

INDEX

1. MARGDARSHIKA
2. THEORY NOTES
3. UNIT WISE MCQ
4. AMRIUT BOOKLET
5. PYQ
6. TREND ANALYSIS
7. TOPPERS TOOL KIT (TTK)
8. MODEL PAPER

CLICK HERE TO GET



sample Notes/
Expert Guidance/Courier Facility Available



Download **PROFESSORS ADDA APP**



+91 7690022111+91 9216228788

**GET BEST
SELLER
HARD COPY
NOTES**



**PROFESSORS
ADDA**

**CLICK HERE
TO GET**



 **+91 7690022111 +91 9216228788**

HISTORY

Margdarshika Booklet

Features



One-Stop Syllabus Coverage

Covers all 10 units of the History UGC-NET syllabus—from Historical Methods & Early India through to Research Methodology & Historiography—in one guide.



Unit-Wise “What to Study” Focus

Each unit opens with a detailed list of highly-focused topics (e.g., Archaeological Sources, Pastoralism & Fod Production, Sources of Modern Indian History, Colonial Economy), so you know exactly what to prioritize.



How-to Study Strategies

Provides effective learning tools—source analysis grids, interactive mapping exercises, thematic mind-maps, multi-layered timelines, comparative charts—to deepen your understanding and retention



Exam-Oriented Tips

Unit-specific MCQ guidance including ‘match-the-following,’ sequence-of-events, source-author matching, and key term distinctions to sharpen an



Updated to **2025 Edition**

Fully revised to reflect the latest exam patterns and syllabus updates

Margdarshika Booklet UPDATED 2025 Edition

Margdarshika booklet what is this,

Why read this?

- It is a well-planned roadmap to simplify the vast and complex syllabus of UGC NET. It is like a Guru showing you the path to success in the subject. You do not need to depend on anyone.
- Its main aim is to give clear answers to questions like "what to read, where to start, and how deep to read". Focus points are explained.
- It gives a systematic direction to your preparation by dividing it into small (manageable) parts. It tells you what is the new trend of the exam these days.

What's that for?

- It is useful for students preparing for UGC NET, PGT, Asst Professor
- It is very useful for those who are preparing at home, those who are working, those who are not getting proper guidance, those who do not want to watch videos. It is a one stop solution for them

Key Features and Benefits

- **Benefits:** Explains important concepts, theories and examples of the subject.
- **Time saving:** Guides you in the right direction by saving you from unnecessary information. 100% exam oriented
- **Complete coverage:** Ensures that no important part of the syllabus is missed.
- **Increased confidence:** Having a clear plan reduces nervousness regarding preparation.

How to make best use of it?

- Make sure to remember the most important
- Follow the order given in the guide.
- Have a strong grip on the basics of each topic.
- While studying, focus on those topics in ProfessorsAdda Booklets.
- Try to establish a connection between different concepts.
- Solve MCQ practice questions and old question papers based on the guide. All this is given in ProfessorsAdda MCQ + PYQ booklet which is complete, quality updated.
- It works like your personal guide.

HISTORY MARGDARSHIKA BOOKLET

Unit I: Historical Methods and Early India

What to Study (Do Highly Focus on These Topics)

- **Historical Methods: The Historian's Craft**
 - **Negotiating Archaeological Sources:** Understand the methodologies of Exploration (discovering sites), Excavation (systematic digging to unearth material remains), and the specialized knowledge derived from Epigraphy (the study of inscriptions on stone, metal, etc., which provide direct evidence on rulers, events, social conditions) and Numismatics (the study of coins, offering insights into economic history, trade routes, metallurgy, and dynastic chronologies).
 - **Dating of Archaeological Sites:** Familiarize yourself with the importance and general principles of various dating techniques (EXAMPLE radiocarbon dating, thermoluminescence, dendrochronology) used by archaeologists to establish chronological frameworks for past cultures and events.
 - **Literary Sources: Texts as Evidence**
 - **Indigenous Literature:** Learn to differentiate between Primary sources (those created at the time of the events or by direct participants, EXAMPLE Harappan seals, Vedic hymns, Ashokan edicts) and Secondary sources (works created later, based on primary sources, EXAMPLE scholarly articles, historical monographs). Critically examine the particular challenges involved in accurately dating Religious literature (like the Vedas, Upanishads, Puranas, Epics, which often have complex layers of composition over centuries) and Secular Literature (such as Kautilya's Arthashastra, Sangam poems, plays by Kalidasa), and understand how to interpret the historical value that can be gleaned from Myths and Legends.
 - **Foreign Accounts:** Develop the skill to assess the perspectives, purposes, and potential biases of accounts left by Greek (EXAMPLE Megasthenes' "Indica"), Chinese (EXAMPLE Fa-Hien's pilgrimage records, Hiuen Tsang's detailed observations), and Arabic (EXAMPLE Al-Biruni's "Kitab-ul-Hind") travelers, envoys, and chroniclers.
 - **Ethics in Historical Practice:** Grasp the critical importance of academic integrity through concepts like Plagiarism, and the broader concerns of Ethics and Morality in History Writing.

All Subject's Complete Study Material KIT available.

Professor Adda Call WhatsApp Now 7690022111 / 9216228788

- **Pastoralism and Food Production: The Neolithic and Chalcolithic Transformation**
 - **Neolithic and Chalcolithic Phases:** Focus on their defining characteristics, including the transition to more settled agricultural life (Neolithic Revolution), distinct settlement patterns, geographical distribution of key sites across the Indian subcontinent, the types of tools employed (polished stone tools, microliths in Neolithic; copper tools alongside stone in Chalcolithic), and the evolving patterns of exchange, including early forms of barter and rudimentary trade networks.
- **Indus/Harappa Civilization (India's First Urbanization): A Complex Society**
 - **Comprehensive Understanding:** Study its theories of Origin, geographical extent (including major sites like Harappa, Mohenjo-daro, Lothal, Kalibangan, Rakhigarhi) and their specific features, distinctive settlement patterns (planned cities with grid layout, citadel, lower town, sophisticated drainage systems), advanced craft specialization (metallurgy, bead-making, seal carving, standardized pottery), religious practices and beliefs (inferred from seals, figurines, EXAMPLE proto-Shiva, Mother Goddess, animism), the nature of its complex society and polity (evidence of social stratification, possible ruling classes, centralized authority), the various theories concerning its eventual Decline, and the nature of its extensive Internal and external trade networks.
- **Vedic and Later Vedic Periods: Foundations of Classical India**
 - **Societal and Political Evolution:** Engage with the ongoing Aryan debates (concerning their origins, migration, and interaction with indigenous populations). Understand the nature of Political and Social Institutions in the early Vedic (Rigvedic) period (EXAMPLE tribal assemblies like Sabha and Samiti) and their transformation in the Later Vedic period (emergence of territorial kingdoms or Janapadas). Trace the development of State Structure and Theories of State, the formal Emergence of Varnas (Brahmana, Kshatriya, Vaishya, Shudra) as a system of Social Stratification, and the elaboration of the Varnasrama dharma (four stages of life).
 - **Intellectual, Religious, and Technological Shifts:** Explore the depth and evolution of Religious and Philosophical Ideas (from nature worship in the Rig Veda to complex philosophical speculations in the Upanishads about Brahman, Atman, Karma, and reincarnation). Understand the significant Introduction of Iron Technology during the Later Vedic period and its profound impact on agriculture (clearing forests, deeper ploughing) and warfare. Study the unique

characteristics and cultural significance of Megaliths, which are predominantly found in South India and are associated with burial practices and iron use.

- **Expansion of State System (6th century BCE - Second Urbanization): Rise of New Polities**
 - **Emergence of Mahajanapadas:** Study the Mahajanapadas (the sixteen great kingdoms like Magadha, Kosala, Avanti, Vatsa), understanding the political dynamics and differences between Monarchical states (ruled by kings) and Republican States (oligarchic or clan-based republics like the Lichchhavis of Vaishali; also known as Ganarajya or Gana-Sangha, Janapada being a broader term for territory).
 - **Socio-Economic Impetus for Urbanization:** Analyze the key Economic and Social Developments (such as agricultural surplus due to iron tools, growth of crafts and commerce, development of trade routes, emergence of coinage – Punch Marked Coins) that fueled the Emergence of Second Urbanization in the Gangetic plains around the 6th century BCE.
- **Emergence of Heterodox Sects: New Spiritual Paths**
 - **Context and Teachings:** Examine the historical and social context (reaction against Vedic ritualism and caste rigidity) that led to the rise of alternative philosophies like Jainism (concept of Tirthankara, ahimsa, karma), Buddhism (Buddha's teachings, Four Noble Truths, Eightfold Path, concept of Bodhisattva), and Ajivikas (niyati or fate).
- **Key Concepts, Ideas, and Terms (from page 1 of the syllabus) to master for this unit:**
 - **Bharatvarsha:** The traditional, Puranic name for the Indian landmass.
 - **Sabha and Samiti:** Early Vedic political assemblies.
 - **Varnashrama:** The fourfold social order and stages of life.
 - **Vedanta:** Philosophical school based on the Upanishads.
 - **Purusharthas:** The four aims of human life (Dharma, Artha, Kama, Moksha).
 - **Rina:** The concept of debts or obligations.
 - **Samskaras:** Sacraments or rites of passage.
 - **Yajna:** Vedic ritual sacrifice.
 - **Ganarajya:** Republican state.
 - **Janapada:** Territorial entities or early states.
 - **Doctrine of Karma:** Principle of cause and effect shaping future lives.
 - **Dandaniti / Arthashastra / Saptanga:** Science of governance, Kautilya's treatise, seven limbs of the state.
 - **Dharmavijaya:** Conquest by righteousness (associated with Ashoka).

- **Stupa / Chaitya / Vihara:** Buddhist architectural structures.
- **Bodhisattva / Tirthankara:** Enlightened being in Buddhism / Ford-maker in Jainism.

How to Study (Effective & Enlarged Strategies):

- **Historical Methods Deep Dive:**
 - **Source Analysis Grids:** For archaeological sources (epigraphy, numismatics) and literary sources (indigenous religious/secular, foreign accounts), create detailed grids. Columns could include: Type of Source, EXAMPLE s, Information Yielded (Political, Economic, Social, Religious), Strengths as Evidence, Limitations/Biases, and Key Scholars associated with their study.
 - **Dating Techniques Application:** Instead of just memorizing names of dating methods, try to understand which methods are suitable for which materials (EXAMPLE C14 for organic remains) and their relative accuracy, rather than memorizing complex scientific formulas.
 - **Ethical Case Studies (Hypothetical):** Consider hypothetical scenarios: If a historian finds a source that contradicts their main argument, what are the ethical steps? How can one avoid unintentional plagiarism when taking notes from multiple sources? Reflecting on these can make the concepts more tangible.
- **Visualizing and Internalizing Early Cultures & Civilizations:**
 - **Interactive Mapping:** Use online mapping tools or draw detailed physical maps to plot major Neolithic, Chalcolithic, and Harappan sites. Add layers showing geographical features (rivers, mountains) to understand how these influenced settlements and trade routes. Note specific artifacts or features associated with key sites (EXAMPLE Great Bath at Mohenjo-daro, Dockyard at Lothal).
 - **Thematic Mind Maps for Indus Valley Civilization:** Instead of linear notes, create a central mind map for "Indus Valley Civilization." Branch out with main themes like "Urban Planning," "Economy," "Religion," "Art & Crafts," "Society," "Trade," and "Decline." Each branch can then have sub-branches with specific details, evidence, and associated sites.
 - **Multi-layered Timelines:** Develop timelines that not only show the sequence of cultures (Pre-Harappan, Mature Harappan, Late Harappan, Neolithic, Chalcolithic overlaps) but also mark significant technological innovations (EXAMPLE introduction of copper, bronze, polished stone tools) and climatic shifts if discussed in your readings.

- **Understanding Vedic Transitions and Philosophy:**
 - **Conceptual Flashcards with EXAMPLE s:** For terms like Sabha, Samiti, Varnasrama, Vedanta, Purusharthas, Rina, Samskaras, Yajna, create flashcards. On one side, write the term. On the other, include: a concise definition, the period it's most relevant to (Early or Later Vedic), its evolving nature (if any), and a brief EXAMPLE or context of its use (EXAMPLE for Yajna, mention types like Ashvamedha).
 - **Flowcharts of Social & Political Change:** Visually map the transition from the tribal, pastoral society of the Early Vedic period to the more settled, agrarian, and complex state-based society of the Later Vedic period. Show how institutions like the 'Rajan' (king) evolved, and how the Varna system became more rigid.
 - **Philosophical Concept Summaries:** For key Upanishadic ideas like Brahman, Atman, and Karma, write short summaries in your own words explaining their meaning and interrelation.
- **Analyzing Mahajanapadas & New Sects Systematically:**
 - **Mahajanapada Profiles:** Create a table or individual profiles for each of the 16 Mahajanapadas. Include columns for: Name, Capital City, Geographical Location (EXAMPLE near which river), Type (Monarchy/Republic), Noted Rulers (if any), and Key Economic/Strategic Importance (EXAMPLE Magadha's control over iron ores and Gangetic trade).
 - **Comparative Matrix for Heterodox Sects:** For Jainism, Buddhism, and Ajivikas, use a detailed matrix with rows for each sect and columns for: Founder/Key Figures, Core Philosophical Tenets, Views on God/Creation, Ethical Principles (especially Ahimsa), Concept of Karma/Rebirth, Path to Liberation/Salvation, Attitude towards Vedic Rituals and Caste System, Patronage Received, and Geographical Spread. This helps in identifying similarities and crucial differences.
- **Mastering Core Concepts with Depth:**
 - **Contextual Paragraphs:** For each term from the syllabus list, write a detailed paragraph (not just a sentence). This paragraph should explain:
 1. The literal meaning of the term.
 2. The historical period and socio-cultural context in which it was prominent.
 3. Its specific significance (EXAMPLE political, social, religious, economic).
 4. Any key figures, texts, or events associated with it (EXAMPLE "Dandaniti" - Kautilya's Arthashastra; "Dharmavijaya" - Ashoka).
 5. Its legacy or influence on later periods, if applicable.
- **Active Learning and Self-Assessment:**

- **Teaching the Concepts:** Try to explain complex topics like the Indus Valley decline theories or Vedic philosophical ideas to a study partner or even to yourself as if you were teaching a class. This reveals gaps in your understanding.
- **Source-Based Questioning:** When reading about a source (EXAMPLE Megasthenes' Indica), ask yourself: Who wrote this? When? Why? For whom? What are its potential biases? How does it compare with other contemporary sources (if any)?
- **Practice Essay Outlines:** For broader topics like "The nature of the Second Urbanization" or "Compare and contrast the teachings of Buddhism and Jainism," create detailed essay outlines. This helps in structuring your thoughts and recalling relevant information.

Exam Tips for Unit I (MCQ Focus):

- **Source Identification:** Be ready for MCQs asking you to categorize sources (archaeological, literary, primary, secondary) or match specific works/artifacts to their type (EXAMPLE "The Puranas are an EXAMPLE of which type of literary source?").
- **Chronology Questions:** Expect questions requiring you to arrange phases (Neolithic, Chalcolithic, Harappan levels), dynasties, or the emergence of religious sects in correct chronological order.
- **IVC Site Specialization:** Focus on specific features of major Indus Valley sites (EXAMPLE "Which Harappan site is known for its dockyard?" - Lothal). Also, know common features like town planning, seals, and pottery types.
- **Terminology Translation:** Questions might ask for the meaning of specific Vedic terms (Sabha, Samiti, Purohita, Yajna) or philosophical concepts (Karma, Rina, Purusharthas).
- **Mahajanapada Matching:** Be prepared to match Mahajanapadas with their capitals or identify which were monarchies versus republics (ganarajyas).
- **Heterodox Sects - Core Distinctions:** MCQs will likely test your ability to differentiate the core philosophies, key figures (Tirthankaras vs. Bodhisattvas), and important terminologies (EXAMPLE Ahimsa, Nirvana, Stupa, Chaitya) of Jainism, Buddhism, and Ajivikas.
- **Concept Application:** Understand how broad concepts like "Dharmavijaya" relate to specific rulers (Ashoka) or "Saptanga theory" to political treatises (Arthashastra).
- **"Match the Following":** This unit lends itself well to "match the following" questions involving sites and findings, terms and meanings, or texts and authors/religions.



CALL/WAP
+91 7690022-111

All Subject's Complete Study Material KIT available.

