

**P.G. 4<sup>th</sup> SEMESTER SYLLABUS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY**  
**COTTON UNIVERSITY**

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**SEMESTER: 4 (GROUP – A)**

**PAPER : HST1001CGPA**

**HISTORY OF INDIA (c. 600-1300 CE)**  
**(Credits: 3+1+0=4)**

**Course Objective:**

- To give an introduction to historical debates associated with the early medieval period of the subcontinent.
- Emphasis will be given on understanding the processes of change within the political, economic and social aspects.

**Course Outcome:**

The course will enable the students in analyzing the debates associated with the early medieval phase in Indian history as well as relating it to the developments in the social, economic and political aspects.

**Total No. of lectures= 48**

**Unit 1: Introduction**

**9**

1.1: Representations of Early Medieval India: Debate surrounding the movement towards the early medieval; its constituents

**Unit 2: Economy**

**10**

2.1: Agrarian Expansion and spread of settlements with reference to perspective from regions  
2.2: Urbanization, Trade, Money and Markets: guilds in North and South India.

**Unit 3: Society**

**10**

3.1: Issues related to social stratification; emergence of regional societies; rise of new groups,  
3.2: Gender relations, inheritance and history of untouchability

**Unit 4: Political Systems**

**9**

4.1: Conceptions of kingship; evolution of the structure of polities across the regions; changing forms of legitimation

**Unit 5: Cultural and Religious Processes:**

**10**

5.1: Puranic Hinduism and Tantrism  
5.2: Temples, *mathas* and *tirthas*  
5.3: Spread of sastric-epic-puranic ideas  
5.4: Developments in arts and literature

**Essential Readings:**

Chakrabarti, Ranabir, *Trade and Traders in Early India* Manohar, 2002

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- Champakalakshmi, R., *Trade, Ideology and Urbanization*, OUP, 1996
- Chattopadhyaya, B.D., *Aspects of Rural Settlements and Rural Society in Early Medieval India*, OUP, 2005
- Chattopadhyaya, B.D., *The Making of Early Medieval India*, K P Bagchi and co. 1995.
- Deyell, J, *Living without Silver*, CUP, 1982
- Huntington, S, *The Art of Ancient India: Buddhist, Hindu, Jain*, Weatherhill, 2006
- Jaiswal, S, *Caste: Origin, Function and Dimensions of Change*, Manohar Publishers, 1998
- Kane, P.V., *History of Dharmasastra* (relevant volumes).
- Kulke, H., *The State in India, 1000-1700*, OUP, 1995
- Nandi, R.N., *State Formation, Agrarian Growth and Social Change in Feudal South India*.
- Nath, Vijay, *Puranas and Acculturation*, Munshiram Manoharlal, 2001
- Rangachari, D., *Invisible Women, Visible Histories*, Manohar Publishers, 2009
- Sahu, B.P., ed., *Land System and Rural Society in Early medieval India*.
- Shah, S., *Love, Eroticism and Female Sexuality in Classical Sanskrit Literature* Manohar, 2009
- Sharma, R.S. and K.M. Shrimali, eds., *The Comprehensive History of India*, vol. IV (2), People's Publishing House, 1992
- Sharma, R.S., *Early Medieval Indian Society: A Study in Feudalisation*, Orient Longman, 2003
- Sharma, R.S., *Urban Decay in India AD 300-1000.*, Munshiram Manoharlal, 1987
- Talbot, C., *Precolonial India in Practice*, OUP, 2001.
- Thapar, Romila, *Cultural Pasts*, OUP, 2003

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**SEMESTER: 4 (GROUP – B)**

**PAPER : HST1001CGPB**

**FORMS OF POPULAR RESISTANCE IN NORTHERN INDIA, (1560-1740)**

**(Credits: 3+1+0=4)**

This course will focus on the different forms of popular resistance during the Mughal period.

