

**M.A. PART – II  
HISTORY SYLLABUS**

**Compulsory Paper  
Paper I: Historiography, (Concept, Methods and Tools)  
100 Marks**

**1st Half**

**(50 Marks)**

**Unit 1:** Meaning and Scope of History.

- (a) What is History
- (b) Collection and selection of data, evidence, different ways to ascertain historical evidence and its transmission, Causation.
- (c) The Subjectivity / objectivity debate in History

**Unit 2:** History and other disciplines

- (a) Inter-disciplinary approach in history
- (b) Relations with archaeology, geography anthropology, linguistics, sociology, economic, philosophy, politics, natural sciences, applied sciences and literature

**Unit 3:** Traditional Historical Writings

- (a) Greco-Roman tradition
- (b) Ancient Indian tradition
- (c) Medieval Indian tradition

**2nd Half**

**(50 Marks)**

**Unit 4:** Modern Historical writings

- (a) Positivist historiography, debate on historicism
- (b) Whig historiography
- (c) Marxist historiography
- (d) Annales historiography

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**Unit 5:** Approaches to Indian history

- (i) Orientalist
- (ii) Imperialist
- (iii) Nationalist
- (iv) Marxist
- (v) Subaltern
- (vi) Post-modernist

**Unit 6:** Themes in Indian History

- (a) Economic, labour, peasant, varna, jati, janajati, gender, religion, culture, environment and science and technology.

**Selected Readings:**

1. R.G. Collingwood, The Idea of History
2. E.H. Carr, What is History
3. Charles Delzell (ed). The Future of History
4. Carlo M. Cipolla, Between History and Economics
5. Immanuel Wallerstein, Open the Social Sciences
6. Thomas S. Kuhn, The Structure of Scientific Revolutions
7. Davis, Back and Maclean, Oral History
8. Fernand Braudel, On History
9. Partha Nath Mukherjee, Methodology in Social Research
10. A. K. Warder, An Introduction to Indian Historiography
11. Peter Hardy, Historians of Medieval India
12. K. A. Nizami, History and Historians in Medieval India
13. S. K. Bajaj, Recent Trends in Historiography
14. Kari paper, Poverty of Historicism
15. Devahuti, Bias in Indian History
16. Irfan Habib, Interpreting Indian History
17. J. N. Sarker, History of History Writings in Medieval India
18. Harbans Mukhia, Historians and Historiography during the Reign of Akbar.
19. Aymard and Mukhia (ed). French Studies in History, 2 vols.

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**Compulsory Paper**  
**Paper – II History of Ideas**

**1st Half**

**(50 Marks)**

**Unit 1: Political**

- (a) Ideas of Polity-monarchy, oligarchy and proto-republicanism
  - (i) Ancient
  - (ii) Medieval

**Unit 2: Social Ideas**

- (a) Formation of early ideas on hierarchy
- (b) Rationalization and justification of hierarchy
  - (i) Varna
  - (ii) Jati
  - (iii) Family
  - (iv) Women.

**Unit 3: Religious and philosophical ideas**

- (a) Formation of religious ideas in early India
  - (i) Vedas, Upanishads and Vedanta
  - (ii) Six schools of Indian Philosophy
  - (iii) Jainism
  - (iv) Buddhism

**2nd Half**

**(50 Marks)**

**Unit 4: Colonialism and the emergence of new political ideas**

- (i) Liberalism, democracy
- (ii) Utilitarianism
- (iii) Positivism
- (iv) Nationalism and Socialism
- (v) Communalism and Secularism

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**Unit 5:** (i) Anti-caste movements during the colonial period – Satya Shodhak Samaj, Sree Narayan Movement, Self-respect movement.

(ii) Social basis of nationalism

**Unit 6: Reform and Revivalism**

- (i) Brahma Samaj, Prarthana Samaj, Arya Samaj, Deoband and Aligarh Movement, Singh Sabha Movement
- (ii) Ideas of religious universalism and fundamentalism
- (iii) Tufatual-Muhaiddin
- (iv) Fundamentalism in modern India

