

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Model Questions

FOR

HISTORY HONOURS

PART I

PAPER I-----F.M. 100 TIME ---4HRS.

History of India from the earliest times to 600 C.E

Questions of 5 marks

Unit-1

- 1.Explain the meaning and significance of "History" and "Itihasa".
- 2.Give short note on Radio Carbon Dating.
- 3.Discuss the characteristic features of Mesolithic Age in India.
- 4.Give short notes on "Mehergarh Culture".
- 5.Describe the principal features of "Sabha" and "Samiti" as mass representative bodies during the Vedic Era.
- 6.Why did Asoka invade Kalinga?
- 7.Write short notes on Vakatakas of the Deccan

Unit-2

- 8.What are the differences between Varna and Jati?
- 9.What do you know of the Ajivika order?
- 10.Write a note on the Agrahara System.
- 11.What is known as 'feudalism from above' and 'feudalism from below'?
- 12.What do you know by the term 'Second Urbanisation'?
- 13.What were the differences between Stupa and Vihara?

14. Discuss the importance of Panini in the evolution of Sanskrit in ancient India.
15. Write short notes on a) Mathura Art b) Gandhara Art.

Questions of 10 marks

Unit-1

1. Discuss the importance of inscriptions for reconstructing the history of ancient India.
2. Discuss the salient features of the urban layout of the Harappan Civilization.
3. Give a short note on sixteen Mahajanapadas.
4. Discuss the role of the espionage system of the Mauryas.
5. Give notes on Sangam Literature.
6. Write a note on Samudragupta's success in South India.

Unit-2

7. Comment on the position of Sudras and Untouchables in ancient India.
8. Why is Buddhism called a 'Protestant religion'?
9. Evaluate the role of guilds in organising industry and trade in ancient India.
10. Write a note on 'Gahapati' and 'Sresthi'. Can they be called social elites?

Questions of 20 Marks

Unit-1

1. Discuss the relative importance of different types of sources in the study of early Indian History
2. Discuss the extent of the Harappa Culture. What were its salient features?
3. Analyse the Aryan Debate and estimate its significance in Indian Historiography.
4. How would you account for the rise of Magadha into an imperial power?
5. Explain the nature of Asoka's Dhamma.
6. Assess the achievements of the Satavahanas with special reference to Gautamiputra Satkarni.
7. Is the argument for Gupta Golden Age an overrated one?

Unit-2

8. Discuss the forms of marriage in ancient India.

9. Give an account of the proliferation of crafts during the period 200 B.C. to 320 A.D.

10. How did the foundation of the Central Asiatic Empire of the Kushanas contribute to India's participation in the long distance trade network with the Roman Empire? Examine the nature of trade.

PAPER II----F.M. 100 TIME----4HRS.

HISTORY OF INDIA c600-c1500

UNIT-I

10-20 marks

Discuss the Historiography of the period.

What do you know about the sources of early Medieval Indian History ?

Give an account of the tripartite struggle in Northern India at that time.

Discuss the Arab, Ghorid and Ghaznavid invasions of India.

Would you argue whether feudalism existed in Northern India at that time?

Discuss the contribution of the Pala rulers of Bengal in achieving political sovereignty over the region.

What would be your opinion of the Pala and Sena contribution to the development of art and literature in the period ?

Give an account of the growth of regional languages in Bengal at this time.

Write an account of the religious condition of Bengal with special reference to the spread of Buddhism under Pala rule and Hinduism under the Senas.

What was the state of Shaivism and Vaishnavism at that time ?

How was Chola supremacy established during the reign of Rajaraja I.? Would you argue that Rajendra Chola succeeded in establishing Chola supremacy over a large area in South India?

Discuss the naval achievements of the Cholas.

What were the chief features of Chola sculpture and architecture? Discuss and differentiate those with the Pallava period.

UNIT II

Market reforms of Alauddin Khilji.

Whether Muhammad –bin-Tughlaq was a controversial ruler.

Development of technology in the Sultanate period.

Discuss the impact of Hussain Shah and Iliyas Shah rule in Bengal.

PAPER III

Transformation of Europe (15th-17th centuries)

Questions of 5 Marks

Unit-1

- 1.What is meant by vassalage?
- 2.What is meant by 'Manorialism'?
- 3.What do you understand by urban decay?
- 4.Indicate the significance of 1453 in the history of early modern Europe.
- 5.What is 'proto –industrialisation'?
- 6.What is military revolution?
- 7.What is 'civic humanism'?

