

1. **Sources:**

i) Archaeological sources:

- Exploration
- excavation,
- epigraphy,
- numismatics,
- monuments

ii) Literary sources:

- Indigenous
- Primary and secondary poetry,
- scientific literature,
- literature,
- literature in regional languages,
- religious literature.

iii) Foreign accounts:

- Greek,
- Chinese
- Arab writers.

2. **Pre-history and Proto-history:**

- Geographical factors;
- hunting and gathering (paleolithic and mesolithic);
- Beginning of agriculture (neolithic and chalcolithic)

3. **Indus Valley Civilization:**

- Origin, date, extent, characteristics, decline, survival and significance, art and architecture.

4. **Megalithic Cultures:**

- Distribution of pastoral and farming cultures outside the Indus,
- Development of community life,
- Settlements,
- Development of agriculture,
- Crafts, Pottery,
- Iron industry.

5. **Aryans and Vedic Period:**

- Expansions of Aryans in India. Vedic Period:
- Religious and philosophic literature;
- The transformation from Rig Vedic period to the later Vedic period;
- Political, social and economical life;
- Significance of the Vedic Age;
- Evolution of Monarchy and Varna system.

6. **Period of Mahajanapadas:**

- Formation of States (Mahajanapada)
- Republics and monarchies;
- Rise of urban centers;
- Trade routes;
- Economic growth;
- Introduction of coinage;
- Spread of Jainism and Buddhism;
- Rise of Magadha and Nandas.
- Iranian and Macedonian invasions and their impact.

7. **Mauryan Empire:**

- Foundation of the Mauryan Empire,
- Chandragupta, Kautilya and Arthashastra;
- Ashoka;
- Concept of Dharma;
- Edicts;
- Polity, Administration;
- Economy;
- Art, architecture and sculpture;
- External contacts;
- Religion; Spread of religion; Literature.
- Disintegration of the empire;
- Sungas and Kanvas.

8. **Post - Mauryan Period (Indo-Greeks, Sakas, Kushanas, Western Kshatrapas):**

- Contact with outside world;
- growth of urban centres,
- economy, coinage,
- development of religions,
- Mahayana,
- social conditions,
- art, architecture,
- culture, literature and science.

9. **Early State and Society in Eastern India, Deccan and South India:**

- Kharavela,
- The Satavahanas,
- Tamil States of the Sangam Age;
- Administration, economy, land grants, coinage, trade guilds and urban centres;
- Buddhist centres;
- Sangam literature and culture;
- Art and architecture.

10. **Guptas, Vakatakas and Vardhanas:**

- Polity and administration,
- Economic conditions, Coinage of the Guptas,
- Land grants, Decline of urban centres,
- Indian feudalism,
- Caste system,
- Position of women,
- Education and educational institutions;
- Nalanda, Vikramshila and Vallabhi, Literature, scientific literature, art and architecture.

11. **Regional States during Gupta Era:**

- The Kadambas, Pallavas, Chalukyas of Badami;
- Polity and Administration, Trade guilds, Literature; growth of Vaishnava and Saiva religions. Tamil Bhakti movement, Shankaracharya;
- Vedanta;
- Institutions of temple and temple architecture;
- Palas,
- Senas,
- Rashtrakutas,
- Paramaras,
- Polity and administration;
- Cultural aspects. Arab conquest of Sind;
- Alberuni, The Chalukyas of Kalyana, Cholas, Hoysalas, Pandyas; Polity and Administration;
- local Govern-ment;
- Growth of art and architecture, religious sects, Institution of temple and Mathas, Agraharas, education and literature, economy and society.

12. **Themes in Early Indian Cultural History:**

- Languages and texts,
- major stages in the evolution of art and architecture,
- major philosophical thinkers and schools,
- ideas in Science and Mathematics.

