

MAH

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

(MAH)

**Assignments
For July 2022 and January 2023 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 2022 and January 2023 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 2022 Session Students

31st March, 2023

January 2023 Session Students

30th September 2023

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/2022-23

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 generalisation? Discuss the role of generalisation in history-writing. 20
2. What do you understand by 'microhistory'? Describe the historians and their works related to this tradition of history-writing. 20
3. Discuss the distinctive features of Greco-Roman historiography. 20
4. Who are considered to be the founders of the *Annales* School of historiography? Discuss their works. 20
5. Describe the important features of Indo-Persian tradition of history-writing during the Sultanate period. 20

SECTION-B

6. Write a note on the Marxist historiography in the West after Second World War. 20
7. Compare the colonial historiography in India with the nationalist historiography. 20
8. What do you understand by the term 'History from Below'? Discuss with particular reference to Indian historiography. 20
9. Write a note on the feminist historiography in India. 20
10. Write short notes in about 250 words each on any **two** of the following: 10+10
 - a) Objectivity and Interpretation
 - b) Colonial perception of caste
 - c) Early Indian history-writing
 - d) Historians and causation.

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

Course Code: MHI-06
Assignment Code: MHI-06/AST/TMA/2022-23
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. Discuss the role of archaeological and textual sources in writing the history of ancient India. 20
2. What do you understand by the process of domestication in the Neolithic period? Discuss. 20
3. Elaborate on the significance of rituals in the Vedic period. 20
4. Comment on the socio-religious and intellectual ferment that marked the rise of Buddhism and Jainism. 20
5. How do you view the feudalism debate in Indian history? 20

SECTION-B

6. Comment on the viewpoints of different historians on the rural society in India. 20
7. Discuss the origin and rise of the Rajputs with reference to the researches of B.D. Chattopadhyaya and N. Ziegler. 20
8. How did the early social reformers and nationalists view caste? Discuss. 20
9. Comment on the role of lived experiences in shaping the lives of the Indian migrants overseas. 20
10. Discuss the role of women in the Indian national movement. 20

MHI-08: HISTORY OF ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT: INDIA

Course Code: MHI-08

Assignment Code: MHI-08/AST/TMA/2022-23

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. Histories of various dimensions of nature have received attention of the Historians in the recent past. Examine with reference to Environmental Histories of Pre-colonial past. 20
2. Write a note on the Coastal lowlands of India. 20
3. Discuss the various principles defining the Water Rights in India. 20
4. Critically examine the Indian view of Conservation 20
5. Write a note on the regional spread of early agriculture in India. 20

SECTION-B

6. Discuss the salient features of Indian Forest Act of 1927. 20
7. Write a note on the Environmental Discourse on Industrialism 20
8. Exploitation of environmental resources defines the Colonial environmental agenda. Comment 20
9. Biodiversity conservation is need of the time. Examine it with reference to People's initiatives. 20
10. Do you agree that provisions of Trade related aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) are in conflict with the objectives of Convention on Biodiversity. Comment. 20

MHI-09: INDIAL NATIONAL MOVEMENT

Course Code: MHI-09

Assignment Code: MHI-09/AST/TMA/2022-23

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 views of the Marxist historians and Subaltern Studies on Indian nationalism. 20
2. Write a note on economic nationalism with special reference to Indian thinkers. 20
3. Write a note on the Non-cooperation movement. 20
4. Analyse the achievements of the Congress ministries between 1937 and 1939. 20
5. Write short notes in about 250 words each on any two of the following: 10+10
 - a) Non-modernist theories of nationalism
 - b) Swadeshi movement
 - c) Political ideas of the Swaraj Party
 - d) Political mobilisation in the Princely States.