8. Write a short note on Erasmus as a key figure in Northern humanism.

Unit-2

9. What do you mean by the 'Tudor Revolution' in government?

10. What is Luther's Ninety Five Thesis?

11. Who were the Anabaptists? What is Eleven Years Tyranny in English history?

12. Write a note on Gerard Winstanley.

Question of 10 marks

Unit-1

1. Write a note on Dobb-Sweezy controversy regarding the decline of feudalism.

2. What was the impact of the Black Death on the European economy?

3. Write a short note on the impact of the fall of Constantinople.

4. What do you mean by 'price revolution'?

5. Write a short note on the 'enclosures'

6. What were the motivations behind the geographical expeditions?

7. Indicate the influence of the Italian renaissance on form and content of art.

8. What do you understand by new monarchy in England?

9. What was the significance of the dissolution of monasteries in England?

10. In what sense was Elizabeth's church settlement an act of compromise?

11. Give a short account of Copernican revolution.

12. How glorious was the Glorious Revolution (1688)?

Questions of 20 Marks

Unit-1

1. Give an account of the chief attributes of the feudal political system. What were the regional variations?

2. Was there a crisis in European economy in the 14th century? What were its causes?

3. What were the factors behind the emergence of national monarchy in Europe?

4. How the emergence of new merchants transformed the European economy in the 16th century?
5. What is the 'printing revolution'? Discuss its impact on European society and culture.
6. In what ways did the use of gunpowder transform the art of warfare between 1450 and 1550?
7. Why did the renaissance begin in Italy in general and Florence in particular?

Unit-2

8. Assess the contribution of Martin Luther to the relative success of the reformation in Germany.
9. Would you agree with Geoffrey Elton that the English reformation was primarily 'an act of the state'?
10. What do you mean by the scientific revolution? How far did it contribute to the secularization of European mind?
11. Did the Peace of Westphalia (1688) establish the principle of national sovereignty?
12. How far is it correct to label the English Civil War as a 'bourgeois revolution'?

PAPER IV

Give an account of the historiography of the Mughal period.

How did Babur consolidate the Mughal empire in India ?

Discuss the Mughal-Afghan conflict in Northern and Eastern India at this time.

Would you argue that Sher Shah was the true precursor to Akbar as far as the administrative and economic reforms of the period were concerned?

How did Akbar strengthen the political administration during his period.? Discuss the manner in which he established a Pan Indian empire in India.

What were the land revenue and military reforms of the Emperor during this period?

How did he manage the nobility and exercise control over the Chaghtais and the Uzbeks.?

Would you argue that Akbar's relation with the Rajputs formed the corner stone of his imperial policy ?

Discuss the Mughal –Rajput policy from the time of Babur to Aurangzeb. Did Aurangzeb's Rajput policy mark a departure from the previous rulers ?

What do you know of the Nurjahan junta ?

Discuss Shahjahan's Central Asian policy.

Discuss the Mughal-Maratha relations at this time with particular reference to the rise of Shivaji.

Analyse the Deccan campaigns of Aurangzeb. How far were these responsible for the downfall of the Mughal Empire in India ?

What do you know about the jagirdari crisis ? Discuss the extent to which it affected the fortunes of the Mughal Empire in India.

Write an account of the art, and architecture of the Mughal period and the specific styles that they followed.

Discuss the oceanic trade and commerce of the period .

PAPER V

HISTORY OF EAST ASIA (1839-1950 UNIT—I CHINA

Write a note on : [5 marks for each question]

Ideology of Confucius .

Gentry of China.

Ko Hong

Canton Trade

Tribute System

Nature of Treaties of Tientsin.

Contribution of Sun yat Sen

Position of Women in pre modern China

Character of Long March.

Character of Cheng feng movement

[10 marks for each question]

Discuss the role of Comprador in Chinese history.

Discuss the role of Lin Tse Tsu in Opium War.

Trace the character of Self-Strengthening Movement.

Discuss the character of the Taiping Movement.

Discuss the programme of the Boxer Movement.

Discuss the participation of Women in Boxer Movement.

Write a note on Hundred Days Reforms.

Analyse the character of the May Fourth Movement.

Analyse the character of the movement of 1911 in China.

Discuss the significance of the May 4th Movement.

[20 marks for each question]

Why the pre-modern China was called the Gentry State ?

How the unequal treaty system between China and the West led to the growth of Costal Economic Enclave ?

Features and limitations of Self Strengthening Movement .

Assess the background leading to the growth of Warlords in China.

Assess the achievements of the Quomintung Government under Chiang Kai Sheik during the period 1928 – 37.

Discuss the significance of Long March in the history of China.

Discuss the significance of Yen-an model.

Assess the inception and growth of Communist Movement in China between 1921 – 49.

Write a note on economic constructions of Communist China after 1949.