Professor Adda Call WhatsApp Now **7690022111 / 9216228788**

2025 Latest Edition e-Booklet

Subject – History

Professors Adda



Updated
as per
NEW UGC
trend



Highly Useful for
UGC NET JRF / SET / PG
(CUET (PG) Asst Professor

All Subject's Complete Study Material KIT available.

Professor Adda Call WhatsApp Now **7690022111 / 9216228788**

UGC NET HISTORY E-Booklet INDEX

Unit – I

- **Negotiating the Sources:**
 - Archaeological sources:
 - Exploration
 - Excavation
 - Epigraphy and Numismatics
 - Dating of Archaeological Sites
 - Literary Sources:
 - Indigenous Literature:
 - Primary and Secondary: problem of dating
 - Religious and Secular Literature
 - Myths, Legends, etc.
 - Foreign Accounts:
 - Greek
 - Chinese
 - Arabic
- **Pastoralism and Food production:**
 - Neolithic and Chalcolithic Phase:
 - Settlement
 - Distribution
 - Tools
 - Patterns of exchange
- **Indus/Harappa Civilization:**
 - Origin

- Extent
- Major sites
- Settlement pattern
- Craft specialization
- Religion
- Society and polity
- Decline of Indus Civilization
- Internal and external trade
- First urbanization in India
- **Vedic and later Vedic periods:**
 - Aryan debates
 - Political and Social Institutions
 - State Structure and Theories of State
 - Emergence of Varnas and Social Stratification
 - Religious and Philosophical Ideas
 - Introduction of Iron Technology
 - Megaliths of South India
- **Expansion of State system:**
 - Mahajanapadas
 - Monarchical and Republican States
 - Economic and Social Developments and Emergence of Second Urbanization in 6th century BCE
 - Emergence of heterodox sects:
 - Jainism
 - Buddhism
 - Ajivikas

Unit - II

- **From State to Empire:**
 - Rise of Magadha
 - Greek invasion under Alexander and its effects
 - Mauryan expansion
 - Mauryan polity, society, economy
 - Asoka's Dhamma and its Nature
 - Decline and Disintegration of the Mauryan Empire
 - Mauryan art and architecture
 - Asokan edicts: language and script
- **Dissolution of Empire and Emergence of Regional Powers:**
 - Indo-Greeks
 - Sungas
 - Satavahanas
 - Kushanas and Saka-Ksatrapas
 - Sangam literature, polity and society in South India as reflected in Sangam literature
 - Trade and commerce from 2nd century BCE to 3rd century CE
 - Trade with the Roman World
 - Emergence of Mahayana Buddhism
 - Kharavela and Jainism
 - Post-Mauryan art and Architecture:
 - Gandhara school
 - Mathura school
 - Amaravati schools

- **Gupta Vakataka age:**
 - Polity and Society
 - Agrarian Economy
 - Land Grants
 - Land Revenue and Land Rights
 - Gupta Coins
 - Beginning of Temple Architecture
 - Emergence of Puranic Hinduism
 - Development of Sanskrit Language and Literature
 - Developments in Science Technology, Astronomy, Mathematics and Medicine
- **Harsha and his Times:**
 - Administration and Religion
- **Salankayanas and Visnukundins in Andhradesa.**

Unit - III

- **Emergence of Regional Kingdoms:**
 - Kingdoms in Deccan:
 - Gangas
 - Kadmabas
 - Western and Eastern Chalukyas
 - Rashtrakutas
 - Kalyani Chalukyas
 - Kakatiyas
 - Hoysalas
 - Yadavas

- Kingdoms in South India:
 - Pallavas
 - Ceras
 - Colas
 - Pandyas
- Kingdoms in Eastern India:
 - Palas and Senas of Bengal
 - Varmans of Kamarupa
 - Bhaumakaras and Somavamsis of Odisha
- Kingdoms in Western India:
 - Maitrakas of Vallabhi
 - Chalukyas of Gujarat
- Kingdoms in North India:
 - Gurjara-Pratiharas
 - Kalacuri-Chedis
 - Gahadavalas
 - Paramaras
- **Characteristics of Early Medieval India:**
 - Administration and Political Structure
 - Legitimation of Kingship
- **Agrarian economy:**
 - Land grants
 - Changing production relations
 - Graded land rights and peasantry
 - Water resources
 - Taxation system
 - Coins and currency system

- **Trade and urbanization:**
 - Patterns of trade
 - Urban settlements
 - Ports and trade routes
 - Merchandise and exchange
 - Trade guilds
 - Trade and colonization in south-east Asia
- **Growth of Brahminical religions:**
 - Vaisnavism and Saivism
 - Temples
 - Patronage and Regional Ramification
 - Temple Architecture and Regional Styles
 - Dana, Tirtha and Bhakti
 - Tamil Bhakti movement - Shankara, Madhava and Ramanujacharya
- **Society:**
 - Varna, Jati and Proliferation of Castes
 - Position of women
 - Gender, marriage and property relations
 - Women in public life
 - Tribes as peasants and their place in Varna order
 - Untouchability
- **Education and Educational Institutions:**
 - Agraharas, Mathas and Mahaviharas as Centres of Education
 - Growth of Regional Languages
- **Debates of state formation in early medieval India:**
 - A) Feudal model

- B) Segmentary model
- C) Integrative model
- **Arab contracts:**
 - Suleiman Ghaznavid conquests
 - Alberuni's Accounts

Unit - IV

- **Source of Medieval Indian History:**
 - Archaeological, Epigraphic and Numismatic sources
 - Material evidences and Monuments
 - Chronicles
 - Literary sources:
 - Persian
 - Sanskrit
 - Regional languages
 - Daftar Khannas:
 - Firmans
 - Bahis / Pothis / Akhbarat
 - Foreign Travellers' Accounts - Persian and Arabic
- **Political Developments:**
 - The Delhi Sultanate:
 - The Ghorids
 - The Turks
 - The Khaljis
 - The Tughlaqs
 - The Sayyids



CALL/WAP
+91 7690022-111

All Subject's Complete Study Material KIT available.

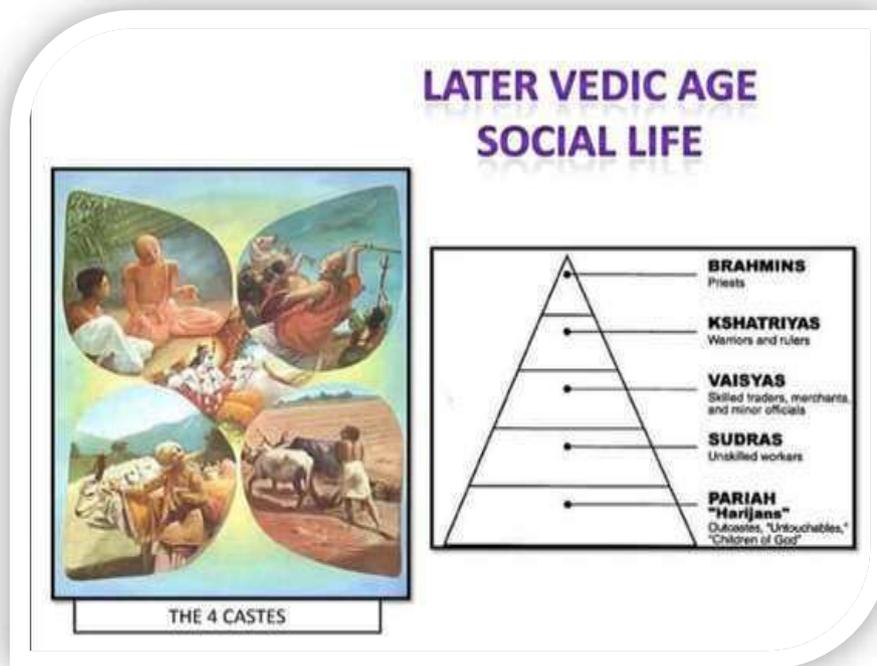
Professor Adda Call WhatsApp Now **7690022111 / 9216228788**

PROFESSORS ADDA 2025

One Stop Solution for NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

HISTORY UNIT-1 E-Booklet Notes Sample

IV. Vedic and Later Vedic Periods(c. 1500-600 BCE)



This period marks the arrival, settlement, and expansion of the Indo-Aryan speaking communities in North India, following the decline of the Indus Valley Civilization.

A. Aryan Debates:

One of the most intensely debated topics in Indian history.

- **Original Home:** Theories include:
 - **Central Asian Steppe (Max Muller, Gordon Childe, etc.):** The most widely accepted academic theory, supported by strong linguistic evidence (Indo-European language family) and archaeological findings of horse and chariot. Suggests gradual migrations from the Pontic-Caspian steppe.
 - **Arctic Region (Bal Gangadhar Tilak):** Based on references to long

PROFESSORS ADDA 2025

One Stop Solution for NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

days and nights in Vedic texts.

- **Indigenous Origin / Out-of-India Theory:** A theory proposed by some scholars (often ideologically motivated) arguing that Aryans were indigenous to India and migrated outwards. This theory lacks substantial linguistic and genetic support.
- **Migration vs. Invasion:**
 - **"Aryan Invasion Theory" (Discredited):** Propounded by Mortimer Wheeler in the 1940s, suggesting a destructive invasion of Aryans who militarily overthrew the Harappan civilization. This theory is largely discredited due to lack of conclusive archaeological evidence for widespread destruction or massacres attributable to invaders, and a clear break between Harappan and Vedic cultures.
 - **"Aryan Migration/Diffusion Theory" (Prevailing Academic Consensus):** Suggests that Indo-Aryan speakers migrated in multiple waves from the Central Asian steppes over centuries (c. 2000-1500 BCE). This was more of a cultural diffusion process involving the spread of language, Vedic rituals, horse, and chariot, interacting with existing indigenous populations rather than a swift, destructive military conquest.
- **Evidence for Migration:**
 - **Linguistic:** Strong linguistic ties between Sanskrit (Old Indo-Aryan) and other Indo-European languages (EXAMPLE Avestan in Iran, Greek, Latin, Germanic, Slavic languages). Shared vocabulary for family, cattle, and warfare.
 - **Archaeological:** Discovery of Painted Grey Ware (PGW) culture (c. 1200-600 BCE) sites in the Ganga-Yamuna Doab, associated with early Vedic settlements, often showing overlap or sequence with Late Harappan/post-Harappan sites. Absence of definitive archaeological evidence for a destructive invasion, but presence of

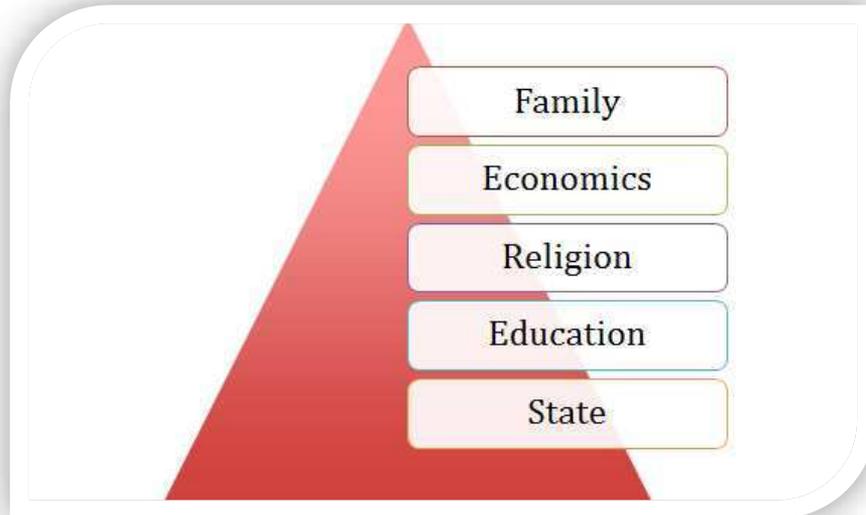
PROFESSORS ADDA 2025

One Stop Solution for NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

horse remains and chariot-related artifacts (though rare in early periods).

- **Genetic Studies:** Recent genetic research provides evidence supporting migration patterns from Central Asia into the Indian subcontinent.
- **Textual:** Rigveda's mention of horses, chariots, and a nomadic/pastoral lifestyle.

B. Political and Social Institutions:



1. **Early Vedic (Rig Vedic) Period (c. 1500-1000 BCE):**

- **Political Unit:** The Jana (tribe or clan) was the primary political unit. Loyalty was to the tribe, not a fixed territory. The Aryans were semi-nomadic pastoralists.
- **Rajan (Chief):** The tribal chief was called Rajan or Gopa (protector of cows). His position was not hereditary or absolute, often chosen by the tribe (Visha) for his bravery and prowess in war. His power was limited by tribal assemblies.
- **Assemblies:** Played crucial roles in decision-making and checking

PROFESSORS ADDA 2025

One Stop Solution for NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

the rajan's power.

- **Sabha:** A council of elders or important tribal members, exercising deliberative and judicial functions.
 - **Samiti:** A general assembly of the entire tribe, with broader powers including electing or deposing the rajan.
 - **Vidatha:** An older tribal assembly, performing various functions (military, economic, religious).
 - **Varna System (Rudimentary):** Initially flexible, based on occupation rather than birth.
 - Brahmana (priests), Kshatriya (warriors/rulers), Vaishya (commoners, producers – cultivators, traders), Shudra (servants, laborers).
 - Mobility between varnas was possible. The Purusha Sukta in the 10th Mandala of Rigveda describes the origin of the four varnas from cosmic man, but this is a later addition.
 - **Family (Kula):** Patriarchal, joint family system was prevalent. The eldest male was the head (kulapa).
 - **Status of Women:** Relatively higher compared to later periods. Women could participate in sabha and vidatha, compose hymns (EXAMPLE Ghosha, Lopamudra, Apala), choose their husbands (swayamvar), and study Vedic texts. Child marriage was absent.
2. **Later Vedic Period (c. 1000-600 BCE):**
- **Transition to Territorial States:** The janas began to consolidate into larger territorial units called Janapadas. This shift was driven by settled agriculture in the fertile Ganga-Yamuna Doab (enabled by iron tools) and increased population.
 - **Monarchical Tendencies:** The Rajan's power increased

PROFESSORS ADDA 2025

One Stop Solution for NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

significantly. Kingship became increasingly hereditary and sacred, associated with divine authority. He gained control over fixed territories.

- **Elaborate Rituals:** Grand royal sacrifices (EXAMPLE Rajasuya for consecration, Ashvamedha for imperial sovereignty, Vajapeya for supremacy and strength) were performed to legitimize the king's power, assert his dominance over other chiefs, and enhance his prestige. These rituals were costly and enhanced the power of the Brahmans.
- **Decline of Assemblies:** The Sabha and Samiti lost much of their former power and influence, becoming more restricted in membership and advisory roles.
- **Emergence of Officials:** A rudimentary bureaucracy emerged to assist the king in administration, revenue collection, and warfare.
 - Senani (commander of the army)
 - Gramani (head of the village)
 - Suta (charioteer and royal bard)
 - Sangrahitri (treasurer)
 - Bhagadugha (collector of taxes/share)
 - Akshavapa (superintendent of dicing and revenue)
 - Palagala (messenger)
- **Emergence of Varnas and Social Stratification:**
 - **Rigidification by Birth:** The Varna system became highly rigid and hereditary, based on birth rather than occupation. Inter-varna marriage declined.

PROFESSORS ADDA 2025

One Stop Solution for NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

- **Purity and Pollution:** The concept of ritual purity and pollution became central, dictating social interactions.
- **Brahmana Dominance:** Brahmans gained immense power, prestige, and privileges due to their exclusive knowledge of complex rituals and their role as educators and advisors. They often received land grants (dakshina) for performing sacrifices.
- **Kshatriya Power:** The warrior-ruling class solidified their position, often in conflict with Brahmans but ultimately interdependent.
- **Vaishya Status:** While economically prosperous (agriculturists, traders), Vaishyas were often exploited by Brahmans and Kshatriyas, as they were the main taxpayers.
- **Shudra Condition:** Deteriorated significantly; they were considered servile, denied access to Vedic knowledge, and often performed menial tasks.
- **Growth of Untouchability:** A class of "untouchables" (Chandalas, Nishadas) emerged, outside the four-fold Varna system, performing impure tasks (EXAMPLE handling dead bodies, leatherwork).
- **Decline in Women's Status:** Women lost their right to participate in assemblies. Child marriage became more common. Their role became increasingly confined to the domestic sphere, and they were generally excluded from Vedic education and ritual performance. Property rights were limited.

