

M.A. Part I Syllabus for History
Distance Education Mode

Part I (4 Papers)

Compulsory Papers
Each paper 100 Marks

- I. Twentieth Century World
- II. State in India

Special Papers
Each Paper 100 Marks

- III. Modern Indian History 1757 – 1857
- IV. Modern Indian History 1858 – 1964

Assignment 50 marks
Total 450 Marks

Part II (4¹/₂ Papers)

Compulsory Papers
Each paper 100 Marks

- I. Historiography
- II. History of Ideas

Optional Papers
Each Paper 100 Marks

- III. Economic History of India (1757 – 1964)
- IV. History of Modern Bengal with special reference to North Bengal: Regional History. Selected Themes (1757 – 1971).
Essay Paper; Social, Economic and Cultural History of Modern India 1757 – 1964: Some selected themes.
- V.

Assignment 100 marks
Total 550 Marks

M.A. Part I

Paper I
Compulsory Paper

Twentieth Century World.

1st Half

Unit 1: Legacy of the 19th Century.

- a) Growth of Capitalism and Imperialism: U.K., France, Germany and Japan
- b) Liberalism and Socialism.
- c) Nationalism.

Unit 2: World order upto 1919

- a) Origin of the First World War. Its nature, peace settlement and long term consequences.

- b) Making of the Russian Revolution – establishment of a Socialist State, its economic and political aspects; and responses and reactions in the West.

Unit 3: World Between the Wars.

- a) Working of the League of Nations and Collective Security, crisis in Capitalism; Great Depression, Liberal ideas and Social Movements and ideologies of Nazism, Fascism; Germany , Italy and Japan.

2nd Half

Unit 4: Second World War and the New Political and Social order.

- a) origins, nature and results of the war.
b) Nationalist movements and decolonization.
c) Communist revolution in China and its impact on world politics.
d) Apartheid and Feminism.

Unit 5: Cold war and its effects:

- a) Ideological and political basis of cold war: pacts and treaties, tensions and rivalries.
b) Non-Aligned Movement and the Third World: U.N.O. and the concept of world peace; and regional tensions- Palestine, Kashmir, Cuba, Korea, Vietnam.

Unit 6: Disintegration of the Socialist Block and the end of the cold war.

- a) Genesis and process of disintegration, its impact on society and politics. Socialism in decline, Globalization and its economic and political impact.

**Paper II
Compulsory Paper**

State in India

1st Half

Unit 1: The Mauryan State:

- a) Socio-economic basis; Nature and functions; and theory and practice.
b) Mauryan polity.

Unit 2: The Gupta State:

- a) Administrative organization, tributary system, and socio-economic basis.
b) Gupta polity.

Unit 3: State formation in South India: Chiefdom and the Cholas.

Unit 4: Nature and functions of the State under the Sultans of Delhi and Islamic theory of State.

Unit 5: The Vijaynagar States: Structure, features and nature.

Unit 6: The Mughal State: Administrative Institutions; Mansabdari system.

2nd Half

Unit 7: Colonial State: Political Economy, State Apparatus, and instruments of legitimization.

Unit 8: Stages of development of the Nation-state in India.

Unit 9: State in Independent India: Continuity and change.

Unit 10: Historiographical debates on the nature of the state in India.

Special Papers Paper III

History of Modern India 1757-1857

1st Half

Unit 1: Understanding Modern India

- a) Sources: Archival records, Private papers, News papers, periodicals and oral tradition.

Unit 2: Expansion and consolidation of British Power.

- a) Ideology of expansion and mercantilism.
- b) Politics and programmes of expansion.
- c) Instruments of expansion – war and diplomacy.

Unit 3: Colonial constructions of India: Structures and Institutions

- a) Administrative structure.
- b) Arms of the State-Police, Army and Law
- c) Ideologies of the Raj and racial attitudes.

Unit 4: Social Policies and Social changes

- a) British understanding of Indian society- Orientalist, Evangelical, Utilitarian Schools of thought.
- b) Ideas of change.
- c) Education - indigenous and modern.
- d) Social reforms and emerging social classes.

2nd Half

Unit 5: Economic organization: changes and continuity:

- a) Rural Economy
 - i) Eastern India
 - ii) South India
 - iii) Western India
 - iv) Central and Northern India
 - v) Princely State.

Note: This should be studied with special emphasis on new types of Land revenue administration, commercialization of agriculture, rural indebtedness, rural power relations, Landlords, peasants and agricultural labours and institutions of finance.

- b) Urban Economy
 - i) Artisans and industrial production
 - ii) Debate over de-industrialization - regional variations
 - iii) Rise of internal markets and urban centres and communications: posts and telegraphs, railways.

Unit 6: Resistance to colonial rule

- a) Nature and forms of resistance
- b) Pre 1857- peasant, tribal and cultural resistance

- c) Revolt of 1857: Historiography, ideology, programmes, leadership at various levels, peoples' participation and British repression and response.

Unit 7: Science and technology

- a) Scientific and technical education: establishment of engineering and medical colleges and institutes.

Paper IV

History of Modern India 1858-1964

1st Half

Unit 1: Strategies of Imperial control

- a) British Government and its control over Indian administration- central, provincial and district.
- b) Relations with princely States.
- c) Principles and policies governing foreign relations.
- d) India and its neighbours.
- i) Afghanistan
 - ii) Tibet
 - iii) Nepal
 - iv) Burma
 - v) Persian Gulf and Persia.

Unit 2: Economy

- a) India in the Imperialist world system: Volume and composition of urban flow of capital, balance of payments and the drain.
- b) Agrarian relations; regional diversities and their administration; social and economic origins of commercialization and its effect;

nature and extent of stratification with the peasantry and landlords, tenants and state.

- c) Rise of modern industry and capitalist class, state and industrial growth and rise of the working class.
- d) Trends in population and national income.

Unit 3: Society

- a) Social composition: Ethnic groups- tribes (creation of new categories of criminal tribes and castes) and class and community.
- b) Colonial intervention and social change; reform movements, modern education; rise of middle classes and caste movements.
- c) Women: Status, property rights, reform legislation; changing role, Political participation in late 19th and early 20th century, Debate on tradition and modernity.

2nd Half

Unit 4: National Movement

- a) Approach to Indian Nationalism: Conceptual Debates
- b) Emergence of organized nationalism
- c) Trends till 1919
- d) Gandhian movements- nature, programme, social composition, limitations and challenge.
- e) Revolutionary and left movements.
- f) States', People's movements.
- g) Working of Congress and non-Congress provincial ministries
- h) Communal politics and partition
- i) Subhas Chandra Bose and I.N.A.

Unit 5: Nationalism and Indian Science

- a) Emergence of National science and its relations vis-a-vis colonial Science; Mahendra Lal Sarkar, P. C. Roy, J. C. Bose, U. N. Brahmachari.

Unit 6: Independent India

- a) Integration of princely states.
- b) Beginning of planned Economy.
- c) Land questions and industrial policy.
- d) Education, health, science and technology
- e) Women- Hindu code Bill, Muslim women Divorce Bill.