## Semester-based Curriculum Structure

**Semester I (ANCIENT AND EARLY MEDIEVAL INDIA (PRE-HISTORY to C. 1200CE) and ANCIENT SOCIETIES): July-December**

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<tr>
<th>Paper Code</th>
<th>Topic of the Paper</th>
<th>Lecture Hours per Week</th>
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<th>Internal Assessment:</th>
<th>Semester Examination:</th>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 101</td>
<td>Ancient Indian History and Its Archaeological Foundations</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 102</td>
<td>Political Thoughts in Ancient India</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 103</td>
<td>Art, Architecture, Literature and society</td>
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<td>HIST 104</td>
<td>Epigraphic and Numismatic sources</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 105</td>
<td>Ancient Societies: Egypt, Mesopotamia, Greece, Rome and China</td>
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**SEMESTER I TOTAL:**

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### Semester II (MEDIEVAL INDIA: 1200-1800 CE): January-June

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<td>HIST 202</td>
<td>State, Economy and society of Medieval India</td>
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<td>History of Ideas- Art, Architecture, Literature and Religion of Medieval India</td>
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### Semester III (MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY INDIA AND WORLD: 1800-1980'S): July-December

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<td>HIST 302</td>
<td>Imperialism and Colonialism:1800-1960</td>
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<td>State, Economy and Society in British India</td>
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<td>Nationalism and Decolonization in Afro-Asia</td>
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<td>HIST E 405 a</td>
<td>History of Bengal: From Prehistory to the Colonial Period</td>
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<td>HIST E 405 d</td>
<td>Methods, Thoughts and Practice of Archaeology</td>
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I) Introduction:
Literary and Archaeological sources (stone tools, ceramics, coins, epigraphy, etc.) for the historical reconstruction.

II) Prehistory and Protohistory:

1. Prehistory and Protohistory: definition, scope, terminology and periodization.
2. Hominid fossils, earliest stone tools (typological classification and techniques: direct percussion, block-on-block/ anvil technique, step technique, cylinder hammer or hollow hammer technique, punching technique, pressure flaking, compound technique clactonian flaking, levallois technique, fluting technique, polishing and grinding technique), India in the current scheme of Human Evolution.
3. Palaeolithic sites, sequences and materials: Baluchistan, Sind, North-western Frontier (Peshawar Plain, Potwar Plateau), Himalayan and Sub-Himalayan Areas (Kashmir, Ladakh, Jammu, Himachal Pradesh and Indian Punjab), Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujrat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Goa and Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, West Bengal, Tripura, Assam, and Other North-eastern Areas (Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, and Meghalaya), Bangladesh, Jharkhand, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Nepal.
4. The Mesolithic evidence: microliths in the Pleistocene bracket, early Holocene adaptations: microliths associated with the evidence of animal domestication, excavated early Mesolithic sites with habitational evidence; the Mesolithic survivors (continuity of microliths using traditions), rock art of the Mesolithic period.
5. Problem of the beginning of food production in India and the evidence from Mehrgarh, the growth of villages from Baluchistan to western Uttar Pradesh: Kili Ghul Mohammad, Burj Basket-marked, Togau, Kechi Beg/ Hakra Wares, Amri-Nal, Kot Diji, Sothi-Siswal, Dam Sadaat phases.
6. Origin, terminology and chronology of the Harappan civilization, distribution and morphological features of Mature Harappan settlements, aspects of the Harappan civilization; agriculture and animal husbandry, internal and external trades, use of Metals, Pottery, Miscellaneous Crafts, Seals and Writings, Weights and Linear measurements, social and political framework, religion, burials and skeletal biology, Harappan art; decline of the Harappan urban centres; Late Harappan phase and legacy of the Harappan civilization.
7. Neolithic-Chalcolithic cultures outside the Harappan orbit, terminology, distribution and features: the mountains in the north (from Baluchistan to the Almorah hills), the Aravallis, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, south Indian Neolithic and Chalcolithic (the evidence from Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka), Odisha, the North-Eastern states, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, upper Ganga valley ‘Copper Hoards’, Haryana, Punjab, Jammu; beginning of rice cultivation in the central Ganga plain and other issues.
8. Early use of iron: the northwest, Kashmir, southeast Rajasthan, Malwa, south Indian Megaliths, West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh; mature phase of the use of iron and associated debates.
9. Vedic texts and their chronology; early Vedic economy and society; the so-called Aryan Problem: archaeological, philological and anthropological evidence.

Sahu, B. P. ed. 2006. Iron and Social Change in Early India, Delhi.


1985. Recent Archaeological Discoveries of India.


Tripathi, V. 1976. The Painted Grey Ware, An Iron Age Culture of Northern India, Delhi.


2008 History of Iron Technology in India (From Beginning to Pre-modern times), New Delhi.


Vats, M.S. 1940. Excavations at Harappa, Delhi.
III) Early Historical and Historical Period

1. The foundations of Early Historic India: debates associated with chronology and the arrival of the Northern Black Polished Ware (NBPW); date of Buddha, emergence of the Sixteen Mahajanapadas (based on the evidence of Buddhist, Jaina and later Vedic literatures), identifications of these geo-political orbits, debates pertaining to the so-called ‘Second Urbanization’; the rise of Magadha.

2. Historical archaeology in India: problems of definition and chrono-cultural phases; general features of Early Historical archaeology; region-wise survey of Early Historical sites- urban centres/cities; cultural and trading units, etc.

3. Major sources for the historical reconstruction of the Mauryan period: Kautilya’s Arthasastra, Megasthenes’ account (Indica), inscriptions of Asoka (major and minor Rock Edicts and Pillar Edicts), archaeological and numismatic evidence; major archaeological sites and assemblages pertaining to the Mauryan period; nature and structure of the Mauryan empire; Asoka and Buddhism, Asoka’s Dhamma, Mauryan art and architecture; decline of the Mauryan empire.

