

**Paper II – History of India from Pre – History to 1206 AD**

**Unit – I**

**Prehistory and protohistory of India :**

The definition, scope and methods of prehistoric and proto historic archaeology – The beginning of Iron and the transition to history – Elements of Epigraphy and Numismatics History of epigraphic studies in India – Historical importance of inscriptions – Types of inscriptions – Survey of numismatic studies – Coins as a source of ancient Indian History .

**Unit – II**

**Political ideas and Institutions :**

Approaches to the study of polity – The Saptanga Theory of Kautilya – Origin of the State – Structure and form of Government – Nandas – Mauryas: paternal despotism – Asoka's Welfare State – Vedic Assemblies – Oligarchies – Post – vedic & pre- Mauryan – Kingship, Finance, Army , Judiciary, Inter-state relations – Development of Indian Polity – Post – Mauryan period – state formations in south India – sangam Polity – pallavas – Chola state – Byzantine – Segmentry .

**Unit – III**

**Development of Indian Religions**

Approaches to the study of religions – Prehistoric religion; Religion of the Harappans . Development of religious thought in the Vedic and Epic literature – Religious ideas and practices in the 6<sup>th</sup> Century B.C – Early Buddhism and Jainism – spread of Jainism – Buddhism – Growth of Shaivism and Vaishnavism – Nayanmars and Alvars in Tamilagam – Rise of Mahayana Buddhism – Emergence and spread of Tantricism.

**Unit – IV**

**Social and Economic History upto c.A.D.320**

Harappan Urbanism – society and Economy in the Early Vedic and later vedic period – Agrarian economy, trade, commerce and urbanization (circa 600 B.C. – 300 B.C. ) Social structure and Institutions : Caste, Samskara , Kinship pattern , position of women – marriage Mauryan economy – developments in the post – Mauryan period : Land system , Trade , Commerce , Guilds and social change – social and economic developments during sangam period .

**Unit – V**

**Social and Economic History A.D .320 - 1200**

Trade and commerce – Decline of Trade – Feudalism: Nature and organization, land system, social distribution of landed property, agrarian relations – Social

structure : caste system , untouchables , marriage , position of women and stridhan - inheritance rules – Education and educational centres: Nalanda – Vallabi – Kanchipuram – Patterns of economic and social developments in the Deccan and south India – Agrarian economy; socio – economic importance of temples, trade, urbanization and guilds – pallavas & Cholas .

## **REFERENCES:**

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Koasambi, D.D.The Culture and Civilization of Ancient India : In Historical Outline ( New Delhi: Vikas, 1971) 5<sup>th</sup> Print.  
Luniya, Life and Culture in Ancient India ( Agra: Lakshmi Narain Agarwal Educational publishers ,1978)  
Majumdar, R.C. (ed) History and culture of Indian People ( Bombay: Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan , 1960 ) Relevant vol.  
Srivastava, A.L. The Sultanate of Delhi {711-1516 A.D.} (Agra: Shiva Lal Agarwala & CO., 1976)  
Thapar, Romila. Ancient India's Social History ( New Delhi: Orient Longman, 1978).