C. State Structure and Theories of State:

- **Early Vedic:** No fully developed state. More of a tribal organization. Absence of a standing army, regular taxation, or elaborate

PROFESSORS ADDA 2025

One Stop Solution for NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

administrative machinery. Voluntary tribute (bali) was offered to the chief.

- **Later Vedic:** Transition towards early state formations.
 - **Territoriality:** The concept of rashtra (territory) gained prominence, indicating a shift from nomadic tribes to settled communities with defined boundaries.
 - **Rudimentary Taxation:** Bali transformed from a voluntary offering into a compulsory tax. Other levies also emerged.
 - **Standing Army:** Beginnings of a more professional or permanent army, though still largely based on tribal levies and the king's personal retinues.
 - **Divine Theory of Kingship:** Some later Vedic texts (EXAMPLE Satapatha Brahmana) suggest that the king derived his authority from the gods or gained it through performing elaborate rituals, thus justifying his enhanced power and sacred position.
 - **Social Contract Theory (Nascent):** Some ideas in later Vedic texts imply that people chose a king to maintain order and protect them from anarchy, suggesting a form of rudimentary social contract.

PAID STUDENTS BENEFITS

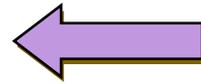
- ✓ Access to PYQs of the Upcoming 1 year Exams
- ✓ Entry into Quiz Group + Premium Materials
- ✓ 20% Discount on Future Purchases /For Referring a Friend
- ✓ Access to Current Affairs + Premium Study Group

NOTE: Please share your Fee Receipt or Payment Screenshot for activation.

PROFESSORS ADDA 2025

One Stop Solution for NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

[Click here to join](#)



Call us/whatapp +91 7690022111 +91 9216228788

D. Religious and Philosophical Ideas:

1. Early Vedic (Rig Vedic):

- **Nature Worship:** Anthropomorphic deities representing natural forces were dominant:
 - **Indra:** Most important, god of war, thunder, rain (wielder of Vajra), "Purandara" (destroyer of forts).
 - **Agni:** Fire god, intermediary between humans and gods, central to sacrificial rituals.
 - **Varuna:** God of cosmic order (Rita), morality, guardian of truth.
 - **Surya/Savitar:** Sun god, dispeller of darkness.
 - **Soma:** Deity associated with an intoxicating plant and its juice, central to rituals.
- **Simple Sacrifices:** Primarily domestic and simple rituals, offered to propitiate gods for worldly gains (cattle, sons, victory, wealth).
- **Absence of Idolatry:** No temples or idols. Worship was through hymns and offerings.
- **Optimistic Outlook:** Focus on present life, material well-being, and longevity.

2. Later Vedic:

- **Rise of New Deities:** Older deities like Indra and Varuna lost some prominence, while new deities gained importance:
 - **Prajapati:** Became the supreme creator god.

PROFESSORS ADDA 2025

One Stop Solution for NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

- **Vishnu:** Gained significant importance as a preserver god, foreshadowing his role in the later Hindu trinity.
- **Rudra:** The fierce storm god of the Rigveda, began evolving into Shiva (the Destroyer), indicating a shift towards more complex and personalized deities.
- **Elaborate Rituals:** Sacrifices became far more complex, ritualistic, expensive, and protracted (EXAMPLE Soma sacrifice lasting for days/months).
- **Growth of Brahmanical Dominance:** Brahmins became indispensable for performing these elaborate rituals, which enhanced their power, prestige, and wealth.
- **Emergence of Upanishadic Philosophy (Vedanta):** A significant intellectual and spiritual shift, often seen as a reaction against the excessive ritualism and materialistic focus of the Brahmanas.
 - **Quest for Knowledge:** Shifted focus from external rituals to internal philosophical inquiry.
 - **Brahman and Atman:** Central concepts. **Brahman** is the ultimate, unchanging, impersonal reality underlying all phenomena. **Atman** is the individual soul or self. The core doctrine is the identity of Atman and Brahman ("Tat Tvam Asi" - That Thou Art), implying that the individual soul is part of the universal soul.
 - **Karma and Samsara (Rebirth):** Doctrine of action (karma) and its consequences, influencing the cycle of rebirth (samsara). Good deeds lead to favorable rebirths, bad deeds to unfavorable ones.
 - **Moksha/Nirvana:** The ultimate goal, liberation from the cycle of samsara, achieved through true knowledge (jnana) and understanding of the Atman-Brahman identity. This introduced

PROFESSORS ADDA 2025

One Stop Solution for NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

a focus on asceticism (tapas) and meditation.

E. Introduction of Iron Technology:

- **Beginning:** Iron use began in India around **1000 BCE**, initially evidenced at sites in the Ganga-Yamuna Doab (EXAMPLE **Atranjikhera, Hastinapura, Alamgirpur**), often associated with the Painted Grey Ware (PGW) culture. Archaeological evidence suggests an independent invention or diffusion from West Asia, not direct Aryan introduction.
- **Impact:**
 - **Agricultural Revolution:** Iron tools (ploughshares, axes, sickles) enabled the clearing of dense forests in the fertile Ganga basin and efficient cultivation of the hard alluvial soil. This led to a significant agricultural surplus.
 - **Warfare:** Iron weapons (swords, spears, arrowheads) made warfare more destructive, aiding territorial expansion and the consolidation of larger states.
 - **Crafts & Industries:** Iron tools facilitated the development of new crafts and industries (EXAMPLE carpentry, masonry, metalworking), leading to greater specialization.
 - **Urbanization:** The agricultural surplus, new crafts, and growing trade provided the economic base for the growth of towns and cities in the Ganga Valley, contributing to the "Second Urbanization."

F. Megaliths of South India:

- **Definition:** Large stone monuments, predominantly associated with burial practices. The term "Megalith" literally means "large stone."
- **Chronology:** Predominantly from the **Iron Age (c. 1000 BCE - 300**

PROFESSORS ADDA 2025

One Stop Solution for NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

CE), co-existing with early historical periods.

- **Types:** Diverse forms of burial monuments.
 - **Cist Burials:** Stone-lined pits, often with a large capstone, containing skeletal remains and grave goods.
 - **Dolmens:** Table-like structures with a large flat capstone supported by upright stones.
 - **Rock-cut Caves:** Burial chambers carved into natural rock formations.
 - **Urn Burials:** Burials in large pottery urns or sarcophagi.
 - **Menhirs:** Single standing stones, often marking a burial or commemorating an event.
 - **Circle Stones:** Rings of stones enclosing a burial.
- **Distribution:** Widespread across South India, particularly in **Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh**. Prominent sites include Brahmagiri, Maski, Hallur (Karnataka), Adichanallur, Porkalam (Kerala).
- **Significance:**
 - **Burial Practices:** Reveal complex beliefs about death and the afterlife. Contents often include skeletal remains, diverse pottery (EXAMPLE distinctive black-and-red ware), iron tools, weapons (swords, daggers, spears), agricultural implements, ornaments (beads of carnelian, gold, terracotta), and sometimes horse remains.
 - **Social Organization:** The monumental effort required to construct megaliths (transporting and erecting large stones) suggests well-organized communities, the existence of powerful chiefs or elites who could command labor and resources, and possibly a hierarchical social structure.
 - **Material Culture:** Provide a rich archaeological record of Iron Age

PROFESSORS ADDA 2025

One Stop Solution for NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

tools, pottery, and early agricultural implements in South India, indicating regional distinctiveness.

- **Economic Base:** Often associated with settled agricultural communities and cattle pastoralism.

Feature	Early Vedic Period (c. 1500 - 1000 BCE)	Later Vedic Period (c. 1000 - 600 BCE)
Primary Texts	Rigveda	Sama Veda, Yajur Veda, Atharva Veda, Brahmanas, Aranyakas, Upanishads
Geography	Primarily the land of the "Sapta Sindhu" (Indus and its tributaries in Punjab and Afghanistan)	Gradual eastward expansion into the Ganga-Yamuna Doab, Kuru-Panchala region, and further east (Kosala, Kashi, Videha).
Political Organization	Tribal assemblies like Sabha, Samiti, Vidatha were important. Rajan (King) was more of a tribal chief, with limited powers, often elected. Primarily pastoral and kin-based chiefdoms.	Rise of larger territorial kingdoms (Janapadas and early Mahajanapadas). Kingship became more hereditary and powerful, with elaborate coronation rituals like Rajasuya, Vajapeya, Ashvamedha. Sabha and Samiti lost some of their earlier influence.
Social Structure	Society was relatively egalitarian, based on occupation rather than heredity. The four varnas (Brahmana, Kshatriya, Vaishya, Shudra) were emerging but not rigidly defined or hereditary. Family (Kula) was the basic unit. Status of women was comparatively higher; they participated in assemblies and composed hymns.	Varna system became more rigid, hereditary, and complex, with distinct privileges and disabilities. Proliferation of occupational groups. Family (Kula) remained important, but lineage (Gotra) gained prominence. Status of women declined; their participation in public life and access to education reduced.
Economy	Primarily pastoral, with cattle rearing being the main economic activity and source of wealth (gomat). Agriculture was secondary and simpler (barley - yava). Trade was limited, mostly barter system. No concept of private land ownership.	Agriculture became the primary occupation, with the use of iron tools (ploughshares) leading to cultivation of new crops like rice (vrihi), wheat (godhuma). Development of settled agriculture led to private ownership of land. Trade and commerce expanded, with the emergence of early forms of

PROFESSORS ADDA 2025

One Stop Solution for NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

currency (Example nishka, satamana).
Specialization of crafts increased.

Religion & Rituals

Nature worship: Deities primarily personified natural forces like Indra (thunder/rain), Agni (fire), Varuna (cosmic order), Surya (sun), Vayu (wind), Soma (sacred drink). Rituals were simpler, centered around yajnas (sacrifices) performed by household heads or specialized priests for worldly gains (cattle, sons, health). No idol worship or elaborate temples.

New deities like Prajapati (the creator), Vishnu (preserver), and Rudra (Shiva) gained prominence. Rituals became more complex, elaborate, and costly, requiring specialized priests (Brahmanas). The purpose of yajnas shifted towards attaining specific powers or cosmic status. Philosophical ideas began to emerge (Upanishads), questioning rituals and focusing on concepts like Brahman, Atman, Karma, and Moksha. Magic and spells (Atharva Veda) became more prevalent.

Knowledge & Learning

Oral tradition predominated. Focus on hymns, prayers, and sacrificial formulas of the Rigveda.

Development of other Vedas and associated literature (Brahmanas, Aranyakas, Upanishads). Rise of various schools of thought and philosophical speculation. Emphasis on correct pronunciation and performance of complex rituals. Beginnings of disciplines like grammar, etymology, and metrics.

Material Culture

Use of copper and bronze. Limited use of iron initially. Pottery was Ochre Coloured Pottery (OCP) and some Black and Red Ware (BRW).

Widespread use of iron (shyama ayas or krishna ayas) for tools and weapons. Associated with Painted Grey Ware (PGW) culture, especially in the western Gangetic plains, and later Northern Black Polished Ware (NBPW) in the eastern regions.

UGC NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

हिंदी English माध्यम उपलब्ध

Paper 1 & All Subject Available

10 YEAR PYQ

UNIT WISE THEORY NOTES

अमृत BOOKLET

10 MODEL PAPER

UNIT WISE MCQ

UNIT WISE MCQ

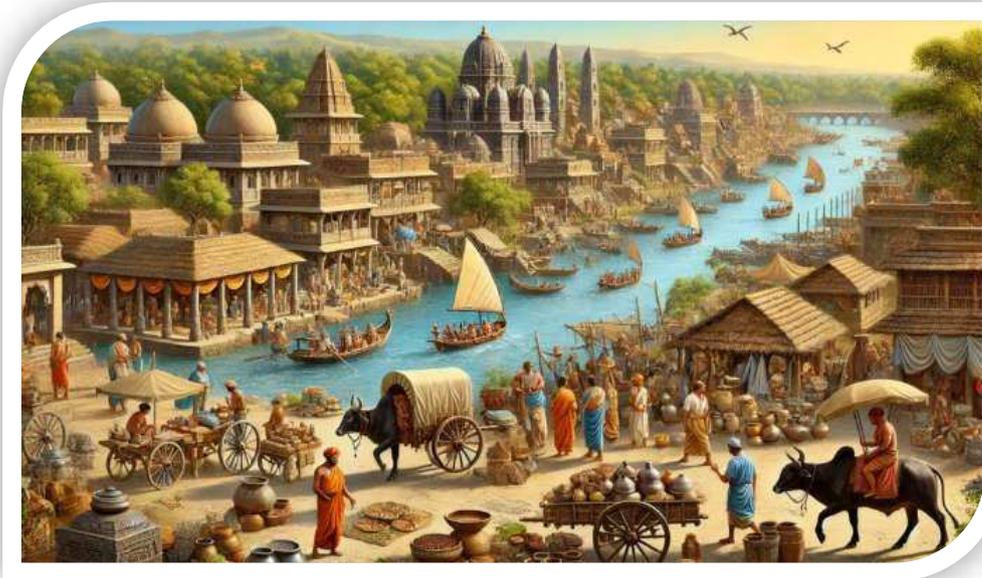
SUPER REVISION GUIDE

Unit wise Margdarshika

Join Professors Adda +91 7690022-111

All Subject's Complete Study Material KIT available. Professor Adda
Call WhatsApp Now +91 7690022111 / 9216228788

V. Expansion of State System: Second Urbanization and Heterodox Sects (6th Century BCE)



The 6th century BCE is a watershed period in ancient Indian history, characterized by political consolidation, significant socio-economic changes, and the emergence of new intellectual and religious movements. This period is often referred to as the "Axial Age" (Karl Jaspers) for its profound philosophical and religious shifts globally.

A. Mahajanapadas: The Rise of Great Kingdoms

- **Emergence:** The consolidation of smaller janapadas (territorial states) into sixteen large and powerful Mahajanapadas (Great Kingdoms) across North India by the **6th century BCE**. This process was fueled by agricultural surplus, iron technology, population growth, and increasing political ambition.
- **Key Mahajanapadas (as enumerated in Buddhist texts like Anguttara**

PROFESSORS ADDA 2025

One Stop Solution for NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

Nikaya and Jaina texts like Bhagavati Sutra):

1. **Magadha:** Capital: Rajagriha (early), Pataliputra (later). Monarchical.
2. **Kosala:** Capital: Sravasti. Monarchical.
3. **Vatsa:** Capital: Kausambi. Monarchical.
4. **Avanti:** Capital: Ujjayini. Monarchical.
5. **Kasi:** Capital: Varanasi. Monarchical (later absorbed by Kosala).
6. **Anga:** Capital: Champa. Monarchical (later absorbed by Magadha).
7. **Malla:** Capitals: Kusinagara, Pava. Republican (Gana-Sangha).
8. **Vajji:** Capital: Vaishali. Republican (Confederacy of 8 clans, incl. Lichchhavis).
9. **Chedi:** Capital: Suktimati. Monarchical.
10. **Kuru:** Capital: Hastinapura. Monarchical.
11. **Panchala:** Capitals: Ahichchhatra, Kampilya. Monarchical.
12. **Matsya:** Capital: Viratnagar. Monarchical.
13. **Surasena:** Capital: Mathura. Monarchical.
14. **Asmaka:** Capital: Potali/Potana. Monarchical (only Mahajanapada south of Vindhyas).
15. **Gandhara:** Capital: Taxila. Monarchical.
16. **Kamboja:** Capital: Rajapur/Dwarka. Monarchical.

- **Characteristics:**

- **Permanent Armies:** Rulers began maintaining standing armies, replacing tribal levies.
- **Regular Taxation:** A more systematic collection of revenue from agricultural produce (bhaga, 1/6th share), trade, and artisans.
- **Developed Administration:** Emergence of a rudimentary bureaucracy to manage revenue, justice, and defense.