4. The dynastic history of the subcontinent during c. 200 BCE – 300 CE: the Sungas, the Indo-Greeks, the Saka-Pahlavas or Scytho-Parthians, the Satavahanas, the Saka- Ksatrapas, the Kusanas, the Cheras, the Cholas, the Pandyas; archaeological evidence: settlements/villages and cities of the North-West, the Indo-Gangetic Divide and the upper Ganga valley, the Middle and the lower Ganga valley and Eastern India, Central and Western India, the Deccan and the Southern India; crafts and guilds, traders and trading networks (internal and external); philosophical and religious developments (the worship of Yaksas, Yaksis, Nagas, Nagis; Vedic rituals, Saivism, emergence of Vaisnava doctrine, the concept of Sakti; the emergence of Mahayana Buddhism, the Digambara-Svetambara concept in Jainism); Religious architectures and sculptures: early Brahmanical temples; Buddhist stupas, monasteries and relief sculptures; Buddhist caves in the western ghats, the Jaina caves at Udayagiri and Khandagiri; the Gandhara and Mathura schools of sculptures; terracotta art.

5. The dynastic history of the subcontinent during 300 - 600 CE: the Guptas, the Vakatakas of the Deccan, other dynasties of Peninsular India; a brief overview of the administrative structure of the Gupta and Vakatakas kingdoms, revenue resources of states, land ownership, types of land, land measures and land tenure based on epigraphic sources (particularly land grants), some major settlements of the period and their archaeological assemblages; the debates associated with the so-called Urban Decay; craft production, guilds, traders and trading networks; aspects of social structure: gender, forms of labour, slavery; religious developments: the emergence of Tantra, the evolution of the Vaisnava doctrine, Saivism, the cult of the Great Goddesses, Buddhism, Jainism; religious architectures, sculptures and paintings.

6. The dynastic history of the period, c. 600 - 1200 CE and its regional configurations (in the Deccan, the Southern, the Northern, the Eastern, the Western and the Central India); the nature of the royal land grants; Brahmana beneficiaries; regional specificities; the historical processes in early medieval India; important sites of early medieval India and their archaeological assemblages (problems of identifying diagnostic types of artefacts particularly pertaining to the secular activities); the nature of South Indian states (e.g., Cholamandalam): different theoretical frameworks, administrative structures, rural society, agriculture and irrigation, urban processes, trade and traders; the religious developments: Buddhism, Jainism, Vaisnavism, Saivism, the Sakti cult; a brief overview of the architecture and sculpture of the early medieval India.
7. Social formations: a brief overview of the concept of Varna and caste systems (based on literary and epigraphic sources).

Chakrabarti, Dilip K. and Makkhan Lal eds. 2014. *Ancient India Series, Volume 3: The Texts, Political History and Administration (till c. 200 BC); Volume 4: Political History and Administration (c. 200 BC – AD 750), Volume 5: Political History and Administration (c. AD 750 - 1300)*, New Delhi.


*The Agrarian System in Ancient India*, Calcutta.

*Studies in Indian History and Culture*, Bombay.


*Essays in Indian History*, Delhi.


*The State in India 1000-1700*, New Delhi.

Lahiri, B. 1974. *Indigenous States of Northern India (circa 200 BC to AD 320)*, Calcutta


Ray, N. R. 1967. The Medieval Factor in Indian History. *General President’s Address, Indian History Congress, 29th Session, Patiala*.


1987. *Urban Decay in India (c. 300- c. 1000)*, Delhi.


Sinha, B.P. 1954. The Decline of the Kingdom of Magadha. With a forward by L.D. Barnett, Patna.


ed. 1986. Situating Indian History, Delhi.


ed. 1995. Recent Perspectives of Early Indian History, Mumbai.


2000. History and Beyond, New Delhi.

2002. Early India (from the Origins to AD 1300), London.


The Series on The Cultural Heritage of India, 7 volumes, published by the Ramkrishna Mission Institute of Culture, Kolkata.


2010. The Early Medieval in South India, New Delhi.


HIST 102: Political Thoughts in Ancient India

1. The Sources of Political Ideas and Institutions in Ancient India: Vedic texts, Dharmasutras and Smritis, Epics and Puranas, Kautilya and Kamandaka, Buddhist and Jaina texts, foreign accounts, inscriptions, coins, etc.

2. Historiography of ancient Indian polity: state and society as represented in Colonial writings, Oriental Despotism and Asiatic Society- Asiatic Mode of Production debate, the Nationalist response, the Marxist intervention.

3. Political theory, administrative organization (North and South India), law and legal institutions: Visavarupa, Medhatithi, the Smriti Samgraha.

4. Theory of state based on literary sources: Saptanga theory, theories of property, family and varna regarding the origin of the state, the Contract theory, theory of Oriental Despotism.

5. Ancient Indian polity: the concept of Sabha and Samiti, the Vedic scene: evidence from Rigveda, pre-state situation, lineage society, the concept of Vedic gana, processes of transition from lineage to state, the ‘Republics’,

6. From Gopati to Bhupati: the changing position of the King from pre-Vedic to Gupta post-Gupta periods.

7. State formation in pre-Mauryan times, the concept of ‘Kingdoms’, the Mauryan state,

8. Post-Mauryan polities: the Satavahanas, the Kusanas; the polities of the Gupta period and aftermath.

9. Political processes in Peninsular India: evidence from Sangam literatures and subsequent dynastic periods till the formation of the Chola state.

References:

Agrawala, V.S. 1953. *India as known to Panini*, Lucknow


1957. *Studies in Indian History and culture*, Bombay.

1959. *A History of Indian Political Ideas*, Bombay.


Law, B.C. 1941. *India as Described in Early Texts of Buddhism and Jainism*, London.


1965. *India under the Kushanas*, Bombay.


Sharma, R.S. and V. Jha 1977. *Indian Society: Historical Problings*, New Delhi


1. Harappan art in terracotta, stone and metal, seals and sealings.
   Harappan town planning: public buildings (dockyards, granaries, etc.), private houses, orientation of streets, cemetery, etc.

2. Mauryan art and architecture (pillars, animal figures, sculptures).

3. Relief sculptures and early Indian Narrative art (2nd – 1st Century BCE): select case studies from Bharhut, Sanchi, Bodhgaya, Amaravati, Nagarjunakonda, Sannati; debates associated with the concept of discontinuity between the art of the Mauryan and the Post-Mauryan periods (evidence from Deorkothar complex and others).