UNIT—II JAPAN

What were the causes of the downfall of the Tokugawa dynasty?

What is the significance of the Perry Mission ?

Discuss the nature of the Meiji Restoration of 1867 .How far was it a restoration or was it a revolution?

Discuss the constitutional agitation following the Meiji restoration and the rise of political parties.

What were the educational reforms of the period?

Did the economic changes usher in the decline of feudalism in Meiji Japan ?

Write a short essay on the urbanisation in Meiji Japan.

What was the effect the state's role in the growth of enterprises and industry during this period ? Discuss the role of the private initiative in this regard.

What do you know about the Anglo-Japanese alliance of 1902?

Write a short note on the Russo-Japanese war of 1904-05.

Give an account of the rise of militarism in Japan and Japanese imperialism in Manchuria. How did it affect Japan's relations with her weaker neighbours such as Korea?

What were the causes and consequences of Japan's attack on Pearl Harbour ?

PAPER VI---HISTORY OF INDIA C1800---1964

UNIT-I

Analyse different trends of the Swadeshi Movement. What were the limitations of this movement ?

Analyse the background of the Non-Cooperation Movement. Was Gandhi right in calling off this movement ?

Was the Quit India Movement a spontaneous one?

Describe the Working Class Movements in India between 1918 and 1939.

Describe the Peasant Movements in India between the two World Wars.

Was Jinnah solely responsible for partition of India ?

Was the Indian partition inevitable ?

Discuss the role of Jawaharlal Nehru in promoting the Non-Aligned Movement.

Evaluate Nehru's contribution in emergence of a parliamentary system of governance in India.

Why was a planned economy adopted in India ?

PAPER VII

History of Europe from 1789 to 1919

Questions of 5 Marks

Unit-1

- 1.Examine the role of Necker as the Finance Minister.
- 2.Who were the Physiocrats?
- 3.What was the 'civil constitution of the clergies'?
- 4.Comment on the nature of the Code Napoleon.
- 5.What were the principles of the Vienna Settlement?
- 6.What was the significance of the battle of Sedan?

Unit-2

- 7.Write a short note on Utopian socialism.
- 8.Who adopted the policy of 'Welt Politik' and why?
- 9.Write a short note on Crimean War.
- 10.What was the Sarajevo incident?
- 11.Who were the Bolsheviks?

Questions of 10 Marks

Unit-1

- 1.Indicate the responsibility of the Bourbon monarchy for the French Revolution of 1789.
- 2.Write a short note on the role of women in the French Revolution.

- 3.What is Continental System?
- 4.What was the Metternich system?
- 5.Review the foreign policy of Napoleon III.

Unit-2

- 7 Why did Industrial Revolution first begin in England?
8. Give an account of the Berlin Congress.
- 9.Was the First World War inevitable?
- 10.Analyse the Fourteen Points of Wilson.

Questions of 20 Marks

Unit-1

- 1.How did the social and economic crisis lead to the political crisis of the French monarchy?
- 2.Discuss the achievements of the Constituent Assembly.Could they remove the defects and demerits of the Ancient Regime?
- 3.Give an account of the internal reforms of Napoleon.Was he an heir of the revolution?
- 4.Trace the growth of nationalism and its impact on European politics in the first half of 19th century.
- 5.Make a comparative assessment of the unification processes of Italy and Germany.

Unit-2

- 6.Discuss the role of state in Russian industrialization.
- 7.What were the main features of Bismarck's foreign policy after 1871? Would you agree that the foreign policy of Kaiser William II marked a departure from that policy?
- 8.What were the main provisions of the Berlin Settlement(1878)? Did these alter the diplomatic relations in Europe?
- 9.Examine the background of the October Revolution in Russia.

Paper 8

Write a note on :

Versailles Treaty

Peace Pact of Paris(1928)

Russo- German Non Aggression Pact. Why (1939).

Glasnost and Perestroika.

Discuss why Democracy failed to work in Europe between 1919 and 1939.

Write a note on the Great Depression of 1929

Was Hitler solely responsible for the World War II

What was the role of India in the Korean War.

Assess the impact of emergence of Communist China on World Politics.

What led to the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991.

MODEL QUESTIONS

History (Hons) Part III

Paper – VI

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- Was the Quit India Movement a spontaneous one?
- Describe the Working Class Movements in India between 1918 and 1939.
- Describe the Peasant Movements in India between the two World Wars.
- Was Jinnah solely responsible for partition of India ?
- Was the Indian partition inevitable ?
- Discuss the role of Jawaharlal Nehru in promoting the Non-Aligned Movement.
- Evaluate Nehru's contribution in emergence of a parliamentary system of governance in India.
- Why a planned economy was adopted in India ?