

17HS023 General Studies II INDIAN HISTORY AND CULTURE

Course Description & objectives:

This course introduces basic understanding of Indian culture and history.

The course objective is to describe the various stages of the Indian history and their importance, understand the importance of different historical events in shaping the Indian history and to enable the students understand the relevance of Indian history and make them much more socio-conscious in the society.

Course Outcomes:

CO1. To acquaint the students with the Indian history and culture.

CO2. To prepare the students for the civil services examinations [as Indian history is very important both at the prelims and mains level].

CO3. To make the students more inclined knowing Indian history not only from the examination point of view but to feel proud of our rich cultural heritage [literature , music , sculpture , art , architecture].

CO4. To make the students balanced individuals, responsible in protecting and glorifying our history.

Unit- I Ancient Indian History

Prehistoric Background of Indian culture.

Harappan culture – Cities – Society – economy and trade - End of the Harappan cities.

Society and Economy of the early Vedic and later Vedic periods

Emergence and Spread of Puranic thesim, Buddhism and Jainism.

Mauryans, Post Mauryans and Sangam Period

The age of Satavahanas and the Guptas, The Pallavas, the Chalukyas and the Cholas

Unit –II Medieval Indian History

General Conditions under the Delhi Sultanate.

General Conditions under the rulers of the Vijayanagara Empire.

General Conditions under the rule of the Mughals

Shivaji and the rise of the Marathas.

Bhakti Movement

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Unit – III Indian Culture

Salient aspects of Art forms – Music and Dance

Language and Literature

Architecture and Sculpture

Paintings and places of Cultural interest

Unit –IV British Rule in India

The Beginning of European settlements.

Government and the economic policies of the British empire in India 1757 – 1857.

The First War of Independence of 1857 and the consequent administrative changes.

Religious and Social Reforms after 1858.

Unit – V Struggle for freedom

Economic impact of the British rule

The national Movement 1858-1885; 1885-1905; 1905-1920; 1920-1947

Contribution from various states India after Independence- Post independence consolidation of states

Text Books

1. Romila Thapar A History of India –I – Penguin Books

2. Percival Spear A History of India –II – Penguin Books

References Books

1. S.L. Mukharjee Ancient History of India, Tata Mc Graw Hill,2008

2. S.L. Mukharjee Medieval History of India,Tata Mc Graw Hill,2008

3. Bipin Chandra Indian Struggle of Independence, Viking , 2007.

4. A.L Basham (ed) A Cultural History of India , Oxford, 1975.