

RAJASTHAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, AJMER
SYLLABUS FOR COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR
THE POST OF ASSISTANT PROFESSOR IN HISTORY
FOR COLLEGE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

PAPER-I

UNIT-A

Ancient India:

1. Reconstructing Ancient India: Literary and Archaeological Sources.
2. Pre and Proto History of India
 - (a) Paleolithic to Neolithic- Chalcolithic Transition – Major Sites, Tools and Culture.
 - (b) Saraswati-Sindhu River - Valley Civilization (Harappan Civilization) – Origin and Extent, Major sites and settlement pattern, trade and craft, religious practices, decline and significance of Later Harappan phase.
3. Vedic Age- Vedic Vangmaya, Transformation from Rig Vedic period to the Later Vedic period; Political, Social and Economic life; Religion, ritual and philosophy. Significance of the Vedic Age.
4. State formation and the rise of Mahajanpadas: Republics and Monarchies; Rise of urban centres; Economic growth- craft, guild, money and trade; Emergence of Jainism, Buddhism and Ajivak sects; Rise of Magadha. Invasion of Alexander and its impact on India.
5. Mauryan Empire- Foundation of the Mauryan Empire, political achievements of Chandragupta, Bindusara and Ashoka; Ashoka and his Dhamma, Ashokan Edicts; Polity, Administration and Economy; Art and Architecture.
6. Post Mauryan Period: Shung and Kanvya; Contact with outside world-Indo-Greek, Sakas, Kushanas, Western Kshatrapas; growth of urban centres, trade and economy, Development of religious sects: Vaishnav, Shaiva, Mahayana; Art, Architecture, and Literature.
7. Early State and Society in Deccan and South India: Megalithic period, The Satavahanas, Tamil States of the Sangam Age; Administration, Economy, Sangam literature and culture; Art and Architecture.
8. Imperial Guptas- Political history, polity, society, economy, trade and commerce, literature and art.
9. Economy during Post-Gupta period- trade and commerce, banking & currency.
10. Harshvardhan- conquest, polity, religion, art and literature.
11. Rise of regional states- Chalukyas, Pallavas, Cholas, Rashtrakutas, Pratiharas and Palas.
12. India's contact with outside World- West Asia, Central Asia and East-Asia.
13. Pre-Medieval India (700A.D. to 1200A.D.)- Society and Economy, Feudalism and its impact on socio-political life, Development of regional cultural identities and regional political powers. Development of philosophy and religion during the period.

14. Development of diverse art, literature and culture in ancient India - Architecture, sculpture, music, literature of classical languages, Development of education, philosophy, science and technique.

UNIT-B

Medieval Indian History

1. Source of Medieval Indian History: Archaeological and Literary.
2. Foundation and Consolidation of Delhi Sultanate 1206 to 1290 A.D.
3. Territorial expansion of Sultanate during Khalji and Tughlaq period.
4. Rise of Provincial dynasties Vijayanagar, Bahamani and Jaunpur- Polity and Cultural contribution.
5. The Sayyid and the Lodis; the disintegration of Sultanate. Polity of the Sultanate.
6. Society, Culture and Economy during Sultanate period (from 13th century to the close of 15th century)-
 - (a) Composition of rural society, ruling classes, town dwellers, women, religious classes, caste and slavery under the Sultanate, Bhakti movement, Sufi movement.
 - (b) Persian literature, Literature in the regional languages of North India, Sultanate architecture and provincial variants, Development of music and paintings, Evolution of a Composite Culture, Cultural Synthesis in Medieval India.
 - (c) Economy: Agricultural Production, rise of urban economy and non-agricultural production, trade and commerce. Technology and craft during Sultanate period.
7. Mughal Empire, first phase: Babur, Humayun, the Sur Empire: Sher Shah's administration.
8. Portuguese colonial enterprise.
9. Territorial Expansion Akbar, Jahangir, Shahjahan and resistance of Indian powers.
10. Aurangzeb and Decline of Mughal Empire in 18th Century and emerging regional powers.
11. Period of cooperation and conflicts 1556-1707.
12. Policies of the Mughals-Deccan, religious, Rajputs and North-West Frontier policies.
13. Administrative System- Central, Provincial and Revenue administration, Mansabdari and Jagirdari system.
14. Art and Cultures- Architecture, Painting, Music and Literature
15. Economic Life- Agriculture, Industries, Trade and Commerce, Banking and Currency system.
16. Rise of the Marathas- Shivaji- conquests, civil and military administration, nature of Chauth and Sardeshmukhi, concept of Hindu Padpatshahi.
17. Expansion of Maratha power under Peshwas-Maratha Confederacy, civil and military administration under the Peshwas, Third battle of Panipat-1761.

18. Society and Culture in later Medieval India-

- a) Composition of Society, Bhakti movement and Sufi movement.
- b) Literary tradition of Persian, Sanskrit and regional languages. Mughal and Sur Architecture, Regional forms of Architecture. Music and Paintings during Mughal period
- c) Economy: Agricultural production, rise of urban economy and non-agricultural production, trade and commerce, technology and craft, education, science & technique during the period.

UNIT-C

Philosophy of History and Historiography

(A) Philosophy of History

Analytical and Speculative Philosophy of History.

Analytical Philosophy of History:

Nature of historical evidence, inference and fact; Proof and sources of history: Literary- primary, secondary and tertiary and archaeological sources.

Historical Explanation.

General-laws model; historical objectivity; causation.

The idealist tradition:

Dilthey-Croce-Collingwood

Postmodern 'End of History' - the postmodern challenge.

Speculative Philosophy of History.

Brief survey of various Speculative philosophers of history- Vico, Herder, Hegel, Marx, Spengler, Toynbee and Fukuyama.

Indian Historians: Barni, Abul Fazal, R.C Majumdar, J.N. Sarkar, D.D. Kosambi and K.M. Ashraf.

(B) Historiography

A brief survey of various traditions of historiography: Indian (Ancient, Medieval and Modern); Chinese (Confucius), Graeco-Roman (Herodotus), Judeo-Christian, Islamic Historian (Ibn Khardum), Ranke and scientific history, Marxist, Colonial, Nationalist, Cambridge, Subaltern and Postmodern.

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Note: Pattern of Question Paper

1. Objective type paper
2. Maximum Marks: 75
3. Number of Questions: 150
4. Duration of Paper: Three Hours
5. All questions carry equal marks.
6. There will be Negative Marking.
7. Medium of Competitive Exam: Bilingual in English & Hindi.