

MAH

**M.A. HISTORY
SECOND YEAR COURSES**

(MAH)

**Assignments
For July 2021 and January 2022 Sessions
(For M.A. History 2nd Year Courses)**

- MHI-03: Historiography
MHI-06: Evolution of Social Structures in India
Through the Ages
MHI-08: History of Ecology and Environment: India
MHI-09: Indian National Movement
MHI-10: Urbanisation in India
MPSE-003: Western Political Thought (From Plato to
Marx)
MPSE-004: Social and Political Thought in Modern India



**Faculty of History
School of Social Sciences
Indira Gandhi National Open University
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110 068**

M.A. History - 2nd Year Assignments July 2021 and January 2022 Sessions

Dear Student,

You have to do one assignment in each course of 8 and 4 credits. The assignments are compulsory. The assignment will cover the whole course.

It is important that you write the answers to all the assignment questions in your own words. Your answers should be within the approximate range of the word-limit set for a particular question.

The assignments should be submitted to the Coordinator of your Study Centre. You must obtain a receipt from the Study Centre for the assignments submitted and retain it. If possible, keep a photocopy of the submitted assignment with you.

The Study Centre will have to return the assignments to you after they are evaluated. Please insist on this. The Study Centre in turn will send the marks to the Student Evaluation Division at IGNOU, New Delhi. These will be entered in your grade card.

Submission of Assignments

You should note that the submission of assignments is compulsory before taking up Term-end Examination. It is therefore suggested that you do them within time. In M.A. second year you will have to do a total of 4 assignments. However, in case you have opted for MPSE-003 and MPSE-004 then you will have to do 5 assignments. We have given you a lot of time to do the assignments but we advise you to do them one by one along with your study of the particular course and submit them so that you may get back the marks and comments of the Counsellor with evaluated assignment. With a proper planning you will be able to do them within the stipulated period. Please do not wait for the last date to submit all the assignments because it would be difficult to do all of them in one go.

Last Date of Submission of Assignment

July 2020 Session Students

31st March, 2022

January 2021 Session Students

30th September 2022

Where to submit the assignments

**The Coordinator of your Study
Centre**

Before attempting the assignments please read the detailed instructions provided in the Programme Guide sent to you separately

Now read the following guidelines carefully before answering the questions:

GUIDELINES FOR ASSIGNMENTS

The assignments have two types of questions:

- 1) Essay Type Questions which you have to answer in about 500 words each carry 20 marks each.
- 2) Short notes which you have to answer in about 250 words each carry 10 marks each.

You will find it useful to keep the following points in mind:

- a) **Planning:** Read the assignments carefully. Go through the units on which they are based. Make some points regarding each question and then re-arrange these in a logical order.
- b) **Organisation:** Be a little more selective and analytical before drawing up a rough outline of your answer. In an essay-type question, give adequate attention to your introduction and conclusion. The introduction must offer your brief interpretation of the question and how you propose to develop it. The conclusion must summarize your response to the question.

Make sure that your answer:

- is logical and coherent;
 - has clear connections between sentences and paragraphs;
 - is written correctly giving adequate consideration to your expression, style and presentation;
 - does not exceed the number of words indicated in your question.
- c) **Presentation:** Once you are satisfied with your answers, you can write down the final version for submission, writing each answer neatly and underlining the points you wish to emphasize.
 - d) **Interpretation:** Interpretation is a constant process in history writing. It is already reflected in your planning and selection. Explanatory comments with phrases like may be, because, could be, etc., immediately introduce an element of interpretation in writing itself. Here you have to be careful that these comments can be supported by the material you have in the answer.

MHI-03 HISTORIOGRAPHY

Course Code: MHI-03

Assignment Code: MHI-03/AST/TMA/2021-22

Total Marks: 100

Note: Attempt any five questions. The assignment is divided into two Sections 'A' and 'B'. You have to attempt at least two questions from each section in about 500 words each. All questions carry equal marks.

