



NAMBOL L. SANOI COLLEGE, NAMBOL
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

PREVIOUS YEARS QUESTION BANK (2016-2020)

SEMESTER- I
PAPER- I/HIS 101

HISTORY OF INDIA FROM EARLY PERIOD TO 6TH CENTURY B.C.

UNIT-1: Sources of Ancient Indian History

VERY SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS (3 marks)

1. Why are the accounts of foreign travellers considered so important in the study of Ancient Indian History? (2016)
2. Write a note on Indica of Megasthenes. (2017)
3. Write a short note on tribal legends as a source of history. (2018)
4. Write a note on 'Arthashastra' of Kautilya. (2019)
5. State the significance of Indica of Megasthenes. (2020)

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS (5 marks)

1. Write the important Puranas with their main subjects. (2016)
2. State the importance of the 'Puranas' in the reconstruction of ancient Indian history. (2017)
3. How does the oral tradition provide useful historical information? (2018)
4. Write the importance of Classical Sanskrit Literature as a source of Ancient Indian History. (2019)
5. Explain briefly the importance of archaeological evidence as a source of Ancient Indian History. (2020)

ESSAY TYPE QUESTIONS (12 marks)

1. What are the important difficulties in the study of Ancient Indian History? (2016, 2018, 2020s)
Or
Discuss the importance of archaeological sources for the reconstruction of Ancient Indian History.
2. Discuss the foreign literary sources of the ancient Indian history. (2017, 2019)
Or
Describe the important literary source of the ancient Indian history.
3. Describe the relative importance of various sources in reconstructing the history of ancient India. (2018)
4. Discuss the importance of inscriptions and numismatics as the archaeological sources of Ancient Indian History. (2019)
5. Explain the indigenous literary sources in reconstructing the history of Ancient Indian History. (2020)

UNIT-2: Archaeology- Its Definition, Method and Prehistory

VERY SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (3 marks)

1. What do you know about the Age of Metals? (2016)
2. State about the Mesolithic culture of India. (2017)
3. What is epigraphy? (2018)
4. Differentiate between Neolithic age and Paleolithic age. (2019)
5. What do you know about the Mesolithic Age? (2020)

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (5 marks)

1. Explain the two types of excavation. (2016)
2. What is meant by 'environmental archaeology'? (2017)
3. What is meant by the Mesolithic Age? (2018)
4. What are the characteristics of the Chalcolithic Age? (2019)
5. Write a short note on Radiocarbon Dating method. (2020)

ESSAY TYPE QUESTIONS (12 marks)

1. What is prehistory? Write the main features of the Palaeolithic Age. (2016)
Or
What is meant by archaeology? How does it help in the study of the past Ancient Indian History?
2. What is archaeology? Describe the different kinds of archaeology. (2017)
Or
Describe the characteristic features of the Neolithic culture.
3. What is prehistory? Write the main features of the Neolithic Age. (2018)
Or
What is the aim of the science of archaeology? Write its interdisciplinary field of the past human life.
4. Define Archaeology. Explain the different branches of Archaeology. (2019)
Or
Explain the Absolute dating and Relative dating methods in the study of Archaeology.
5. Explain the different methods of investigation which were used by the Archaeologists to reconstruct the past history. (2020)
Or
Describe the different phases of pre-historic culture in India.

UNIT-3: Harappan Culture

VERY SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (3 marks)

1. How did the Indus Valley people dispose of the deaths? (2016)
2. How were the Harappan cities planned? (2017)
3. Who were the authors of the Indus Valley Civilization? (2018)
4. Mention the food habits of Harappan people. (2019)
5. Name the three methods of the disposal of dead bodies in the Indus Valley Civilization. (2020)

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (5 marks)

1. How did the Harappan Culture come to an end? (2016, 2018)
2. Write a note on the Seals of the Harappan Culture. (2017)
3. Briefly mention the economic life of the Indus people. (2019)
4. Why did the Great Bath of Mohenjodaro regard as the most imposing structure of Indus Valley Civilization? (2020)

