

Indian History (Preliminary)

Section - A

1. Prehistoric Cultures in India
2. Indus Civilization Origins. The Mature Phase extent, society, economy and culture. Contacts with other cultures. Problems of decline.
3. Geographical distribution and characteristics of pastoral and farming communities outside the Indus region from the Neolithic to early iron phases.
4. Vedic society. The Vedic texts; change from Rig Vedic to later Vedic phases. Religion; Urban shadic thought. Political and social organization; evolution of monarchy and Varna System.
5. State formation and urbanization, from the Mahajanpadas to the Nandas. Jainism and Buddhism. Factors for the spread of Buddhism.
6. The Mauryan Empire. Chandragupta; Megasthenes. Ashoka and his inscriptions his dhamma, administration, culture and art. The Arthasastra.
7. Post-Mauryan India. BC 200-A.D.300. Society: Evolution of jatis. The Satavahanas and state formation in peninsula. Sangam texts and society. Indo-Greeks, Sakas, Parthians, Kushanas, Kanshka. Contacts with the outside world. Religion Shaivism, Charvatism, Hinayana and Mahayana Buddhism; Hainism: Culture and art.
8. The Guptas and their successors (to c. 750 A.D.) Changes in political organization of empire. Economy and society. Literature and Science Arts.

Section-B

9. Early Medieval India. Major dynasties: the Chola Empire. Agrarian and political structures. The Rajputas. Extent of social mobility. Position of women. The Arabs in Sindh and the Ghaznavides.
10. Cultural trends, 750-1200, Religious condition; importance of temples and monastic institution; Shankaracharya Islam, Sufism. Literature and Science. Alberuni's "India". Art and architecture.
11. – 12. 13 & 14th Centuries: Ghorian invasions Causes and consequences. Delhi Sultanate under the Slave: Rulers Alauddin Khalji: Conquests: administrative, agrarian and economic measures. Muhammad Tughluq's innovations. Firuz Tughluq and the Delhi Sultanate. Growth of commerce and urbanization. Mystic movements in Hinduism and Islam. Literature. Architecture, Technological changes.
13. The fifteenth and early 16th Century: major Provincial dynasties: Vijayanagara Empire. The

Lodhis, First phase of the Mughal Empire: Babur, Humayun. The Sur Empire and Administration. The Portuguese.

Montheistic movements: Kabir, Guru Nanak and Sikhism: Bhakti, Growth of regional literature Art and Culture.

14. – 15. The Mughal Empire, 1556-1707. Akbar conquests, administrative measures, jagir and mansab systems: policy of Sulh-I-kul. Jahangir, Shahjahan and Aurangzeb: expansion in the Deccan; religious policies. Shivaji Culture: Persian and regional literature. Religious thought: Abdul Faz; Maharashtra dharma. Painting, Architecture, Economy: conditions of peasants and artisans, growth in trade; commerce with Europe. Social stratification and status of women.

16. Decline of Mughal Empire, 1707-61. Causes behind decline. Maratha power under the Peshwa's. Regional states. The Afghans. Major elements of composite culture. Sawai Jai Singh, astronomer. Rise of Urdu language.

Section-C

17. British expansion: The Carnatic Wars, Conquest of Bengal. Mysore and its resistance to British expansion: the three Anglo-Maratha Wars. Early structure of British Raj; Regulating and Pitt's India Acts.

18. Economic Impact of the British Raj: Drain of Wealth (Tribute); land revenue settlements (Zamindari, ryotwari, mahalwari); De-industrialization; Railways and commercialization of agriculture; Growth of landless labour.

19. Cultural encounter and social changes; Introduction of western education and modern ideas. Indian Renaissance, social and religious reforms movements; growth of Indian middle class; the press and its impact; rise of modern literature in Indian languages. Social reforms measures before 1857.

20. Resistance to British rule: Early uprisings; The 1875 Revolt-causes, nature, course and consequences.

21. Indian Freedom struggle-the first phase: Growth of national consciousness; Formation of Associations; Establishment of the Indian National Congress and its Moderate phase: - Economic Nationalism; Swadeshi Movement; The growth of "Extremism" and the 1907 split in Congress; the Act of 1909-the policy of Divide and rule; Congress-League Pact of 1916.

22. Gandhi & his thought; Gandhian techniques of mass mobilization-Khilafat & Non Cooperation Movement, Civil disobedience & Quit India Movement; other strands in the National Movement-Revolutionaries, the Left, Subhas Chandra Bose and the Indian National Army.

23. Separatist Trends in Indian nationalist politics-the Muslim League and the Hindu Mahasabha; The post-1945 developments; Partition and Independence.



24. India independent to 1964. A parliamentary, secular, democratic republic (the 1950 Constitution). Jawaharlal Nehru's vision of a developed, socialist society. Planning and state-controlled industrialization. Agrarian reforms. Foreign policy of Nonalignment. Border conflict with China, and Chinese aggression.