SECTION-A

1. What is causation? Discuss the manner in which historians use causation to explain any historical phenomenon. 20
2. Write a note on the historiographical traditions in early India. 20
3. What do you understand by oral history? Discuss its relationship with the mainstream historiograph 20
4. Describe the important features of Indo-Persian tradition of history-writing during the Mughal period. 20
5. Give an analytical account of the various traditions of historiography which constitute the Positivist tradition. 20

SECTION-B

6. What is postmodernism? Discuss the postmodernist views on history. 20
7. Write a note on the colonial historiography on Indian history. 20
8. What do you understand by the term 'subaltern'? Discuss the two phases the *Subaltern Studies* in India. 20
9. Write a note on the conflicting views on Indian Renaissance. 20
10. Write short notes in about 250 words each on any **two** of the following: 10+10
 - a) D.D. Kosambi and Indian Historiography
 - b) Greco-Roman Historiography
 - c) Feminist Historiography in India
 - d) *Annales* School

**MHI-06: EVOLUTION OF SOCIAL STRUCTURES
IN INDIA THROUGH THE AGES**

Course Code: MHI-06
Assignment Code: MHI-06/AST/TMA/2021-22
Total Marks: 100

**Note: Attempt any five questions. The assignment is divided into two Sections 'A' and 'B'.
You have to attempt at least two questions from each section in about 500 words each.
All questions carry equal marks.**

SECTION- A

1. Comment on the role of interpretation in writing the history of ancient India. 20
2. How do we reconstruct the structure of the early neolithic societies? Discuss. 20
3. Discuss the nature of the society evidenced in the early Vedic texts. 20
4. Why do we talk about the early medieval period in Indian history? 20
5. How does Sangam literature help us in understanding the early Tamil society. 20

SECTION- B

6. Discuss the various views on the Indian village community. Do you agree with the view of Irfan Habib that there was a common financial pool for the village community in India? 20
7. Do B.D. Chattopadhyaya and N. Ziegler agree with each other on the interpretation of the phenomenon of the rise of Rajputs? 20
8. Discuss the nature of the rural society and its institutions between the seventh and twelfth century. 20
9. Comment on the role of women in the Indian national movement. 20
10. Was caste an invention of colonial modernity? Discuss. 20

MHI-08: HISTORY OF ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT: INDIA

Course Code: MHI-08

Assignment Code: MHI-08/AST/TMA/2021-22

Total Marks: 100

**Note: Attempt any five questions. The assignment is divided into two Sections 'A' and 'B'.
You have to attempt at least two questions from each section in about 500 words each.
All questions carry equal marks.**

SECTION-A

1. Adaptation is the key to understand human interactions with Nature. Discuss. 20
2. Write a note on the ecological diversity of India and examine its significance. 20
3. Discuss the major trends of Environmental History writing traditions in India. 20
4. Discuss the main characteristics of the Nomadic Pastoralism. Write a note on their relationships with the settled communities. 20
5. Write a note on the diffusion of agriculture in South India. 20

SECTION-B

6. There is a long history of contestation over forest resources, examine with specific reference to Forest Act of 1870. 20
7. Conservation of nature is need of the hour. Evaluate critically. 20
8. Critically evaluate the Colonial environmental agenda. 20
9. Write a note on the significance of biodiversity and critically evaluate difference between the in-Situ and Ex-Situ conservation. 20
10. Critically evaluate the significance of Gandhian alternative view of Development. What impact it had on the Chipko Movement? 20

MHI-09: INDIAL NATIONAL MOVEMENT

Course Code: MHI-09

Assignment Code: MHI-08/AST/TMA/2021-22

Total Marks: 100

Note: Attempt any five questions. The assignment is divided into two Sections 'A' and 'B'. You have to attempt at least two questions from each section in about 500 words each. All questions carry equal marks.

SECTION-A

1. Compare the modernist and non-modernist theories about the emergence of nations and nationalism. 20
2. Explain the idea of economic nationalism. Discuss the main views of its earliest proponents. 20
3. Describe the ideologies and activities of the revolutionary nationalists during the 1920s and 1930s. 20
4. Write a note on the Swadeshi Movement. 20
5. Write short notes in about **250** words each on any **two** of the following: 10+10
 - a) The Subaltern View on Indian National Movement
 - b) Limits of Cultural-ideological resistance in Colonial India
 - c) Political Philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi
 - d) Achievements of the Congress Ministries during 1937-39

SECTION-B

6. Discuss the prelude to the Quit India Movement. What was the impact of the Quit India Movement? 20
7. Discuss the association of nationalism with the peasant movements in UP and Bihar during the 1920s and 1930s. 20
8. How did the Gandhian method of mass mobilisation succeed in bringing women into public life? 20
9. Analyse the main strengths and weaknesses of the legacies of the Indian national movement. 20
10. Write short notes in about **250** words each on any **two** of the following: 10+10
 - a) Role of the Constituent Assembly, 1946-49
 - b) Poona Pact, 1932
 - c) Nationalists and the Workers in the Early Phase
 - d) Pakistan Demand and its Consequences

MHI-10: URBANISATION IN INDIA

Course Code: MHI-10
Assignment Code: MHI-05/AST/ TMA/2021-22
Total Marks: 100

Note: Attempt any five questions. The assignment is divided into two Sections 'A' and 'B'. You have to attempt at least two questions from each section in about 500 words each. All questions carry equal marks.