**Selected Readings:**

1. R. C. Majumdar, Corporate Life in Ancient India
2. A. S. Altekar, State and Government in Ancient India
3. Kumkum Roy, Monarchy in North India
4. R. K. Mukherjee, Local Government in Ancient India
5. J. P. Sharma, Republics in Ancient India
6. G. P. Singh, Political Thought in Ancient India
7. B. R. Salectore, Ancient Indian Political Thought and Institutions
8. N. Karasimha (ed) Kingship in Indian History
9. R. P. Khosla, Mughal Kingship and Nobility
10. H. K. Nagvi, History of Mughal Government and Administration
11. M. Alam and S. Subramanyam (ed). The Mughal State
12. Samashastri (Tr) Kautilya's Artha Shastra
13. Mahamahopadhyaya, P. V. Kane, History of the Dharma Shastras
14. Ziauddin Barni, Tarik-I-Firozeshahi
15. Alama Abul Fazal, Ain-I-Akbari
16. Badauni, Muntakhab-ut-Tarik
17. Louis Dumont, Homo Hierarchicus
18. Declan Quigley, The Interpretation of Caste
19. S.V. Ketkar, The History of Caste in India
20. R.S. Sharma, The State and Varna Formation in the Mid-Ganga Plains
21. A. Ahmed, Islamic Society in medieval India
22. S. Radhakrishnan, History of Indian Philosophy
23. S. Dasgupta, History of Indian Philosophy

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24. A.L. Basham, History and Doctrine of the Ajivikas
25. D.P. Chattopadhyaya, Lokayatas
26. M. Taher (ed), Islamic Political Thought
27. J. A. Subhan, Sufism, its saints and shrines
28. W.H. Mcleod, Guru Nanak
29. Grewal and Indu Banga (ed) The Khalsa over 300 years
30. S. K. Dey, Early History of Vaisnava faith and Movement in Bengal
31. Subira Jaiswal, The Origin and Development of Vaisnavism
32. Gibb, Cambridge History of Islam
33. I. Ahmad, Caste Among the Indian Muslims
34. Jean Hampton: Political Philosophy – An Introduction
35. Utilitarianism and beyond ed. Amartya Sen & Bernard William
36. Eric Stokes: The English Utilitarians and India
37. S.N. Mukherjee, Sir William Jones and the British attitude towards India
38. Edward said: Orientalism
39. David Kopf: British Orientalism and the Bengal Renaissance
40. J. Forbes – The Bengal positivists
41. David Kopf – Brahma Samaj and the shaping of the Modern Indian mind
42. Jordens : Dayananda Saraswati
43. Religion in modern India ed. R. D. Baird
44. Raja Rammohan Roy: Tofatual Muhauddin, Eng. Trans. K. C. Mitra
45. Jasobanta Kar : The New Horizan – Netaji’s Concept of Leftism
46. Partha Chatterjee, Nationalist thought and the colonial world
47. K. S. Singh (ed), People of India, vol. I.

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### **Special Paper**

#### **Paper - III: Economic History of India A. D. 1757 – 1947**

##### **1st Half**

**(50 Marks)**

##### **Unit 1: Introduction**

- (a) Issues and problems of Indian Economic History: Different approaches and their limitations
- (b) Sources of Economic History of British India

##### **Unit 2: Indian Economy in the Mid-Eighteenth Century**

- (a) Nature and structure of economy-rural and urban
- (b) Agrarian and non-agrarian production: Technology and methods of production
- (c) Trade and indigenous banking
- (d) Debate on the potentialities of capitalist change in pre-colonial economy, question of growth in the pre-colonial Indian economy.

##### **Unit 3: Early phase of colonial economy**

- (a) Mercantilism and European economic interests in India. The East India Company and its rule in Bengal
- (b) The early Drain of Wealth and its mechanism, magnitude and effects
- (c) Indian manufactures for external market-internal commerce, the later debate on the question

##### **Unit 4: Agrarian Settlements and Agrarian production**

- (a) Agrarian conditions-Regional variations
- (b) The permanent Settlement – objectives, operations, effects and official critiques
- (c) Ryotwari Settlement and Mahalwari system
- (d) Consequences of periodic settlements
- (e) Increase in the cultivation of export crops, New elements in the organization of production of export commodities

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**Unit 5:** Traditional Handicraft Industry and the question of De-industrialization

- (a) Artisans and handicraft product-back-ground
- (b) Industrial capitalism and import of English cloth and yarn
- (c) Debate over de-industrialization-regional variations
- (d) Handicraft Industry in transition under colonialism
- (e) Capital and labour in handicraft industry

