

ANCIENT HISTORY DETAILED SYLLABUS

PRE HISTORIC TIMES

- Periodization of Indian Pre History
- Sources of Pre History
- Palaeolithic Or Old Stone
- Mesolithic Or Middle Stone Age
- Neolithic Age Or New Stone Age
- Chalcolithic Age
- Major Chalcolithic Cultures
- Early Iron Age
- Geographical Distribution and Characteristics

INDUS VALLEY CIVILIZATION

- IVC Geography and Archaeological Findings
 - Major cities
 - Town Planning
- IVC Society and Culture
 - Script and Language
 - Crafts
 - Religions
 - Seals and Images
- IVC Economy
 - Harappan Trade
 - Agriculture
 - Domestication of animals
 - Weights and Measures
- Decline of Harappan Culture

RIG VEDIC PERIOD

- Sources for Reconstructing Vedic Society and Culture
- Geography of the Rig Vedic Period - Area of Settlement
- Political Organisation and Evolution of Monarchy

- Social Organization
- Economy
- Religious Practices and Culture

LATER VEDIC PERIOD

- Geography of the later Vedic Phases - Area of Settlement
- Political System
- Social Organisation and Varna System
- Economy
- Religious Practices and Culture

JAINISM

- Birth and Life of Mahavira (540- 468 B.C.)
- Teachings of Mahavira
- Organisation and Sects of Jainism
- Literature of Jainism
- Councils, Spread and Royal Patrons

BUDDHISM

- Birth and Life of Buddha (563-483 BC)
- Teachings of Buddha
- Organisation and Sects of Buddhism
- Literature of Buddhism
- Councils, Spread of and Royal Patronage
- Causes for the Decline

MAHAJANAPADAS PERIOD

- Republics and Monarchies
- 16 Mahajanapadas
- Magadha
- Key Dynasties
 - Haryanka dynasty
 - Shishunaga Dynasty
 - Nanda Dynasty

- Persian Invasions
- Alexander's Invasion
- Society and Rise of urban centres
- Economy
- System of Administration

MAURYAN EMPIRE

- Sources: Inscriptions and Sites and Literary Sources (The Arthashastra)
- Rulers and Political History of the Mauryas
 - Chandragupta and Bindusara
 - Megasthenes
 - Asoka and His Successors
- Asoka's Inscriptions and Sites
- Asokan Reign
- Asoka and Buddhism
- Asoka Policy of Dhamma
- Mauryan Administration
- Foreign Relations
- Decline of the Mauryas

POST-MAURYAN INDIA

- Society: Evolution of Jatis
- Satavahanas
- Sungas and Kanvas
- Sakas
- Kushanas
- Kanishka

GUPTA PERIOD

- Sources of Gupta Rule
- Rulers and Political history of Guptas Chronology
- Foreign Travellers Visit – Fahien's Visit
- Gupta Administration
- Other Important Dynasties

- Society Religion and Culture
- Urban centres in Gupta period
- Economy
- Science and Technology
- Literature
- Later Guptas
- Other Important Dynasties

HARSHAVARDHANA PERIOD

- Harsha Military Conquests
- Harsha and Buddhism
- Administration
- Society and Culture
- Economy

SANGAM PERIOD (SOUTH INDIAN DYNASTIES)

- Sangam Literature
- South Indian Dynasties
 - Cholas
 - Cheras
 - Pandyas
- Sangam Polity, Society and Culture
- Economy of Sangam Period
- Foreign Dynasties
- Commercial Contacts with the Outside World
- Schools of Art

Nakshatra

IAS