

**MAHI**

**M.A History**

**Assignment  
For July 2023 and January 2024  
Sessions**

**MHI-101  
ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL SOCIETIES**



**FACULTY OF HISTORY  
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY  
MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI – 110 068**

**Assignment**  
**MHI-101**  
**Ancient and Medieval Societies**  
**July 2023 and January 2024 Sessions**

Dear Student,

As explained in the Programme Guide for M.A. in History you will have to do one assignment in each course. The assignments are compulsory. Each assignment covers 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 assignment should be submitted to the **Coordinator of your Study Centre**. You must obtain a receipt from the **Study Centre** for the assignment submitted and retain it. If possible, keep a photocopy of the submitted assignment with you.

The **Study Centre** will have to return the assignment to you after evaluation. 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 Assignment**

You should note that the submission of assignment is compulsory before taking up **Term-end Examination**. It is therefore suggested that you do assignment within time. We have given you a lot of time to do the assignment but we advise you to do assignment one by one along with your study of the particular course and submit on timeso 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 your assignment for each course 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. Specific dates for the submission are given below.

**Last Date of Submission of Assignment**

**July 2023 Session Students**

**30<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**January 2024 Session Students**

**31<sup>st</sup> October 2024**

**Where to submit the assignments:**

**The Coordinator of your Study Centre**

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

Now read the guidelines carefully before answering the questions:

## GUIDELINES FOR ASSIGNMENTS

The assignment has two types of questions:

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

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

- a) **Planning:** Read the assignment 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 in your own words.
- 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 summarise 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.
- a) **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 emphasis.
  - b) **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.

Wishing you all the best,  
**Faculty of History**

## MHI-101: ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL SOCIETIES

Course Code: MHI-101

Assignment Code: MHI-101/AST/ TMA/2023-24

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. Write a note on the Shang civilization of Northern and Central China. 20
2. Give a brief account of the transition to democracy in ancient Greece. 20
3. Discuss in brief economy and polity of South African civilization. 20
4. Explain various religious traditions in the late Roman Empire. 20
5. Write short notes on any **two** of the following. Answer in about **250** words each. 10+10
  - i) Pastoral Nomadism
  - ii) Zoroastrianism
  - iii) Rise of city of Mecca
  - iv) Confucianism

### SECTION B

6. Write a note on major debates on feudalism. 20
7. Give an account of India's maritime trade. How did Portuguese trade affect Indian overseas trade? 20
8. 'Textile manufacture is one of the oldest crafts in most societies.' Explain. 20
9. Discuss the main features of administration, economy and society of medieval towns in Europe. 20
10. Write short notes on any **two** of the following. Answer in about **250** words each. 10+10
  - i) Banjaras
  - ii) Trade routes
  - iii) Printing technology
  - iv) Gunpowder revolution.