Mahajanapadas*; emergence of Magadha as a paramount power.

Suggested Readings

Agarwal D.P.,	<i>The Copper Bronze Age</i> , MunshiramManoharlal, New Delhi, 1969.
-----	<i>The Archaeology of India</i> , Select book Service Syndicate, New Delhi, 1985

Allchin , F.R. & Bridget,	<i>The Rise of Civilization in India and Pakistan</i> , Cambridge University Press, London, 1988.
Allchin , F.R.,	<i>The Archaeology of Early Historic South Asia: The Emergence of Cities and States</i> , Cambridge University Press, London, 1995
Chakravarty, Ranabir,	<i>Exploring Early India: Upto c.AD.1300</i> , Ratnasagar, Delhi, 2016.
-----	<i>Trade in Early India</i> , Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2004
	<i>Trade and Traders in Early Indian Society</i> , Manohar, New Delhi, 2002.
Dhavilkar, M.K., (ed.)	<i>A Comprehensive History of India Prehistory of India</i> , Vol.1, Part-1, Manohar, New Delhi, 2013.
Ghosh, A.,	<i>The City in Early Historical India</i> , IAS, Simla, 1973.
Jayaswal, Vidula,	<i>Palaeohistory of India</i> , Agam Kala Prakashan, Delhi, 1978.
Jha, D. N.,	<i>Ancient India in Historical Outline</i> , Manohar, New Delhi, 2002 reprint.
Kosambi, D. D.,	<i>An Introduction to the Study of Indian History</i> , Popular Prakashan, Bombay, 2016 (reprint).
-----	<i>The Culture and Civilization of Ancient India in Historical Outline</i> , PPH, Delhi, 2001 (reprint).
Malik, S. C,	<i>Indian Civilization: The Formative Period</i> , Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla, 1999.
Sankalia, H.D.,	<i>Prehistory of India</i> , MunshiramManoharlal, New Delhi, 1977.
Ratnagar, Shereen,	<i>Understanding Harappa: Civilization in the Greater Indus Valley</i> , Tulika Books, New Delhi, 2017 (4 th edition).
Sahu, Bhairabi Prasad (ed.),	<i>Iron and Social Change in Early India</i> , OUP, New Delhi, 2006.
Sharma. R.S.,	<i>India's Ancient Past</i> , Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2009.
-----	<i>Material Culture & Social Formations in Ancient India</i> , Macmillan India Ltd., New Delhi, 2007 (2 nd edition).
-----	<i>Sudras in Ancient India</i> , MunshiramManoharlal, Delhi, 2016 (3 rd edn.).
Singh, Upinder,	<i>A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India</i> , Pearson, Delhi, 2008.
Thapar, B.K.,	<i>Recent Archaeological Discoveries in India</i> , The Centre for East Asian Cultural Studies, Tokyo, 1985.
Thapar, Romila,	<i>A History of India</i> , Vol.1, Penguin Books, Delhi, 1996 reprint.
-----	<i>The Penguin History of Early India</i> , Penguin books, New Delhi, 2002.
Basham, A.L.,	<i>The Wonder that was India</i> , Rupa &Co., New Delhi, 2002 reprint.
Chakrabarti, Dilip, K.	<i>The Oxford Companion to Indian Archaeology: The Archaeological Foundations of Ancient India, Stone Age to AD 13th Century</i> , Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2006
Habib Irfan, (ed.)	<i>The People's History of India</i> , Vol.-1-4, Tulika Books, New Delhi, 2015.
Majumdar, R.C.et.al. (ed),	<i>The History and Culture of the Indian People</i> , Vol.1-II, (BharatiyaVidyaBhavan Series, Delhi, 1945-1960, latest editions)