PG HT S1-02 (DSC)

TWO YEAR MASTER DEGREE COURSE

(CBCS in accordance with NEP-2020)

SEMESTER-I

POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY OF INDIA-I

HISTORY

Surya Kumar Bhuyan School of Social Sciences

KRISHNA KANTA HANDIQUI STATE OPEN UNIVERSITY

Subject Expert

1. **Professor Rajiv Handique,** Deptt. of History, Gauhati University
2. **Dr. Ritu Thaosen,** Associate Professor, Deptt. of History, Cotton University
3. **Dr. Uttam Bathari,** Associate Professor, Deptt. of History, Gauhati University

Course Co-ordinator : **Dr. Priti Salila Rajkhowa,** Assistant Professor, KKHSOU

SLM Preparation Team

UNITS	CONTRIBUTORS
1, 2	Dr. Pradymna Sarma, Nalbari College Dr.Priti Salila Rajkhowa, K.K.H.S.O.U
3	Dr. Sanghamitra Sarma, Tinsukia College
4	Dr Navaneeta Phukan, Pandu College
5	Dr. Mridutpal Goswami, Dudhnoi College Dr. Gargi Sarma, Dr. Bishwajit Deva Mahant, Dr. Priti Salila Rajkhowa.
7	Dr.Kamal Narayan Patowary, Nalbari College
8	Dr. Mitali Kalita, Royal Global University
9	Dr. Sukmaya Lama, KKHSOU
10, 11	Dr. Gargee Sarma, Biswa J.D. Mahanta, Pragjyotish College
12	Dr. Gargee Sarma, Pragjyotish College Dr. Dhanmoni Kalita, Bikali College
13	Dr. Mridutpal Goswami, Dudhnoi College Dr. Sukmaya Lama, KKHSOU
14	Dr. Imad Ali Ahmed, Pub-Kamrup College Dr. Gargee Sarma, Pragjyotish College
15	Manab Choudhary, Chaygaon College

Editorial Team

Content (English Version)	: Prof.Paromita Das,Gauhati University & Dr. Barnali Chaudhari, IDOL
Language (English Version)	: Professor. Robin Goswami, Cotton College Dr. Priti Salila Rajkhowa, KKHSOU
Structure, Format & Graphics	: Dr. Priti Salila Rajkhowa, KKHSOU

November, 2024

© Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University.

No part of this publication which is material protected by this copyright notice may be produced or transmitted or utilized or stored in any form or by any means now known or hereinafter invented, electronic, digital or mechanical, including photocopying, scanning, recording or by any information storage or retrieval system, without prior written permission from the KKHSOU.

Printed and published by Registrar on behalf of the Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University.

The university acknowledges with thanks the financial support provided by the **Distance Education Bureau**, New Delhi, for the preparation of this study material.

Headquarter-Patgaon, Rani Gate, Guwahati-781017

City Campus-Resham Nagar, Khanapara, Guwahati-781022; Web: www.kkhsou.in

CONTENTS

UNIT 1: SOURCES AND HISTORIOGRAPHY OF ANCIENT INDIA **7-20**

Historiography on Ancient India, Literary Sources, Archaeological Sources, State and Society as represented in Colonial writings – Oriental, Despotism and Asiatic Society – Asiatic Mode of Production Debate – the nationalist response –Marxist intervention.

UNIT 2: BACKGROUND TO EVOLVING POLITICAL PATTERNS (2500-600 B.C.E.) **21-41**

Harappan Culture, Early Vedic & later Vedic polity, transition from tribal polity to state.

UNIT 3: REPUBLICS AND MONARCHY **42-58**

Characteristics of Ancient Republics, their Constitution according to Panini, Republics in Buddhist Literature, Geographical Distribution and its importance – trade and urbanisation – stratification of society and the consolidation of *jati-* The incipient state and the *Varna,* NBP Economy and the Society, Second Urbanization, Mahajanapadas, Structural details of the republic and kingdoms, Emergence of Monarchy.

UNIT 4: MAURYAN STATE **59-75**

The Formation of the Mauryan Empire – The Structure of the State under Asoka, Maruyan Administration, Form of the State in the *Arthasastra,* Recent Interpretations of the Mauryan State, Debates on the nature of Mauryan State.

UNIT 5: SOCIETY, ECONOMY, RELIGION AND ART IN THE MAURYAN EMPIRE **76-87**

The Formation of the Mauryan Empire – The Structure of the State under Asoka, Maruyan Administration, Form of the State in the *Arthasastra,* Recent Interpretations of the Mauryan State, Debates on the nature of Mauryan State.

UNIT 6: POST-MAURYAN POLITY (200 B.C.-300 C.E) **88-106**

(Sunga, Kushana, Satavahanas) the continuation of the *gana-samGhas*– the varying structures in the “successor states” – the experience in the Deccan

under Satavahanas –the Tamil South, Administration.

UNIT 7: GUPTA EMPIRE **107-132**

The Gupta Empire: Political processes under the Guptas – the "*samanta* system" and Indian feudalism – the concept of *dharma* – brahmana-kshatriya relations, Administration, land-grants.

UNIT 8: POST- GUPTA POLITY **133-160**

Kingship and the structure of polity in early medieval India – the regional state, North India, South India, Deccan.