4. Development of Buddhist architectures, caityas, stupas, and viharas: Sanchi, Amaravati, Nagarjunakonda, Sannati, Bharhut, etc.; architectural features of the early rock-cut caves of Eastern and Western India: Bihar (Barabar and Nagarjuni hills and Sitamarhi near Gaya), the Deccan and Gujarat (Bhaja, Kondane, Pitalkhora, Caves 8, 9, 10, 12 at Ajanta, Bedsa, Pandu Lena at Nasik, Junnar and Karle, Kanheri, etc.), the Andhra region (Guntapalli, etc.), Odisha (Udaygiri-Khandagiri, Lalitagiri).

5. Urban centres (town planning) of the Early Historical period: perspectives from texts, select case studies from Taxila, Charsada, Sanghol, Mathura, Sonkh, Hulas, Hastinapur, Kausambi, Sringaverpura, Rajghat, Bhita, Kheradih, Masaon, Vaisali, Pataliputra, Sisupalgarh etc.

6. The art of the Bactro-Gandhara region (1st Century BCE to Mid 1st Century CE): Kapisha, Gandhara, Swat Valley and Mathura regions; artistic developments under the Kusanas: art and architecture of the Bactro-Gandhara region, Mathura and related sites, Non-Buddhist sculptures at Mathura.

7. Sculptural art of the Gupta Period: Udaygiri, Eran, Sanchi, Mathura, Sarnath etc.; Buddhist art in the North West; structural temples in stone and brick of the Gupta period: select case studies; sculptural art of the Gupta aftermath: Eran, Mandasor, Bodhgaya, Nalanda, Sultanganj, Mundesvari, Apsadh, Samalaji, etc.

8. The Buddhist rock-cut architectures and sculptures (5th -7th Centuries CE): Ajanta (under the Vakatakas), Bagh, Kanheri (under the Vakatakas and Traikutakas), Aurangabad (under the Vakatakas and Kalacuris), Ellora; Brahmanical rock-cut architectures and sculptures of the Deccan: Elephanta (under the Early Kalacuris), Aihole and Badami (under the Early Western Calukyas); Brahmanical rock-cut architectures and sculptures under the Pallavas and Pandyas; Brahmanical rock-cut architectures and sculptures under the Rastrakutas at Ellora.

9. The canonical classification of the temple architecture: Nagara, Dravida and Vesara; structural temples and sculptures under the Western Calukyas and related schools of the Deccan, the
Eastern Calukyas, the Pallavas, Orissa and related schools, temples and sculptures under the Gurjara- Pratiharas of Kanauj, the Haihayas / Kalacuris of Tripuri, the Candellas of Bundelkhand (Khajuraho), the Solankis of Gujarat; Kashmir and related schools, Bihars and Bengal under the Palas and Senas; Cholas and related schools, temples and sculptures under the Western Gangas, the Later Calukyas of Kalyani, the Kakatiyas, the Hoysalas, the Vijayanagara period, temples and sculptures under the Nayakas; the Kerala region; Mahaviharas of the later periods: select case studies from Nalanda, Ratnagiri, Paharpur, etc.

10. Indian rock-shelter paintings, murals, manuscript paintings, etc.

11. Terracotta art from the pre-Harappan period to the post-Gupta Period.

12. Social dimensions of Indian art.

13. Early Indian literatures:
   a) Vedic and later Vedic period: The Samhitas, the Brahmanas, the Aranyakas, the Upanishads, Upanishads and Sutras
   b) Epics and Puranas.
   c) Early Jaina and Buddhist texts
   d) Dharmasutra, Dharmasastra and Arthasastra
   e) Biographies and chronicles
   f) Creative literatures and works on varied subjects.


15. Social orders in early India:
   a) Historiography of early Indian social orders.
   b) From pre-class to class societies, origin of social differentiations, the material and textual manifestations, problem of terminologies- jana, vrata, gana, varna, jati, gotra, mula ,etc.
   c) Forces of production, forms of property and social formations.
   d) Caste system in ancient India
   e) Varna, jati and marriages; position of women
   f) Social stratification and legal system.
   g) Stages in the history of the untouchables.

Reading List:


Kaul, Shonaleeka 2010. *Imagining the Urban: Sanskrit and the City in Early India*, Delhi.


1927. *The Puranic Accounts of the Dynasties of the Kali Age*, Delhi.


1969. *Social Changes in Early Medieval India (c. AD 500-1200)*, Delhi.


2002. *Early India (from the Origins to AD 1300)*, London.


1. Antiquity of writing; study of seals, sealings and copper plates; eras in ancient India.
Epigraph of the Mauryan period: Mahasthan stone plaque inscription of the Mauryan empire.
6. Coins as source of history; origin and antiquity of coinage in India
7. Techniques of manufacturing coins: the punching method, the casting method, the die striking method; metrology: the weight standards.
8. Punch marked coins: silver and copper Coins; Janapada coins: Kausambi coins, Ayodhya coins, Kanauj coins, Mathura coins, Pancala coins, Ujjain coins, Eran coins, Padmavati coins; tribal coins (the Malavas, the Yaudheyas, the Agras, the Asvakas, the Kadas, the Kulatas, the Rajanyas, the Kunindas, the Audumbaras, the Arjunayanas, the Sibis, etc.).
9. Dynastic coins: coinage of the Satavahans, the Indo-Greeks, the Saka-Pahlavas, the Western Ksatrapas, the Kusanas, the Guptas.
10. Regional coins of the post-Gupta period.

Reading List:


Epigraphia Indica, Relevant Volumes.


1907. Indian Epigraphy, the Inscriptional Bases of Indian Historical Research, Oxford.


Majumdar, N. G. 2003. Inscriptions of Bengal: Containing Inscriptions of the Chandras, the Varmans and the Senas, and Isvaraghosa and Damodara, Kolkata.


1965. Select Inscriptions Bearing on Indian History and Civilization, Calcutta.

1965. Indian Epigraphy, Delhi


1. Origin of complex societies; the origins of cultural complexity in ancient Egypt; the evolution of complex societies in Southwest Asia; early complex cultures in Indus valley and early complex societies in Greece and Anatolia.

