

PAPER III: HISTORY OF INDIA II

Paper Code: HHSCR2031T

Module 1

I. Economy and Society (circa 300 BCE to circa CE 300):

- [a] Expansion of agrarian economy: production relations.
- [b] Urban growth: north India, central India and the Deccan; craft Production: trade and trade routes; coinage.
- [c] Social stratification: class, Varna, jati, untouchability; gender; marriage and property relations

II. Changing political formations (circa 300 BCE to circa CE 300):

- [a] The Mauryan Empire
- [b] Post-Mauryan Polities with special reference to the Kushanas and the Satavahanas; Gana-Sanghas.

Module 2

III. Towards early medieval India [circa CE fourth century to CE 750]:

- [a] Agrarian expansion: land grants, changing production relations; graded Land rights and peasantry.
- [b] The problem of urban decline: patterns of trade, currency, and urban Settlements.
- [c] Varna, proliferation of jatis: changing norms of marriage and property.
- [d] The nature of polities: the Gupta empire and its contemporaries: post-Gupta polities -Pallavas, Chalukyas, and Vardhanas

IV. Religion, philosophy and society (circa 300 BCE- CE 750):

- (a) Consolidation of the brahmanical tradition: dharma, Varnashram, Purusharthas, samskaras.
- (b) Theistic cults (from circa second century BC): Mahayana; the Puranic tradition.
- (c) The beginnings of Tantricism

V. Cultural developments (circa 300 BCE to CE 750):

- [a] A brief survey of Sanskrit, Pali, Prakrit and Tamil literature. Scientific and technical treatises
- [b] Art and architecture & forms and patronage; Mauryan, post- Mauryan, Gupta, post-Gupta

References

- Romila Thapar, Early India from the Beginnings to 1300, London, 2002.
- D. D. Kosambi, An Introduction to the Study of Indian History, 1975.
- D. Chattopadhyaya, The Making of Early Medieval India, 1994.

D. P. Chattopadhyaya, *History of Science and Technology in Ancient India*, 1986.
S. K. Maity, *Economic Life in Northern India in the Gupta Period*, 1970.
B. P. Sahu (ed), *Land System and Rural Society in Early India*, 1997.
K. A. N. Sastri, *A History of South India*.
R. S. Sharma, *Indian Feudalism*, 1980.
R.S.Sharma, *Urban Decay in India,c.300- C1000,Delhi,Munshiram Manohar Lal,1987*
Romila Thapar, *Asoka and the Decline of the Mauryas*, 1997.
Susan Huntington, *The Art of Ancient India: Buddhist, Hindu, and Jain*, New York, 1985.