PROFESSORS ADDA 2025

One Stop Solution for NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

- **Capital Cities:** Fortified capital cities that served as administrative, economic, and religious centers.
- **Territorial Identity:** Loyalty shifted from tribal/clan allegiance to a defined territory.
- **Struggle for Supremacy:** A period of intense rivalry among the Mahajanapadas, with **Magadha** ultimately emerging as the most powerful. Reasons for Magadha's success:
 - **Geographic Advantage:** Located in the fertile Ganga plain, ensuring abundant agricultural surplus (especially rice).
 - **Mineral Resources:** Rich iron ore deposits nearby (EXAMPLE Rajgir, Gaya region), providing superior tools and weapons.
 - **Strategic Location:** Its early capital Rajagriha was surrounded by five hills, providing natural fortifications. Pataliputra, the later capital, was strategically located at the confluence of Ganga, Son, and Gandak rivers, making it difficult to attack and facilitating trade.
 - **Ambitious Rulers:** Successive powerful dynasties:
 - **Haryanka Dynasty:** Bimbisara (c. 544-492 BCE) expanded through conquest and matrimonial alliances. Ajatashatru (c. 492-460 BCE) defeated Kosala and Vajji.
 - **Shishunaga Dynasty:** Shishunaga and Kalashoka.
 - **Nanda Dynasty (c. 345-321 BCE):** Mahapadma Nanda (the first non-Kshatriya emperor) established a vast empire, renowned for its enormous army and wealth.

B. Monarchical and Republican States:

- **Monarchical States:** (EXAMPLE Magadha, Kosala, Avanti, Vatsa). Ruled by a single hereditary king. The king's power was centralized,

PROFESSORS ADDA 2025

One Stop Solution for NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

supported by a bureaucracy, standing army, and legitimacy through rituals and emerging divine theories of kingship. These were the dominant political forms.

- **Republican States (Ganasanghas):** (EXAMPLE Vajji Confederacy, Mallas, Sakyas, Koliyas). Power was not concentrated in a single ruler but exercised by an assembly (sangha or gana) of elected representatives or heads of important clans. They were often more egalitarian in their internal structure, with decisions made through debate and consensus. However, their decentralized nature made them vulnerable to the expansionist monarchies.

C. Economic and Social Developments and Emergence of Second Urbanization in 6th Century BCE:

- **Agricultural Developments & Surplus:**
 - **Iron Tools:** Widespread use of iron ploughshares enabled extensive clearing of dense forests in the Ganga basin and more efficient cultivation of hard alluvial soil.
 - **Rice Cultivation:** Development of paddy transplantation significantly increased agricultural output, leading to a substantial food surplus.
 - **Irrigation:** Evidence of early canals and tanks.
 - This agricultural revolution supported larger, non-agricultural populations in burgeoning urban centers.
- **Growth of Trade and Commerce:**
 - **Internal Trade Routes:** Major trade routes emerged, connecting the growing cities. Examples: Uttarapatha (Northern Route, from Taxila in the North-West to Pataliputra in the East) and Dakshinapatha (Southern Route, from Kausambi to Pratishthana in the Deccan).

PROFESSORS ADDA 2025

One Stop Solution for NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

- **Coinage:** The introduction of **punch-marked coins** (primarily silver, also copper) facilitated transactions, replacing the earlier barter system. These were irregular in shape and bore various symbols. This standardized currency boosted trade and economic activity.
- **Guilds (Srenis/Pugas):** Organization of artisans and merchants into powerful professional associations or guilds (EXAMPLE carpenters' guilds, potters' guilds, money-lenders' guilds). These guilds:
 - Regulated prices, quality, and production.
 - Acted as banks, receiving deposits and lending money.
 - Provided social security for their members.
 - Their leaders (Sreshthins or Mahasreshthins) were wealthy and influential members of society, often patronizing new religious movements.
- **Rise of Artisans and Merchants:** This period saw the rise in importance and wealth of the Vaishya Varna, who comprised the merchant and artisan classes. Their economic power often challenged the traditional dominance of Brahmans and Kshatriyas.
- **Second Urbanization:** The **6th century BCE** witnessed the emergence of over 60 urban centers in the Ganga Valley and adjacent regions, marking the "Second Urbanization" in India (the first being the Indus Valley Civilization).
 - **Factors:** Agricultural surplus, widespread use of iron technology, flourishing trade, and the emergence of settled territorial states.
 - **Characteristics:** Fortified cities, often with a grid-like plan (though less uniform than Harappan cities), development of drains, use of sophisticated pottery like **Northern Black Polished Ware (NBPW)**, known for its lustrous finish.

PROFESSORS ADDA 2025

One Stop Solution for NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

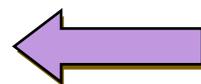
- **Key Urban Centers:** Pataliputra, Rajagriha, Sravasti, Kausambi, Ujjayini, Champa, Varanasi, Taxila.
- **Social Changes:**
 - **Increased Stratification:** The Varna system became more rigid, hereditary, and hierarchical. Brahmins and Kshatriyas solidified their privileged positions.
 - **Discontent with Brahmanical Dominance:** The increasing dominance of Brahmins through elaborate and costly rituals, their claims to superiority, and the associated social inequalities led to growing discontent, especially among the rising Kshatriya and Vaishya classes who sought alternative belief systems.
 - **Emergence of a New Urban Class:** The growth of cities fostered a significant and wealthy urban class of merchants, artisans, and financiers who desired social status and recognition, which the existing Brahmanical hierarchy largely denied them.

PAID STUDENTS BENEFITS

- ✓ Access to PYQs of the Upcoming 1 year Exams
- ✓ Entry into Quiz Group + Premium Materials
- ✓ 20% Discount on Future Purchases /For Referring a Friend
- ✓ Access to Current Affairs + Premium Study Group

NOTE: Please share your Fee Receipt or Payment Screenshot for activation.

[Click here to join](#)



Call us/whatsapp +91 7690022111 +91 9216228788

PROFESSORS ADDA 2025

One Stop Solution for NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

D. Emergence of Heterodox Sects - Jainism, Buddhism and Ajivikas:

The intellectual and socio-economic ferment of the 6th century BCE, coupled with the rigidities of the Brahmanical system and the search for deeper philosophical truths (inspired by the Upanishads), created a fertile ground for the emergence of new philosophical and religious movements, collectively known as the Shramana traditions.

PROFESSORS ADDA 2025

One Stop Solution for NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

Feature	Expansion of State System (Mahajanapadas)	Second Urbanization	Heterodox Sects (Example Jainism, Buddhism, Ajivikas)
Primary Characteristic	Emergence of large, well-defined territorial states with more centralized authority.	Re-emergence and growth of towns and cities as centers of craft, trade, and administration.	Rise of new philosophical and religious movements challenging Vedic orthodoxy and rituals.
Geographical Focus	Primarily the Gangetic plains (Majhimadesa or Middle Country), with some states further afield. Notable examples include Magadha, Kosala, Avanti, Vatsa, Kuru, Panchala.	Gangetic plains, particularly along major trade routes and rivers. Key urban centers included Rajagriha, Shravasti, Kaushambi, Varanasi, Vaishali, Champa, Ujjain.	Originated and flourished mainly in the Gangetic plains, the same region experiencing political and urban transformation.
Key Political Developments	Rise of monarchies (most common) and some Gana-sanghas (republics/oligarchies like Vajji, Malla). Increased military power, standing armies, and administrative machinery. Beginnings of imperial ambitions (Example Magadha). Competition and conflict among states.	Towns often served as administrative headquarters for the newly formed states. Urban centers required organized governance and resource management.	Often found patronage (or opposition) from rulers of the new states. Their social ideals sometimes influenced political thought. Questioned existing social hierarchies which were part of the state structure.
Key Economic Drivers & Features	Agricultural surplus due to iron ploughshare technology and settled farming. Collection of revenue (taxes like bali and bhaga) to support the state apparatus	Growth of trade and commerce (internal and beginnings of long-distance). Development of crafts and	Some sects (like Jainism) had significant following among the mercantile community, which benefited from the economic prosperity

PROFESSORS ADDA 2025

One Stop Solution for NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

(army, officials).
Control over trade routes.

specialized industries (pottery, metalwork, textiles).
Emergence of coinage (Punch-Marked Coins).
Rise of a merchant class (setthis, gahapatis).

of urbanization.
Questioned Vedic emphasis on sacrifices, which involved wealth expenditure.

Social Implications

Strengthening of the Varna system, though often challenged by new social realities and heterodox ideas. Rise of a distinct Kshatriya ruling class and a bureaucracy. Increased social stratification.

Growth of diverse urban populations with various occupations and social groups.
Weakening of traditional tribal bonds. New social complexities and challenges.
Increased social mobility for some.

Provided alternative paths to salvation/liberation irrespective of varna or social status.
Criticized caste-based discrimination and complex rituals.
Emphasized ethical conduct, non-violence (ahimsa), and asceticism. Appealed to those marginalized by the orthodox system.

Religious/Philosophical Context

While Vedic Brahmanism continued, the growing power of Kshatriyas sometimes led to tensions. Rulers often patronized various religious groups.

Urban environments fostered intellectual exchange and the spread of new ideas. Lessening of direct Brahmanical control in urban settings compared to rural areas.

Direct challenge to Vedic authority, ritualism, and the dominance of Brahmanas. Focused on individual effort, karma, ascetic practices, and philosophical inquiry. Offered diverse metaphysical and ethical frameworks.

Key Examples/Figures

States: Magadha (under Bimbisara, Ajatashatru), Kosala (Prasenajit),

Cities: Rajagriha, Pataliputra (later),

Sects & Founders: Jainism (Mahavira), Buddhism (Gautama)

PROFESSORS ADDA 2025

One Stop Solution for NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

Avanti (Pradyota), Vatsa (Udayana), Vajji confederacy.

Kaushambi, Varanasi, Shravasti, Vaishali, Taxila (also a learning center).

Buddha), Ajivikas (Makkhali Gosala), and numerous other smaller Shramana movements.

Interconnections

Agricultural surplus generated by new techniques (iron tools, wet rice cultivation) supported both larger states and urban populations. States provided security for trade routes, facilitating urban economic growth. Urban centers often became political capitals.

Urbanization created a dynamic social environment where new ideas could flourish and spread. The merchant class, enriched by urban trade, often supported heterodox sects. Cities were melting pots of diverse people and philosophies.

Heterodox sects, with their critique of existing social order and rituals, found fertile ground in the changing urban landscape and among various social groups, including rulers and merchants. Their ethical teachings sometimes influenced governance.

Long-term Impact

Laid the foundation for larger empires (Example the Mauryan Empire). Established enduring models of kingship and statecraft in India.

Marked a new phase of socio-economic development, with lasting urban traditions. Facilitated the growth of trade networks across the subcontinent and beyond.

Became major world religions (Buddhism, Jainism) with a lasting impact on Indian culture, philosophy, art, and ethics. Fostered traditions of intellectual debate and spiritual inquiry.



CALL/WAP
+91 7690022-111

All Subject's Complete Study Material KIT available.

Professor Adda Call WhatsApp Now **7690022111 / 9216228788**

UGC NET History - Unit-I: MCQs Sample

1. Matching Type

Match List I (Archaeological Site) with List II (Important Discovery/Characteristic):

List I (Archaeological Site)	List II (Important Discovery/Characteristic)
A. Mehrgarh	I. Evidence of a ploughed field
B. Burzahom	II. Great Bath
C. Mohenjo-daro	III. Earliest evidence of agriculture and animal husbandry
D. Kalibangan	IV. Pit-dwellings (houses built in pits)

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (1) A-III, B-IV, C-II, D-I
- (2) A-II, B-I, C-IV, D-III
- (3) A-III, B-II, C-I, D-IV
- (4) A-IV, B-III, C-II, D-I

Correct Answer: (1) A-III, B-IV, C-II, D-I

Explanation:

- **Mehrgarh (A-III):**
 - Located in Balochistan (Pakistan), this Neolithic site is famous for providing one of the earliest evidences of agriculture (wheat, barley) and animal husbandry in the Indian subcontinent (around 7000 BCE).
 - Several phases of gradual development are found here.
- **Burzahom (B-IV):**
 - This Neolithic site in Kashmir is known for its pit-dwellings, where people lived in houses dug into the ground.
 - Evidence of dog burials along with human skeletons has also been found here.
- **Mohenjo-daro (C-II):**
 - Located in Sindh (Pakistan), it was a major city of the Harappan Civilization.

- One of its most famous structures is the 'Great Bath', possibly used for ritualistic purposes.
- A bronze statuette of a dancing girl and the Pashupati seal were also discovered here.
- **Kalibangan (D-I):**
 - Situated on the banks of the Ghaggar river in Rajasthan, this is an important Harappan site.
 - Remains of both Pre-Harappan and Harappan cultures have been found here, with the earliest evidence of a 'ploughed field' being highly significant.
 - Fire altars and decorated bricks have also been found here.

2. Assertion and Reasoning (A and R) Type

Assertion (A): Most of Ashoka's inscriptions are in Prakrit language and Brahmi script.

Reason (R): Ashoka wanted to convey his message of Dhamma to the common people, so he used the language and script understood by the general populace.

Codes:

- (1) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- (2) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is NOT the correct explanation of (A).
- (3) (A) is true but (R) is false.
- (4) (A) is false but (R) is true.

Correct Answer: (1) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

Explanation:

- **Assertion (A) - True:** Most of the rock edicts, pillar edicts, and cave inscriptions of the Mauryan Emperor Ashoka are written in the Prakrit language. The primary script used in these is Brahmi, which was written from left to right.
 - Some inscriptions in the northwestern regions are also found in Kharosthi script (right to left) and in Aramaic and Greek scripts.
- **Reason (R) - True:** Ashoka's main objective was the widespread propagation of

the principles of his Dhamma (moral code of conduct) so that the public could follow them.

- For this, it was essential that the message be in a language and script that common people could easily read and understand. Prakrit was the vernacular language of that time.
- **Relationship:** Reason (R) correctly explains Assertion (A). The predominant use of Prakrit language and Brahmi script by Ashoka was primarily because he wanted his message to reach and be effective for the maximum number of people.

3. Statement Type

With reference to the Harappan Civilization, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

Statement I: The Harappan Civilization was an urban civilization, with well-planned city construction, use of baked bricks, and an advanced drainage system as its main features.

Statement II: The people of this civilization were familiar with the use of iron, and their tools were mainly made of iron.

Statement III: The Pashupati seal, terracotta figurines of the Mother Goddess, and symbols of Linga and Yoni indicate the religious life of the Harappans.

Statement IV: The Harappan Civilization had trade relations with Mesopotamia and other contemporary civilizations, for which archaeological evidence has been found.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (1) Statements I, II, and III only
- (2) Statements I, III, and IV only
- (3) Statements II and IV only
- (4) All statements (I, II, III, and IV) are correct

Correct Answer: (2) Statements I, III, and IV only

Explanation:

- **Statement I (Correct):** The Harappan Civilization (or Indus Valley Civilization) is renowned for its advanced urban planning. Cities had roads intersecting at

right angles (grid pattern), houses were made of baked bricks, and each house had a bathroom and an advanced drainage system (covered drains).

- **Statement III (Correct):** A seal found at Mohenjo-daro depicts a male deity with three faces and horns, seated in a yogic posture, surrounded by animals, considered a proto-form of 'Pashupati Shiva'. A large number of terracotta figurines of the Mother Goddess have been found, indicating the worship of a mother goddess. Stone symbols of Linga and Yoni also suggest the worship of fertility cults.
- **Statement IV (Correct):** The Harappan Civilization had trade links with Mesopotamia (Sumer), Bahrain (Dilmun), Oman (Magan), etc. Persian Gulf seals found at Lothal, mention of 'Meluhha' (possibly the Harappan region) in Mesopotamian texts, and Harappan artifacts (like beads, seals) found at foreign sites are evidence of this.
- **Statement II (Incorrect):** The Harappan Civilization was a **Bronze Age** civilization. The people here knew how to mix copper and tin to make bronze, and their tools and implements were mainly made of stone, copper, and bronze. They were not acquainted with iron; the use of iron in India began around 1000 BCE (in the Later Vedic period).

4. Multi-Option Type

Regarding the social characteristics of the Early Vedic Period (Rigvedic Period), which of the following statements are true?