2. The study of civilization: what is a civilization? comparing civilizations, civilizations and their neighbours; investigating the origin of Mesopotamian civilization; the rediscovery of ancient civilizations; comparing natural settings of Mesopotamian, Egyptian and Harappan civilizations.

3. Classical civilizations: Egypt, Greece and Rome; Mesopotamian civilizations: Assyrians and Sumerians; salt and silt in ancient Mesopotamian agriculture; the Indus and eastern Asia; trade mechanisms in Indus-Mesopotamian interrelations; ancient Egypt and ‘Black Africa’ – early contacts.

4. Theories of states: evolutionary schemes; pre-state and state-organized societies; six classic theories for the emergence of state societies: Childe and the ‘Urban Revolution’, ecology and irrigation, technology and trade, warfare, cultural systems and civilization, environmental change.

5. Mesopotamia: the first cities (3500 – 2000 BCE): Hassuna, Samara, Halaf, and Ubaid; the Uruk period; the Early Dynastic Period; the Akkadian empire; imperial Ur; cities in Syria, Anatolia and Susiana.

6. Egyptian civilization (4000 - 1100 BCE): Predynastic Egypt, the Archaic period, the Old Kingdom, the Middle Kingdom, the New Kingdom, Amarna and Akhenaten, decline of Egypt.

7. Political and social organizations of the Mature Harappan civilization (2500- 2050 BCE).

8. Near Eastern kingdoms (2000 – 1200 BCE): Bronze Age cities in Anatolia, the emergence of Babylon and the Old Babylonian period, the rise of the Hittites, Egypt and Mitanni, the Hittites in Levant and Anatolia, Mesopotamia and Iran; the Near East in the first millennium BCE: Israelites and Phoenicians; the Assyria Resurgent and the Assyrian Apogee; the Neo-Babylonian empire; Phrygians and Lydians, the rise of the Persians.

9. The First Aegean civilizations: the Aegean Early Bronze age (3200 – 2100 BCE), Minoan civilization (2100 – 1450 BCE), Crete and its neighbours; Mycenaean Greece (1600 – 1050 BCE); the Postpalatian Greece (1200 – 1050 BCE).

10. The Mediterranean world in the first millennium (1000- 30 BCE): the recovery of Greece; Phoenicians and Carthaginians; Etruscan Italy; Archaic Greece; the Greek cities; classical
Greece; the Hellenistic period; imperial Rome: the Roman republic (510 – 31 BCE) and the early Roman empire (31 BCE –235 CE).

11. Chinese civilizations: early cultivations (c. 7000- 4500 BCE) in the North (Yangshao and Cishan) and the South (Hemudu and Pengdoushan); Liangzhu jades; Neolithic Manchuria; the Longshan phase (2700-2000 BCE), three dynasties: Xia, Shang, Zhou; the first Chinese empire, the Han empire, secondary states in Korea and Japan; the rise of states in Southeast Asia: the Dong Son culture, Mandalas in the ‘Land of Gold’, the Angkor Mandala; intercourse with ancient Indian Subcontinent.


James, Peter 1993. Centuries of Darkness, New Brunswick, NJ.


Keightley, David N. 1978. Sources of Shang History: the Oracle Bone Inscription of Bronze Age China, Berkeley.


Larsen, Mogens 1976. The Old Assyrian City-State and Its Colonies, Copenhagen.


Stein, G and M.S. Rothman eds. 1994. Chiefdoms and Early States in the Near States in the Near East, Madison, WI.


Strong, Donald 1988. Roman Art, revised by Roger Ling, Harmondsworth.


Semester II (MEDIEVAL INDIA: 1200-1800 CE)

HIST 201: The Rise of Islam: Contestations and Negotiations

1. Survey of sources in medieval Indian history: historical writings, contemporary texts, travelogues, indigenous literatures, archaeological sources.
2. Historiographical debates regarding ‘transitions’ to the Sultanate period.
3. Foundation and consolidation of the Delhi Sultanate: early Muslim invasions, coming of the Turks, Mahmud of Ghazni, Muhammad of Ghur, Qutbuddin Aibak, Iltutmish, Raziyya Sultan, Balban, the Khiljis, the Tughlaqs, Timur’s invasion, the Sayyids and Lodis, rise of regional states with special reference to the Bengal Sultanate; decline of the Delhi Sultanate; state and society under the Delhi Sultanate.
4. The kingdom of Vijayanagar; central and provincial administrations, land revenue, army, society.
5. The Bahmani kingdom and the Deccani Sultanates: administrative parameters of the Bahmani state; the Bahmani successors: the Nizam Shahis of Ahmednagar, the Imad Shahis of Berar, the Adil Shahis of Bijapur, the Qutb Shahis of Golconda, the Barid Shahis of Bidar.
6. The Mughal empire: establishment of Mughal rule: Babur’s accession to the throne, his central Asian connection, Humayun and Sher Shah Sur interlude.
7. Political achievement, administrative and religious policies of Akbar; his successors: Jahangir, Shah Jahan, Aurangzeb.
8. Mughal administration, central and provincial; land revenue, the army, the judiciary; decline of the Mughal empire.
9. Ascent of the Marathas under Shivaji; rise of the Peshwas, emergence of the regional states: Punjab, the Jats, the Rajputs, Awadh, Bengal, Bihar and Odisha, Rohilkhand, Hyderabad, Karnataka, Mysore, etc.

Reading List:

Ahmed, Muhammad Aziz 1972. Political History and Institutions of the Early Turkish Empire of Delhi (1206-1290), Delhi.
2004. The Languages of Political Islam in India (1200-1800), New Delhi.
Alberuni and Edward Sachau (1030 AD) 2007. Aleberuni’s India, Delhi.
1982. Medieval India: Society, the Jagirdari Crisis and the Village, Delhi.
1972. Parties and Politics at the Mughal Court (1707-1740), Delhi.
Chopra, Pran Nath 1963. Some Aspects of Society and Culture During the Mughal Age (1526-1707), Agra.
Datta, Rajat ed. 2008. Rethinking a Millennium: Perspectives on Indian History from the Eighth to the Eighteenth Century, Delhi.


