U.P. EDUCATION SERVICE SELECTION COMMISSION, PRAYAGRAJ

Syllabus

ANCIENT HISTORY

(Assistant Professor-Higher Education)

(Subject Code-31)

Unit I : Sources and Prehistory

(i) Archaeological sources : Antiquities, monuments, epigraphy, numismatics (coins and seals/sealings), pottery
(ii) Literary sources : Indigenous—Religious and Secular; Myths and Legends
(iii) Foreign Accounts : Graeco-Roman, Chinese, Arab
(iv) Main Features of Palaeolithic, Mesolithic & Neolithic cultures
(v) Prehistoric Art : Antiquity, significance, distribution
(vi) Megaliths of southern India

Unit II : Introduction to Field Archaeology

(i) Definition, aims, scope, and ethics of archaeology
(ii) History of the development of archaeology
(iii) Relationship of archaeology with social and basic sciences
(iv) Methods of explorations and excavations
(v) Conservation and preservation of archaeological remains and sites
(vi) Chronology and dating methods

Unit III: Harappan/Sarasvati and Vedic Cultures

(i) Harappan culture : Origin, extent, authors, major sites (Harappa, Mohenjodaro, Lothal, Kalibangan, Dholavira, Rakhigarhi), society, economy, religion, polity, art and architecture, decline and devolution
(ii) Vedic culture : Vedic corpus, society, economy, religion and philosophy, political institutions, geography

Unit IV : Expansion of the State System

(i) Emergence of second urbanization in India
(ii) The *mahajanapadas*
(iii) The republican states and their administration
(iv) Social and economic developments & mobility
(v) Brahmanas & Sramanas; the heterodox sects : Jainism, Buddhism, Ajivikism

Unit V : From State to Empire

(i) The rise of Magadha under the Bimbisarids, the Saisunagas, and the Nandas
(ii) Achaemenians in India
(iii) The Macedonian invasion and its impact
(iv) The Mauryas : Sources (*Arthasastra* of Kautilya & Asoka's edicts), Chandragupta, Bindusara, Asoka, and his successors
(v) Asoka and Buddhism; the *dhamma* of Asoka

(vi) Society, economy, and polity under the Mauryas
(vii) Disintegration of the Empire : Sungas, Kanvas, Mahameghavahanas, Indo-Greeks, Saka-Pahlavas, Western Kshatrapas, Kushanas, Satavahanas
(viii) Maurya and post-Maurya art and architecture

Unit VI : The Imperial Guptas, their Contemporaries, and their Successors in Northern India

(i) The Gupta empire : Rise and Fall; society, economy, polity; art and architecture
(ii) The Pushpabhutis, the Varmans of Kamarupa, Sasanka of Gauda
(iii) Maukharis, Later Guptas, Chaulukyas of Gujarat
(iv) The Gurjara-Pratiharas, Palas, Senas, Paramaras, Chandellas, Gahadavalas, Chahamanas
(v) Arabs and Turks in India

Unit VII : Southern India

(i) The Vakatakas
(ii) The Chalukyas of Badami, the Rashtrakutas, the Pallavas, the Cholas, & their cultural contributions
(iii) The Gangas, Kadambas, Kakatiyas, Hoyasalas
(iv) The Yadavas of Devagiri, & the Pandya empires
(v) The First and Second Pandya empires

Unit VIII: Society, Agrarian Economy, Religious Systems, and Science and Technology

(i) Society : *Varna*, *jati*; position of women and their property rights; marriage; education; situating tribes in *varna* hierarchy; untouchability
(ii) Agrarian Economy : Land grants and *agraharas*; water resources; trade and commerce; trade routes and ports; guild organization; Coinage (general features of coins from the earliest times to the early mediaeval period); feudalism
(iii) Religious Systems : The Five Principal Cults; various temple styles; *Bhakti* movements (Sankara, Madhva, Ramanuja)
(iv) Tantra in various religious sects
(v) Natha sect
(vi) Science and technology

Unit IX : Polity and Administration

(i) Origin of State
(ii) Kingship
(iii) Council of ministers
(iv) Judicial administration
(v) Fiscal administration
(vi) Inter-state relations and the *mandala* theory
(vii) Chola administration

Unit X : Research Methodology and Historiography

(i) Importance and scope of history
(ii) Objectivity in history

(iii) Recent trends in history writing & modern historians (V.A. Smith, K.P.Jayaswal, D.D. Kosambi, G.C. Pande, V.S. Pathak)
(iv) Hypothesis in history, and the area of proposed research
(v) Sources : Primary and secondary
(vi) The taking of notes; footnotes/endnotes; references; bibliography
(vii) Research ethics
(viii) Greek, Roman, Chinese, Arab approaches to history writing