- (A) Society was patriarchal, yet women held a respectable position and had the right to education and participation in Sabhas and Samitis.
- (B) The Varna system was based on birth and had become extremely rigid.
- (C) The family was the basic unit of society, and the joint family system was prevalent.
- (D) Slavery was prevalent, although it was not as widespread as in Greece and Rome.
- (E) Evils like child marriage and Sati practice were widely prevalent.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (1) (A), (B), and (C) only
- (2) (A), (C), and (D) only

(3) (B), (D), and (E) only

(4) (A), (D), and (E) only

Correct Answer: (2) (A), (C), and (D) only

Explanation:

- **(A) True:** Rigvedic society was primarily patriarchal, where the male was the head of the family. However, women enjoyed a respectable position, had access to education (evidenced by female sages like Ghosha, Lopamudra, Apala), could participate in yajnas, and express their views in assemblies like Sabha and Samiti.
- **(C) True:** The family (Kula or Griha) was the fundamental unit of society. Generally, the joint family system was practiced, where several generations lived together, and the eldest male member was called 'Kulapa' or 'Grihapati'.
- **(D) True:** The Rigveda mentions terms like 'Dasa' and 'Dasyu', possibly referring to defeated non-Aryan tribes or domestic servants. Thus, slavery existed, but it was not as extensive or organized as the slavery in ancient Greece and Rome.
- **(B) False:** The Varna system in the Rigvedic period appears in its nascent form (mentioned in Purusha Sukta), but it was largely based on occupation and merit (karma and guna), not birth, and lacked extreme rigidity. Mobility was possible.
- **(E) False:** There is no clear and widespread evidence of the prevalence of evils like child marriage and Sati practice in the Rigvedic period. Indications of widow remarriage and Niyoga practice are found.

5. Matching Type

Match List I (Mahajanapada) with List II (Capital):

List I (Mahajanapada)	List II (Capital)
A. Magadha	I. Shravasti
B. Kosala	II. Kaushambi
C. Vatsa	III. Rajagriha/Girivraja
D. Avanti	IV. Ujjayini/Mahishmati

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (1) A-III, B-I, C-II, D-IV
- (2) A-II, B-IV, C-I, D-III
- (3) A-III, B-II, C-IV, D-I
- (4) A-IV, B-I, C-II, D-III

Correct Answer: (1) A-III, B-I, C-II, D-IV

Explanation:

- **Magadha (A-III):**
 - A powerful Mahajanapada of ancient India, its early capital was **Rajagriha** (or Girivraja). Later, Pataliputra became its capital.
 - Rulers like Bimbisara and Ajatashatru belonged to Magadha.
- **Kosala (B-I):**
 - An important Mahajanapada, its capital was **Shravasti** (North Kosala) and Kushavati (South Kosala). Saketa (Ayodhya) was also its major city.
 - Prasenajit was its famous ruler.
- **Vatsa (C-II):**
 - Situated on the banks of the Yamuna river, the capital of this Mahajanapada was **Kaushambi** (modern Kosam, near Prayagraj).
 - Udayana was its famous ruler.
- **Avanti (D-IV):**
 - A powerful Mahajanapada of central India, it had two parts – the capital of North Avanti was **Ujjayini** and that of South Avanti was **Mahishmati**.
 - Pradyota was its important ruler.

6. Assertion and Reasoning (A and R) Type

Assertion (A): In the 6th century BCE, new religious movements (like Buddhism and Jainism) arose in the Ganga valley.

Reason (R): The complexity of contemporary Brahmanical rituals, social inequality (rigidity of the Varna system), and the development of a new agricultural economy prepared the background for the rise of these movements.

Codes:

- (1) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- (2) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is NOT the correct explanation of (A).

(3) (A) is true but (R) is false.

(4) (A) is false but (R) is true.

Correct Answer: (1) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

Explanation:

- **Assertion (A) - True:** The 6th century BCE was a period of great intellectual and religious ferment in India, also associated with the 'Second Urbanization'. During this time, many Shramana sects, including Buddhism (propagated by Gautama Buddha) and Jainism (reorganized by Mahavira), emerged in the Ganga valley.
- **Reason (R) - True:** Several factors contributed to the rise of these new religious movements:
 - **Complexity of Rituals:** In the Later Vedic period, yajnic rituals had become extremely expensive and complex, dominated by the priestly class.
 - **Social Inequality:** The Varna system was becoming rigid, leading to discontent among Kshatriyas and Vaishyas. Buddhism and Jainism opposed the Varna system.
 - **New Agricultural Economy:** The use of iron led to agricultural expansion, increasing the importance of cattle. Animal sacrifice in yajnas was detrimental to the agricultural economy, which these movements opposed. The Vaishya class supported these movements.
- **Relationship:** The factors described in Reason (R) provide the key social, economic, and religious background for the rise of the new religious movements mentioned in Assertion (A), thus (R) is the correct explanation of (A).

7. Statement Type

Regarding the teachings of Gautama Buddha, which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

Statement I: He preached the Four Noble Truths: Dukkha (suffering), Dukkha Samudaya (cause of suffering), Dukkha Nirodha (cessation of suffering), and Dukkha Nirodha Gamini Patipada (the path leading to the cessation of suffering).

Statement II: The Dukkha Nirodha Gamini Patipada is the Eightfold Path, which includes eight components like Right View, Right Resolve, etc.

Statement III: Buddha explicitly accepted the existence of God and Soul and emphasized their worship.

Statement IV: He advocated the Middle Path, which advises avoiding the extremes of both excessive indulgence in worldly pleasures and severe asceticism.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (1) Statements I, II, and IV only
- (2) Statements I and III only
- (3) Statements II, III, and IV only
- (4) All statements (I, II, III, and IV) are correct

Correct Answer: (1) Statements I, II, and IV only

Explanation:

- **Statement I (Correct):** The foundation of Buddhism lies in the Four Noble Truths: (1) There is suffering in the world, (2) There is a cause of suffering (primarily Trishna or craving), (3) The cessation of suffering is possible (Nirvana), and (4) There is a path leading to the cessation of suffering.
- **Statement II (Correct):** The Fourth Noble Truth, the path leading to the cessation of suffering, is the Noble Eightfold Path. Its eight components are: Right View, Right Resolve, Right Speech, Right Conduct, Right Livelihood, Right Effort, Right Mindfulness, and Right Concentration.
- **Statement IV (Correct):** In his first sermon (Dhammacakkappavattana Sutta, Sarnath), Gautama Buddha preached the Middle Path (Majjhima Patipada), advising the renunciation of two extremes – excessive indulgence in sensual pleasures (Kamasukhallikanuyoga) and self-mortification through severe austerities (Attakilamathanuyoga).
- **Statement III (Incorrect):** Buddha preferred to remain silent on or explicitly deny (Anatmavada - doctrine of no-soul) metaphysical questions like the existence of God and an eternal soul. His focus was primarily on the practical path to alleviate suffering, not on the worship of God or soul.

8. Multi-Option Type

Which of the following can be included among the literary sources of ancient Indian history?

- (A) Vedas, Brahmanas, Aranyakas, Upanishads
- (B) Jaina and Buddhist texts (like Tripitakas, Jatakas, Angas-Upangas)
- (C) Dharmasutras and Smritis (like Manusmriti, Yajnavalkya Smriti)
- (D) Kautilya's Arthashastra and Vishakhadatta's Mudrarakshasa
- (E) Megasthenes' Indica and Fa-Hien's travelogue

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (1) (A), (B), and (C) only
- (2) (A), (B), (D), and (E) only
- (3) (C), (D), and (E) only
- (4) All (A), (B), (C), (D), and (E)

Correct Answer: (4) All (A), (B), (C), (D), and (E)

Explanation:

- **(A) Vedic Literature:** Vedas (Rig, Yajur, Sama, Atharva), Brahmanas, Aranyakas, and Upanishads are important sources shedding light on the religion, philosophy, society, and culture of ancient India.
- **(B) Jaina and Buddhist Texts:** The Tripitakas (Sutta, Vinaya, Abhidhamma Pitaka), Jataka tales (stories of Buddha's previous births), Jaina Agamas (Angas, Upangas, Prakirnakas, etc.) provide information on the contemporary social, religious, and political life.
- **(C) Dharmasutras and Smritis:** These texts provide detailed information on ancient Indian law, social customs, Varna-Ashrama system, etc.
- **(D) Historical and Other Texts:** Kautilya's Arthashastra throws invaluable light on Mauryan polity, economy, and society. Vishakhadatta's Mudrarakshasa (a historical play) gives information about Chandragupta Maurya and Chanakya. Similarly, works of Kalidasa, Banabhatta's Harshacharita, etc., are also important.
- **(E) Accounts of Foreign Travelers:** The 'Indica' by the Greek ambassador Megasthenes (though not available in its original form, preserved in quotations by later writers) provides an important account of Mauryan India. The travelogues of Chinese pilgrims Fa-Hien (Gupta period) and Hiuen Tsang

(Harshavardhana's period) are also valuable sources of information about contemporary India.

9. Matching Type

Match List I (Prehistoric Period) with List II (Major Tool/Characteristic):

List I (Prehistoric Period)	List II (Major Tool/Characteristic)
A. Palaeolithic Age	I. Microliths (tiny stone tools)
B. Mesolithic Age	II. Agriculture, animal husbandry, settled life, polished stone tools
C. Neolithic Age	III. Hand-axe, Cleaver, Flake tools
D. Chalcolithic Age	IV. Co-existence of copper and stone tools, painted pottery

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (1) A-III, B-I, C-II, D-IV
- (2) A-I, B-III, C-IV, D-II
- (3) A-III, B-II, C-I, D-IV
- (4) A-IV, B-I, C-II, D-III

Correct Answer: (1) A-III, B-I, C-II, D-IV

Explanation:

- **Palaeolithic Age (A-III):**
 - This is the longest period of human history, during which humans were primarily hunters and food gatherers.
 - Tools were large and crude, such as hand-axes, cleavers, and flake tools, made from stones like quartzite.
- **Mesolithic Age (B-I):**
 - This was a transitional period between the Palaeolithic and Neolithic ages.
 - The main characteristic of this period is microliths – small, geometric stone tools that were hafted onto bone or wooden handles for use. Hunting and fishing were the main occupations.
- **Neolithic Age (C-II):**
 - Revolutionary changes occurred during this period, such as the beginning of agriculture, animal domestication, settled life, pottery making, and the

use of polished stone tools. It is also called the 'Neolithic Revolution'.

- **Chalcolithic Age (D-IV):**

- During this period, humans learned to use metal (mainly copper) along with stone.
- This culture is characterized by the co-existence of copper and stone tools, distinctive painted pottery (like Black-and-Red Ware), and rural settlements.

10. Statement Type

Regarding Alexander's invasion of India (327-325 BCE), which of the following statements is incorrect?

Statement I: Alexander's invasion of India was primarily motivated by India's immense wealth and his ambition to become a world conqueror.

Statement II: Ambhi, the ruler of Taxila, surrendered to Alexander and collaborated with him.

Statement III: Porus (Puru), who ruled between the Jhelum and Chenab rivers, bravely confronted Alexander, although he was defeated in the Battle of Hydaspes (Jhelum).

Statement IV: Alexander's army refused to advance beyond the Beas river, as a result of which he had to return from India, and he left no lasting impact on India.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (1) Statement I only
- (2) Statement II only
- (3) Statement III only
- (4) Statement IV only

Correct Answer: (4) Statement IV only

Explanation:

- **Statement IV (Incorrect):** While it is true that Alexander's weary army refused to advance beyond the Beas river, forcing him to return, it is not entirely correct to say that he left no lasting impact on India.
 - **Impact:** Alexander's invasion established direct contact between India and

Greece, promoting exchange in trade, art (Greek influence on Gandhara art), astronomy, and coinage. It disrupted the political unity of India's northwestern frontier provinces, which later helped Chandragupta Maurya expand his empire. He also appointed some Greek satraps.

- **Statement I (Correct):** The fame of India's wealth and Alexander's ambition for world conquest were major motivating factors for his invasion.
- **Statement II (Correct):** Ambhi, the ruler of Taxila, had submitted to Alexander and also provided him with military assistance.
- **Statement III (Correct):** King Porus put up a strong fight against Alexander on the banks of the Jhelum river (Hydaspes in Greek sources). Although Porus was defeated, Alexander was impressed by his bravery, restored his kingdom, and made him an ally.



Professors Adda



PAID STUDENTS' BENEFITS



Access to PYQs of the last 1 year



Entry into Quiz Group + Premium Materials



20% Discount on Future Purchases / For Referring a Friend



Access to Current Affairs + Premium Study Group



NOTE: Please share your *Fee Receipt* or Payment Screenshot for activation.

Call/Whapp 76900-2211, 9216228788



CALL/WAP
+91 7690022-111

All Subject's Complete Study Material KIT available.

Professor Adda Call WhatsApp Now **7690022111 / 9216228788**

AMRIUT BOOKLET

What is this, why read it?

- AMRIT Booklet is designed on PYQ pattern by extracting exam-useful essence from all major books of the subject at one place. You don't have to read books now.
- This is not just an ordinary booklet but a top-level rstudy tool, specially designed for those students who want quick revision, exam-time recall and concept clarity.
- In this, you will get the “amrit nichuran” of every important topic – that is, the same things which are asked again and again in the exam.
- This booklet brings together Core Concepts, Keywords, Thinkers, Definitions and Chronology of every subject at one place – and that too in a very crisp question and answer style.

PROFESSORS ADDA

Benefits & Features:

- ✓ Super Quick Revision Tool
- ✓ Exam Time Confidence Booster
- ✓ High Retention Format –
- ✓ 100% Exam-Oriented – No Extra, No Fluff

ALL INDIA RANK

How to make best use?

- ✓ First read the Amrit page of the topic from the guide
- ✓ Memorize the Keywords along with the Concepts
- ✓ Solve MCQs from that topic on the same day
- ✓ Revise only from this before the exam – Time Saving, Score Boosting

📖 Bonus Insides

🎯 Who is this for?

- ✓ NET / SET/ PGT
- ✓ Assistant Professor Candidates
- ✓ Those who have less time but want strong results and the syllabus to be completed

This booklet is for all those who do not just want to read, but want to “read right”.

🔑 What will you get in it?

- One Page One Topic Format – One complete topic clear on each page
- Updated as per latest changes of 2025

**PROFESSORS
ADDA**

📖 Available in Digital PDF + Print Format

📖 Book Now | DM | WhatsApp | Download from the link

sample Notes/
Expert Guidance/Courier Facility Available

Download PROFESSORS ADDA APP

HISTORY ONELINER

SAMPLE

- Question:** In which year did Alexander Cunningham begin the first systematic excavations at Harappa?
Answer: 1872-73.
- Question:** The famous 'Dancing Girl' bronze statuette was discovered by Ernest Mackay at which Indus Valley site in the _____ 1920s?
Answer: Mohenjo-daro.
- Question:** The Third Buddhist Council was held at Pataliputra around 250 BCE under the patronage of which Mauryan _____ emperor?
Answer: Ashoka.
- Question:** Who was the Greek ambassador sent by Seleucus Nicator to the court of Chandragupta Maurya in Pataliputra?
Answer: Megasthenes.
- Question:** The Allahabad Pillar inscription (Prayag Prashasti) details the conquests of which Gupta emperor, and was composed by his court poet Harisena?
Answer: Samudragupta.
- Question:** Which Chinese pilgrim visited India during the reign of Harshavardhana of Kannauj in the 7th century CE?
Answer: Xuanzang (Hiuen Tsang).
- Question:** The rock-cut temples at Ellora, particularly the Kailasa temple (Cave 16), were built under the patronage

of which Rashtrakuta king?

Answer: Krishna I.

8. **Question:** In 1192, who defeated Prithviraj Chauhan in the Second Battle of Tarain?

Answer: Muhammad Ghori.

9. **Question:** Which ruler of the Delhi Sultanate, known for his 'market control policy', was proclaimed Sultan in Delhi in 1296?

Answer: Alauddin Khalji.

10. **Question:** Who founded the city of Agra in 1504 and made it his capital?

Answer: Sikandar Lodi.

11. **Question:** The Qutb Minar in Delhi was originally commissioned by Qutb-ud-din Aibak and later completed by which Sultan?

Answer: Iltutmish.

12. **Question:** The Vijayanagara Empire was founded on the banks of the Tungabhadra river in 1336 by which two brothers?

Answer: Harihara I and Bukka Raya I.

13. **Question:** Which Mughal emperor won the First Battle of Panipat in 1526, leading to the establishment of the Mughal dynasty in India?

Answer: Babur.

14. **Question:** Who wrote the Akbarnama, the official chronicle of the reign of Akbar, in the 16th century?

Answer: Abul Fazl.

15. **Question:** The 'Ibadat Khana' (House of Worship) was built by Akbar in which city for religious discussions?

Answer: Fatehpur Sikri.

16. **Question:** The English East India Company was granted

a royal charter to trade with the East by which monarch on 31st December 1600?

Answer: Queen Elizabeth I.

17. **Question:** In which year did the Battle of Plassey take place, where Robert Clive's forces defeated Siraj-ud-Daulah?