Sastri, Nilakanta K.A. 1975. *A History of South India from Pre-Historic Times to the Fall of Vijayanagar*, Delhi.


1. Conceptualizing the ‘Early Medieval’, the ‘Medieval’ and the ‘Early Modern’: South Asia and beyond
2. State Formation, Territorial Expansion and Contraction.
3. The growth of cities and towns, urban life and regional shifts in urbanization.
4. Money and Taxation; Trade and Overseas Commerce; Industries and Crafts; Agricultural and Non-Agricultural Production; Artisans and Craftsmen.
5. The origin and nature of the Zamindari Right, political role of the chieftains and Zamindars in the Mughal Empire
6. Ruling Class and Subjects; Social Structure and Formulation; Social Stratification and Mobility.
7. Social Mobility in Delhi Sultanate and Others.
8. The Social Dynamics of the Mughal Empire.
9. Encounters and Identities of Medieval India.
10. Material Cultures, Cultural Exchanges and Regional Variations.
11. Understanding Societal Changes in Medieval India.

Reading List:
Alam, Muzaffar 1986. Mughal Imperial Decline in North India, New Delhi.
2004. The Languages of Political Islam, Delhi.
Ali, Daud 2014. The Idea of the Medieval in the Writings of South Asian History: Contexts, Methods and Politics. Social History 39/3: 382-407
Appadorai, A. 1936. Economic Conditions of Southern India (1000-1500 A.D.) 2 Volumes, Madras.
Aquil, Raziuddin. 2009 (reprint). Sufism, Culture and Politics: Afghans and Islam in Medieval North India, New Delhi.
ed. 2010. Sufism and Society in Medieval India, Debates in Indian History and Society Series. New Delhi.


Chopra, Pran Nath 1963. *Some Aspects of Society and Culture During the Mughal Age (1526-1707)*, Agra.


Mahalingam, T.V. 1940. *Administration and Social Life under Vijayanagar*, Madras.


2006. *Was there an Agrarian Crisis in Mughal North India during the Late-Seventeenth and Early-Eighteenth Centuries?* Social Scientist 34/ 11/12: 18-32.


HIST 203: History of Ideas- Art, Architecture, Literature and Religion of Medieval India

Art and Architecture:

1. The sources of art and architecture of the medieval India.
2. Islamic art and architecture under the Delhi Sultanate / the ‘Imperial Style’: under the Slave kings, the Khaljis, the Tughlaqs, the Sayyids and the Lodis.
3. Islamic art and architecture of the regional states/ the ‘Provincial Styles’: Bengal, Jaunpur, Malwa, Bijapur, Khandesh, Kashmir, Sasaram.
4. Art and architecture of the medieval Deccan
5. Art and architecture of the Vijayanagara state.
6. Art, architecture (including courts, palaces, royal Cities, gardens), painting and music of the Mughal India.
7. Legitimizing ideologies of Mughal art and architecture
8. The development of non-Islamic art and architecture with special reference to Bengal.

Religion:

a. Islam and Muslims in South Asia: historiographical trends
b. Patterns of religious authority: Sufis and Ulama.
c. Sufis, Ulama and the state: conflict or compromise.
d. Bhakti movement: historical background, Saint Traditions; contribution of Babar, Nanak, Dadu Dayal and Chaitanya.
e. Saiva-Sakta religious tradition, Vaisnavism, Sikhism
f. Religion in early modern South Asia: varieties and diversities.

Literary Sources:

1. Sultanate Period: early Sultanate chroniclers; Khusrau and the turn of the thirteenth century; The efflorescence of Sultanate historiography – Barani and ‘Isami; retrospective accounts of Nizam al-Din, Badauni and Firishta.

2. Literary sources of the Mughal period: Persian chronicles: imperial histories; non-state chronicles; regional histories: Gujarat, Malwa and Bengal; The akhlaq literature; works on ethics and morality; memoirs, diaries and biographies: imperial memoirs; the autobiography of a merchant ardhakathanaka; Itimad Ali Khan’s diary; biographies of nobles and scholars; Hindawi sources; travellers’ accounts: state and society in travelogues by European and Asian travellers; religious writings: malfuzat, maktubat, tazkiras, etc.
3. Vernacular literary works of the medieval Bengal: Mangal-Kavya, Vaisnava literatures and others.

**Reading List:**


Aquil, Raziuddin. 2009 (reprint). *Sufism, Culture and Politics: Afghans and Islam in Medieval North India*, New Delhi.

ed. 2010. *Sufism and Society in Medieval India*, Debates in Indian History and Society Series, New Delhi.


Chandra, Satish 1996. Historiography, Religion & State in Medieval India, New Delhi.


Dalmia, Vasudha and Munis D. Faruqui eds. 2014. Religious Interactions in Mughal India, New Delhi.


Ernst, Carl W. and Bruce B. Lawrence 2002. Sufi Martyrs of Love: the Chisti Order in South Asia and Beyond, New York.


Malamud, Margaret 1994. Sufi Organizations and Structures of Authority in Medieval Nishapur.


2004. The Mughals of India, U.K.


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**Some Sources:**


HIST 204: The Maritime World of Pre-Modern Asia

1. Maritime Activities in the Antiquity: Geographical Explorations of the Indus Basin by the Persians and then the Greeks
2. Arab Seafaring in the Indian Ocean
3. Pre-modern South Asian Maritime Achievements: Chola Seaborne Activities in Pre-modern South Asia: Chola Political Economy, Chola Conquest of Ceylon, and Sri Vijaya; Mughal seaborne and coastal trade
4. Pre-modern Chinese Maritime Activities in the Indian Ocean
5. Ottoman Maritime Projects in the Indian Ocean

Bibliography


Kurup, K.K.N., *India’s Naval Traditions* (New Delhi: Northern Book Centre, 1997).