**2nd Half**

**(50 Marks)**

**Unit 6:** Railway and Indian Economy

- (a) Economic and political compulsions
- (b) Unification and subjugation of Indian market
- (c) Effects on agrarian production and export of raw materials commercialization of agriculture
- (d) Famines and British policy, nationalist criticism

**Unit 7:** Large scale industry

- (a) Conditions before the emergence of modern industry
- (b) Capitalist investment in India-indigenous and British effects
- (c) Modern industry in pre-1914 phase-nature-main industry; cotton, jute, iron and steel and others. Impediments to growth, nationalist critique, industry and the First World War phase with special reference to economic depression.
- (d) Colonial state and industrial growth
- (e) Rise of industrial labour, labour force in large scale industry, type of labour movements, changing social composition of industrial labour.

**Unit 8:** Foreign trade and Balance of Payments

- (a) Changing nature of external trade-stages of Mercantilism, industrial capital and finance capital
- (b) Drain of Wealth and Britain's overseas trade

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**Unit 9:** The Fiscal System

- (a) Shift from direct to indirect taxation
- (b) Tariff and excise
- (c) Monetary policies and credit system

**Unit 10:** Population

- (a) Population growth pre and post-Census estimates
- (b) De-urbanisation controversy
- (c) Trends in demographic change

**Selected Readings**

1. R.C. Dutta, The Economic History of India under early British rule
2. Dharma Kumar, ed., The Cambridge Economic History of India (Vol. II)
3. Burton Stein, ed. The making of Agrarian polity in British India 1770-1990
4. David Ludden ed. Agrarian Productivity and Indian History
5. B.B. Choudhury, Growth of Commercial Agriculture in Bengal
6. N.K. Sinha, The Economic History of Bengal, Vols. I-III
7. Frykenburg, ed., Land control and social structure in Indian History.
8. Baker, C. An Indian rural economy
9. Blyn, Agricultural Trends in India
10. Ranajit Guha, Permanent settlement and the ruler of property in Bengal
11. F. Floud, Report of the Land Revenue Commission Bengal Vol. I
12. Debdas Banerjee, Colonialism in India
13. C. Macrobits, Indian Business and Nationalist Politics
14. A. Rajan – Classical political economy British Policy in India
15. A.D.D. Gordon, Businessmen and Politics
16. Rajat K. Roy, Entrepreneurship and Industry in India: 1800-1947
17. V.I. Pavlov, Historical premises for Indian transition to capitalism
18. Amartya Sen, Poverty and Famine
19. Rajnarayan Chandavarkar, The origins of Industrial Capitalism in India
20. Omkar Goswami, Industry, Trade and Peasant Society
21. Tapan Roy Choudhury, ed. Contributions to Indian Economic History Vol.II
22. V.B. Singh (ed), Economic History of India
23. D.H. Buchanon, The Development of Capitalist enterprise in India
24. I. J. Kerr, Building the Railways of the Raj

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25. Bipan Chandra, Nationalism and Colonialism in Modern India
26. Sugata Bose, ed. Credit, market and agrarian economy
27. Lakshmi Subramaniam, Indigenous Capital and Imperial expansion
28. Eric Stokes, The Peasant and the Raj
29. K. N. Choudhury, The Economic Development in India under the English East India Company
30. Holden Fuber, Rival Empire of trade in the Orient-John Company at work
31. Amallesh Tripathy, Trade and Finance in the Bengal Presidency
32. A.K. Bagchi, The History of the State Bank of India, Private Investment in India
33. Dewey, Clive ed., Arrested Development in India
34. K.A. Davis, The Population of India and Pakistan
35. Rajat K. Ray, Industrialisation in India
36. B.R. Tomlinson, The Political economy of the Raj
37. S. Ambirajan, Classical Political economy and the British policy in India.
38. Morris D. Morris, The emergence of Industrial labour force of India
39. Baden Powell, Land system of British India
40. Ratnalekha Roy, Changes in Bengal Agrarian Society
41. E.J. Hobsbawm, ed., Peasant in History
42. Gyan Prakash, The World of the Rural labour in colonial India
43. Nirban Basu, The Working Class Movement
44. Sugata Bose, Agrarian Bengal
45. Gadgil and Guha, This Fissured Land: An Ecological History of India.
46. Guha and Arnold ed., Nature, Culture and Imperialism
47. Arnold, D. Peasants and Imperial rule

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**Compulsory Paper**

**Paper IV: History of Modern Bengal with Special Reference to  
North Bengal : 1757-1947 (Regional History)**

**1st Half**

**(50 Marks)**

**Selected Themes:**

**Unit 1:** Advent of colonial economy and link: New Education, Bengali Response, Birth of Renaissance Bengal Renaissance Debate Historiography of the Bengal Renaissance: Sources of the study.