Answer: 1757.

18. **Question:** The 'Permanent Settlement' of Bengal was introduced in 1793 by which Governor-General?

Answer: Lord Cornwallis.

19. **Question:** The Brahma Samaj, a pivotal social-religious reform movement, was founded by whom in Calcutta in 1828?

Answer: Raja Ram Mohan Roy.

20. **Question:** The practice of Sati was formally abolished in 1829 during the tenure of which Governor-General?

Answer: Lord William Bentinck.

21. **Question:** The 'Doctrine of Lapse' policy, used to annex several Indian states, is most famously associated with which Governor-General?

Answer: Lord Dalhousie.

22. **Question:** In which city did the Revolt of 1857 begin on May 10th?

Answer: Meerut.

23. **Question:** Who was proclaimed the leader of the 1857 revolt in Delhi?

Answer: Bahadur Shah Zafar.

24. **Question:** The Indian National Congress was founded in Bombay in which year, with W.C. Bonnerjee as its first president?

Answer: 1885.

25. **Question:** The Partition of Bengal, a major catalyst for nationalist agitation, was announced in 1905 by which Viceroy?

Answer: Lord Curzon.

26. **Question:** In which city and year did the historic 'Surat Split' of the Indian National Congress occur?

Answer: Surat, 1907.

27. **Question:** The Morley-Minto Reforms, which introduced separate electorates for Muslims, were enacted as the Indian Councils Act of which year?

Answer: 1909.

28. **Question:** Mahatma Gandhi returned to India from which country in January 1915?

Answer: South Africa.

29. **Question:** The Jallianwala Bagh massacre took place in Amritsar on April 13 of which year?

Answer: 1919.

30. **Question:** Mahatma Gandhi launched the Non-Cooperation Movement in which year?

Answer: 1920.

31. **Question:** The 'Chauri Chaura' incident, which led to the suspension of the Non-Cooperation Movement, occurred in which present-day state in 1922?

Answer: Uttar Pradesh.

32. **Question:** The Simon Commission, a group of British MPs, arrived in India in which year to study constitutional reform?

Answer: 1928.

33. **Question:** In which session of the Indian National Congress, held in 1929 under Jawaharlal Nehru's presidency, was the resolution for 'Purna Swaraj'

(Complete Independence) passed?

Answer: Lahore Session.

34. **Question:** Mahatma Gandhi launched the Civil Disobedience Movement with the Dandi March, which started from his Sabarmati Ashram in which year?

Answer: 1930.

35. **Question:** The Poona Pact of 1932 was an agreement between Mahatma Gandhi and which other leader regarding depressed class representation?

Answer: B.R. Ambedkar.

36. **Question:** The Government of India Act, which provided for provincial autonomy and was a blueprint for the constitution, was passed in which year?

Answer: 1935.

37. **Question:** The All-India Muslim League passed the Lahore Resolution (Pakistan Resolution) demanding a separate nation in which year?

Answer: 1940.

38. **Question:** The Quit India Movement was launched by Mahatma Gandhi at the Gowalia Tank Maidan in which city in August 1942?

Answer: Bombay (now Mumbai).

39. **Question:** Who founded the 'Forward Bloc' in 1939 after resigning from the presidency of the Indian National Congress?

Answer: Subhas Chandra Bose.

40. **Question:** The Cabinet Mission, sent by British Prime Minister Clement Attlee to discuss the transfer of power, arrived in India in which year?

Answer: 1946.

41. **Question:** Who was the last Viceroy of British India and

the first Governor-General of independent India?

Answer: Lord Mountbatten.

42. **Question:** The 'Ryotwari System' of land revenue was first introduced in the Madras Presidency by which British administrator?

Answer: Thomas Munro.

43. **Question:** The ancient university of Nalanda in Bihar was a great centre for learning primarily for which religion?

Answer: Buddhism.

44. **Question:** Who authored the Ain-i-Akbari and served as the grand vizier of the Mughal emperor Akbar?

Answer: Abul Fazl.

45. **Question:** The 'Diarchy' system of dual government was introduced in the provinces by which British Act?

Answer: Government of India Act, 1919.

46. **Question:** The Ghadar Party was formed in 1913 by Indian revolutionaries primarily in which North American city?

Answer: San Francisco.

47. **Question:** The first Round Table Conference to discuss constitutional reforms in India was held in London in which year?

Answer: 1930.

48. **Question:** Who established the Satyasodhak Samaj in 1873 in Pune to work for the rights of depressed classes?

Answer: Jyotiba Phule.

49. **Question:** The ruins of the ancient city of Hampi are located on the banks of the Tungabhadra River in which modern Indian state?

Answer: Karnataka.

50. **Question:** The 'Direct Action Day' call by the Muslim League in 1946 led to widespread communal riots, starting in _____ which _____ city?

Answer: Calcutta (now Kolkata).

PAID STUDENTS BENEFITS

- ✓ Access to PYQs of the Upcoming 1 year Exams
- ✓ Entry into Quiz Group + Premium Materials
- ✓ 20% Discount on Future Purchases /For Referring a Friend
- ✓ Access to Current Affairs + Premium Study Group

NOTE: Please share your Fee Receipt or Payment Screenshot for activation.

[Click here to join](#)



Call us/whatsapp +91 7690022111 +91 9216228788

Topper's Tool Kit 2025

Topper's Tool Kit 2025

🧠 Benefits & Features:

- **✓ Core Concepts** – Summary of every topic in easy language
- **✓ Key Thinkers & Theories** – Name + idea + year = you will remember everything
- **✓ Important Books** – The same books which come in exams along with the year
- **✓ Flow Charts** – Understand every complex topic in 1 page
- **✓ Mind Maps** – Visual Recall Hack for faster revision

PROFESSORS ADDA

Topper बनने और “Smart Study का असली formula”

🧠 Why important

The foundation and basis of the subject are thinkers and concepts. Questions are definitely raised every time, from UGC NET exam to interview

ALL INDIA RANK

📌 Want to become a topper?

Toolkit is the answer!

📖 Format: Digital PDF + Optional Print

📅 Latest Update: TILL May 2025

🚀 Why do toppers trust it?

- **No Guesswork – Only Exam-Oriented Content**
- **Visual Learning = Faster Revision**
- **Save time, increase scores**
- **Smart Preparation at home**

PROFESSORS
ADDA

📖 Available in Digital PDF + Print Format

📌 Book Now | DM | WhatsApp | Download from the link

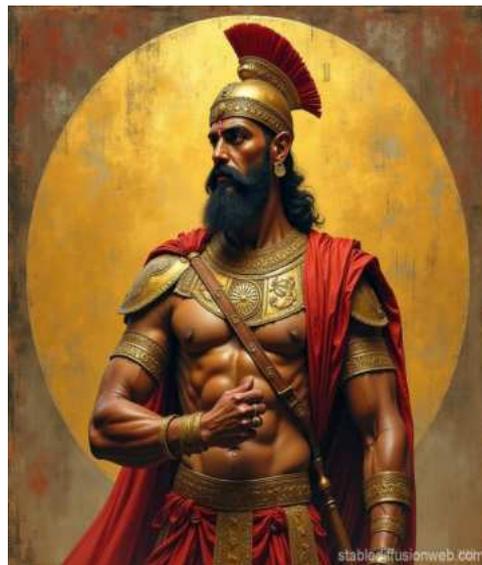
sample Notes/
Expert Guidance/Courier Facility Available

Download PROFESSORS ADDA APP

History King Empires Sample

1. Emperor Ashoka (Maurya Dynasty)

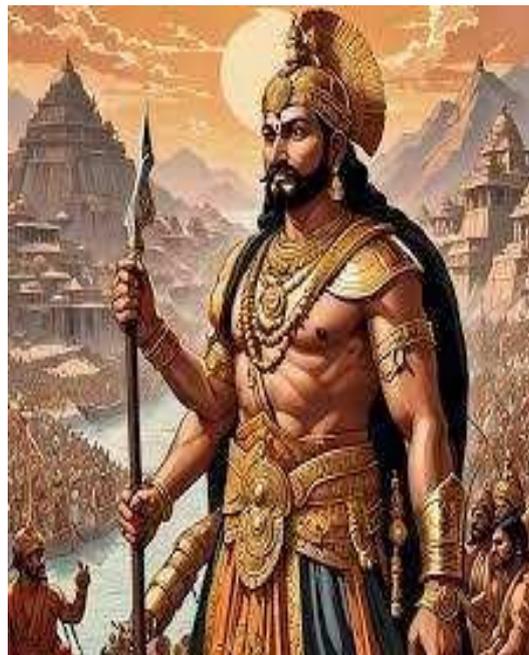
1. Ashoka was the third ruler of the Maurya dynasty, and his reign is generally dated from c. 268 to 232 **BCE**.
2. In his inscriptions, he is primarily referred to by the titles 'Devanampriya' (Beloved of the Gods) and 'Priyadarshi' (He who looks on with affection).
3. His personal name, "Ashoka," is found only in a few minor rock edicts, such as those at Maski, Gurjara, Nittur, and Udegolam.
4. In the 8th year of his coronation (261 **BCE**), he conquered Kalinga, and the devastating consequences of the war led to a change of his heart.
5. He gives a detailed account of the Kalinga war, his remorse, and his new policy of Dhamma in his Major Rock Edict XIII.
6. After the war, he abandoned the policy of 'Bherighosha' (war drum) in favor of 'Dhammaghosha' (drum of righteousness) as the basis of his rule.
7. Ashoka's 'Dhamma' was a universal moral code based on tolerance, non-violence, and ethical conduct, not on any specific religious dogma.
8. In the 13th year of his reign, he appointed a new class of officials called 'Dhamma Mahamatras' to propagate Dhamma and look after the welfare of the people.
9. He was the first ruler in Indian history to communicate directly with his subjects through inscriptions.
10. James Prinsep, in 1837, was the first to successfully decipher Ashoka's inscriptions, which were written in the Brahmi script.
11. His inscriptions have been found in four scripts: Brahmi (most of India), Kharosthi (North-West), Aramaic, and Greek (Afghanistan).
12. According to Buddhist tradition, the Buddhist monk Upagupta initiated Ashoka into Buddhism.
13. He convened the Third Buddhist Council at Pataliputra under the chairmanship of Moggaliputta Tissa.
14. He sent Buddhist missionaries to various parts of the world, including his son Mahendra and daughter Sanghamitra to Sri Lanka (Tamraparni) with a sapling of the Bodhi tree.
15. Showcasing his religious tolerance, he donated caves in the Barabar Hills near Gaya to the followers of the Ajivika sect.
16. He appointed judicial officers known as 'Rajukas', granting them autonomy in legal proceedings to ensure impartial justice.
17. In his Lumbini pillar inscription, he declared that because it was the birthplace of the Buddha, he had reduced the land revenue ('bali') of that village to 1/8th.
18. Ashoka condemned animal sacrifice and, in his first rock edict, prohibited social gatherings ('samaj') and the slaughter of animals for the royal kitchen.



19. His Lion Capital at Sarnath, featuring four lions, has been adopted as the National Emblem of independent India.
20. Tradition holds that Ashoka built 84,000 stupas, which included the expansion and renovation of existing stupas like those at Sanchi and Bharhut.
21. His inscriptions mention his queen 'Kaurwaki' and son 'Tivara'.
22. In his 7th Pillar Edict, Ashoka summarizes the essence of his Dhamma, which includes 'few sins, many good deeds, mercy, charity, truthfulness, and purity.'
23. He divided his empire into provinces, which were generally governed by princes ('Kumara' or 'Aryaputra') acting as viceroys.
24. He established hospitals for both humans and animals and promoted the cultivation of medicinal herbs.
25. His empire stretched from modern-day Afghanistan to Bangladesh and from the Himalayas in the north to Karnataka in the south, making it one of the largest in Indian history.

2. Samudragupta (Gupta Dynasty)

1. Samudragupta (reigned c. 335–380 CE) is called the 'Napoleon of India' by historian Vincent A. Smith due to his extensive military conquests.
2. The most important and authentic source of information about his reign is the 'Prayag Prashasti' or 'Allahabad Pillar Inscription'.
3. The Prayag Prashasti was composed by his court poet and high-ranking official ('Mahadandanayaka'), Harishena, in the Champu style of Sanskrit (mixed prose and verse).
4. This prashasti is engraved on the same pillar that carries an edict of Emperor Ashoka and later, an inscription by Jahangir.
5. According to the prashasti, he followed a policy of 'Prasabhodharana' (forceful uprooting) against 9 rulers of 'Aryavarta' (Northern India) and annexed their kingdoms.
6. He adopted the policy of 'Grahana-mokshanugraha' (capturing, then liberating and reinstating) towards 12 rulers of 'Dakshinapatha' (Southern India).
7. He compelled the frontier states ('Pratyanta-nripati') and republics ('Gana-rajyas') to accept his suzerainty by paying taxes, obeying his orders, and offering homage.
8. His prominent titles include 'Sarvarajochhetta' (uprooter of all kings), 'Parakramanka', and 'Apratiratha' (unrivaled warrior).
9. He was an accomplished musician and Veena player, which is confirmed by his 'Veena-player' type coins, earning him the title 'Kaviraja' (king of poets).
10. He performed the 'Ashvamedha Yajna' (horse sacrifice ceremony) to establish his imperial sovereignty and assumed the title 'Ashvamedhaparakrama'.
11. He issued 6 types of gold coins (Dinars): Garura type, Archer type, Battle-Axe type, Ashvamedha type, Tiger-Slayer type, and Lyrist (Veena-player) type.
12. He was a great patron of art and literature and gave patronage to the famous Buddhist scholar Vasubandhu.
13. King Meghavarman of Sri Lanka sought his permission to build a Buddhist monastery at Bodh Gaya, which he granted.
14. He was a follower of Vaishnavism, and the Garura (eagle) emblem is found on his coins, but he was tolerant towards other religions.
15. He established diplomatic relations with foreign powers like the 'Daivaputra-Shahi-Shahanushahi' (Kushans) and the Sakas, who sent him gifts.
16. The Eran inscription (Madhya Pradesh) mentions his wife 'Dattadevi' and describes him as a greater donor than the puranic kings Prithu and Raghava.
17. His empire stretched from the Himalayas in the north to the Narmada river in the south, and from the Brahmaputra in the east to the Chambal river in the west.
18. He was the one who gave the Gupta Empire an all-India character and solidified its foundations.
19. The Prayag Prashasti compares him to various gods, stating he was equal to 'Dhanada'

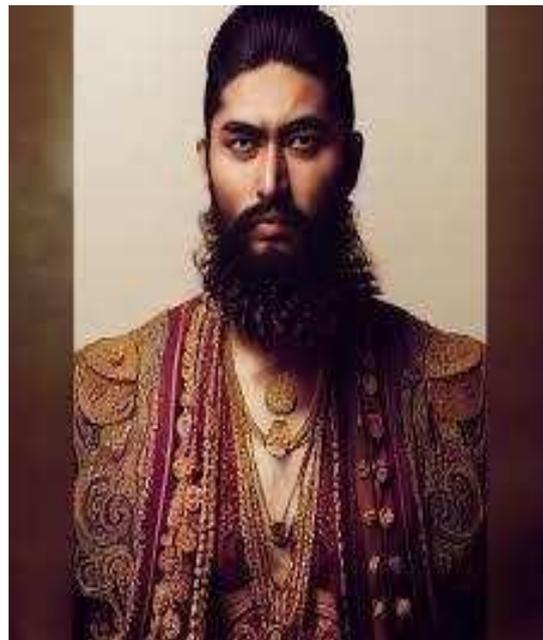


(Kubera), 'Varuna', 'Indra', and 'Yama'.

20. His reign is considered the beginning of the 'Golden Age of the Gupta Empire' from both a political and cultural perspective.
21. He carried the policy of imperial expansion, started by his father Chandragupta I, to its zenith.
22. His currency is known for its high-quality gold content and artistic excellence.
23. He was also an able administrator who created an efficient administrative system to run his vast empire smoothly.
24. His personality was a remarkable blend of an invincible warrior, a skilled politician, an art lover, and a benevolent ruler.
25. The Prayag Prashasti praises him as someone who could put Tumburu and Narada to shame with his knowledge of music.