SECTION-A

1. What are the approaches to study the medieval towns? 20
2. What do you understand by subsistence and non-subsistence economies? Explain in the context of the Harappan civilization. 20
3. What are settlement pattern studies? Discuss surveys and excavations undertaken with regard to Early Historic urban centres. 20
4. What is the theory of urban decay? Do you agree that proliferation of land grants led to the decline of urban centres in the Early medieval period? 20
5. **Write short notes on any two of the following. Answer in about 250 words each.** 10+10
 - i) Layout of Harappan cities
 - ii) Primary categories of habitation in the Vedic literature
 - iii) Growth of urban centres in the Sultanate period
 - iv) Nature of regional capital cities during the fifteenth century

SECTION-B

6. Compare Agra, Fathpur Sikri and Shahjahanabad as Mughal capital towns. 20
7. Examine the growth of the city of Surat in the 17-18th centuries. What was the pattern of urban social order of Surat? 20
8. Why did the British segregate urban centres in 'Black' and 'Whilte' towns? What kind of new urban space was produced here? 20
9. What were the urban pressures that emerged in the immediate post-independence decades, and how were they met? 20
10. **Write short notes on any two of the following. Answer in about 250 words each.** 10+10
 - i) Bidar: a manufacturing town
 - ii) Cities in the Kachchh-Gujarat region
 - iii) Hill Stations in the colonial period
 - iv) The city as the space of the modern

WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT (From Plato to Marx) (MPSE-003)
Tutor Marked Assignment

Course Code: MPSE-003
Assignment Code: ASST/TMA/2021-22
Marks: 100

Note: Answer any five questions in about 500 words each. Attempt at least two questions from each section. Each question carries 20 marks.

SECTION –I

1. Distinguish between political thought and political science.
2. Discuss Plato's methodology.
3. Write a note on Aristotle's theory of Justice.
4. What are St. Augustine's views on state, property, war and slavery? Examine.
5. Elaborate upon Machiavelli's Doctrine of Aggrandisement.

SECTION –II

Write a short note on each part of the following questions in about 250 words.

6.
 - a) Thomas Hobbes on state of nature and natural rights
 - b) John Locke on consent, resistance and toleration
7.
 - a) Rousseau's critique of civil society
 - b) Edmund Burke's critique of natural rights and social contract
8.
 - a) Immanuel Kant's transcendental-idealist view of human nature
 - b) Bentham's "The Panopticon"
9.
 - a) J. S. Mill on equal rights for women
 - b) Hegel's philosophy of history
10.
 - a) Marx's theory of alienation
 - b) Marx's vision of a communist society

SOCIAL AND POLITICAL THOUGHT IN MODERN INDIA (MPSE-004)
Tutor Marked Assignment

Course Code: MPSE-004
Assignment Code: ASST/TMA/2021-22
Marks: 100

Note: Answer any five questions in about 500 words each. Attempt at least two questions from each section. Each question carries 20 marks.

SECTION –I

1. Discuss the nature of state and sovereignty in medieval India.
2. Write an essay on nationalism and colonial modernity.
3. Examine the modes of reformist thought in early 19th century India.
4. Elaborate upon the ideas of Bankimchandra Chattopadhyaya on nationalism.
5. Describe the importance of the extremist ideology in the nationalist movement.

SECTION –II

Write a short note on each part of the following questions in about 250 words.

6.
 - a) Swami Vivekananda on social change
 - b) Sri Aurobindo on passive resistance
7.
 - a) V.D. Savarkar on Hindu nation and Indian state
 - b) M.S. Golwarkar on social organisation
8.
 - a) Maulana Maududi's views on nationalism
 - b) Jaipal Singh as a champion of Adivasi identity
9.
 - a) Gandhi's views on relationship between religion and politics
 - b) Jawaharlal Nehru's theory of nature
10.
 - a) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar on reason and rights
 - b) Rabindranath Tagore's differences with Gandhi