

CORE-III: HISTORY OF INDIA-II

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

- [1] Expansion of agrarian economy
- [2] Urban growth; craft production: trade and trade routes
- [3] Social stratification: class, Varna, jati, untouchability; gender; marriage and property relations

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

- [1] The Mauryan Empire: Chandragupta Maurya and Asoka-Conquest and Administration;
- [2] Post-Mauryan Polities with special reference to the Kushanas and the Satavahanas-
Kaniska I and Gautamiputra Satakarni

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

- [1] Gupta Age: Agrarian expansion, land grants, graded Land rights and peasantry
- [2] The problem of urban decline: patterns of trade, currency, and urban Settlements.
- [3] Varna, proliferation of *jatis*: changing norms of marriage and property.
- [4] The nature of polities: the Gupta empire and its contemporaries: post-Gupta polities –
Pallavas, Chalukyas

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

- (1) Consolidation of the brahmanical tradition: dharma, *Varnashram*, *Purusharthas*,
Samskaras.
- (2) Theistic cults (from circa second century BC): Mahayana; the Puranic tradition.
- (3) The beginnings of Tantricism

Unit-V: Cultural developments (circa 300 BCE- CE 750):

- [1] A brief survey of Sanskrit, Pali, Prakrit and Tamil literature. Scientific and technical treatises
- [2] Art and architecture; Mauryan, post-Mauryan, Gupta, post-Gupta

Reading List:

- B. D. Chattopadhyaya, *The Making of Early Medieval India*, 1994.
D. P. Chattopadhyaya, *History of Science and Technology in Ancient India*, 1986.
D. D. Kosambi, *An Introduction to the Study of Indian History*, 1975.
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.300-1000*, 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.
N. N. Bhattacharya, *Ancient Indian Rituals and Their Social Contents*, 2nd ed., 1996.
J. C. Harle, *The Art and Architecture of the Indian Subcontinent*, 1987.

P. L. Gupta, Coins, 4th ed., 1996.
Kesavan Veluthat, The Early Medieval in South India, New Delhi, 2009
H. P. Ray Winds of Change, 1994.
Romila Thapar, Early India: From the Origins to 1300, 2002.