ESSAY TYPE QUESTIONS (12 marks)

1. Discuss the salient features of the Indus Valley Civilization. (2016)
Or
Give an account of the religious and economic life of the Indus Valley people.
2. Analyze the socio-economic life of the Indus Valley people. (2017)
Or
“The Harappan Culture was certainly an urban culture.” Justify.
3. Discuss the salient features of the Indus Valley Civilization. (2018)
Or
Describe the social and religious conditions of the Indus Valley people.
4. Describe the town planning of the Indus Valley Civilization. (2019)
Or
Explain the factors which led to the end of the Indus Valley Civilization.
5. Critically analyze the main features of the Indus Valley Civilization. (2020)
Or
Evaluate the social and economic life of Harappan people.

UNIT-4: Vedic civilization: Early Vedic and Later Vedic

VERY SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (3 marks)

1. What is Veda? Name its different types. (2016)
2. State the position of women in the Vedic Aryan society. (2017)
3. Write a short note on the term ‘Atharva Veda’. (2018)
4. Write the position of women during the Rig Veda age. (2019)
5. Write the system of education during the Early Vedic Age. (2020)

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (5 marks)

1. Write a short note on the origin and development of caste system in India. (2016)
2. State the convention of Ashrama system in the Later Vedic Age. (2017)
3. What do you know about the Sabha and Samiti? (2018)
4. Explain the Ashrama system in the Later Vedic period. (2019)
5. Explain the position of women during the Later Vedic Age. (2020)

ESSAY TYPE QUESTIONS (12 marks)

1. Describe briefly the economic and religious life of the Rig- Vedic Aryans. (2016)
Or
State the main points of difference between the Indus Valley people and the Vedic Aryans.
2. Who were the Aryans? Give a brief account of the economic and religious life of the Rig Vedic Aryans. (2017)
Or
How was the caste system originated? Describe the merits and demerits of the caste system.
3. Critically examine the significant changes developed in the Indian society and culture during the Later Vedic period. (2018)
Or
Trace the religious conditions of the early Aryans as reflected in the Rig Vedic literature.
4. Discuss the contributions of the Aryans to Indian culture. (2019)
Or
Explain the conditions of political and economic life during the early Vedic period.
5. Describe the changes witnessed in the social and religious condition of the Later Vedic Age. (2020)
Or
Explain the detailed political set-up during the Early Vedic Age.

UNIT-5: Indian religious movements in 6th Century B.C. (Buddhism and Jainism)

VERY SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (3 marks)

1. What did Jainism contribute to Indian society? (2016)
2. What are the differences between the two sects of Jainism? (2017)
3. Why did Gautama Buddha leave his home? (2018)
4. State the doctrine of Three-Fold Path or Tri Ratna of Jainism. (2019)
5. Write three reasons of the decline of Buddhism. (2020)

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (5 marks)

1. What factors were responsible for the popularity of Buddhism? (2016)
2. What were the Mahayana and Hinayana sects of Buddhism? (2017)
3. What did Jainism contribute to Indian society? (2018)
4. What are the differences between Hinduism and Jainism? (2019)
5. What are the Panch Mahavratas or Five Vows of Jainism? (2020)

ESSAY TYPE QUESTIONS (12 marks)

1. "The Sixth Century B.C. was a period of religious unrest in India." Justify. (2016)
Or
Analyze the main teachings of Buddhism and its impact on the Indian society.
2. Describe the important teachings of Jainism. (2017)
Or
Discuss the condition of the Hindu society before the rise of Buddhism.

3. What were the causes responsible for the spread of Buddhism and its downfall? (2018)

Or

Describe the causes of religious awakening during the 6th century B.C. in India.

4. Discuss the factors responsible for the decline of Brahmanism during the 6th century B.C. (2019)

Or

Give an account of the early life and teachings of Mahavira.

5. Describe the factors that led to the religious awakening in the 6th century B.C. (2020)

Or

Discuss the contribution of Buddhism towards the cultural advancement of ancient India.