Semester II (MEDIEVAL INDIA: 1200-1800 CE)

HIST 205: Gun powder Empires and Military Fiscal State

1. Military Revolution and Gunpowder Empire Hypothesis
2. Ottoman Empire: Expansion of the Ottoman Empire in Balkan, Egypt and in Middle East, Rise and Fall of the Janissaries, Ottoman Economy, Limited Adoption of Western Firearms by the Ottomans
3. Safavid Empire: A Failed Cavalry State?-Kapi Kulus and Slaves under Shah Ismail, Silk Exports and Weakness of Safavid Economy
4. Mughal Empire: A Pre-modern Gunpowder Empire?-Muskets and Leather Cannons of Babur, Mansabdari System, Use of Handguns and Siege Artillery from Akbar to Aurangzeb, Spread of gunpowder weapons, Peasant Rebellions and Crisis of Mughal Agrarian Economy, Mughal Empire: A Weak State?.
5. China: Origins of Gunpowder, Ming Experiments with Gunpowder, Manchu Cavalry, Stasis in Chinese Gunpowder Weapons, Chinese Perception of Western Culture, Coming of the Europeans and Supremacy of Western Weaponry

Bibliography


Pamuk, Sevket, *The Ottoman Economy and its Institutions* (Surrey: Ashgate, 2009).


HIST 301: The Rise of Modern West: 19th and 20th Centuries

Themes

A. Industrialization
   1. Industrialization in Britain
   2. Industrialization in the European Continent: France, Germany and Russia
   3. Why Industrialization did not occur in China and India?
   4. Industrialization in USA

B. Nationalism and Expansion
   1. Rise of nationalism and nation states in Britain, France and Germany.
   2. Nationalism and consolidation in USA.

C. The Era of Two World Wars
   1. Origins, Courses and Consequences of First World War
   2. Bolshevik Revolution and Rise of Communism
   3. Rise of Fascism and Nazism in Europe
   4. Causes, Course and Legacies of Second World War

D. Cold War and its Impact
   1. Origins of the Cold War
   2. Cold War in the Heartland

E. Globalization and Humanitarian Interventions
   1. What is Globalization?
   2. Humanitarian Intervention in Afghanistan
   3. Humanitarian Intervention in Iraq

Select Readings


HIST 302: Imperialism and Colonialism: 1800-1960

1. Imperial Theories-Marxist, Realist and Culturalist Critiques
2. British Imperialism in Asia with special focus on the British Raj in India
   A. Political Economy of British Empire
   B. Trade and Empire in China
   C. Dynamics of British Expansion in South Asia
3. French Empire Building in South-East Asia
4. German Empire Building
   A. Germany’s Empire in Africa
   B. German Empire in Europe and Russia during the Two World Wars
5. Imperial Dynamics of the Czarist and Bolshevik Empires
6. United States’ Neo Colonialism
7. Collapse of Ottoman Imperialism
8. Rise and Fall of Japanese Imperialism (Manchuria, China and Greater South-East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere): 1916-1945

Selected Readings

Beattie, Hugh, Imperial Frontier: Tribe and State in Waziristan (Surrey: Curzon, 2002).


Pamuk, Sevket, *The Ottoman Economy and its Institutions* (Surrey: Ashgate, 2009).

HIST 303: State, Economy and Society in British India: 1800-1947

A. British Expansion in South Asia: Contestation and Confrontation with the Bengal and Awadh Nawabis, Marathas, and Khalsa Raj
B. Collaboration and the Making of Colonialism
C. Caste, Class and Social Dynamics of British Rule
D. The Making of the Colonial Economy
E. Coercion and Governance: Rebellions (Vellore and 1857 Uprising) and the Army in British India
F. The Colonial State and the Frontiers: North-West and North-East India

Select Readings


Bose, Sugata (ed.), *South Asia and World Capitalism* (Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1990).


Robb, Peter (ed.), *The Concept of Race in South Asia* (Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1995).


HIST 304: Nationalism and Decolonization in Afro-Asia

A. Imperialism and Decolonization in Africa
   1. Egypt
   2. Portuguese Africa

B. Global Warfare, Partition and Decolonization of South Asia
   1. Gandhian Nationalism and the Indian National Congress
   2. Communal Politics and All India Muslim League
   3. Total Wars, Partition and Transition to Independence

C. Second World War and Decolonization of South-East Asia
   1. From Malaya to Malaysia
   2. French Indo-China and the Rise of Ho Chi Minh
   3. Transition from Dutch Netherlands East Indies to Indonesia

D. The Emergence of the Middle East
   1. Iraq
   2. Israel: From Balfour Declaration to the Arab Wars

Select Readings


Brecher, Michael, Decisions in Israel’s Foreign Policy (London: Oxford University Press, 1974).


HIST 305: Post-Colonial India-An Overview

1. Legacy of Partition-Borders, Communalism, Migration of Population, Refugees, Resettlement

2. Congress System-Its Rise and Fall and the Emergence of Regional Parties

3. Governance and Insurgencies: North-East India, LTTE, Kashmir and the Rise of the Maoists

4. The Emergence of Bangladesh-“Bhasa Andolan,” Economic Exploitation of East Pakistan and the 1971 War

5. Economy of Post-Colonial India: From Nehruvian Socialism to New Economic Policy and Globalization

6. India’s Foreign Policy- Pakistan, USA and China

7. India and the Nuclear Question

Bibliography


1. Pre-modern Writings—*Puranas* as mythic royal genealogies, Sanskrit eulogies, *prasastis*, *kavyas* and Arab-Persian chronicles of dynasties and kings.


3. Beginning of Nationalist Assertion-The Emergence of Nationalist Historiography; The Quest for the Great Indian Heritage: H.C. Raychaudhuri, R.C. Majumdar, R.G. Bhandarkar, and R.D. Banerji, etc.; Jadunath Sarkar and the influence of imperialist historiography, similarities between Nationalist and Old Imperialist school-history from top approach and Influence of positivism.

4. Rise of Marxist History Writing in post independent India-Classical Marxists, Aligarh School, Liberal Marxists, Gramsian Marxists-Influence of the rise of social history.

5. Emergence of Subaltern History in the 1980s as a deviant group of Marxist history writings-history from below and transition in the works of the later Subalterns

6. Transition in the New Cambridge School writings

7. Rise of post-modernism and its effect on history writings: Shift from archival to non-archival sources, Replacement of the macro paradigm with several fractured micro histories, study of the marginal groups-rise of *dalit* and women/gender histories, focus on regional history writings, ascent of environmental and ecological history.

