

**MAH**

**M.A History  
First Year Courses**

**Assignments  
For July 2022 and January 2023  
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 – 1<sup>st</sup> Year Assignments July 2022 and January 2023 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 2022 Session Students**

**31<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

**January 2023 Session Students**

**30<sup>th</sup> 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 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/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 impact of agriculture, invention of tools and discovery of fire in the development of human society. 20
2. Give a detailed account of the various mediums used for writing and communication in different civilizations. 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) Kinship
  - ii) Burial practices in early civilizations
  - iii) Patricians and Plebeians
  - 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 Imperial State in pre-modern Chinese civilization. 20
8. Discuss the overseas trade of Indian merchants in the 15<sup>th</sup> 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) Armenian trading network
  - ii) Rise of Islam in Arab
  - iii) Towns of Arab and Islamic World
  - iv) Family structures in medieval Europe.

## MHI-02: MODERN WORLD

Course Code: MHI-02

Assignment Code: MHI-02/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. Explain the different ways in which the Renaissance contributed towards the making of a new world. 20
2. Discuss the development of modern society following industrialization and modernization. 20
3. Define Democracy. Write a note on the challenges to democracy. 20
- 20
4. Discuss the debate over transition from Feudalism to Capitalism. 20
5. Write short notes on any two of the following in about **250** words each. 10+10
  - i) Science versus religion
  - ii) Postmodernism
  - iii) Adam Smith
  - iv) The Brazillian Economy.

### Section – B

6. Define and distinguish between Imperialism and Colonialism. What were the different stages of Colonialism? 20
7. Analyse the ideological and economic impetus behind the emergence of modern international relations. 20
8. Write a note on political and cultural legacy of the French Revolution. 20
9. Discuss the genesis of consumerism. Briefly analyse the rise of the consumer movement. 20
10. Write short notes on any two of the following in about **250** words each. 10+10
  - i) Forced migration and slavery
  - ii) The Cold War
  - iii) Significance of the Russian Revolution
  - iv) Development of print technology.

## **MHI-04: POLITICAL STRUCTURES IN INDIA**

**Course Code: MHI-04**

**Assignment Code: MHI-04/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. Write a note on early Tamil polity as described in Sangam literature. 20
2. Analyse the various approaches to the study of early medieval polity. 20
3. Discuss various interpretations explaining the nature of the Mughal state. 20
4. Discuss the nature of sovereignty and administrative mechanism in the Princely states. 20
5. Write short notes in about 250 words each on the following: 10+10
  - (a) The colonial military apparatus
  - (b) The bureaucracy under the colonial state.

### **SECTION- B**

6. Write a note on the Mauryan administration. 20
7. Analyse the judicial system prevailing in Ancient India. 20
8. Discuss the provincial and local administration under the Delhi Sultanate. 20
9. How did the colonial and nationalist legacy shape the post-colonial Indian polity? 20
10. Write short notes in about 250 words each on the following: 10+10
  - (a) Land revenue settlements under the British rule
  - (b) Anglo-Oriental controversy and Educational Despatch of 1854.

## MHI-05: HISTORY OF INDIAN ECONOMY

Course Code: MHI-05

Assignment Code: MHI-05/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 major approaches to the study of medieval economy. 20
2. Examine the nature and pattern of Mauryan economy. 20
3. Analyse the features of the agrarian order and revenue organization of the Cholas during the 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> centuries. 20
4. Critically examine the nature of the organization of the craft production during the medieval period. 20
5. Write short notes on any **two** of the following. Answer in about **250** words each. 10+10
  - i) Chiefdom-societies of Ahar and Jorwe Cultures
  - ii) Long distance trade of the Harappans
  - iii) Roman coins and their distribution pattern in peninsular India
  - iv) *Khwud-kashta* and *Pahi-kashta* peasants

### SECTION B

6. Write a note on the business practices of medieval India with special reference to partnership and brokerage. 20
7. Discuss the impact of European intervention on Indian merchants and trade during the eighteenth century. 20
8. Critically analyse the socio-economic impact of commercialization during the colonial period. 20
9. Give a brief account of the changes that took place in the Indian small scale industries during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. 20 20
10. Write short notes on any **two** of the following. Answer in about **250** words each. 10+10
  - i) Irrigation technology during the medieval period
  - ii) Mughal Bridges
  - iii) Birla Brothers
  - iv) Five Year Plans