

MAH

**M.A History
First Year Courses**

**Assignments
For July 2019 and January 2020
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
MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI – 110 068**

M.A. History – 1st Year Assignments July 2019 and January 2020 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 assignments submitted and retain it. If possible, keep a photocopy of the submitted assignments 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. first year you will have to do a total of 4 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. Specific dates for the submission are given below.

Last Date of Submission of Assignment

July 2019 Session Students

31st March 2020

January 2020 Session Students

30th September 2020

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 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 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 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 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.

MHI-01: ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL SOCIETIES

Course Code: MHI-01

Assignment Code: MHI-01/AST/TMA/2019-20

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 development of tools and their technology during the Palaeolithic period. What forms of art are found in the Palaeolithic culture? 20
2. Give a detailed account of social structure in Bronze Age societies. 20
3. Explain the nature of conflict between aristocracy and peasantry in ancient Greece. How did this conflict culminate in the establishment of democracy? 20
4. What do you understand by Nomadic Empire? Discuss the pattern of Nomadic migration during the period of your study. 20
5. Write short notes on **any two** of the following in **250** words each: 10+10
 - i) Belief system in Neolithic society
 - ii) Burial method in Shang Civilization
 - iii) Comitia Centuriata
 - iv) Religious life of the Inkas and the Aztecs

Section - B

6. Analyse the process of decline of feudalism. Did the growth of urban centres contribute to decline of feudalism? 20
7. Write a note on the religious tradition in pre-modern China. 20
8. Discuss the overseas trade of Indian merchants in the 15th century. What was the impact of Portuguese on Indian overseas trade? 20
9. Give a brief account of the developments in the area of science and technology in medieval period. 20
10. Write short notes on **any two** of the following in **250** words each: 10+10
 - i) Anabaptists
 - ii) Rise of Islam in Arab
 - iii) Towns of Arab and Islamic World
 - iv) Family in medieval Europe.

MHI-02: MODERN WORLD

Course Code: MHI-02

Assignment Code: MHI-02/AST/TMA/2019-20

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 and differentiate the capitalist and the socialist patterns of industrialization. 20
2. How did the Enlightenment influence the socio-economic order in Europe? 20
3. Analyse the process of bureaucratization in the Modern World. 20
4. Define modern society. Explain new developments in social structure. 20
5. Write short notes on any two of the following in about **250** words each. 10+10
 - i) Humanism
 - ii) Liberal view of state
 - iii) Theories of nationalism
 - iv) The New Economic Policy.

Section - B

6. Discuss the legacy of the French Revolution and the Russian Revolution for polity in the modern world. 20
7. What are the ways in which the revolutions in the realm of knowledge influence the modern world? 20
8. Write a note on the consumerist movement as it developed in Europe. 20
9. Explain the meaning of Cold War and its impact on world politics. 20
10. Write short notes on any two of the following in about **250** words each. 10+10
 - i) Demographic transition theory
 - ii) The meaning of underdevelopment
 - iii) Development of modern medicines
 - iv) De-colonization.

MHI-04: POLITICAL STRUCTURES IN INDIA

Course Code: MHI-04

Assignment Code: MHI-04/AST/TMA/2019-20

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. Analyse in brief the process of transition from territorial states to empire in the age of the Buddha. 20
2. Explain the nature of political organization at local level between 8th to 12th centuries A.D. in Peninsular India. 20
3. Discuss different interpretations explaining the nature of the state under the Mughals. 20
4. Write a note on the nature of the colonial state and its political economy. 20
5. Write short notes in about **250** words each on the following: 10+10
 - (a) Textual sources for the Delhi Sultanate
 - (b) Administrative structure in the Princely States.

SECTION - B

6. Explain the administrative and institutional structures under the Pallavas. 20
7. Discuss the administration of the Mauryas. 20
8. Give a brief account of Nayaka and Ayagar system during the Vijayanagara rule. 20
9. How did the Colonial and the nationalist legacy influence in shaping the post-colonial Indian polity? 20
10. Write short notes in about **250** words each on the following: 10+10
 - (a) Classification of law in Ancient India
 - (b) The Mansab System under the Mughals.

MHI-05: HISTORY OF INDIAN ECONOMY

Course Code: MHI-05

Assignment Code: MHI-05/AST/ TMA/2019-20

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 factors that determined the agrarian environment of Indian subcontinent. 20
2. Examine the chief characteristics of Harappan cities. 20
3. Write a note on Indian feudalism debate. 20
4. Explain *pariharas*. Analyse *pariharas* in the context of *brahmadeya* grants. 20
5. Write short notes on any **two** of the following. Answer in about **250** words each. 10+10
 - i) Mehrgarh
 - ii) Vedic Literature
 - iii) Roman Coins and their distribution pattern in South India
 - iv) Forest clearances in the medieval period

SECTION B

6. Provide a historical assessment of the Indian Oceanic trade. 20
7. Provide Daniel Thorner's critique of Nationalists' thesis on de-industrialization. 20
8. Discuss the changes within textile and leather industries in India during the first half of the 20th century. 20
9. Analyse the nature of Indian economic growth in the first three five year plans. 20
10. Write short notes on any **two** of the following. Answer in about **250** words each. 10+10
 - i) *Hundi*
 - ii) Decline of Surat
 - iii) Ryotwari Settlement
 - iv) Impact of commercialization in the colonial period