3. Kanishka (Kushan Dynasty)

1. Kanishka (reigned c. 78–101 CE) was the greatest emperor of the Kushan dynasty, whose empire extended from Central Asia to Northern India.
2. He ascended the throne in 78 CE and started the 'Shaka Era' to mark the occasion, which is still used by the Government of India as its national calendar.
3. His empire had two major capitals: Purushpura (modern Peshawar) as the political center, and Mathura as a major artistic and religious hub.
4. The most significant religious event of his reign was the convening of the 'Fourth Buddhist Council' in Kundalavana, Kashmir.
5. It was in this council that Buddhism was clearly divided into two sects: Hinayana (the orthodox school) and Mahayana (the liberal school).
6. Kanishka was a great patron of Mahayana Buddhism, which popularized the worship of Buddha's image and the concept of the Bodhisattva.
7. The Fourth Buddhist Council was presided over by Vasumitra, with the famous poet Ashvaghosha serving as his deputy. The Buddhist encyclopedia 'Mahavibhasha Shastra' was compiled here.
8. His court was adorned with great scholars, including Ashvaghosha (author of *Buddhacharita*), Vasumitra, Parshva, and the great philosopher Nagarjuna.
9. Nagarjuna, in his 'Madhyamika Karika,' propounded the theory of 'Shunyavada' (theory of relativity/emptiness), earning him the title 'Einstein of India'.
10. Charaka, the author of 'Charaka Samhita' and considered a father of Ayurveda, was the royal physician in Kanishka's court.
11. Two great schools of art flourished during his reign: the Gandhara school (a blend of Indian and Greco-Roman art) and the Mathura school (purely indigenous).
12. In Gandhara art, Buddha was depicted realistically, with features similar to the Greek god Apollo, while Mathura art depicted a more spiritual and Indianized Buddha.
13. Kanishka defeated the rulers of China and established control over a significant part of the Central Asian 'Silk Route', which greatly boosted trade.
14. His coins feature a mix of Indian (Shiva, Surya), Greek (Helios), Iranian ('Atash' - the fire god), and Buddhist (Buddha) deities, reflecting his religious tolerance.
15. A famous headless statue of Kanishka, housed in the Mathura Museum, shows him wearing a long coat, trousers, and heavy boots, indicating his Central Asian attire.
16. He adopted the title 'Devaputra' (Son of God), which was inspired by the Chinese emperor's title 'Son of Heaven'.
17. He commissioned the construction of numerous stupas and viharas in cities like Taxila, Purushpura, and Mathura.
18. Due to his significant role in the propagation of Buddhism, he is often compared to Emperor Ashoka and is also called the 'Second Ashoka'.
19. Sushruta, considered the 'Father of Surgery', is believed by some scholars to have been a



contemporary of Kanishka.

20. The Rabatak inscription (Afghanistan) provides crucial information about his genealogy and the extent of his empire.
21. Under his patronage, Mahayana Buddhism spread from India to China and Central Asia.
22. He was a foreign ruler who completely assimilated into Indian culture and enriched it.
23. The Kushan kings established a 'Devakula' (a royal shrine for deceased kings) at Mat near Mathura, where statues of the rulers were worshipped.
24. He was a great patron of architecture, and the Kanishka Stupa in Peshawar was said to be one of the tallest structures in the ancient world.
25. Kanishka's reign was a unique period of political stability, economic prosperity, and cultural syncretism.

4. Harshavardhana (Pushyabhuti/Vardhana Dynasty)



1. Harshavardhana (reigned 606–647 CE) was the most powerful emperor of the Pushyabhuti dynasty and held the title 'Sakalottarapathanatha' (Lord of the entire North).
2. The two primary sources of information about his reign are the *Harshacharita* by his court poet Banabhatta and the travelogue *Si-Yu-Ki* by the Chinese traveler Xuanzang.
3. He ascended the throne in 606 CE after the death of his elder brother Rajyavardhana and shifted his capital from Thanesar to Kannauj.
4. His empire extended from Punjab to Orissa in North India and from the Himalayas to the banks of the Narmada River.
5. His southward expansion was halted on the banks of the Narmada by the great Chalukyan king of the south, Pulakeshin II. This event is mentioned in the Aihole Inscription.
6. The famous Chinese Buddhist pilgrim Xuanzang (also known as the 'Prince of Pilgrims') visited India during his reign and stayed for about 15 years.
7. Harsha convened a grand religious assembly at Kannauj, presided over by Xuanzang, to honor and promote Mahayana Buddhism.
8. He held the 'Mahamoksha Parishad' at Prayag (Allahabad) every five years, where he would donate all his accumulated wealth, including his personal clothes.
9. Harsha himself was an accomplished playwright. He authored three famous Sanskrit dramas: *Nagananda*, *Ratnavali*, and *Priyadarshika*.
10. He was initially a devotee of Shiva (Shaivite), but under the influence of his sister Rajyashri and Xuanzang, he became a great patron of Mahayana Buddhism.
11. He was a generous patron of the Nalanda University, donating the revenue of 200 villages for its upkeep. Shilabhadra was the chancellor of Nalanda during his time.
12. His administration was similar to that of the Guptas but with more pronounced feudal characteristics. Officials were often paid in land grants (jagirs) instead of cash salaries.
13. The land revenue was typically 1/6th of the produce, and taxes like 'Bhaga', 'Hiranya', and 'Bali' are mentioned.
14. Besides Banabhatta, scholars like Mayura (author of *Surya Shataka*) and Matanga Divakara also adorned his court.
15. Harsha is considered the 'last great Hindu emperor' of northern India, after whose death a period of political fragmentation began.
16. He established diplomatic relations with China and sent an envoy to the court of the Tang emperor in 641 CE.
17. His own signatures have been found on the Madhuban and Banskhera copper-plate inscriptions.
18. He held titles such as 'Maharajadhiraja' and 'Paramabhataraka'.

19. His army was known for its large elephant corps, which was a major component of his military strength.
20. Xuanzang reports that Harsha implemented a strict legal code to maintain law and order within his empire.
21. His sister, Rajyashri, played a significant role as an advisor in his administration after being rescued by him.
22. According to *Harshacharita*, Harsha attacked Kashmir and obtained a tooth relic of the Buddha, which he enshrined in a vihara in Kannauj.
23. He established rest houses and hospitals for travelers and the sick throughout his empire.
24. Xuanzang describes him as a tireless ruler who divided his day into three parts to manage administrative, religious, and personal affairs.
25. Harsha's reign is considered a transitional period, marking the end of the classical era and the beginning of the medieval era in Indian history.

5. Raja Raja Chola I (Chola Dynasty)



1. Raja Raja I (reigned 985–1014 CE) is considered the greatest emperor of the Chola dynasty, who raised Chola power to its zenith.
2. He organized a powerful and permanent navy, which became the foundation of Chola dominance in the Indian Ocean.
3. He defeated the Chera navy at the Battle of Kandalur Salai and established his supremacy over the Pandya and Chera kingdoms.
4. Using his navy, he conquered the northern part of Sri Lanka and annexed it as a new Chola province named 'Mummadicholamandalam'.
5. He was the first Indian ruler to achieve a naval victory over the Maldiv Islands ('the twelve thousand islands').
6. His most enduring legacy is the construction of the magnificent **Brihadisvara Temple** (also known as Rajarajesvara Temple) at Thanjavur.
7. The Brihadisvara Temple is a masterpiece of Dravidian architecture, is listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site, and is the world's first temple built entirely of granite.
8. He initiated a massive project of land survey and assessment in 1002 CE, which systematized the land revenue system, typically fixed at one-third of the produce.
9. He established a highly efficient and centralized administrative system, dividing the empire into units like Mandalam, Valanadu, and Nadu.
10. He was a great supporter of **local self-government**, and village assemblies like the 'Ur' (for common villagers) and the 'Sabha' (for Brahmins) functioned efficiently during his reign.
11. He assumed grand titles such as 'Rajaraja', 'Mummadichola' (the Chola lord of three worlds), 'Sivapadasekhara' (one who has Shiva's feet as his crown), and 'Jayagonda'.
12. Although a devout Shaivite, he was tolerant towards other religions and made a grant for the construction of a Buddhist vihara at Nagapattinam at the request of the Srivijayan king.
13. The bronze statues of 'Nataraja' (dancing Shiva) cast during his reign are considered the finest specimens of Chola art.
14. He sent a trade delegation to China in 1012 CE, indicating the importance of commercial ties for the Chola empire.
15. He created a centralized bureaucracy with a clear hierarchy of officials, classified as 'Perundanam' (senior officials) and 'Serundanam' (junior officials).
16. He had his military achievements and other significant events inscribed on the walls of the Brihadisvara Temple, which serve as valuable historical records.
17. He introduced a standardized currency and issued gold, silver, and copper coins.
18. He paid special attention to irrigation by constructing dams and tanks along rivers like the Kaveri.
19. He nominated his son, Rajendra Chola I, as the crown prince during his lifetime and involved him in the administration, ensuring a smooth succession.
20. The reign of Raja Raja I was a golden age of military conquest, administrative

History Important Books & Table

1. **The Wonder That Was India** - **A.L. Basham**: A classic and comprehensive survey of ancient Indian culture, society, religion, and governance before the arrival of the Muslims.
2. **India's Ancient Past** - **R.S. Sharma**: A standard textbook that provides a detailed account of ancient Indian history, with a focus on social and economic structures from a materialist perspective.
3. **An Introduction to the Study of Indian History** (1956) - **D.D. Kosambi**: A pioneering work that combined Marxist analysis with deep philological and archaeological evidence to reinterpret ancient Indian history.
4. **A History of India, Volume 1** - **Romila Thapar**: An influential narrative of Indian history from the ancient period up to the arrival of the Europeans, known for its interpretative approach.
5. **A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India: From the Stone Age to the 12th Century** - **Upinder Singh**: A modern and exhaustive textbook that integrates archaeological and textual sources to provide a holistic view.
6. **Arthashastra** - **Kautilya (attributed)**: An ancient Indian treatise on statecraft, economic policy, and military strategy, offering a detailed picture of Mauryan administration.
7. **Indica** - **Megasthenes**: An account of Mauryan India by a Greek ambassador, which is a valuable foreign source despite surviving only in fragments.
8. **Rajatarangini (The River of Kings)** - **Kalhana**: A 12th-century historical chronicle of the kings of Kashmir, considered to be the first work of historiography in India.
9. **Kitab-ul-Hind (Alberuni's India)** - **Al-Biruni**: A detailed account of the religion, philosophy, and customs of India written in the 11th century, a critical source for the early medieval period.
10. **History of Medieval India** - **Satish Chandra**: A standard and widely read textbook covering the period from the Sultanate to the Mughal empire.
11. **The Agrarian System of Mughal India, 1556-1707** - **Irfan Habib**: A landmark study of the economic and agrarian structures of the Mughal Empire, based on a meticulous examination of sources.
12. **Ain-i-Akbari** - **Abul Fazl**: Part of the Akbarnama, this is a detailed document recording the administration of Emperor Akbar's empire.
13. **From Plassey to Partition and After** - **Sekhar Bandyopadhyay**: A comprehensive and popular textbook on the history of modern India.
14. **India's Struggle for Independence** - **Bipan Chandra**, et al.: A detailed narrative of the Indian independence movement from a nationalist historiographical perspective.
15. **Modern India: 1885-1947** - **Sumit Sarkar**: A seminal work on modern India that introduced a "history from below" perspective, focusing on subaltern and popular movements.
16. **Poverty and Un-British Rule in India** (1901) - **Dadabhai Naoroji**: A foundational work of economic nationalism that put forward the "drain of wealth" theory.
17. **The Discovery of India** (1946) - **Jawaharlal Nehru**: Written from prison, this book

All Subject's Complete Study Material KIT available.

Professor Adda Call WhatsApp Now 7690022111 / 9216228788

- provides a panoramic view of Indian history, culture, and philosophy through the eyes of a nationalist leader.
18. **Annihilation of Caste** (1936) - **B.R. Ambedkar**: A powerful critique of the caste system and Hindu social order, and a crucial text for understanding social reform movements.
 19. **What Is History?** (1961) - **E.H. Carr**: A classic introduction to the theory and philosophy of history, discussing the nature of historical facts and objectivity.
 20. **Annales School** - **Marc Bloch & Lucien Febvre**: A school of historiography that emphasized long-term social history and interdisciplinary approaches over political or diplomatic history.
 21. **The Fall of the Mughal Empire** - **Jadunath Sarkar**: A multi-volume, definitive work on the decline of the Mughal Empire, representing the empirical school of historiography.
 22. **The Emergence of Indian Nationalism** - **Anil Seal**: A key work of the Cambridge School of historiography, arguing that Indian nationalism was an elite competition for power and resources.
 23. **Hind Swaraj** (1909) - **M.K. Gandhi**: A foundational text outlining Gandhi's critique of modern civilization and his vision for a free India based on Swaraj.
 24. **India After Gandhi: The History of the World's Largest Democracy** - **Ramachandra Guha**: A comprehensive account of the history of the Indian Republic since 1947.
 25. **Ashoka and the Decline of the Mauryas** - **Romila Thapar**: A critical re-examination of the reign of Ashoka and the subsequent decline of the Mauryan Empire.
 26. **The Histories** - **Herodotus**: Considered the foundational work of history in Western literature, written in the 5th century BCE.
 27. **History of the Peloponnesian War** - **Thucydides**: An ancient Greek work noted for its strict standards of evidence-gathering and analysis of cause and effect without reference to the gods.
 28. **Harshacharita** - **Banabhatta**: A 7th-century biography of the Indian emperor Harshavardhana, providing valuable historical and cultural insights.
 29. **Sources of Indian Tradition** - **Edited by Ainslie T. Embree**: A comprehensive collection of primary texts from the Indian subcontinent, covering religion, philosophy, and social thought.
 30. **The Argumentative Indian** - **Amartya Sen**: A collection of essays that explores India's long tradition of public debate and intellectual pluralism throughout its history.

1. Key Sources for Ancient Indian History

Source Type	Example(s)	Information Provided	Period
Archaeological	Seals, Pottery (e.g., PGW, NBPW), Coins, Monuments, Inscriptions (e.g., Ashokan Edicts).	Material culture, economy, trade routes, extent of empires, royal policies, religious practices.	All periods (esp. Prehistoric & Proto-historic)
Literary (Indigenous)	Religious: Vedas, Upanishads, Epics, Puranas, Jatakas. Secular: Arthashastra, Harshacharita, Sangam literature, works of Kalidasa.	Socio-religious norms, political ideas, administration, genealogies of dynasties, cultural life.	Vedic period onwards
Foreign Accounts	Greek: Megasthenes (Indica). Chinese: Fa-Hien, Hiuen Tsang (Xuanzang). Roman: Pliny (Natural History).	Political and social conditions, court life, trade relations, status of Buddhism.	Mauryan period onwards

2: Indus Valley Civilization – Key Sites & Features

Site	Location (Modern)	Discovered by	Key Findings
Harappa	Punjab, Pakistan	Daya Ram Sahni (1921)	Granaries in a row, workmen's quarters, single-room barracks, coffin burial.
Mohenjo-daro	Sindh, Pakistan	R.D. Banerji (1922)	Great Bath, Great Granary, Bronze dancing girl statue, Steatite statue of a bearded man (priest-king).
Dholavira	Gujarat, India	J.P. Joshi / R.S. Bisht	Advanced water management system (reservoirs, dams), unique three-part city division, large signboard with Harappan script.
Lothal	Gujarat, India	S.R. Rao	Artificial dockyard (tidal port), evidence of rice cultivation, double burial (male and female).
Kalibangan	Rajasthan, India	A. Ghosh	Ploughed field surface, fire altars, decorated bricks, evidence of both Pre-Harappan

All Subject's Complete Study Material KIT available.

Professor Adda Call WhatsApp Now 7690022111 / 9216228788

and Harappan phases.

3: Vedic Period – A Comparison

Feature	Rigvedic Period (c. 1500–1000 BCE)	Later Vedic Period (c. 1000–600 BCE)
Polity	Tribal assemblies (Sabha, Samiti) were important. King (Rajan) was primarily a military leader with limited power.	King's power increased significantly. Assemblies lost importance. Rituals like Ashvamedha and Rajasuya emerged.
Society	Largely egalitarian. Varna system was based on occupation and was flexible. Family was patriarchal.	Varna system became rigid and hereditary. Rise of the Brahmin and Kshatriya dominance. Status of women declined.
Economy	Primarily pastoral and semi-nomadic. Cattle was the main form of wealth. Agriculture was secondary.	Agriculture became the primary occupation (use of iron ploughs). Settled life and emergence of territorial kingdoms (Janapadas).
Religion	Worship of nature gods like Indra, Agni, Varuna, Surya. Rituals were simple. No temples or idol worship.	Indra and Agni lost importance. Rise of Prajapati, Vishnu, and Rudra (Shiva). Rituals became complex and elaborate, dominated by priests.

