

SRI VENKATESWARA UNIVERSITY - TIRUPATI

B.A (Honours) in HISTORY

(MAJOR)

II - SEMESTER

3. SCIENCE AND HUMAN PAST

Learning Outcomes:

After successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Students will understand the meaning of history and its relation to other social sciences and historical writing.
- Learn about the origin and evolution of human culture.
- Know how humans transformed from the Stone Age to the Iron Age.
- Understand the greatness of the first Indian civilization in the Indus Valley.
- Learn about the richness of Vedic culture.

Syllabus:

Unit-I

What is History-Is History a science?-Facts, Interpretations-Relation with other Social Sciences-Sources of Indian History: Archaeological and Literary Sources.

Unit-II

Hunting Gathering to the Food Production Society: Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Chalcolithic Phases in India- Evolution of tools, belief systems and art forms.

Unit-III

First Urbanization in India: The Indus Valley Civilization-Definition of Civilization and Urbanization-Origin, Extent-Sites-Features of IVC-Trade and Commerce-Social and Cultural Life-Decline of the Civilization.

Unit-IV

The Vedic Corpus: Vedic Literature-Indo-Aryans Theories-Society, Economy, Culture, religion and Polity during the Early Vedic Period-Society, Economy, Culture, religion and Polity during the Later Vedic Period-Origin of Varna System.

Unit-V

Second Urbanization in India: Iron Age Cultures in the subcontinent- Impact of Iron technology-The emergence of City life- Urban Occupations, Crafts, Guilds-Trade and Commerce.

CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

- A student seminar can be conducted on history and its relationship to other social sciences.
- Map-pointing should be a compulsory activity as it helps students understand the text more vividly and clearly and should be made part of the internal examination by allotting 5 marks out of 25 for this skill-based activity.
- Collection of news reports and maintaining a record of paper cuttings relating to topics covered in the syllabus
- Pictures are drawings of Stone Age cultures. Students can be asked to create a calendar charting the dates of key events.
- Students should be asked to prepare an inventory of items preserved in the museum and their usage
- An assignment can be given on metal-age cultures with student justification.
- A test can be conducted on Indus valley civilization.
- A comparative table of Indus and Vedic culture can be prepared.
- Book Reviews on latest Developments in History
- Seminars/Group Discussions/Quiz/Unit Tests
- Collection of Articles and Books
- Preparation of Videos/Charts
- Identify the important places in the Map
- Project Works
- Prepare the synapses
- Write articles to the reputed journals and Magazines
- Photos Exhibitions on Temple Architecture
- Visit to the Museums
- Membership from AP History Congress

REFERENCES:

1. E.H. Carr., What is History, Penguin, 1961
2. H.D.Sanakalia., Pre History and Proto History of India and Pakistan, Bombay University Press, 1990.
3. Stuart Piggott., Prehistoric India to 1000 BC, MJP Publisher, 2022.
4. B.Shaik Ali., History: its Theory and Method, Macmillan, 1978
5. R.S.Sharma., Ancient India, New Delhi, 1996
6. Gordon Childe., What Happened in History, Penguin, 1952
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11. R.C.Majumdar, K.K.Dutta & H.C.RoyChowdhuri (ed.), An Advanced History of India, Macmillan, 1948.
12. RomilaThapar., Cultural Pasts: Essays on Early Indian History, Oxford university Press, 2000.
13. Romila Thapar., Early India: From the origins to 1300, University of California Press, 2004.

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B.A (Honours) in HISTORY

II SEMESTER

(MAJOR)

**4. AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT AND
STATE FORMATION**

Learning Outcomes:

After successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Know the philosophies of Indian religions.
- Learn about the formation of states and their growth.
- Know the causes of the rise of Magadha and its political history.
- Understand the Mauryans history and Ashoka Dhamma policy.
- Will know the significance of post-Mauryan conditions

SYLLABUS:

Unit-I

New Religious Philosophy- Ajivikas, Charvakas-Jainism and Buddhism

Unit-II

State formation: Sixteen Mahajanapadas - Rise of Magadha - Nandas- Foreign Invasions - Darius I and Alexander.

Unit-III

Mauryan Empire: Archaeological and Literary Sources-Chandra Gupta Maurya-Bindusara and Ashoka - Ashoka's Dhamma Policy.

Unit-IV

The Mauryan Administration-Society, Economy, Art and Architecture - Decline of Mauryan Empire-Sangam Literature.

Unit-V

Post Mauryan Period-Invasions from Central Asia-Indo Greeks-Sakas-Parthians and Khushans-Growth of Trade and Urban centres-Coins and Guilds-Gandhara and Mathura Art.

CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

- Visit the nearest Jain and Buddhist sites or temples and submit a project report.
- Conducted a test on the emergence of states in India.
- Conducted a group discussion on Ashoka's religious policy.
- Prepare a poster-making activity on the art and architecture of the Mauryas.
- Visit the nearest museum and study the Indo-Greek coins.
- Students should be asked to prepare an inventory of items preserved in the museum and their usage.
- An assignment can be given on Mauryan art.
- A test can be conducted on Sangam literature.
- A comparative table of Jainism and Buddhism culture can be prepared.
- Book Reviews on latest Developments in History
- Seminars/Group Discussions/Quiz/Unit Tests
- Collection of Articles and Books
- Preparation of Videos/Charts
- Identify the important places in the Map
- Project Works
- Prepare the synopses
- Write articles to the reputed journals and Magazines
- Photos Exhibitions on Temple Architecture
- Visit to the Museums
- Membership from AP History Congress

REFERENCES:

1. K.A.N Sastri., Age of the Nandas and Mouryas, Motilal Banarasidass, 1952
2. R.S.Sharma., Matrial Culture and Social Formations in Ancient India, Macmillan India, 2007.
3. R.S.Sharma., Looking for the Aryans, Orient Longman, 1995.
4. RomilaThaper., History of India, Penguin, 1965
5. V.D.Mahajan., Ancient India, S.Chand and Company Limited, 2019.
6. Upinder Singh., A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India: From the Ancient Stone Age to the 12th Century, Pearson India, 2009.
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9. Romila Thapar., Early India: From the origins to 1300, University of California Press, 2004.
10. Romila Thapar., Cultural Pasts: Essays on Early Indian History, Oxford University Press, 2000.
11. Romila Thapar., Ashoka and Decline of the Mauryas, OUP, 2012