13. **Early Medieval India, 750-1200:**

- i) Polity:
 - Major political developments in Northern India and the Peninsula, origin and the rise of Rajputs -
 - The Cholas: administration, village economy, and society
 - "Indian Feudalism"
 - Agrarian economy and urban settlements
 - Trade and commerce

ii) Society:

- the status of the Brahman and the new social order
- Condition of women
- Indian science and technology

14. **Cultural Traditions in India, 750- 1200:**

i) Philosophy:

- Shankaracharya and Vedanta,
- Ramanuja and Vishishtadvaita,
- Madhva and BrahmaMimansa

1. **ii) Religion:**

- Forms and features of religion,
- Tamil devotional cult, growth of Bhakti,
- Islam and its arrival in India,
- Sufism

iii) Literature:

- Literature in Sanskrit,
- growth of Tamil literature,
- literature in the newly developing languages,
- Kalhan's Rajtarangini,
- Alberuni's India

1. **iv) Art and Architecture:**

- Temple architecture,
- sculpture,
- painting

15. **The Thirteenth Century:**

16.

i) Establishment of the Delhi Sultanate:

- The Ghurian invasions
- factors behind Ghurian success
- Economic, social and cultural consequences

ii) Foundation of Delhi Sultanate and early Turkish Sultans

- Consolidation:
- The rule of Iltutmish and Balban

16. **The Fourteenth Century:**

- "The Khalji Revolution" Alauddin Khalji: Conquests and territorial expansion, agrarian and economic measures - Muhammad Tughluq: Major projects, agrarian measures, the bureaucracy of Muhammad Tughluq -

- Firuz Tughluq: Agrarian measures, achievements in civil engineering and public works,
- The decline of the Sultanate,
- foreign contacts and Ibn Battuta's account

17. **Society, Culture and Economy in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries:**

i) Society:

- composition of rural society, ruling classes, town dwellers, women, religious classes, caste and slavery under the Sultanate,
- Bhakti movement,
- Sufi movement

ii) Culture:

- Persian literature, literature in the regional languages of North India, literature in the languages of South India,
- Sultanate architecture and new structural forms,
- painting,
- evolution of a composite culture

iii) Economy:

- Agricultural production,
- rise of urban economy and non-agricultural production,
- trade and commerce

18. **The Fifteenth and Early Sixteenth Century**

i) Political Developments and Economy:

- Rise of Provincial Dynasties:
- Bengal, Kashmir (Zainul Abedin),
- Gujarat, Malwa, Bahmanids
- The Vijayanagra Empire
- Lodis
- Mughal Empire

ii) First phase:

- Babur and Humayun
- The Sur Empire
- Sher Shah's administration
- Portuguese Colonial enterprise
- Bhakti and Sufi Movements

19. **The Fifteenth and early Sixteenth Century**

i) Society and Culture:

- Regional cultural specificities

- Literary traditions
- Provincial architecture
- Society, culture, literature, and the arts in the Vijayanagara Empire.

20. **Akbar:**

- Conquests and consolidation of the Empire
- Establishment of Jagir and Mansab systems
- Rajput policy
- Evolution of religious and social outlook,
- theory of Sulh-i-kul and religious policy
- Court patronage of art and technology

21. **Mughal Empire in the Seventeenth Century:**

- Major administrative policies of Jahangir, Shahjahan, and Aurangzeb
- The Empire and the Zamindars
- Religious policies of Jahangir, Shahjahan and Aurangzeb
- Nature of the Mughal State
- Late Seventeenth century crisis and the revolts
- The Ahom Kingdom
- Shivaji and the early Maratha Kingdom.

22. **Economy and Society in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries:**

- Population, agricultural production, craft production
- Towns, commerce with Europe through Dutch, English and French companies:
- trade revolution
- Indian mercantile classes, banking, insurance and credit systems
- Condition of peasants, condition of women
- Evolution of the Sikh community and the Khalsa Panth

23. **Culture in the Mughal Empire:**

- Persian histories and other literature
- Hindi and other religious literature
- Mughal architecture
- Mughal painting
- Provincial architecture and painting
- Classical music
- Science and technology

24. **The Eighteenth Century:**

- Factors for the decline of the Mughal Empire
- The regional principalities: Nizam's Deccan, Bengal, Awadh
- Maratha ascendancy under the Peshwas
- The Maratha fiscal and financial system
- Emergence of Afghan Power,