**Total lectures= 48**

**Unit-1 :**

1.1. **Historiography of popular resistance.** 8

**Unit-2 .** The Revolts of the nobility: 10

2.1 Changing complexion of the ruling class, c. 1560-1740;

2.2 Peasant Revolts: Nature of peasant revolts in Mughal India;

2.3 Modes of protest; Response of the State.

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<b>Unit-3 Zamindars' Revolts</b>	<b>10</b>
3.1	Zamindar and the Mughal Administration-local uprisings and their consequences for the Mughal polity.
3.2	Nature and power of the new zamindars.
3.3	Revolts of Jats.
<b>Unit- 4. Religious forms of resistance:</b>	<b>10</b>
4.1	Raushani Movement (1585, 1611-16, 1628 A.D.);
4.2	Satnami Revolt (1672), Sikh Revolts.
<b>Unit- 5. Other forms of resistance</b>	<b>10</b>
5.1	Merchant forms of resistance.
5.2	Everyday/routine forms of resistance.

**ESSENTIAL READINGS :**

- Alam, Muzaffar, *The Crisis of Empire in Mughal North India; Awadh and the Punjab, 1707-1748*, Delhi, 2001.
- Alam, M. & Subramaniam, (eds), *The Mughal State, 1526-1750*, New Delhi: GUP, 1998.
- Champaklakshmi, R. and Gopal, S. eds., *Tradition, Dissent And Ideology*, OUP, 2001
- Chandra, Satish, *Parties and Politics at the Mughal Court, 1707-1740*, New Delhi, OUP, 2003 [4<sup>th</sup> edition]
- \_\_\_\_\_, *Medieval India: Society Jagirdari Crisis and the Village*. [Delhi: Macmillan, 1992]
- Bhadra, Gautam (1999) 'Two frontier uprisings in Mughal India', *Subaltern Studies II*
- Hobsbawm, E.J. *Bandits*, Middlesex, 1985.
- Hasan, Farhat, *State and Locality in Mughal India Power Relations in Western India, c. 1572-1730* (Cambridge: OUP, 2004).
- Irfan Habib, *The Agrarian system of Mughal India (1556-1707)*, OUP, 1999.
- Hasan, S. Nurul, *Thought on Agrarian relation in Mughal India*, 1973.
- Mayaram, Shail, *Against History, Against State: Counter perspectives from the margins*, New Delhi, 2004.
- Smith, W.C., 'Lower Class Uprisings in the Mughal Empire', *Islamic Culture*, 1946.
- Scott, James C., *Weapons of the Weak: Everyday Forms of Peasant Resistance*, Yale University Press, 1985
- R.P. Rana, *Rebels to Rulers: The Rise of Jat Power in Medieval India, c. 1665- 1735*, New Delhi: Manohar, 2006.
- Khan, A.R., *Chieftains in the Mughal Empire during the Reign of Akbar*, Shimla, 1977.

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**SEMESTER: 4 (GROUP – C)**

PAPER : HST1001CGPC

**SOCIAL HISTORY OF MODERN INDIA (1800-1947)**  
(Credits: 3+1+0=4)

The objective is to understand the changes in Indian society after the advent of British rule.

**Total lectures= 48**

<b>Unit-I: The Emergence of Modern Society in India</b>	<b>9</b>
1.1 Decline of old social order	
1.2 Advent of colonialism and re-organization of society	
1.3 Growth of professional middle class	
<b>Unit-II: Colonial Impact on Indian Society</b>	<b>9</b>
2.1 Rural Society and transformation	
2.2 Emergence of urban class evolution and transformation of urban social groups	
<b>Unit-III: Transitions in Modern Indian Society</b>	<b>10</b>
3.1 The colonial middle class	
3.2 Response to the pressure of modernity	
3.3 Religion and gender in a modernizing society	
<b>Unit-IV: Socio-religious trends in Modern India</b>	<b>10</b>
4.1 Brahma Samaj	
4.2 Prarthana Samaj	
4.3 Arya Samaj	
4.4 Aligarh Movement	
4.5 Wahabi Movement	
4.6 Deoband Movement	
<b>Unit-V: Castes and Tribes in India</b>	<b>10</b>
5.1 Colonial social classification - census	
5.2 Caste consciousness and mobility	
5.3 Protest against untouchability	
5.4 Tribes in India: a colonial construction	
5.5 Tribal movements - case studies	

**READING LIST :**

- a) Ravinder Kumar, *Essays in the Social History of Modern India*, OUP, 1983.
- b) A.R. Desai, *Social Background of Indian Nationalism*, Popular Prakashan, 2009.
- c) Jan Breman, *Labour Bondage in West India from Past to Present*, OUP, 2007.