**Unit 2:** Colonial Bengal Social and Colonial cultural penetration

- (a) Indigenous Response
- (b) Cultural Response (Press and Literature, Bengali) Drama Theatre, Art-Painting, Indo-British Architecture, Music
- (c) Social Response

**Unit 3:** Indigenous Reaction

- (a) Political Reaction
- (b) Cultural Reaction : Press and Literature; Bengali and Nepali, Drama, Theatre, Art, Painting, Music, Architecture.
- (c) Social Reaction

**Unit 4:** Trauma in Bengal politics from First partition to Second partition

- (a) Reaction to partition politics
- (b) Bengal's identity manifested in creative fields
- (c) The emergence of crisis in Bengali identity and alienation.

**2nd Half**

**(50 Marks)**

**Unit 5:** Emergence of Modern North Bengal

- (a) Pre-colonial North Bengal; North Bengal and Sub-Himalayan Region-adjointing areas: Ethno Socio-Religious confluence

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- (b) Colonial penetration
- (c) Colonial administration, Re-organisation of North Bengal

**Unit 6:** History of the Cooch Behar Raj since 1772: Cultural Response and Reaction

**Unit 7:** Introduction of colonial Economy

- (a) Land Revenue Settlement
- (b) Plantation Economy
- (c) Forestry
- (d) Commercialization of Agriculture

**Unit 8:** Protest Movement

- (a) Peasant movement
- (b) Plantation worker movement

**Unit 9:** History of Migration : Demographic Changes : New Social Structure

**Unit 10:** Saga of National Movement

**Selected Readings**

1. Perspectives of Agrarian Bengal – Chittabrata Palit
2. Class formation in the Plantation Dooars – Sarit Bhowmick
3. Agrarian Bengal : Economic : Social Structure and Politics (1919-1947): Sugata Bose.
4. Modern Bengal – A Social – Economic Survey – S. P. Sen (ed.)
5. A Social History of Modern India – K. K. Datta
6. Present labour and colonial capital in North Bengal since 1770–Sugata Bose
7. Mind, Body and Society: Life and Mentality in Colonial Bengal – Rajat Kanta Roy (edited)
8. Dawn of Renaissance India – K. K. Datta
9. Writing Social History – Sumit Sarkar
10. Social and Religious Reform Movement in the nineteenth and Twentieth centuries – S. P. Sen (edited)
11. Women in Tebhaga Uprising – Peter Cusker

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12. Peasant struggles in Bengal – Sunil Sen
13. History of Bengal Vol. II (ed) by N. K. Sinha
14. Caste, politics and the Raj : Bengal 1872-1937 – Sekhar Bandopadhyay
15. Cooch Behar and its Land Revenue – H. N. Choudhury
16. Koch Beharer Itihas, Chowdhury Amanulla Ahamed
17. Jalpiguri Zilla Century Volume, ed. R. M. Lahiri
18. Economy, Social and Politics of Jalpaiguri – Ranajit Dasgupta
19. Art and Nationalism – Partha Mitter
20. A . History of Nepali Literature – Kumar Pradhan
21. The Making of New Indian Art – Tapati Guha Thakurata

**Essay Paper**

**Compulsory Paper**

**Paper - V : Modern Indian History : 1757 – 1964  
Social, Cultural and Economic History of Modern India:  
Some Selected Themes**

**(Marks 50)**

- Unit 1:** Nineteenth Century was the Age of Social Reforms.  
**Unit 2:** Social changes during the colonial period.  
**Unit 3:** The Age Reforms mean the Age of Women's emancipation.  
**Unit 4:** Growth of the Public opinion in colonial India.  
**Unit 5:** Journalism and Indian National Movement.  
**Unit 6:** Growth of the vernacular Literature.  
**Unit 7:** Deindustrialization debate.  
**Unit 8:** Industrialization in India.  
**Unit 9:** Indian entrepreneurship during the colonial and post-colonial period.  
**Unit 10:** Various types of land revenue systems in colonial Indian.

**Assignment : 100 Marks**

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