

MAH

**M.A. HISTORY
SECOND YEAR COURSES**

(MAH)

**Assignments
For July 2019 and January 2020 Sessions
(For M.A. History 2nd Year Courses)**

- MHI-03: Historiography
MHI-06: Evolution of Social Structures in India
Through the Ages
MHI-08: History of Ecology and Environment: India
MHI-09: Indian National Movement
MHI-10: Urbanisation in India
MPSE-003: Western Political Thought (From Plato to
Marx)
MPSE-004: Social and Political Thought in Modern India



**Faculty of History
School of Social Sciences
Indira Gandhi National Open University
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110 068**

M.A. History - 2nd Year Assignments July 2019 and January 2020 Sessions

Dear Student,

You have to do one assignment in each course of 8 and 4 credits. The assignments are compulsory. The assignment will cover 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 assignments submitted and retain it. If possible, keep a photocopy of the submitted assignment 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. second year you will have to do a total of 5 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.

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 following 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 carry 20 marks each.
- 2) Short notes which you have to answer in about 250 words each 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 summarize 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.
- c) **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 emphasize.
 - d) **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-03 HISTORIOGRAPHY

Course Code: MHI-03

Assignment Code: MHI-03/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. What is generalisation? Discuss the role of generalisation in history-writing. 20
2. Write a note on the historiographical traditions in early India. 20
3. What do you understand by oral history? Discuss its relationship 20
4. Describe the important features of Indo-Persian tradition of history-writing during the Sultanate period. 20
5. Give an analytical account of the various traditions of historiography which constitute the Positivist tradition. 20

Section-2

6. What is postmodernism? Discuss the postmodernist views on history. 20
7. Write a note on the nationalist historiography on Indian history. 20
8. What do you understand by the term 'subaltern'? Discuss the two phases the *Subaltern Studies* in India. 20
9. Write a note on the conflicting views on Indian Renaissance. 20
10. Write short notes in about 250 words each on any **two** of the following: 10+10
 - a) D.D. Kosambi and Indian Historiography
 - b) Greco-Roman Historiography
 - c) Feminist Historiography in India
 - d) *Annales* School.

MHI-06: EVOLUTION OF SOCIAL STRUCTURES IN INDIA THROUGH THE AGES

Course Code: MHI-06
Assignment Code: MHI-06/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. Comment on the role of interpretation and generalisation in the writing of the history of ancient India. 20
2. Discuss the nature of the social structure of early food producing societies. 20
3. Critically discuss the nature of urbanism in the Harappan times. 20
4. How do you view Burton Stein's concept of 'Segmentary State' in the context of debate on feudalism? 20
5. Discuss the nature of marriage in the early medieval period. 20

SECTION- B

6. Critically comment on the nature of peasantization of the tribal societies in the medieval period. 20
7. How do you view the phenomenon of the rise of Rajputs? 20
8. Discuss the nature of rural society and its institutions between seventh to twelfth century A.D. 20
9. Comment on the concept of caste as an invention of colonial modernity. 20
10. What are the ways in which religious and social discrimination took place in colonial India. 20

MHI-08: HISTORY OF ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT: INDIA

Course Code: MHI-08

Assignment Code: MHI-08/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. How will you define nature and environment? Comment on how man adapted to environment. 20
2. Do patterns of settlements in India reflect the ecological diversity of its landscape? Discuss? 20
3. Discuss the advances made by different Indian historians in writing the history of environment of the colonial and post colonial period. 20
4. Comment on the nature of evidence for the hunting gathering societies in India. 20
5. How do archaeology and literature help us to understand the ecological concerns of the megalithic people? 20

SECTION-B

6. Discuss how water rights came to be constituted as an important area of use of water as a resource. 20
7. How do you view the importance of conservation in the context of degradation of environment? Discuss. 20
8. Highlight the major developments in the forest policies in independent India. 20
9. What do you understand by the term bio-diversity? Discuss its significance. 20
10. Discuss the question of patents in the context of environmental resources. 20

MHI-09: INDIAN NATIONAL MOVEMENT

Course Code: MHI-09

Assignment Code: MHI-09/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 the non-modernist theories about the emergence of nations and nationalism. 20
2. Explain the idea of economic nationalism. Discuss the main views of its earliest proponents. 20
3. Describe the ideologies and activities of the revolutionary nationalists during the 1920s and 1930s. 20
4. Discuss the Civil Disobedience Movement. How much was it successful? 20
5. Write short notes in about 250 words each on any two of the following: 10+10
 - a) The Subaltern View on Indian National Movement
 - b) Limits of Cultural-ideological resistance in Colonial India
 - c) Political Philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi
 - d) Achievements of the Congress Ministries during 1937-39.

