



**Sharda School of Humanities and Social Sciences**

**SHARDA UNIVERSITY**

**Department of History**

**PhD Entrance Syllabus**

**Unit 1: Sources of History**

1. Reconstructing History
2. Types of Sources (Archaeological, Literary, Foreign accounts) and Significance of the Sources

**Unit 2: Pre-Historic, Proto Historic and Vedic Period**

1. Pre-History and proto-historic period in India Stone Age (Pastoralism and Food production)
2. Indus Valley Civilization origin, phases, extent; urban features – town planning, economy, society and religion; decline; Vedic & Later Vedic culture
3. Nature of Vedic Literature, Polity, Economy, Society and Religion.

**Unit 3: The Early Historic Period**

1. Beginnings of the Iron Age; Emergence of Mahajanapadas: Rājyas and Gaṇas/Saṅghas
2. Socio-economic condition during Six century BCE; Religious Movements of Six century BCE
3. Rise of Buddhism and Jainism: Causes, doctrines and spread; Importance of Buddhist and Jain Literature
4. Rise of Magadha: Geographical Background & socio- political factor
5. Early Dynasties: Haryankas, Shaisunagas, Nandas;
6. Rule of the Mauryas: Chandragupta, Bindusara, Ashoka.
7. Administration, Economy and society under Mauryas; Ashoka's Dhamma, Decline

**Unit 4: Post Mauryan Period, the Guptas and the Post Guptas**

1. Indo-Greeks: Menander; Western Kshatrapas (Shakas): Rudradaman-I; Kushanas- Kadphises and Kanishka
2. Impact of foreign interaction: polity, economy, society religion and Art-Culture; Kalinga ruler: Kharavela; Sungas- Pushyamitra; Satavahanas- Satakarni & Pulumayi; Gupta Period: Chandragupta I, Samudragupta, Chandragupta II
3. Administration, Economy and society Cultural Achievements of the Gupta Period: Debate about Golden Age Later Guptas: The Maukharis and Vakatakas.

### **Unit 5: Source of Medieval Indian History**

1. Rise of the Marathas & the foundation of Swaraj by Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj
2. Source of Medieval Indian History
3. The Vijayanagara and the Bahmanis
4. Foundation of Mughal Empire, Later Mughals and Disintegration of the Mughal Empire

### **Unit 6: Administration & Economy**

1. Administration & Economy
2. Sher Shah's Administrative Reforms
3. Administrative System in the Deccan
4. Frontier Policies under Delhi Sultanate and Mughals, Inter-State Relations during the Sultanate and the Mughals

### **Unit 7: Society and Culture**

1. The Saints of the Medieval Period
2. The Sufis
3. The Sikh Movement
4. Bhakti Movement
5. Development of Education
6. Fine Arts

### **Unit 8: Sources of Modern Indian History**

1. Sources of Modern Indian History
2. Rise of British Power, Establishment and Expansion of British Dominion in India
3. British Relations with the Principal Indian States, Revolt of 1857

### **Unit 9: Colonial Economy**

1. Colonial Economy, Expansion and Commercialization of Agriculture
2. British Industrial Policy, Modernization of Indian Languages and Literary Forms
3. Indian Society in Transition

### **Unit 10: Indian Nationalism**

1. Swadeshi and Swaraj
2. Birth of the Indian National Congress
3. B.R. Ambedkar
4. Gandhian Mass Movement
5. India after Independence

## Unit 11: Historical Method, Research, Methodology, and Historiography

1. Scope and Importance, Objectivity and Bias in History
2. Recent Trends in Indian History, Beginnings of Historical Writings -- Greek, Roman, and Church
3. Renaissance and its Impact on History Writing
4. Post-Modernism in History

Palleu

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Ph. D. Coordinator

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