

UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS
M.A. DEGREE PROGRAMME IN HISTORICAL STUDIES
 SYLLABUS WITH EFFECT FROM 2023-2024

FIRST YEAR – SEMESTER- I

Course code	403C1B	SOCIAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY OF INDIA UP TO CE 1526	L	T	P	C
Core/Elective/Supportive	Core - 2		4	0	0	4
Pre-requisite			Syllabus Version		R2020	
Course Objectives:						
<p>The main objectives of this course are to:</p> <p>Understand the vibrant picture of the distinct and unique culture of India through vast sources.</p> <p>Educate about the discovery of Indus Valley Civilization and the remarkable features of Vedic age.</p> <p>Appreciate the different features of ancient Indian religions and the Re-polarization of Society.</p> <p>Study the Persian and Greek influence on Indian Society.</p> <p>Analyze the social, economic and religious aspects of India up to 1526 CE.</p>						
Expected Course Outcomes:						
The students would have gained knowledge on the following concepts:						
1.	Comprehend the magnificence of ancient Indian culture and civilization.					K1
2.	Evaluate the religious significance of ancient India					K1
3.	Assess the impact of foreign influence on ancient Indian society.					K2
4.	Understand the cultural efflorescence of India.					K2
5.	Appreciate the art and architecture of India under Delhi Sultans.					K5
K1 - Remember; K2 - Understand; K3 - Apply; K4 - Analyze; K5 - Evaluate;						
Unit:1						
					14 hours	
India's Geographical features – Sources for the study of Ancient Indian History – Prehistoric Culture – Indus Valley Civilization – Extent of Indus Valley – Social – Cultural life of the Indus Valley people – Indus Script – Religion – Economy and Trade – Causes for the decline of the Indus Valley civilization.						
Unit:2						
					14 hours	
The Coming of the Aryans – Social and cultural life of the Rig Vedic and Later Vedic Aryans – Religious ideas, rituals and practices – Evolution of Social Institutions – Origin and growth of caste system and its impact on society.						
Unit:3						
					14 hours	
Religious upsurge in 6th Century B.C. – Jainism and Buddhism – Causes, Social, Economic and Religious factors- Contribution to Indian culture – Language, Literature, Art and Architecture – Causes for the Decline of Buddhism – The Rise of Urban Centres – Janapadas and Majanapadas – Cultural interaction between India and neighboring countries (Central Asia, South East Asia, China)						

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Unit:4		14 hours								
Gandhara, Mathura School of Art – Vaishnavism – Saivism – The Satavahanas – rise of Guptas – Samudra Gupta – Revival of Hinduism during the Gupta period – Its impact on Society – Cultural Florescence – literature, science – Art and Architecture – Temples – Sculpture – Painting – Religion – Great Educational Centres-Nalanda and Vikramasila – Decline of the Guptas.										
Unit:5		14 hours								
Rajput Society and Culture – Foreign Accounts – rise of feudalism and regional kingdoms- Advent of Arabs – cultural transactions between India and west Asia- Delhi Sultanate – Society – Sultan and Nobles - Slave System – Jagir system-Status of Women – Religion – Chilsila and Sufism – Cultural Conditions – Literature, Learning, Art and Architecture.										
Total Lecture hours		70 hours								
Text Book(s)										
1.	Altekar A.S., State and Government in Ancient India, Delhi, 1958.									
2.	Basham A.L., The Wonder that was India, Sidgwick and Jackson,1954., Cultural History of India, Ed. Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 1975.									
3.	Kosambi D.D., An Introduction to the Study of Indian History, Popular Prakashan, Delhi, 1975., The Culture and Civilization of Ancient India in Historical Outline, Vikas Publishing House Pvt.Ltd.,									
4.	Mahajan V.D., Ancient India, S.Chand and Company, New Delhi, 1960.									
5.	Majumdar R.C., Main Currents in Indian History, Sterling Publishers, New Delhi, 1984.									
6.	Majumdar R.C., Raychaudhuri H.C, and Datta, An Advanced Historyof India, Macmillan, Madras, 1994.									
7.	Munshi,K.M., The Classical Age, Vol ., Bharathiya Vidhya Bhavan Series, Bombay, 1954.									
8.	Romila Thapar., Ancient India, Penguin Books, England, 1966.									
9.	Subramanian N., IndiyaVaralaru (Tamil), New Century Book House, Chennai, 2004.									
10.	Sharma L. P., History of Ancient India, Konark Publishers,Delhi, 1981.									
11.	Sreenivasa Murthy H.V., History and Culture of India to 1000 A.D. S.Chand & Company Ltd New Delhi, 1980.									
Mapping with Programme Outcomes*										
COs	PO1	PO2	PO3	PO4	PO5	PO6	PO7	PO8	PO9	PO10
CO1	M	S	M	S	M	S	L	M	L	L
CO2	S	S	L	S	S	M	L	M	L	L
CO3	S	M	S	S	S	M	L	S	L	L
CO4	S	S	S	S	S	S	M	S	L	L
CO5	S	S	S	M	M	L	S	L	L	L

*S-Strong; M-Medium; L-Low