

Paper III

HIS-UG-303: HISTORY OF MODERN INDIA

Objective: Catering to the need of both Pass and Honours students, this course offers an overview of the main trends and developments in India during the eighteenth to the 20th centuries (1757-1947). The emphasis of this history will be on the socio-economic and cultural patterns in understanding the polity and society as they took shape in the periods under study.

5.2.13 (6)

Course Content:

A. Eighteen – Twentieth centuries: Political, Socio-economic and Cultural Trends in the 18th century India, advent of the European trade, struggle for supremacy, Ideologies of Expansion – Clive to Dalhousie (1757-1857).

B. Economy: British Commercial policy and De-industrialisation, Land Revenue policy, Commercialization of Agriculture, rise of modern industries, transport and communication, Drain of wealth and rise of economic nationalism.

C. Society: Contribution of Western thought and institution to Indian Culture, Rise of new social classes, Renaissance in Modern India: Brahmo Samaj, Arya Samaj, Prarthana Samaj, Ramakrishna Vivekananda movement, Deoband school. Reformation and abolition of social practices like Child marriage, Sati etc.

D. Resistance to colonial rule; Revolt of 1857 – causes' aftermath and nature; peasant and tribal resistance-Indigo, Santhal. National movement: Emergence of nationalism, early political associations, origins and aims of Indian National Congress; Rise of Extremism in Indian politics, partition of Bengal (1905), Swadeshi movement, militant nationalism, early phase of Muslim politics.

E. Swaraj to Complete Independence: Era of Mass politics; Rise of Gandhi, Khilafat movement, Non Cooperation and Civil Disobedience Movements, Swaraj party; Left Wing in the INC, Round Table Conferences, Communal Award, Revolutionary Activism, Rise of the Left Movement; Quit India Movement, Pakistan Movement, Indian National Army; Independence and partition.

Essential reading:

Bandyopadhyay, Sekhar, *From Plassey to Partition*, Orient Longman private limited, New Delhi 2006 reprint.

Chandra, Bipan, *The Rise and Growth of Economic Nationalism in India*, People's publishing House, New Delhi, 1990 reprint.

_____ *India after Independence*, 1947-2000, Penguin, Harmondsworth, 2000.

_____ *India's Struggle for Independence*, 1857-1947, Penguin, Harmondsworth, 1989.

Desai, A.R., *Social Background of Indian Nationalism*, Popular Prakashan, Mumbai, 2000.

Sarkar, Sumit, *Modern India (1885-1947)*, Macmillan India, New Delhi, 1985.

Spear, Percival, *A History of India*, Vol.II, Penguin, Harmondsworth, 2001.