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- d) Omvedt, Gail (2008), *Dalit Visions*, Orient Longman.
- e) Jodhka, S. (2012), *Caste*, OUP
- f) Dipankar Gupta, *Interrogating Caste*, Penguin (2002)
- g) Understanding Caste: *From Buddha to Ambedkar and Beyond (2014)*, Orient Blackswan

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**(GROUP – A: Special Paper)**

**PAPER : HST1002SPA1**

**ECONOMIC HISTORY OF EARLY INDIA (1500 BCE - 1300 CE)**  
**(Credits: 4+1+0=5)**

**Course Objective:**

- The primary focus of this course is on understanding the nature of economy and its evolution in the period from 1500 BCE to 1300 CE in the subcontinent.
- To understand the transition in economy, the significance of metal money and development of trade networks.

**Course Outcome:**

The course will specifically and in a detailed manner enable the students to have an understanding of the economic developments as well as analysing the changes pertaining to the economy. Moreover, emphasis on coins will also give the students an understanding of the changes in the domain of coinage which formed an important aspect of the trade network.

**Total lectures= 64**

<b>Unit I: The Vedic Economy (1500- 600 BCE)</b>	<b>16</b>
1.1 Pastoral Economy: Rig Vedic Economy	
1.2 Transition from pastoral to agrarian economy: Later Vedic Economy	
1.3	
<b>Unit II: Advent of Metal Money (600-200 BCE)</b>	<b>16</b>
2.1 Agricultural economy	
2.2 Taxation	
2.3 Emergence of Coins: Punch-marked coins	
2.4 The Second urbanization debate	
<b>Unit III: Advent of Monetary Economy (200 BCE- 300 CE)</b>	<b>16</b>
3.1 Trade Networks- Internal and External	
3.2 Coins of the Indo- Greeks, Kushanas, Satavahanas	
3.3 Buddhism and Economy	
<b>Unit IV: Advent of Land grant economy (300 CE- 1300 CE)</b>	<b>16</b>
4.1 Agrarian economy and changing land rights	
4.2 Trade and its impact on metal money	

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4.3 The Feudalism Debate

**Reading List:**

- P. John Casey, *Understanding Ancient Coins: An Introduction for Archaeologists and Historians* (1986)
- Chattopadhyaya Brajadulal, *Coins and Currency Systems in South India, c. AD 225-1300*, Delhi, (1976)
- Joe Cribb (ed.), *Money: From Cowrie Shells to Credit Cards* (1986)
- Gupta, Parmeshwari Lal and Jha, Amal Kumar (ed.), *Numismatics and Archaeology, Indian Institute of Research in Numismatic Studies*, Nashik, 1987
- Olivier Guillaume, *Analysis of Reasonings in Archaeology: The Case of Graeco- Bactrian and Indo- Greek Numismatics*, 1990
- Amal Kumar Jha (ed.), *Coinage, Trade and Economy, Indian Institute of Research in Numismatic Studies*, Nashik, 1991
- S.K Maity, *Early Indian Coins and Currency System*
- Walter C. Neale, *Monies in Societies*, 1976

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**(GROUP – B: Special Paper)**

**PAPER : HST1002SPB1**

**HISTORY OF ASSAM (1228-1826)**

**(Credits: 4+1+0=5)**

This course intends to acquaint students of the political developments in the Brahmaputra Valley. The focus of the study will be on the rise and fall of the Ahom rule, relations between various tribal and non-tribal powers and the various forces and factors which are responsible for the growth of Assamese culture.

**Total lectures= 64**

<b>Unit-I : Sources –</b>	<b>10</b>
1.1 Literature: indigenous, foreign;	
1.2 Archaeology: inscriptions, coins and material remains.	
<b>Unit-II: Foundation, expansion and consolidation of Ahom rule,</b>	<b>12</b>
2.1 Relations with the Kacharis, Kamatas,	
2.2 Relations with the Chutiyas, Koches, Jayantia.	
2.3 The Ahoms and Hill tribes - Naga, Dafla, Bhutiya.	
<b>Unit-III: The emergence of the Koch kingdom</b>	<b>10</b>
3.1 Relations with the Mughals	
3.2 Administrative system of the Koches.	
<b>Unit-IV: The Mughal invasions and Ahom resistance</b>	<b>12</b>

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- 4.1 invasion of Mirjumla,
- 4.2 Battle of Saraighat,
- 4.3 Battle of Itakhuli.

