

## Ancient History

### Unit 1.

Archaeological, Vedic, Sangam, historiographical and Conceptual background of Ancient Indian History.

- A. Prehistoric Past
- Basis of the Prehistoric, Protohistoric and Historic divisions of the past.
  - Ages of the prehistoric past principal Indian prehistoric sites, tool traditions and Zoological remains.
- B. Historiographical and conceptual aspects
- Sources of ancient Indian history
  - Salient forms, features and texts of ancient Indian traditional historiography
  - Imperialist/Orientalist/Indological, Nationalist, Marxist and post-Marxist approaches to ancient Indian history.
- C. Protohistoric Past: Highlights of Harappan Civilization and Chalcolithic Cultures of India :
- a) Harappan Civilization- salient features, principal sites and significance
- Principal Harappan Sites their nature and location.

- Harappan civilization as first urbanization,
  - Distinctive features: town planning, trade import-export, storage, weights and measures.
  - Harappan religion : Main features, burial customs and cemeteries, seals and sealings depicting Gods, Goddesses and rites .
  - Harappan Art and Architecture : stone art, terracotta art, beads, Great Bath, Dockyard, Warehouse, Granary, fire altars.
  - End of Harappan civilization: various theories about its down fall.
- b) Principal Chalcolithic Cultures of India- Salient features, principal sites and significance
- Cultures of Vindhya - Ganga region- Atranjikhera, Jhunsi, Imalidih, Chirand.
  - West Indian Cultures- Jorwe, Nevasa, Navdatoli, Inam Gaon.
- c) Vedic Culture
- Principal Vedic Texts and stages of the development of Vedic literature
  - Main features of Vedic society, economy, polity, religion and philosophy.
- d) Sangam Culture
- Texts and their date
  - Society and Religion
  - Economy and trade, internal as well as overseas



Unit 2. Principal religious movements

- Jainism
- Buddhism
- Vaisnavism
- Saivism

Unit 3. Political History

a) Age of 16 Mahaganapadas and rise of Magadha and Magadhan imperialism

- Under the Nandas
- Under the Mauryas
- Under the Guptas

Post Gopher Ancient India

b) Foreign invasions:

- Persian
- Macedonian- Alexandander
- Indo-Greeks

- Saka- Pahlava

- Kusana

- Huna

- Arab

- Turk

c) Principal Regional Powers:(Rajput Age,700-

1206A.D.)

- Sunga-Kanva
- Andhra -Satavahana
- Maukhri- Pushyabhuti

- Dynasties of Kashmir
- Gurjara- Pratihara
- Gahadavala
- Chandella
- Paramara
- Chaulukya
- Chalukyas of Badami and Vengi
- Pallava
- Rashtrakuta
- Chalukyas of Kalyani and Pattadakal
- Chola

Unit 4. History of economy of Ancient India

- Agriculture
- Industry, including Handicraft
- Coinage and Trade- internal, long distance, overseas
- Srenis, Nanadesis
- Main theories of Indian Feudalism and Urbanization

Unit 5. History of Ancient Indian Society

- Tribes and Primitive Societies
- Varana-Jati- Purusartha System
- Sanskaras
- Untouchability
- Women
- Education

Unit 6. Principal Monuments, Artefacts records and antiquities

- Temples, Rockcut as well as structural
- Stupas, Rockcut as well as structural
- Basati, Vihara, Matha, Rockcut as well as structural
- Tools, Divices and Proto-Machines
- Art and Articulture, Extant Examples, Concepts and Terminology-Indian, Central Asian and Southeast Asian
- Inscriptions and Charters of Endowments

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