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Syllabus of Elective History (BDP)

Course Code: EHI

Name of the Papers

Paper I: **Ancient India**

Paper II: **Medieval India**

Paper III: **Early Modern India**

Paper IV: **China & Japan**

Paper V: **South East Asia**

Paper VI: **Modern Indian History**

Paper VII: **Modern Europe**

Paper VIII: **Making of the modern world**

Paper I: Ancient India

Module-1:

Sources of Ancient Indian History; Harappan Civilization—Origin. Extent, urban life and decline; Society, Economy and Polity during the Vedic Age; Religious Beliefs, Ideas and Practices during the Vedic Age.

Module-2:

Rise of the Mahajanapada with special reference to the ascendancy of Magadha (up to the end of the Nanda Rule): The Maurya Empire Expansion. Extent, Administrative System. Policy of Dhamma. Collapse of the Empire; Non-indigenous powers in India with special reference to Kushana empire (brief notices of the Greek, Saka and Parthian invasions)-Rise of the Satavahanas in the Deccan-a brief note on Polity and Administration: The Gupta Empire in the North-Foundation, Expansion, Decay, the Deccan under the Vakatakas, Polity and Administration with special reference to Provincial and Local Level Administration.

Module-3:

Major North Indian Powers (600-1200): Harsha, Gujrata-Pratharas-Brief discussion on Kashmir, Kolachuris of Dahala and the Gahadhavalas of Kanauj; Bengal as a Regional Power: Sasanka, the Palas and the Senas (600-1205)—Polity and Administrative organization; Regional Powers in the Deccan-The Chalukyas of Badami and the Rashtrakutas; Powers in the far South. The Pallavas, the Cholas (Rayaraju, Rajendra, Chola Maritime Expeditions).

Module-4:

Salient features of early Indian Rural Economy: Agriculture and Irrigation, Ownership of land, Landed Intermediaries and Peasants—Debates on Indian Feudalism; Non-agrarian Sector of the Economy: Crafts, Organisations of Craftsmen and Professionals (Sreni, Samgha etc). Trade and Urban Centres; Society and Religious Life; Family, Varna-Jati, Marriage, position of women. Science, technology and society; attitude to science and technology in ancient India; Art history: Stupa, Chaitya and Structural Temples (Regional Styles), Sculpture including terracotta and painting.

Paper II: Medieval India

Module-1:

Impact of Islam and political change in India—the foundation of Delhi Sultanate ; The early history of the Sultanate and the emergence of a centralized monarchy ; The Khilji Revolution ; The Tughlaques ; Independent Sultans of Bengal-the Vijaynagar Empire.

Module-2:

The Delhi Sultanate and the changing framework of agriculture-the Iqta System-emergence of new urban centres with an expanding commercial life; The nature of the impact of Islam on Indian Society-Sufism-emergence of syncretic ideas and beliefs-the Bhakti movement. Role of the Indo-Saracenic style in architecture; Disintegration of the Sultanate and the foundation of the Mughal Empire-Babur-Mughal & Afghan

contest-Sher Shah; Akbar and the consolidation of the Mughal Empire—Political expansion. Administrative reorganization including the Mansabdari System.

Module-3:

The imperial expansion under Jahangir and Saha Jahan—consolidation of the Mughal ruling class; The history of Aurangzeb—Political expansion in the Deccan, the Mughal-Maratha contest-state and religion; The break-up of the Mughal Empire. Political and economic explanations for Imperial decline; Mughal rule in Bengal.

Module-4:

The Mansabdari System—Mughal revenue policy and agriculture; Commercial expansion—Urbanization and foreign trade; The Mughals and the European trading companies; Religious Syncretism-devotional cults-art & architecture in Mughal era.

Paper III: Early Modern India

Module-1:

Decline of the Mughal Empire during the early Eighteenth Century; Agrarian crisis: Peasant insurrection; Political Parties and conflicts in the Mughal Court, The decline of the aristocracy; Emergence of Regional States: Bengal, Hyderabad, Awadh; European Traders in the early eighteenth century.

Module-2:

The rise of the British Empire: Bengal 'The British Bridge head'-1757-1760-1765; The framework of the early Colonial State in Bengal; Political Expansion: North India, Mysore, Maharashtra-Settlement of 1818; The rise of Pararnountcy: Hastings, Dalhousie.

Module-3:

The Colonial Impact: The changing structure of India's foreign trade-Drain-Early 19th Century: Domination effect-deindustrialization;

Changes in rural Society-Land revenue policies-Causes of revenue maximization: The three different settlements; The New Administrative framework: Law-Judicial reforms—Penal Law—Educational policy; Westernization and its impact on Indian society; Three different responses: Eclectic, Conservative and Radical.