**Unit-V: Zenith of the Ahom rule: 10**

- 5.1 Political, social, economic and cultural developments in the Brahmaputra valley.
- 5.2 Vaisnavite movement.

**Unit VI: Decline and fall of the Ahom power: 10**

- 6.1 Moamaria rebellion,
- 6.2 Burmese invasion,
- 6.3 Revolts in Lower Assam:

**Essential Readings :**

1. Barpujari, H.K. ed.: *The Comprehensive History of Assam, Vol. I, II and III*, 1992, Publication Board Assam
2. Choudhury, P.C.: *History of Civilization of the People of Assam to the Twelfth Century A.D.* 1959, Guwahati
3. Lahiri, Nayanjot: *Pre-Ahom Assam*, 1991, Munshiram Manoharlal
4. Guha, Amalendu: *Medieval and Early Colonial Assam: Society, Polity and Economy*, 1991, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences
5. Bhuyan, S.K. *Anglo-Assamese Relations*, 1974, Lawyers Book Stall
6. Devi. L.: *Ahom Tribal Relations*, 1968, Assam Book Depot, Calcutta
7. Barua, S.L.: *Last Days of the Ahom Monarchy*, Munshiram Manoharlal

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**(GROUP – C: Special Paper)**

**PAPER : HST1002SPC1**

**PEASANTS' AND WORKERS' RESISTANCE MOVEMENT IN MODERN INDIA**

(Credits: 4+1+0=5)

**Objectives:**

- The course has been designed to impart knowledge on categories of peasants, peasant revolts, and also historiography of Peasant Resistance Movements in colonial India.
- The paper also throws light on the emergence of modern working class in India and also the colonial background of their resistance movements.

**Outcome:**

The course will familiarize the students with the different dynamics of the peasant and labour resistance movement in colonial India.

**Total lectures= 64**

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<b>UNIT- 1:</b>		<b>10</b>
1.1	Concept of peasantry	
1.2	Historiography: approaches in the study of peasant struggles	
1.3	Categorization of Peasant Revolts	
<b>UNIT-2:</b>		<b>10</b>
2.1	Colonial background of peasants struggles	
2.2	Peasant struggles of the pre-1857 period	
	(a) Mapplia Uprising (1836-1921)	
	(b) Santhal hool (1855-56)	
<b>UNIT-3:</b>		<b>12</b>
3.1	Bengal Indigo Cultivator's Strike (1860)	
3.2	Phulaguri Dhawa (1861)	
3.3	Pabna Agrarian League (1873)	
3.4	Maratha Uprising (1875)	
3.5	Birsaita Ulgulan (1899-1900)	
<b>UNIT-4: Gandhi, Congress and Peasant Movements</b>		<b>10</b>
4.1	Champaran Satyagraha (1918)	
4.2	Kisan Sabha Movement (1920-37)	
4.3	Bardoli Movement (1928)	
<b>UNIT-5: Left peasant movements</b>		<b>10</b>
5.1	Role of women	
5.2	Tebhaga Movement (1946)	
5.3	Telengana Movement (1946-51)	
<b>UNIT-6: Working Class Movements</b>		<b>12</b>
6.1	Emergence of Indian Working Class	
6.2	Bengal Jute Workers' Strike (1937)	
6.3	Assam Oil Company Workers' Strike (1939)	
6.4	Tea Garden Labour Strikes in 19 <sup>th</sup> Century Assam	

**ESSENTIAL READINGS :**

- A.R. Desai, *Peasant Movements in India*, New Delhi, 1983
- Barrington Moore, *The Social Origins of Dictatorship and democracy: Lord and Peasant in the Making of the Modern World*, Harmondsworth, 1973
- Ranajit Guha, *Elementary Aspects of Peasant Insurgency in Colonial India*, New Delhi, 1997.
- Teodar Shanin, (ed), *Peasant and Peasant Societies*, 1976
- David Hardiman (ed), *Peasant Resistance in India (1858-1914)*. New Delhi, 1993.
- D.N. Dhanagare, *Peasant Movements in India*, New Delhi, 1983