- Battle of Panipat:1761
- State of politics, culture and economy on the eve of the British conquest

UPSC Optional Paper Syllabus for History- Paper-II

1. **European Penetration into India:**

- The Early European Settlements;
- The Portuguese and the Dutch;
- The English and the French East India Companies;
- Their struggle for supremacy;
- Carnatic Wars;
- Bengal -The conflict between the English and the Nawabs of Bengal;
- Siraj and the English;
- The Battle of Plassey;
- Significance of Plassey.

2. **British Expansion in India:**

- Bengal – Mir Jafar and Mir Kasim;
- The Battle of Buxar; Mysore;
- The Marathas;
- The three Anglo-Maratha Wars;
- Punjab.

3. **Early Structure of the British Raj:**

- The early administrative structure;
- From diarchy to direct control;
- The Regulating Act (1773);
- The Pitt's India Act (1784);
- The Charter Act (1833);
- The voice of free trade and the changing character of British colonial rule;
- The English utilitarian and India

4. **Economic Impact of British Colonial Rule:**

(a) Land revenue settlements in British India;

- The Permanent Settlement;
- Ryotwari Settlement;
- Mahalwari Settlement;
- Economic impact of the revenue arrangements;
- Commercialization of agriculture;
- Rise of landless agrarian labourers;
- Impoverishment of the rural society.

(b) Dislocation of traditional trade and commerce;

- De-industrialization;
- Decline of traditional crafts;
- Drain of wealth;
- Economic transformation of India;
- Railroad and communication network including telegraph and postal services;
- Famine and poverty in the rural interior;
- European business enterprise and its limitations.

5. Social and Cultural Developments:

- The state of indigenous education, its dislocation;
- Orientalist-Anglicist controversy,
- The introduction of western education in India;
- The rise of press, literature and public opinion;
- The rise of modern vernacular literature;
- Progress of science;
- Christian missionary activities in India.

6. Social and Religious Reform movements in Bengal and Other Areas:

- Ram Mohan Roy
- The Brahmo Movement;
- Devendranath Tagore;
- Iswarchandra Vidyasagar;
- The Young Bengal Movement;
- Dayanada Saraswati;
- The social reform movements in India including Sati, widow remarriage, child marriage, etc.;
- The contribution of Indian renaissance to the growth of modern India;
- Islamic revivalism – the Feraizi and Wahabi Movements.

7. Indian Response to British Rule:

- Peasant movements and tribal uprisings in the 18th and 19th centuries including the Rangpur Dhing (1783),
- the Kol Rebellion (1832),
- the Mopla Rebellion in Malabar (1841-1920),
- the Santal Hul (1855),
- Indigo Rebellion (1859-60),
- Deccan Uprising (1875) and the Munda Ulgulan (1899-1900);
- The Great Revolt of 1857 - Origin, character, causes of failure, the consequences;
- The shift in the character of peasant uprisings in the post-1857 period;
- The peasant movements of the 1920s and 1930s.

8. **Factors leading to the birth of Indian Nationalism**

- Politics of Association;
- The Foundation of the Indian National Congress;
- The Safety-valve thesis relating to the birth of the Congress;
- Programme and objectives of Early Congress;
- the social composition of early Congress leadership;
- the Moderates and Extremists;
- The Partition of Bengal (1905);
- The Swadeshi Movement in Bengal;
- the economic and political aspects of Swadeshi Movement;
- The beginning of revolutionary extremism in India.

9. **Rise of Gandhi**

- Character of Gandhian nationalism;
- Gandhi's popular appeal;
- Rowlatt Satyagraha; the Khilafat Movement;
- the Non-cooperation Movement;
- National politics from the end of the Non-cooperation movement to the beginning of the Civil Disobedience movement;
- the two phases of the Civil Disobedience Movement;
- Simon Commission;
- The Nehru Report;
- the Round Table Conferences;
- Nationalism and the Peasant Movements;
- Nationalism and Working class movements;
- Women and Indian youth and students in Indian politics (1885-1947);
- the election of 1937 and the formation of ministries;
- Cripps Mission;
- the Quit India Movement;
- the Wavell Plan;
- The Cabinet Mission.

