

# ANCIENT HISTORY, ARCHAEOLOGY AND CULTURE

## PART – A : RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

**Unit-I.** Concept of research in history, research problems; Research methodology, definitions, traditional and new methodology; Collection of data, classification, interpretation and construction of proper hypotheses, causation in history, objectivity in history; Research design, preparation of synopsis.

**Unit-II. Nature and sources of Ancient History:** Literary and Archaeological sources; *Development of Ancient Indian Historical Writing* : Vedic and Pauranic tradition, Gatha, Narasani, Vamsanucharit, Charitawriting, Akhyana and Raso historical tradition, Buddhist and Jain; *Ancient Indian Historians*: Banabhatta, Bilhana and Kalhana; *Modern Historians of Ancient Indian History*: A. Cunningham, V. Smith, K.P. Jaiswal, D.D. Kosambi and V.S. Pathak.

**Unit-III.** Sources of political history of Ancient India; Sources of Social History of Ancient India; Sources of Economic History of Ancient India; Sources of Religious History of Ancient India.

**Unit-IV.** Epigraphy as a Source of Ancient Indian History and culture; Historical Importance of Ashokan inscriptions; Importance of Numismatics studies in the reconstruction of history: Punch-marked coins, Kushanas and Gupta coins: Salient features; Coins as a source of Ancient Indian History and Culture.

**Unit-V.** Archaeology as a Source of reconstructing the Ancient Indian History; Collection of data from Archaeological findings : Method and Interpretations; Sources of Art: Origin and Development of art in Ancient India; Importance of Art and Architecture in Ancient India.

## PART – B : ANCIENT HISTORY, ARCHAEOLOGY AND CULTURE

**Unit-I. Concepts, ideas and Terms:** Definition, Nature, and Scope of History; Causation in History; Objectivity in History; Vedic Samhita; Vedanga; Varnashram; Purusharthas; Bramhavadini; Saddovadhu; Pani; Veknata; Rina; Samskaras; Yajnya; Doctrine of Karma; Aims and Nature of Indian Marriage; Dandaniti; Arthashastra; Anvikshiki; Saptanga; Varta; Stupa; Chaitya; Vihara; Nagar, Dravida and Vesara Style Temple; Jagamohan; Deval; Viman; Ratha Temple; Gandhara School of Art; Ajanta; Ellora; Hari-Har Image; Nataraja; Devamatrika; Bali; Bhag; Kushida; Vardhusika; Guild-Organization; Niskka; Shatamana; Kasharpana; Bent bar; Ruptarka; Punch-Marked Coins; Jivita; Chola Village Administration; Dayabhag and mitakshara; Pancharatra; Chaturvuha; Tirthankar; Four Noble Truth; Doctrine of Karma-Bandha; Bodhisattva; Mahayan Sect;

**Unit-II. Formation of Culture up to the 6<sup>th</sup> B.C.E.:** *Hunting and Gathering* – Paleolithic and Mesolithic; *Beginning of Agriculture* – Neolithic and Chalcolithic; *Indus Valley Civilizations* – origin, Extant Characteristics, Material, Culture, Decline and Signification; **Vedic Period** - Vedic Economy, Evolution of Social and Political Institution; Religious and Philosophical Idea, Rituals and Practices; Portion of Women.

**Unit-III. Political Conditions from Sixth Century B.C.E. to Mauryan Period :** Sixteen Mahajanapadas and Republics; Rise of Magadha and Nandas; Economic Growth, Introduction of Coins,; Spread of Jainism and Buddhism; Foundations of Maurya Empire;

Achievement of Chandragupta maurya and Ashoka; Concept of Dhamma; Maurya Administration.

**Unit-IV. Post-Maurya Period :** *Sungas* - Pushyamitra and Agnimitra; *Indo-Greeks* - Demetrius, Eucratides, Agathocles, menander; *Kushanas* - Kusula kadphises, Vim Kadphises, Kanishka I, Huvishka I; *Chedi* – Kharavela; *Western Kshatrapas* - Nahapan, Rudradama; *Satvahanas* - Shatkarani I, Gautamiputra Shatakarani.

**Unit-V. Imperial Gupta :** Achievement of Chandragupta I, Samudragupta, Chandragupta II; Kumargupta and Skandagupta; Administration, Economic Condition, Coinage of Gupta Rulers; Land Grants, Indian Feudalism; Educational Institution -- Nalanda, Vikramshila and Vallabhi; Sanskrit Literature, Science, Art and Architecture; Evolutions of Vaishnava and Shaiva religions; Six System of Indian Philosophy.

**Unit-VI. Post-Gupta Period :** *Harsha Vardhana Maukharis* - Ishanverma; *Uttar Gupta* – Kumargupta; *Pratiharas* - Nagabhata II and Mihirabhoj; *Palas* - Dharmapala and Devapala; *Pramara* - Munjaraja and Bhoja; Chalukyas of Badami, Chalukyas of Kalyani, The Chahamanas, Chalukyas of Gujarat, The Gahadavalas, The Rastrakutas, The Pallavas, The Cholas.