8. The coming back of state in history

**Bibliography**

Bhattacharya, Sabyasachi (ed.), *Approaches to History: Essays in Indian Historiography* (New Delhi: Primus, 2011).


Chakraborty, Ranjan (ed.), *Situating Environmental History* (New Delhi: Manohar, 2007).


Guha, Ranajit (ed.), *Subaltern Studies*, vol. 1 (New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1982).


Veer, Peter Van Der, *Imperial Encounters: Religion and Modernity in India and Britain* (Delhi Permanent Black, 2001).
Semester IV

HIST 402: Western Historiography

1. Greek and Roman Historiography: origins of history writing with Herodotus, Thucydides and scientific history, Xenophon and the beginning of autobiography genre, Tacitus and the rise of biographical history, Suetonius and Collective Biography
2. Medieval West Europe, Christianity, Church and Historical Chronicles
4. Positivism, Rankean History and the Rise of Marxist History (role of Industrial Revolution)-role of Lenin and Leon Trotsky
5. 1970s and the dominance of Social History-E.P. Thomson in Britain; Annales School in France (origins under Lucien Febvre and Marc Bloch), history of mentality, and the beginning of longue duree Total History under Fernand Braudel.
6. Post-modernism and Post Cultural Studies-The influence of Michel Foucault, G. Spivak,
7. Chaos Theory, counterfactual (virtual) history and the return of Narrative and State in history writing
8. World/Global History (influence of globalization) and the transformation of comparative history into interlinked history

Bibliography


2. Women in ancient Indian literary texts and epigraphic sources

3. Gender issues in Indian religions, with special reference to Jaina debates on women’s salvation – participants, issues and major arguments; women in Buddhism, Brahmmanism, Bhakti, etc; women ascetics; socio-religious movements and women in Virashaiva and Srivaishnava communities; the socio-sexual constructions of womanhood – in different forms of marriage, family and household; women and property—the concept of stridhana; women in the public spheres— rulers, patrons and livelihood earners.

4. Women in the Sultanate and the Mughal periods; the concept of ‘harem’ and sovereignty; Mughal marriages with Rajput women; Nur Jahan’s involvement in court politics; Jahanara’s participation in trade and politics; manliness in Mughal court culture: body and emotions; norms of masculinity; love, eros and devotion in mystical thought; women and gender in everyday life: gender relations in the household; women in economic activities; crimes against women; marginalized women: prostitutes and entertainers.

5. Women and social reform movements in Colonial India: ambiguities of women and social reforms- sati, purdah, age of consent, widow remarriage, education of women; nationalism (including Gandhi) and communalism (including partition and Hindu right).

6. Women and history: methodological and theoretical questions- some examples: Black Feminism; Italy: renaissance and women; France: gender and the French Revolution; England: industrialisation, Victorian era, working class and women; Germany: women in Nazi Germany, etc.

7. Women in private/public spheres: domesticity and middle class, education and women; women and rural development; women professional and empowerment; imagining masculinities and sexualities; caste and gender; Dalit Feminism; law and women’s rights: dowry, female infanticide, rape, personal laws, land rights; agency and activism: women’s movements and voices.

**Reading List:**


Rangachari, Devika 2009. *Invisible Women, Visible Histories: Society, Gender and Polity in North India (Seventh to Twelfth Century AD)*, New Delhi.


Tanaka, Masakazu and Musashi Tachekawa eds. 1999. Living With Shakti: Gender, Sexuality and Religion in South Asia, Osaka.


Semester IV
Elective Paper

HIST E 405 a: History of Bengal: From Prehistory to the Colonial Period

1. The cultural parameters of the prehistoric and the protohistoric (early village farming phases both pre-metallic and copper and iron using) Bengal: definition, scope, terminology and periodization.


4. Political processes during the post-Gupta Period: Dvadasaditya, Jayanaga, Sasanka, Samacaradeva, Khadgas, Candras, Palas and Senas; art, architecture, painting, literature, numismatic and epigraphic sources of ancient Bengal.

5. Rise of Islamic rule in Bengal: Sultanate and Mughal Periods.

6. Agrarian and non-agrarian economy under the Sultanates and the Mughals of Bengal.

7. Society and culture in medieval Bengal: emerging social patterns and social mobility; art, architecture, literature and religion.

8. Transition to Colonialism (1757-1857) in Bengal context;

9. Rise and consolidation of colonial polity in Bengal.


12. Politics and ideologies in modern Bengal: ethics and politics; Nationalist politics and Bengal Congress; the concept of nation and state in the Colonial and Post-Colonial Bengal.

Reading List:

Ancient Period

Bagchi, Jhunu 1993. The History and Culture of the Palas of Bengal and Bihar (Cir. 750 AD – Cir. 1200 AD), New Delhi.


Chowdhury, Abdul Momin 1967. Dynastic History of Bengal (c. 750-1200 A.D.), Dacca.


1992. Neolithic Culture in West Bengal- With special reference to South and South-East Asia, Delhi.

1995. Black and Red Ware Culture of West Bengal, New Delhi.


French, J.C. 1928. The Art of the Pala Empire, London.


2004 (reprint). *Gaudalekhamala* (i.e. Epigraphs of Gauda, in Bengali), Kolkata.

Majumdar, N. G. 2003. *Inscriptions of Bengal: Containing Inscriptions of the Chandras, the Varmans and the Senas, and Isvaraghosa and Damodara*, Kolkata.


Paul, Pramode Lal 1939. *The Early History of Bengal from the Earliest Times to the Muslim Conquest*, Indian History Series No. 2., Calcutta.


2001 (reprint). *Bangalir Itihas: Adi Parva* (i.e. The History of the Bengali People: Ancient Period), Kolkata.


1982. *Pala-Sena Yuger Vamsanucharit* (i.e. Genealogy and Chronology of the Pala-Sene Era, in Bengali), Calcutta.


1985. *Pala-Purva Yuger Vamsanucharit* (i.e. Genealogy and Chronology of the Pre-Pala Era, in Bengali), Calcutta.