10. **Constitutional Developments in the Colonial India between 1858 and 1935**

11. **Other strands in the National Movement The Revolutionaries:**

- Bengal, the Punjab, Maharashtra, U.P, the Madras Presidency, Outside India.
- The Left;
- The Left within the Congress: Jawaharlal Nehru, Subhas Chandra Bose,
- the Congress Socialist Party;
- the Communist Party of India,
- other left parties.

12. **Politics of Separatism;**

- the Muslim League;
- the Hindu Mahasabha;
- Communalism and the politics of partition;
- Transfer of power;
- Independence.

13. **Consolidation as a Nation;**

- Nehru's Foreign Policy;
- India and her neighbours (1947-1964);
- The linguistic reorganisation of States (1935-1947);
- Regionalism and regional inequality;
- Integration of Princely States;
- Princes in electoral politics;
- the Question of National Language.

14. **Caste and Ethnicity after 1947;**

- Backward castes and tribes in post-colonial electoral politics;
- Dalit movements.

15. **Economic development and political change;**

- Land reforms;
- the politics of planning and rural reconstruction;
- Ecology and environmental policy in post - colonial India;
- Progress of science.

16. **Enlightenment and Modern ideas:**

(i) Major ideas of Enlightenment:

- Kant,
- Rousseau

(ii) Spread of Enlightenment in the colonies

(iii) Rise of socialist ideas (up to Marx);

- spread of Marxian Socialism.

17. **Origins of Modern Politics:**

- European States System.
- American Revolution and the Constitution. (
- French revolution and aftermath, 1789-1815.
- American Civil War with reference to Abraham Lincoln and the abolition of slavery.
- British Democratic Politics, 1815- 1850; Parliamentary Reformers, Free Traders, Chartists.

18. **Industrialization:**

(i) English Industrial Revolution:

- Causes and Impact on Society

(ii) Industrialization in other countries:

- USA, Germany, Russia, Japan
- (iii) Industrialization and Globalization.

19. **Nation-State System:**

- (i) Rise of Nationalism in 19th century
- (ii) Nationalism: state-building in Germany and Italy
- (iii) Disintegration of Empires in the face of the emergence of nationalities across the world.

20. **Imperialism and Colonialism:**

- (i) South and South-East Asia
- (ii) Latin America and South Africa
- (iii) Australia (iv) Imperialism and free trade: Rise of neo-imperialism.

21. **Revolution and Counter Revolution:**

- (i) 19th Century European revolutions
- (ii) The Russian Revolution of 1917-1921
- (iii) Fascist Counter-Revolution, Italy and Germany.
- (iv) The Chinese Revolution of 1949

22. **World Wars:**

- (i) 1st and 2nd World Wars as Total Wars: Societal implications
- (ii) World War I: Causes and consequences
- (iii) World War II: Causes and consequence

23. **The World after World War II:**

- (i) Emergence of two power blocs
- (ii) Emergence of Third World and non-alignment
- (iii) UNO and the global disputes.

24. **Liberation from Colonial Rule:**

- (i) Latin America-Bolivar
- (ii) Arab World-Egypt
- (iii) Africa-Apartheid to Democracy
- (iv) South-East Asia-Vietnam

25. **Decolonization and Underdevelopment:**

- (i) Factors constraining development: Latin America, Africa

26. **Unification of Europe:**

- (i) Post War Foundations: NATO and European Community
- (ii) Consolidation and Expansion of European Community
- (iii) European Union.

27. **Disintegration of Soviet Union and the Rise of the Unipolar World:**

- (i) Factors leading to the collapse of Soviet communism and the Soviet Union, 1985-1991

(ii) Political Changes in Eastern Europe 1989-2001.

(iii) End of the cold war and US ascendancy in the World as the lone superpower.