SUNIT 9: SOURCES AND HISTORIOGRAPHY OF MEDIEVAL INDIA **161-174**

Literary, Archaeological, Foreign Sources, Historiography on Medieval India.

UNIT 10: FOUNDATION AND EXPANSION OF SULTANATE RULE **175-186**

The Arabs of Sind, The Ghaznavids, The Ghoris, Dynasties of Delhi Sultanates-Slave, Khalji, Tughlaqs, Sayyaid and Lodi.

UNIT 11: ADMINISTRATION OF THE DELHI SULTANATES **187-200**

Central Administration, Provincial Administration, Land Revenue System

UNIT 12: DOWNFALL OF THE DELHI SULTANATES AND RISE OF PROVINCIAL KINGDOMS **201-209**

Factors responsible for the downfall of the Delhi Sultanates, Consequences, Vijayanagar and Bahmani Kingdoms, Gujrat, Malwa and Jaunpur.

UNIT 13: THE MUGHAL EMPIRE **210-238**

Babur's Campaign, Political instability of India, Battle of Panipath,Sher Shah Suri and his expansionist policy, His administrative reforms, Significance of his rule**,** Akbar and his successors.

UNIT 14: MUGHAL ADMINISTRATION AND DOWNFALL OF THE MUGHALS **239-260**

Central and Provincial Administration, Jagirdari and Mansabdari System, Factors responsible for the downfall of the Mughals.

UNIT 15: THE MARATHAS **261-276**

Shivaji: Background, His Conquests, Administration; Ascendency of the Peswas, Causes for the downfall of the Marathas, Its Significances.

Reference **277-278**

COURSE INTRODUCTION

This is the second Course of M. A. in History entitled *Political and administrative History of India -I (From the early time to the Downfall of the Mughals)* under Krishna kanta Handiqui State Open University. The course aims to enlighten the learners with the acient Indian history from pre-historic period to the downfall of the Mughals. The course consists of ffifteen units.

The first unit is *Sources and Historiography of Ancient Indian History.* This unit explains the significance of various sources for the study of ancient Indian history.

The second unit entitled, *Background to the Evolving Political Pattern.* This unit discusses the origin and early settlement, Urban Patterns, Religious practices, Ruling Elite and Decline of Urban Life of the Harappan Civilization, the developments Vedic and the Post-Vedic Civilization in detail.

The third unit *Republics and Monarchy* explains agricultural expansion, Mode of Production, Rise of Ganas or Sanghas and development of the Mahajanapadas in the 6th century C.E.

The fourth unit is *The Mauryan State.* This unit introduces the rise of Mauryan, Mauryan Administration, the Kalinga War and disintegration of the Mauryan Empire.

The fifth is Society, Economy, Religion and art in *the Mauryan State.* This unit discusses the social system, economy, religion and art in the Mayuran Empire.

The sixth unit is *Post-Mayuran Polity.* This unit discusses the rise of regional powers such as Sunga, Kushanas, Satavahanas and their administrative system in the post-Mayuran period.

The seventh unit *Gupta Empire,* explains the foundation, expansion, administration and .downfall of the Gupta Empire in detail.

The eighth unit is, *Post-Gupta polity.* This unit introduces emergence of regional powers, the Pratiharas, the Rashtrakutas, the Palas, Origin of the Rajputs, the Chauhans, the Chalukyas, Pallavas, Cheras, Pandyas and Cholas in the post-Gupta period.

The nineth unit entitled, *Sources and Historiography of Medieval India.* The unit discusses various sources of medieval India and its historiography.

The tenth unit *Foundation and Expansion of Sultanate Rule,* discusses early invasion by the Arabs in Sind and the establishment of Muslim kingdoms under the Ghaznavid and Ghuri dynasty. The unit also discusses the details of the various dynasties like the Slave dynasty, the Khaljis, the Tughlaqs, the Sayyids and the Lodis.

The eleventh unit *Administration under the Delhi Sultanates* discusses the administrative machinery under the Sultanate rule.

The twelveth unit *Downfall of the Delhi Sultanate and the rise of Provinsial Kingdoms, w*ill help you in identifying the various causes that led to the downfall of the Delhi Sultanate and rise of provinsial kingdoms in detail.

The thirteenth unit titled *The Mughal Empire* discusses the foundation and expansion of the Mughal Empire in India.

The fourteenth unit titled *Mughal Administration and the downfall of the Mughals* discusses the Mughal administrative system and various factors responsible for the downfall of the Mughals.

The fifteenth unit titled *The Marathas* discusses the foundation and expansion of the Maratha kingdom under Shivaji, their administration and downfall.

While going through this course, you will notice that some boxes are put in the left hand or right hand side of the text. These boxes are meant to serve the purpose of in-text glossary for you. Again, you may find some boxes marked with: "LET US KNOW". These boxes will provide you with some additional interesting and relevant information. The boxes marked with "ACTIVITY" will help you in making your learning more active and efficient. And, at the end of each section, you will get "CHECK YOUR PROGRESS" questions. These have been designed to self-check your progress of study. It will be better if you solve the problems put in these boxes immediately after you go through the sections of the units and then match your answer with "ANSWERS TO CHECK YOUR PROGRESS" given at the end of each unit.