

M.A. History

**Assignment
For July 2025 and January 2026 Sessions**

MHI-01: Ancient and Medieval Societies

MHI -02: Modern World

MHI -04: Political Structures in India

MHI -05: History of Indian Economy



**FACULTY OF HISTORY
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY
MAIDANGARHI, NEW DELHI-110068**

Assignment July 2025 and January 2026 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 assignments 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 time 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 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 2025 Session Students 31st March 2026

January 2026 Session Students 30th September 2026

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:

GUIDELINESFORASSIGNMENTS

The assignment has two types of questions:

- 1) Essay Type Questions which you have to answer in about 500 words each and they carry 20markseach.
- 2) Short notes to be answered in about250 words each and theycarry10 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 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-01: ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL SOCIETIES
(TUTOR MARKED ASSIGNMENT)

Course Code: MHI-01
Assignment Code: MHI-01/AST/TMA/2025-26
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 was the importance of the horse in the pastoral nomadic group. 20
2. “Bronze Age represents a true leap in technology as far as use of Bronze and Copper are concerned”. Explain. 20
3. Write the thoughts of ancient Greek philosophers. 20
4. Discuss briefly the economy of South Africa. 20
5. Write short notes on **any two** of the following in **250** words each: 10+10
 - i) Shang civilization
 - ii) The Umayyad Caliphate
 - iii) The Aztecs
 - iv) Mongol Empire

Section–B

6. What was the condition of the lower class and slaves in the Roman Empire? 20
7. Discuss the role of urban centers in the decline of Feudalism. 20
8. Describe the various processes adopted for the production of woolen cloth. 20
9. Compare the changes in agriculture in Europe with those in China and Arabs. 20
10. Give a brief introduction of the succession system in medieval Europe. 20

MHI-02: MODERN WORLD

Course Code: MHI-02

Assignment Code: MHI-02/AST/TMA/2025-2026

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 criticism of enlightenment by Nietzsche, Karl Marx, Marcuse and the Frankfurt School. 20
2. Define welfare state. Describe the welfare measures and policies of Japan in 19th- 20th century. 20
3. What is nationalism? Explain its various stages. 20
4. Write an essay on the transition from feudalism to capitalism. 20
5. Write a short note on **any two** of the following in about **250** words each. 10+10
 - i) Humanism
 - ii) Science and Knowledge
 - iii) Bureaucratization in trade union
 - iv) Mercantilism and early trading empires

Section- B

6. What does decolonization mean? Discuss various approaches to understand it. 20
7. How did the Cold War begin? Discuss the important political events of the Cold War in the 20th century. 20
8. Discuss the role of French revolution in the emergence of new political culture. 20
9. Explain various theories of demographic changes. 20
10. Write a short note on **any two** of the following in about 250 words each: 10+10
 - i) Debate over Unipolarity
 - ii) The Internet in Knowledge Revolution
 - iii) Irregular Warfare
 - iv) Representations of Consumption

MHI-04: POLITICAL STRUCTURES IN INDIA

Course Code: MHI-04

Assignment Code: MHI-04/AST/TMA/2025-2026

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. On the basis of evidence of Puranic and epigraphic sources comment on the nature of polities and their social origin in south India. 20
2. Discuss the debate on the study of early medieval polity. 20
3. How have the modern historians looked at the state formation during the Delhi Sultanate period? Elaborate. 20
4. Discuss the nature of state formation of the Bahmani kingdom. 20
5. Write a note on the formation of the Kingdom of Malwa. 20

Section-B

1. Comment on the state during the Chola times. 20
2. Discuss the administration of the state during the Pandyan times. 20
3. What was the nature of the Mughal administration? Discuss. 20
4. Comment on the nature of the colonial forest policy. 20
5. What were the objectives of the colonial revenue policy? Discuss. 20

MHI-05: History of Indian Economy

Course Code: MHI-05
Assignment Code: MHI-05/AST/TMA/
July 2025-January 2026
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 major approaches to study the economy during colonial period in India. 20
1. Draw a map of rainfall pattern in the Indian economy. In what ways rainfall pattern influences agrarian production? 20
2. Analyse the nature of agrarian taxation under the Mauryas. 20
3. Analyse the significance of *Agrahara* and *Brahmadeya* in the expansion of agriculture in South India. 20
4. Write short notes on any **two** of the following. Answer in about **250** words each. 10+10
 - i) Trade and Feudalism Debate
 - ii) Organisation of Craft production in early India
 - iii) Long distance maritime trade in early India
 - iv) Economy of Satavahana Empire

SECTION B

5. Examine the role of loans and its impact during medieval period in India. 20
6. Discuss everyday forms of peasant resistance during the medieval period. 20
7. Critically analyse the impact of colonial intervention on tribal economies of Indian subcontinent. 20
8. Write a note on the Deindustrialization of Indian economy during Colonial Period. 20
9. Write short notes on any **two** of the following. Answer in about **250** words each. 10+10
 - i) Banias and *Sarrafs*
 - ii) Spatial patterns of Modern Commercialisation
 - iii) New kinds of Land rights
 - iv) Chettiars and Marwaris