Module-4:

Early rural resistance : Landlords and peasants ; Peasant Resistance-Civil Disturbance, Tribal unrest-Santal resistance, Farizis, Pagal Panthi etc. ; Urban politics of the Indian notables-Bengal, Bombay and Madras ; The Revolt of 1857 : Context-Historiography.

Paper IV: China & Japan

Module-1:

Elements of traditional Chinese Society, Culture and polity; Agents of change-internal contradictions within imperial system including land system-gentry-peasant rebellions; Decentralized polity of traditional Japan before 1603, Japanese feudalism-Samurai-features of Samurai tradition; Emergence of new system of political control and economic change in the Tokugawa Shogunate-drive towards centralization and erosion of old economic order.

Module-2:

Commercial contact & cultural encounter: Opium War and their aftermath up to Sino Japanese War: Arrival of Commodore Perry and its implications-decline or consolidation or imperial control-the rise of modern state up to constitution of 1889.

Module-3:

From Reform movement (1889) to Sun Yat-sen (1911); 1911 to establishment of Communist Party of China; Post Constitution Japan to 1915: the growth of militarism Japanese Modernization: Japan from 1915-1931.

Module-4:

China (1921-1949); Japanese Polity (1931-1945), Japanese Economy (1931-1945)

Paper V: South-East Asia

Module-1:

European expansion and Consolidation in South-East Asia.

Module-2:

Society and economy under Colonial Rule.

Module-3:

Emergence and phases of nationalism in South-East Asia.

Module-4: South-East Asia in contemporary politics to 1970s, with special reference Indonesia.

Paper VI: Modern Indian History (1858-1964)

Module-1:

India after 1857: Administrative reorganization-The Acts of 1858, Queen's Proclamation and Act of 1861-Changes in the Army, the Police and other instruments of Governance ; Peasant and tribal unrest in India in later 19th Century; Colonial Economic Transformation ; Social Reform Movements.

Module-2:

Social Roots of Indian National Congress: The Early Congress and the ideological framework of moderate nationalism; Extremism, Swadeshi Movement and Congress split at Surat; Revolutionary Nationalism.

Module-3:

India after the First World War—Rise of Gandhi; Gandhi and Mass Politics, 1921-42 (Khilafat, Non-Cooperation, Civil Disobedience. Quit India Movements) ; The left in the Congress, Trade Union Movement, Subhas Chandra Bose and the INA, Post-War Upsurge ; The Partition

and its aftermath (with reference to Communal mobilization, Pakistan Movement, the Partition and the transfer of Power).

Module-4:

The Constituent Assembly and the Framing of the Indian Constitution; Politics in Independent India: Nehru Era; Planning and the Indian Economy; Nehruvian Foreign Policy-Non Alignment.

Paper VII: Modern Europe (1789-1919)

Module-1:

Reform and Revolution (1789-1815): Background and causes of French Revolution of 1789; Trends of the French Revolution of 1789; Rise of Napoleon-Empire building; Napoleonic Reforms and their effects- Estimate-Child of Revolution.

Module-2:

The Conservative Order and the Revolutionary Challenge (1815-1871); Vienna Settlement-Metternich-Concert of Europe; Revolts of 1830 & Revolution of 1848 ; France under Second Empire—Paris Commune ; Formation of Nation States-Italy & Germany-Problems of the Old Empires-Hapsburg Empire of Austria, Hungary & the Ottoman Empire.

Module-3:

The Industrial Revolution and the Rise of Socialism: Industrial Revolution -England and the Continent; Socialist Movements in Europe; Reforms in Russia; Revolution of 1905 and 1917 in Russia.

Module-4:

Imperialism, Nationalism and New Diplomacy: Colonial expansions. Balkan Nationalism, New Diplomacy and First World War.

Paper VIII: Making of the modern world (1919-1956)

Module-1:

The peace settlement and its effects : Europe in 1919 : Search for security; Reparation - Economic Nationalism - Great depression; The foreign policies of the United States and Soviet Russia two World Wars.

Module-2:

Efforts at peace and its breakdown: League of Nations: Disarmament- Locarno Pact: Rise of Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy: Japan's Expansionism-Manchurian Crisis – Italy-Abyssinian War - Spanish Civil War—Rome, Berlin, Tokyo Axis-Appeasement-coming of the Second World War.

Module-3:

The Cold War: Effects of the second World War-Decolonization-Emergence of the United States and Soviet Russia as super powers; The Chinese Revolution; The origin of the Cold War its growth; The United Nations-Functions and peace efforts.

Module-4:

Nationalism and the Developing World: Arab Nationalism; Nationalism on Africa: Neo-Colonialism and new forms of Domination; Policy of Non-Alignment.