SECTION-B

6. Write a note on the Quit India Movement. 20
7. Discuss the association of nationalism with the peasant movements in UP and Bihar during the 1920s and 1930s. 20
8. How did the Gandhian method of mass mobilisation succeed in bringing women into public life? 20
9. Analyse the main strengths and weaknesses of the legacies of the Indian national movement . 20
10. Write short notes in about 250 words each on any two of the following: 10+10
 - a) Role of the Constituent Assembly, 1946-49
 - b) Poona Pact, 1932
 - c) Nationalists and the Workers in the Early Phase
 - d) Pakistan Demand and its Consequences.

MHI-10: URBANISATION IN INDIA

Course Code: MHI-10

Assignment Code: MHI-10/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. How are medieval cities of the Indian subcontinent viewed by scholars? 20
2. How do archaeologists view exchange? Construct the story of Harappan exchange patterns. 20
3. Critically examine the characteristics of early historical urban centres in the Tamilakam region. 20
4. Examine R.S. Sharma's theory of deurbanisation in the light of the contemporary archaeological remains in the post-Gupta period. 20
5. Write short notes on any two of the following. Answer in about 250 words each. 10+10
 - a) Distribution of Harappan settlements
 - b) Spaces around the city in the early medieval period
 - c) Parthian city at Sirkap
 - d) Textual representation of the Sultanate Cities

SECTION-B

6. Critically examine the spacial characteristics of Mughal cities. 20
7. What was the impact of the revolt of 1857 on the urban life of the city of Lucknow? 20
8. Can colonial cities rightly be understood as divided cities? 20
9. How did British confront urban issues with regard to design and control of spaces, health and sanitation? 20
10. Write short notes on any two of the following. Answer in about 250 words each. 10+10
 - a) Industrial cities of the medieval Deccan
 - b) Hoogly/Hugli
 - c) Modernity and the city
 - d) Cities as sites of religious identities

MPSE-003: WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT (From Plato to Marx)

Course Code: MPSE-003

Assignment Code: ASST/TMA/2019-20

Marks: 100

Note: Answer any five questions in about 500 words each. Attempt at least two questions from each section. Each question carries 20 marks.

SECTION –I

1. Write a note on the characteristics features of the great works of western political thought.
2. Discuss Plato's methodology.
3. Examine Aristotle's theory of Justice.
4. Explain Thomas Aquinas' views on law and the state.
5. Discuss Machiavelli's doctrine of aggrandizement.

SECTION –II

Write a short note on the following in about 250 words each.

6.
 - a) Thomas Hobbes on the state of nature and natural rights
 - b) John Lock on consent, resistance and toleration
7.
 - a) Rousseau's critique of civil society
 - b) Edmund Burke's views on citizenship
8.
 - a) Immanuel Kant on property, social contract and the state
 - b) Jeremy Bentham's political philosophy
9.
 - a) Alex De Tocqueville on democracy, revolution and the modern State
 - b) J.S. Mill on equal rights for women
10.
 - a) Hegel's philosophy of history
 - b) Marx's theory of alienation

MPSE-004: SOCIAL AND POLITICAL THOUGHT IN MODERN INDIA

Course Code: MPSE-004

Assignment Code: ASST/TMA/2019-20

Marks: 100

Note: Answer any five questions in about 500 words each. Attempt at least two questions from each section. Each question carries 20 marks.

SECTION –I

1. Discuss the nature of state and sovereignty in medieval India.
2. Write a note on construction of India in the 19th century.
3. Write a note on social reform and the 'Hindu Renaissance' in 19th century India.
4. Elaborate the role of JyotibaPhule as a social revolutionary.
5. Compare the Moderates and Extremists in the nationalist movement.

SECTION –II

Write a short note on the following in about 250 words each.

6.
 - a) Sri Aurobindo on passive resistance
 - b) Background of the rise of Hindu nationalist ideology
7.
 - a) MaulanaMaududi's views on Nationalism
 - b) PanditaRamabai's fight against patriarchy
8.
 - a) Jaipal Singh on championing Adivasi identity
 - b) Gandhi on the relationship between religion and politics
9.
 - a) Jawaharlal Nehru's theory of culture
 - b) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's ideological orientation
10.
 - a) Rabindranath Tagore's theory of freedom and self-realisation
 - b) M.N. Roy's Radical Humanism