**Medieval Period**


Bhattacharjee, P. N. 1930. Folk Custom and Folklore of the Sylhet District of India. *Man in India* 10/1: 116–49, 244–70.


Datt, Kalikinkal. 1929. Relations between the Hindus and the Muhammadans of Bengal in the Middle of the Eighteenth Century (1740–1765). *Journal of Indian History* 8: 328–35.


Dutt, N. K. 1965. The Origin and Growth of Caste in India. 2 volumes, Calcutta.


1964. Dacca, the Mughal Capital, Dacca.

1963. Murshid Quli Khan and His Times, Dacca.

1985. Social History of the Muslims of Bengal (down to A.D. 1538), Chittagong.


**Colonial Period:**


Guha, Ranajit ed. *Subaltern Studies*, Volumes 1-4 (Relevant Articles on Bengal).


Kawai, Akinobu 1986-7. ‘Landlords’ and Imperial Rule: Change in Bengal Agrarian Society c. 1885-1940, 2 Volumes, Tokyo.


Schendel, Willem van 1982. Peasant Mobility: The Odds of Life in Rural Bangladesh, New Delhi.


Semester IV
Elective Paper
HIST E 405 b: History of Science and Technology

1. Introduction to the history of sciences and technology—historiography, objectives, basic concepts in the history of science, continuity and change.

2. Ancient Indian technology from archaeological and literary sources: ceramics, beads, copper, bronze, iron, and others; history of mining and metallurgy; system of irrigation, brick making; art and architecture, etc.


4. Indian science in the Arab world- exchanges and interactions between India and other South Asian countries; strands and boundaries of the ‘sciences’ from the medieval through early modern period: astronomy, mathematics, geography.

5. Trans-regional processes and networks: knowledge in circulation; Jyotishis, Vaidyas, Nujumis, Tabibs, scientific institutions.

6. Technology on Indian Ocean: trade, war and power in South Asia

7. Science, technology and medicine of the Colonial and Post-Colonial periods: ‘Western Medicine’ in an Indian environment, the railways, ships and shipping, telecommunication networks, hydraulic system; mining and metallurgy, Survey of India; technical education in India, building scientific institutions of Colonial India; Indian response to the European science and technology.

Reading List:


ed. *History of Science, Philosophy and Culture in Indian Civilization* 16 volumes, Delhi, Chennai and Chandigarh.


Filliozat, Jean 1964. The Classical Doctrine of Indian Medicine, Delhi.


Gupta, Beni 1979. Medical Beliefs and Superstitions, Delhi.


2008. Technology in Medieval India 650-1750, Delhi.


Kuppuram, G. and K. Kumudamani eds. 1990. History of Science and Technology in India, 12 volumes, Delhi.

Kutumbiah, P. 1962. Ancient Indian Medicine, Madras.


Miller, H.L. 2007. Archaeological Approaches to Technology, Burlington, M.A.


Singhal, D.P. 1969. *India and World Civilisation 2 Volumes*, Michigan


British Conquest of India: Rise and Fall of Mysore under Haidar Ali and Tipu Sultan- Partial Europeanization of the Mysore Army with French aid and The Four Anglo-Mysore Wars; Fall of the Maratha Confederacy-Limited Military Modernization of the Marathas and the three Anglo-Maratha Wars; Failed Westernization of the Mysore and Maratha Navies; Destruction of the Dal Khalsa- Rise of Ranjit Singh, Transformation of the Sikh Army with French Officers, Civil-Military Problems, The two Anglo-Sikh Wars.

Pacification and Consolidation of British Rule: The Bengal Army Mutiny and its suppression 1857-59; Punitive Expeditions along the North-East Frontier; Small Wars against the Pathan l ashkars in North-West Frontier-British pacification policy in Waziristan and Baluchistan; Three Invasions of Afghanistan; Religion, Race, Caste, Tribe and the Rise of Martial Race Theory.

Global Wars and Decolonization: Role of the Indian Army in First World War, Experiences of the Indian Soldiers in France and Mesopotamia, Its Impact; Indianization of the Officer Corps; Role of the Indian Army in Second World War, Discipline, Morale and Genesis of Hitler’s Legion and the Indian National Army, Indian Army during Quit India and Partition.

Bibliography


Lafont, Jean-Marie, *Fauj-i-Khas: Maharaja Ranjit Singh and his French Officers* (Amritsar: Guru Nanak Dev University, 2002).


Semester IV
Elective Paper
HIST E 405 d: Methods, Thoughts and Practice of Archaeology

1. Archaeology: Definition and Scope.

2. Methods of Exploration (Map Reading, Study of Physical Features, Study of Literary Sources, Previous Works, Local Traditions, Selection of Sites, Surface Survey, Test Pits Digging, etc.), Recording of Data and Analysis; Specialized Survey Methods (Aerial Reconnaissance, Shadow Marks, Crop Marks, Soil Marks, Photogrammetry, Stereoscopy, Periscope Photography, Geophysical Methods, Resistivity Survey, Ground-Penetrating Radar, Magnetometry).


4. Principles of Stratigraphy, Identification of Layers and the Techniques of Recording the Contexts of Excavated Remains (on the Basis of Stratigraphy, Three-Dimensional Recording, Photography)

5. Post-Excavation Analysis.

6. Dating Methods: Relative Dating (Stratigraphy, Typological Sequence, Seriation, Pollen Analysis, Geochronology etc.), Absolute Dating (Radiocarbon, Potassium-Argon, Thermoluminiscence, Uranium Series Method, Electron Spin Resonance, Fission Track, Dendrochronology) and Derivative Dating Techniques (Flourine Test, Uranium Test, Nitrogen Analysis, Amino Acid, etc.)


Bruce Foote, James Burgess and Lord Curzon, J. Marshall era, Contributions of Hargreaves and others, R.E.M. Wheeler era) and Archaeology in Independent India.

9. Application of Science in Archaeology: Geoarchaeology, Archaeozoology, Archaeobotany, etc.

Reading List:


Subbarao B. 1956. The Personality of India, Baroda.


Williams-Freeman, J.P. 1915. An Introduction to Field Archaeology, as illustrated by Hampshire, London.

Woolley, Leonard 1937. Digging up the Past, Harmondsworth.