

**GOVERNMENT DEGREE
COLLEGE BARAMULLA**

SUBJECT HISTORY

SEMESTER – 1st MAJOR / MINOR COURSE

COURSE CODE BHI22C101

COURSE TITLE HISTORY OF ANCIENT INDIA

CREDITS-04 +02

CONTACT HOURS 64 + 32

Objectives/ Expected Learning Outcomes:

The course deals with the history and archaeology of India from stone ages up to the beginning of early medieval times. The learner will be acquainted with the various stone-age cultures, civilizations, chiefdoms, kingdoms and empires that flourished in the Indian subcontinent. The paper aims at enabling the students to understand the origin growth and development of different socio-economic and political structures. It also aims at enabling the learners to understand the regional history in the broader context of Indian sub-continent.

The students are expected:

- a. To understand the significance of various categories of sources in the construction and reconstruction of past.*
- b. To understand the origin, growth and development of various cultures in Indian subcontinent.*
- c. To appreciate the importance of various processes of interaction and accommodation in the making of Indian plural culture.*
- d. To understand the contribution made by Indians in the field of polity, economy and culture.*
- e. To understand and appreciate the role of history in inculcating human values.*
- f. To appreciate the value of heritage.*
- g. To acquaint the students with regional heritage.*

Unit – I

- I.** Sources: Archaeological and Literary.
- II.** Pre and Proto-History: Paleolithic, Mesolithic,
- III.** Neolithic and Chalcolithic Cultures: Features.
- IV.** Indus Valley Civilization: Features and Decline.

Unit-II

- I.** Vedic Age: Polity & Religion
- II.** Jainism and Buddhism: Teachings.
- III.** Rise of Magahda.
- IV.** Mauryan Empire: Polity, Administration and Decline

Unit-III

- I.** Central Asian Contacts—Indo-Greeks, Saka-Parthians and Kushans: Impact.
- II.** Sangam Age: Features.
- III.** Gupta Empire: Polity and Administration.
- IV.** Harshavardhana: Administration

Unit-IV

- I.** Pre-historic Kashmir: Features.
- II.** Kashmir and Central Asia.
- III.** Karkotas: Empire Building.
- IV.** Utpalas: Avantivarmans Developmental Measures.

Unit-V (Tutorial-I)

- I. Guided Museum visit and Report writing: SPS/ CCAS Museum, University of Kashmir/ Miras Mahal, Sopor/Local Museum.
- II. Essay on any of the following:
 - A. Sculptures
 - B. Numismatics
 - C. Epigraphy
 - D. Artifacts

Unit-VI (Tutorial-II)

- I. Guided Heritage Walk: Visit and Report Writing on any of the Prominent Regional sites.
- II. Towards the Making and Development of Heritage Museum: Collection of Cultural and Heritage artifacts.

Suggested Readings

- Allchin, F.R.A. and Allchin, B. 1995, *The Origins of a Civilization*. Delhi: Viking.
- Bamzai, P. N. K., A History of Kashmir, 2nd ed. Metropolitan Book Co., Delhi, 1973.
- Bandey, Ajez, A., Pre-Historic Kashmir, New Delhi, 2009.
- Gurukkal, Rajan. 2010, Social Formations of Early South India. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
- Jha, D. N., 1998, *Ancient India: A Historical Outline*, New- Delhi.
- Kak, R. C., Ancient Monuments of Kapoor, M. L., Studies in History and Culture of Kashmir, Jammu, 1976.
- Kallhana., Rajtarangini. Translated into English by M. A. Stein. 2 Vol. Reprint Delhi: Motilal
- Kashmir, New Delhi, 1971.
- Kosambi, D.D., An Introduction to the Study of Indian History (Bombay, 1956).
- NilakantaSastri, K.A., A History of South India Oxford University of Press, 1967.
- Ray, S.C. Early History and Culture of Kashmir, 2nd.revd.ed. New Delhi, Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers, 1970.
- Shali, S. L., Kashmir: History and Archeology Through Ages, Indus publications New Delhi, 1993.
- Sharma, R. S. 2003, Perspectives in Social and Economic History of Ancient India. Delhi: MunshiramManoharlal
- Sharma, R. S., 2005, *India's Ancient Past*, Oxford University Press.
- Sharma, R.S., Aspects of Political Ideas and Institutions in Ancient India, Mac Millan, New Delhi, 1983
- Singh, Upinder. 2009. *A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India from the stone age to the 12th century*. Delhi: Pearson Longman.
- Thapar, Romila Asoka and the Decline of the Mauryas, Oxford University Press.
- Thapar, Romila, Early India, Penguin Books, 2002.
- Thapar, Romila, *Interpreting Early India*, Delhi, 1999. Oxford University Press.