



PROF. RAJENDRA SINGH (RAJJU BHAIYA) UNIVERSITY, PRAYAGRAJ

DOCTORAL ENTRANCE TEST (DET)

(SESSION : 2022-2023 ONWARDS)

DET Syllabus

ANCIENT HISTORY, CULTURE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Unit-I

Ancient India (from earliest times to A.D. 1200)

Sources: Literary, Archaeological and Foreign accounts (Greek, Chinese and Arab).

Concepts, Ideas and Terms: Rta, Sabha and Samiti, Yajna, Varna, Ashramas, Rna Sanskaras, Purusharthas, Agraharas, Kara/Vishti, Arthasastra Saptanga, Stupa, Chaitya, Nagar, Dravida, Vesara,

Mathura/Gandhara Schools of Art.

Research in Ancient History

Scope and value of History: Objectivity and bias in history; history and its auxiliary branches; area of research proposed. Sources - Primary/Secondary in the proposed area of research.

Modern Historical writing in the proposed area of research.

Unit-II

Prehistoric Archeology: Paleolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Chalcolithic. Indus Valley

Civilization: Characteristics features, Origin, Geographical, Extent, Chronology, decline/Survival.

Iron Age: Antiquity, Second Urbanization. Iron and Megaliths.

Unit-III

Vedic Period: Early and Later Vedic; Society, Economy, Political Institutions, Religious and Philosophical ideas.

Unit-IV

Early State Formation: The Mahajanapadas; Rise of Magadha from Bimbsara to Mahapadmananda,

Alexander's Invasion, bases and features of Monarchical states; Nature of the Republics.

The First Empire: Magadha expansion in the times of Chandragupta Maurya - Administration, society and economy in the Mauryan period; Asoka, his Dharma; Decline of the Mauryan Empire.

Unit-V

Age of Political Fragmentation C. 200 BC - AD 300

Sungas and Kanvas, Indo-Greeks, Sakas, Kushanas: Kanishka I (date and achievements), Western Kshtrapas, Kharavela.

Deccan and South India: The Satavahanas, Tamil States of the Sangam Age, Administration, economy, Sangam Literature and Culture.

Age of the Imperial Guptas

The Guptas and the Vakatakas: Political History: Administration, Economic conditions: Coinage of the Guptas, Landgrants, Decline of Urban centres.

Unit-VI

History of the Early Medieval India

Harsha and the Regional States : Harsha and his military campaigns, Education and Educational Institutions - Nalanda, Vikramashila and Vallabhi, Sanskrit literature.

Gurjara-Pratiharas, Kalachuin-Chedis, Paramaras Arab Contacts - Ghaznavi Conquest, Alberuni Palas and Senas

Pallavas and Chalukyas of Badami

Chalukyas of Kalyani and Cholas Administration and local government, Society, Economy and Culture during the Early - Medieval Period: Feudalism, trade guilds, position of women, educational institutions - Nalanda, Vikramashila; growth of Vaishnavism and Saivism; art and architecture.

Unit-VII

(Socio - Economic History) Earliest times to 1200 AD

Sources, Social and economic life in Indus valley civilization, society and economic life in the Vedic Pd. Mauryan pd. Society and Economy from the 2nd century B.C. to the 3rd, 4th Century A.D.

(a) Society and Economy in the Gupta Period, Varnashram system, Caste System, Slavery, Sanskaras, Purusharthas, Position of women, Education.

(b) Agriculture, Industry and Industrial guilds and labour.

(c) Trade and commerce, Mercantile guilds, Taxation and Revenue system, Rural and urban settlements.

(d) Feudal system, Social and Economic changes during early medieval period.

(e) Transition from Antiquity to the early middle Ages, Feudalism social and economic changes during the early medieval period.

Unit-VIII

(Ancient India Art & Architecture)

(a) Historiography, Approaches and Sources, Research Methodology in Ancient Indian Art & Architecture, the meaning of Art: Study of content of Art.

(b) Interplay of Regions, Artists and Patron, Margi and Desi Arts, Representing gender, Rituals.

(c) Evolution and History of Architecture; Harappan, Mauryan, Rock-cut Architecture, Stupa Architecture, Temple Architecture: Gupta temples, Orissa, Khajuraho, Chalukyas, Rarstruktas, Pallava, Cholas.

(d) Indian and Western Aesthetics.

(e) Sculptural Art of the Mauryas, Shungas, Satavahanas, Kushanas, Guptas, Chandelas, Kalinga, Pallava and Chola.

(f) Origin and Development of Indian Iconography: Bodhisattva, Buddha, Adinath, Parswanath, Mahavira, Vishnu, Shiva, Shakti, Surya,

(g) Terracotta Art, Indus, Mauryan, Shunga, Kushana, Gupta, early medieval Regional traditions.

(h) Paintings: Pre-Historic, Classical Painting traditions, Ajanta and Bagh.

Unit-IX

(Ancient Indian Religion and Philosophy)

(a) Sources,

(b) Foundations of Religious systems: Harappan, Vedic and Sangam.

(c) Sun Worship, Saivism, Vaishnavism, Jainism and Buddhism.

(d) Rituals, Yajna, Educational rites, Puranic Anushthana, Tirtha, Dana, Shraddha.

(e) Philosophy of the Upanishads, Jain Philosophy, Buddhist Philosophy, Philosophy of Sankara and Gita.

(f) Shaktism, Tantrism, Ascetic tradition and Bhakti.

(g) Shankaracharya, Ramanujam and Lokayat.

Unit-X

(Archaeological Studies)

(a) Hunting and gathering - Paleolithic and Mesolithic in India.

(b) Beginning of Agriculture - Neolithic and Chalcolithic in India.

(c) Indus valley Civilization origin, extent, date, characteristics, decline, survival.

(d) Antiquity of Iron, second urbanizations iron and megaliths.

(e) Archaeological Methods and Techniques: Exploration, excavations and conservation of artifacts; dating techniques; importance of stratigraphy in archaeology.