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- Eric Stokes, *The Peasant and the Rai: Studies in Agrarian Society and Peasant Rebellion; in Colonial India*, 1978
- D.K. Singha Roy, *Women in Peasant Movements: Tebhaga Naxalite and After*, New Delhi, 1992
- E.J. Hobsbawm, *Bandits*, 1972
- David Thorner, *The Agrarian Prospect in India: Five lectures on Land Reforms*, New Delhi, 1956
- K.N. Dutta, *Landmarks in the Freedom Struggle in Assam*, 1958
- H.K. Barpujari (ed) *Political History of Assam Vol. I*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edn. 1999
- A.C. Bhuyan (ed), *Political History of Assam Vol-II*
- H.K. Barpujari, (ed) *Comprehensive History of Assam, Vols. IV and V*
- Amalendu Guha, *Planter Raj to Swaraj, Freedom Struggle and Electoral Politics in Assam, 1826-1947*
- Dipankar Banerjee, *Labour Movement in Assam*, New Delhi, 2005
- Ranajit Guha (ed), *Subaltern Studies (relevant Volumes)*
- *Journal of Peasant Studies (select issues)*
- *Indian economic and Social History review (select issues)*
- *Studies in History*

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**(Open Elective)**

**PAPER : HST1003OP1**

**ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY OF MODERN INDIA**

**(Credits: 4+0+0=4)**

<b>Unit - 1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>12</b>
(a)	Environment and Industrial Revolution.	
(b)	Ecological Imperialism.	
(c)	Early Colonial Era and Indian Environment.	
<b>Unit - 2</b>	<b>Legislation and Policies</b>	<b>12</b>
(a)	Colonial State and Environmental Resources.	
(b)	Impact of Railway Construction on Indian Forest.	
(c)	Indian Forest Acts : 1965, 1878 & 1927.	
(d)	Colonial Debate an Environmental Policies.	
(e)	Creation of Forest Types : Reserved, Protected and Village.	
<b>Unit - 3</b>	<b>Impact of Colonial Forest Policies</b>	<b>12</b>
(a)	Forest Tribes : Hunting – Food Gathering Economy.	
(b)	Shifting Agriculture and Tribes.	
(c)	Rural Agarian Economy.	
(d)	Resistance and Protests.	

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<b>Unit - 4</b>	<b>India after Independence</b>	<b>12</b>
(a)	Forest Policy and its impact.	
(b)	Development and Environmental Conflicts : Chipko Movement, Naramada Bachao Anadolan.	
(c)	Globlisation and Environment : Green Revolution.	

**Essential Readings :-**

- Gadgill, M and R. Guha : *This Fissured Land : Ecological History of India*, OUP, 1992.
- Guha, R. : *The Unquiet Woods, Ecological Change and Peasants Resistance in the Himalaya*, 2000, Oxford University Press.
- Guha, R. : *Environmentalism A Global History*, 2000, Longman.
- Sangwar, S. : *Nature and the Orient : The Environmental History of South and South-East Asia*, 1998. Oxford University Press.
- Martinez-Alies, J and Guha, R : *Varieties of Environmentalism : Essays North and South*, 1998. London : Earthscan.
- Sivaramkrishnan, K. (ed.) : *Ecological Nationalisms*, 2006. University of Washington Press.
- Arnold, D and R Guha : *Nature, Culture, Imperialism : Essays and Environmental History of South Asia*, 1996.
- Rangaraj, M : *Environmental Issues in India*, Pearson, 2007.

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**PAPER : HST1004DPW**

**DISSERTATION/PROJECT WORK (DPW)**

**Credit – 6**

- Each dissertation should be of approximately 6000 words
- The dissertation should be based on both primary and secondary sources.
- The synopsis for dissertations will be approved by the D A C within 15 days of commencement of the 4<sup>th</sup> semester
- There shall be no internal assessment for the courses on dissertation
- Submission of dissertation must be made not later than the date fixed by the department.

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