SECTION-B

6. Describe the various forms which the popular protests took between 1945 and 1947. 20
7. Discuss the views of various historians regarding the relationship between nationalism and peasantry. 20
8. Write a note on the relationship between the nationalist movement and the Dalits. 20
9. Analyse the Gandhian strategy to fight against the colonial state in India. 20
10. Write short notes in about 250 words each on any two of the following: 10+10
 - a) Reasons for Congress' Acceptance of Partition
 - b) The Attitude of the Indian Capitalists towards the Congress
 - c) The Relations between Congress and Muslims from 1885 to 1914
 - d) Salient Features of the Indian Constitution.

MHI-10: URBANISATION IN INDIA

Course Code: MHI-10

Assignment Code: MHI-10/AST/TMA. 2022-23

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. Examine the emergence of new forms of knowledge and their relationship to the city that has set the modern city distinct from their pre-modern predecessors. 20
2. Discuss the layout and chief characteristics of Mohenjodaro. 20
3. Compare Bhir Mound with Sirkap and Sirsukh cities of the Taxila valley. 20
4. Explain R.S. Sharma's theory of urban decay. What has been the nature of response to this theory? 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) Representation of cities in the *Arthashastra*
 - iii) *Janapadas* and *Mahajanapadas*
 - iv) Salient features of post-Gupta urbanism

SECTION-B

6. Critically examine the characteristics of the temple towns in the peninsular India. 20
7. Analyse the characteristics of Mughal cities. What was Bernier's idea of 'camp-cities'? 20
8. Throw light on the unique aspects of Lucknow as an eighteenth century provincial capital? 20
9. In what ways did the dynamics of race, class and ethnicity shape urban spatial relations and control over urban space? 20
10. **Write short notes on any two of the following. Answer in about 250 words each.** 10+10
 - i) Capital cities of Gaur and Pandua
 - ii) of the port of Goa
 - iii) Improvement Trusts
 - iv) Partition and resettlement

MPSE-003: WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT (From Plato to Marx)

Course Code: MPSE-003

Assignment Code: ASST/TMA/2020-21

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, political theory and political philosophy. 20
2. Discuss the philosophical foundations of Plato's political theory. 20
3. Write a note on Aristotle's methodology. 20
4. What has been St. Augustine's influence on western political thought? Examine. 20
5. Elaborate upon Machiavelli's classification of governments. 20

SECTION -II

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

6. a) Thomas Hobbes on the rights and duties of sovereign
b) John Locke on social contract and civil society 20
7. a) Rousseau's theory of General Will
b) Critique of Edmund Burke 20
8. a) Immanuel Kant's transcendental-idealist view of human nature
b) Alexis de Tocqueville on religion 20
9. a) J. S. Mill on representative government
b) Hegel's theory of state 20
10. a) Marx's Historical Materialism
b) Marx's views on communist society 20

MPSE-004: SOCIAL AND POLITICAL THOUGHT IN MODERN INDIA

Course Code: MPSE-004
Assignment Code: ASST/TMA/2020-21
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

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| 1. | Discuss the nature of state and sovereignty in ancient India. | 20 |
| 2. | Write an essay on the construction of India in the 19 th century. | 20 |
| 3. | Examine the arrival of nationalism in early 19 th century India. | 20 |
| 4. | Elaborate upon the religio-political ideas of Dayanand Saraswati. | 20 |
| 5. | Describe the importance of Lal_Bal_Pal in the nationalist movement. | 20 |

SECTION -II

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

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|-----|---|----|
| 6. | a) Swami Vivekananda on Nationalism
b) Sri Aurobindo's critique of political moderates in India | 20 |
| 7. | a) V.D. Savarkar's views on social change
b) Negative and positive Hindutva a of M.S. Golwarkar | 20 |
| 8. | a) Sir Syed Ahmed Khan on Hindu-Muslim unity
b) E.V. Ramaswamy Naicker on Dravidian Mobilisation | 20 |
| 9. | a) Philosophical Foundations of Gandhi's political perspective
b) Jawaharlal Nehru's Scientific Humanism | 20 |
| 10. | a) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar on religion and caste
b) Rabindranath Tagore's critique of nationalism | 20 |