4: Mauryan and Gupta Empires – A Comparison

Feature	Mauryan Empire (c. 322–185 BCE)	Gupta Empire (c. 320–550 CE)
Administration	Highly centralized. Large, paid bureaucracy. Extensive espionage system. Strict control.	Decentralized. Feudal characteristics (Samantas). Local administration had more autonomy.
Economy	State-controlled economy. Agriculture was the base, with state-owned lands. Heavy taxation.	Less state control. Land grants to Brahmins and officials became common. Increase in trade guilds (shrenis).
Art & Architecture	Primarily court art. Use of stone. Monumental architecture (e.g., Ashokan pillars, stupas).	Primarily religious art. Use of brick and stone. Flourishing of temple architecture (Nagara style), sculpture (Sarnath school), and cave paintings (Ajanta). Considered the "Golden Age".
Religion	Rulers patronized different religions. Chandragupta (Jainism), Ashoka	Predominantly Brahmanical Hinduism (Vaishnavism,

All Subject's Complete Study Material KIT available.

Professor Adda Call WhatsApp Now 7690022111 / 9216228788

	(Buddhism).	Shaivism). Puranic Hinduism took shape. Religious tolerance was practiced.
--	-------------	--

5: Major Dynasties & Key Rulers of Ancient India

Dynasty	Key Ruler(s)	Period (Approx.)	Region
Haryanka Dynasty	Bimbisara, Ajatashatru	6th-5th Century BCE	Magadha
Nanda Dynasty	Mahapadma Nanda	4th Century BCE	Magadha (First non-Kshatriya rulers)
Kushan Dynasty	Kanishka	1st-3rd Century CE	Northwest India & Central Asia
Satavahana Dynasty	Gautamiputra Satakarni	2nd Century BCE - 3rd Century CE	Deccan (Andhra region)
Pallava Dynasty	Mahendravarman I, Narasimhavarman I	4th-9th Century CE	Kanchipuram (Tamil Nadu)
Chalukya Dynasty (of Badami)	Pulakeshin II	6th-8th Century CE	Deccan (Karnataka)
Vardhana Dynasty	Harshavardhana	7th Century CE	North India (Kanauj)

**UGC NET HISTORY PAPER 2 DECEMBER 2023
ENGLISH**

1. Numismatics, the study of coins explains about -

- (A). Economy of times
- (B). Coin denominations
- (C). Metals in use
- (D). Wood industry
- (E). Potraits of the rulers

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (A), (B), (C) and (D) only.
- (b) (A), (B), (C) and (E) only.
- (c) (A), (B), (D) and (E) only.
- (d) (B), (C), (D) and (E) only.

2. Who introduced Naqsh bandi silsila in India?

- (a) Shah Niamatullah Qadri
- (b) Shah Abdullah Shattari
- (c) Khwaja Muinuddin Chisti
- (d) Khwaja Baqi Billah

3. Agrahara is the village given as a gift to -

- (A). Brahmins only
- (B). Traders
- (C). Foreign travellers
- (D). Craft persons who are excellent in their skills
- (E). Barbers

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (B), (C), (D) and (E) only.
- (b) (A), (B), (C) and (D) only.
- (c) (A), (B), (D) and (E) only.
- (d) (A), (C), (D) and (E) only.

4. Onentalism is a style of Orient and the thought based upon an Ontological and epistemological distinction made between the accideritis opined by

- (a) Gayalli C. Spivak
- (b) Kate Curric
- (c) Max Muller
- (d) Edward W. Sud

5. The 25th and 42nd Amendments in 1971 and 1976 gave precedence to

- (a) Fundamental Rights
- (b) Directive Principles
- (c) Property Rights of Women
- (d) None of the above mentioned

6. Who amongst the following wrote a biography of Mazzini?

- (a) Lala Hardayal
- (b) Madanlal Dhingra

- (c) V. D. Savarkar
(d) Ras Bihari Bose

7. Match List-I with List-II

List-I	List-II
(A). Kalibangan	(I). Shri Venkateshwara temple
(B). Tirupati	(II). Indus valley
(C). Jammu & Kashmir	(III). Lothal
(D). Gujarat	(IV). Martand temple

Choose the correct answer from the options given below

- (a) (A)-(II), (B)-(I), (C) (III), (D)-(IV)
(b) (A) (IV), (B) - (III), (C) - (II), (D) - (I)
(c) (A)-(I), (B)- (II), (C) (III), (D) - (IV)
(d) (A) - (III). (B) - (IV), (C) - (II), (D) - (I)

8. The character of bhagawan Shri Krishna teaches about -

- (A). Vishwatatva
(B). Place of everyone in one's life
(C). True friendship
(D). Balancing of emotions
(E). terivolous character

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (E), (C), (D), (A)
(b) (A), (B), (C), (D)
(c) (B), (E), (C), (D)
(d) (A), (D), (E), (B)

9. Who is the author of Saundarananda Kavya?

- (a) Sudraka
(b) Ashvagosha
(c) Bhasa
(d) Arya Deva

10. The text that portrayed women as 'Mother as she was', 'Mother as she is' and 'Mother as she will be' is

- (a) Anandamath
(b) A comparison between women and men
(c) Manusmriti
(d) Arthashastra

11. Sohgaura copper plate inscription records about:

- (A). Mathura
(B). Chanhu
(C). Manawasi junction
(D). Store houses of food grains
(E). Copper hoond

Choose the correct answer from the options given below

- (a) (B), (C), (D) and (E) only.
(b) (A), (B), (C) and (E) only.

- (c) (A), (B), (C) and (D) only.
(d) (B), (C) and (D) only.

12. Alwars and Nayanars belongs to

- (A). Hinduism
(B). Vaishnavism
(C). Shaivism
(D). Vedism
(E) Jainism

Choose the correct answer from the options given below.

- (a) (A), (B), (C) and (E) only.
(b) (A), (B), (C) and (D) only.
(c) (B), (C), (D) and (E) only.
(d) (A), (C), (D) and (E) only.

13. Which one among the following may not be called the non-vedic upanishada?

- (a) Jabala upanishada
(b) Garbha upanishada
(c) Subala upanishada
(d) Ken upanishada

14. Which amongst the following was the most important centre of manufacture of Salt Petre during the early colonial rule?

- (a) Mysore
(b) Northern Sircar
(c) Bihar
(d) Bengal

15. At the behest of Warren Hastings a digest of Hindu laws was compiled by a committee of eleven pundits in 1775

- (A). The digest was translated into English by NB. Halhed
(B). It helped the European judges and reduced their dependence on indigeneous interpreters
(C). It reduced the importance of the Regulating Act
(D). It helped the British to understand the legal sense of Indians in the historical perspective
(E). It became the corner stone for the passage of Pitt's india Act

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (A), (B) and (D) only
(b) (A), (B) and (C) only
(c) (A), (D) and (E) only.
(d) (B), (C) and (D) only

16. Which of the following statements regarding Malik Ambar are correct:

- (A) Malik Ambar was sold at Ahmadnagar to chingiz khan, the minister of Murtaza Nizam shah I
(B) Battle of Bhatvadi was one of the decisive battles in the history of Deccan won by Malik Ambar
(C). In 1607, Malik Ambar transferred his capital to Khirki, about 10 miles from Daulatabad
(D). Malik Ambar defeated Abdullah khan, the Governor of Gujarat
(E) Malik Ambar's revenue system was based primarily on Raja Todarmal's model

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (A), (B), (C) and (D) only.
- (b) (B), (C), (D) and (E) only.
- (c) (A), (C), (D) and (E) only
- (d) (A), (B), (D) and (E) only.

17. Match List-I with List-II

List-I	List-II
(A) Dabir	(I). Master of ceremonies
(B). Sar-i-Naubat	(II). Helped the king with his correspondence
(C). Majumdar	(III). Commanded army
(D). Chitanis	(IV). Accountant

Choose the correct answer from the options given below.

- (a) (A)- (I), (B)- (II), (C) - (III), (D) - (IV)
- (b) (A)-(I), (B) - (III), (C) - (IV), (D) - (II)
- (c) (A)-(III), (B) - (II), (C) - (I), (D) - (IV)
- (d) (A)- (III), (B) - (I), (C) - (II), (D) - (IV)

18. India from the beginning belived in Agrobased industries because growth in-

- (A). Agricultural output
- (B). Metallurgical Industry
- (C). Cottage Industry
- (D). Foreign Currency reserves
- (E). One-to-one need base

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

- (a) (B), (C), (D), (E)
- (b) (D), (B), (A), (C).
- (c) (A), (B), (C), (E)
- (d) (E), (B), (A), (C).

19. "Thuggee" Act (xxx) of 1836 and the Thuggee department were simply aiming at policing and prosecuting gangs seen as perpetrating a crime in the name of religion

- (A) It was a colonial construct to brand various peripatetic groups as thugs
- (B). The British considered actions against was an act of social reform
- (C). Sir william Sleeman was the architect of the compaign against Thuggee
- (D). 'Confessions of a Thug' is authored by Mike Dash
- (E) Thugee is authored by Sir William Sleeman

Choose the correct answer from the options given below

- (a) (A), (C) and (D) only.
- (b) (B), (D) and (E) only.
- (c) (A), (B) and (C) only.
- (d) (C), (D) and (E) only.

20. The statement The only foe worthy of British Steel was given by a British Revolt of 1857 Magistrate about which leader of the

- (a) Taty Tope
- (b) Nana Saheb
- (c) Maulvi Azimullah
- (d) Babu Kuwnar Singh

- (b) Garibaldi
 (c) Mazzini
 (d) Gibbon

99. Which is incorrect about the history writing of the Revolt?

- (a) A Revolutionary Movement cannot be based on flimsy and momentary grievances
 (b) The English authors have given a correct account of the Revolt
 (c) The great principles were Swadharma and Swaraj
 (d) It is impossible to connect the inconsistent links of all great revolutions with understanding the true causes.

100. Who gave the call to the Hindus and the Muslims to rise together for Swaraj?

- (a) Nana Saheb
 (b) Maulvi Azimullah
 (c) Bahadur Shah Jafar
 (d) Begum Hazrat MahalA

ANSWERS

1	B	21	B	41	B	61	D	81	A
2	D	22	B	42	B	62	A	82	C
3	C	23	C	43	B	63	A	83	A
4	D	24	D	44	D	64	C	84	D
5	B	25	B	45	A	65	D	85	D
6	C	26	C	46	D	66	C	86	B
7	A	27	C	47	B	67	B	87	B
8	B	28	A	48	A	68	C	88	D
9	B	29	A	49	D	69	C	89	A
10	A	30	C	50	B	70	A	90	C
11	B	31	D	51	C	71	C	91	D
12	B	32	D	52	B	72	B	92	B
13	D	33	B	53	D	73	D	93	B
14	C	34	B	54	B	74	C	94	C
15	A	35	C	55	A	75	A	95	B
16	D	36	D	56	A	76	C	96	C
17	B	37	D	57	A	77	D	97	D
18	C	38	C	58	B	78	C	98	C
19	C	39	A	59	B	79	D	99	B
20	D	40	A	60	B	80	C	100	C

UGC NET History PYQ (2016- JAN 2025) Analysis and Unit-wise Summary Question Pattern and Trend Analysis

1. Questions Of Types In Balance:

- **Factual Identification:** Questions based on direct identification of rulers, dynasties, events, dates, places, books, authors, treaties, acts, administrative posts (e.g. Dabir, Majumdar, Pandikawal Kuli), archaeological sites, coins, inscriptions and art styles. (Example: Who is the author of Saundranand Kavya? What is the meaning of Iqta? Who defeated Bajirao I?)
- **Chronological Sequence (Chronological Order):** There are a significant number of questions arranging events (e.g. wars, treaties, acts, rebellions, conspiracy cases), rulers/dynasties, travelers, reformers, founding of organizations, or literary/artistic developments in the order of their occurrence/publication/creation. It tests historical understanding and knowledge of dates.
- **Match (Matching):** Questions matching authors with their books, rulers with their dynasties/wars/titles, administrative posts with their works, archaeological sites with their locations/culture, or events with their dates/outcomes.
- **Assertion And Reason (Assertion & Reason):** Questions evaluating the relationship between historical events, trends, or interpretations and their underlying causes/arguments. (Example: A: Ashoka said in his inscription XIII... R: He believed in Sarvadharm Samabhava.)
- **Source Based Question:** Questions based on inscriptions (e.g. Sohgaura copper plates, Hathigumpha, Rabatak), coins (numismatics), literary sources (e.g. Arthashastra, Sangam literature, accounts of foreign travelers – Megasthenes, Fa Hien, Xuanzang, Al-Biruni, Bernier, Tavernier), or archaeological evidence (e.g. Bhimbetka paintings, Harappan sites).
- **Conceptual Understanding:** Testing understanding of historical concepts (like Agrahara, Varnasankar, Iqta, Jagir, Mahalwari, Ryotwari, Orientalism, Colonialism, Nationalism, Communalism, Schools of Historiography – Annals, Subaltern).

- **Multiple-Optional Statement (Multiple Correct Statements):** Questions that identify a set of true or false statements from among a number of statements about an event, person, place, source, or concept. These test detailed and subtle knowledge.
- **Article Based Question (Passage-based Questions):** Questions based on historical passages or historians' ideas test comprehension, interpretation, analysis, and critical evaluation of the text. (Example: Paragraphs based on Maratha history, Revolt of 1857, Ashoka's Dhamma, Mughal Jagirdari).

2. Difficulty Level And Skill Test:

- The examination emphasizes factual recall as well as understanding of concepts, analysis of sources, making connections between various historical events and trends, and critical evaluation.
- Chronological and matching questions require comprehensive and accurate knowledge.
- Assertion-reason and source-based questions demand analytical skills.
- Historiographical questions test understanding of different viewpoints.

3. The Latest Trend:

- Growing questions on historiography, especially subaltern and post-modern approaches.
- Focus on new areas such as environmental history, gender history, and history of science and technology.
- Continued focus on regional history and South Indian history.
- The increasing number of source-based queries, especially from archives and literary texts.
- Questions related to post-independence India.

Upcoming UGC NET/JRF Read this document carefully for the examination. Professors Adda subject expert team has painstakingly prepared it for your study assistance. We are always happy to help our students till their ultimate success.

**All Subject's Complete Study Material KIT available.
Professor Adda Call WhatsApp Now 7690022111 / 9216228788**

For ultimate success **Professor's Adda** Buy the complete updated study material package of Rs. We update twice a year before NET Exam.

Dear students Our **Amrit Notes** booklet is very popular among students.

You can read anything by yourself, from anywhere, but definitely read our study material once, it will benefit you a lot. Our priority is to provide quality complete guidance.

Contact **7690022111 / 9216228788**

Subject-Object Focus And Importance:

- **Ancient India:** Indus Valley Civilization (sites, features, script), Vedic period (literature, society, religion, politics), Mahajanapada, Maurya Empire (inscriptions of Ashoka, administration, economy), Shunga, Satavahana, Kushan (Kanishka), Gupta Empire (administration, literature, art, science), Harshavardhana, Sangam period, Early Indian religions (Jainism, Buddhism, Shaivism, Vaishnavism).
- **East-Medieval India:** Rajput kingdoms, Cholas, Pallavas, Chalukyas, Rashtrakutas, Gurjara-Pratiharas, Palas, Senas. Society, economy, religion and art.
- **Medieval India (Delhi Sultanate And Mughal):** Political history (major rulers, wars, policies), Administration (Iqta, Mansabdari, Jagirdari, revenue systems – Zabti, Batai), Economy (trade, commerce, agriculture, technology), Society (caste, varna, devotional and Sufi movements), Art and Architecture, Literature (Persian, regional languages). Vijayanagara and the Bahmani Empire. Maratha History (Shivaji, Peshwa).
- **Modern India:** Arrival of European companies, British conquest and expansion (wars, treaties), colonial economy (land revenue system, de-industrialization, drain of wealth), Revolt of 1857, socio-religious reform movements (Arya Samaj, Brahma Samaj, Theosophical Society, Aligarh Movement), rise of nationalism (founding of Congress, moderates/extremists), Gandhian movements (non-cooperation, civil disobedience, Quit India), revolutionary movements, constitutional development (Act), Partition, Post-Independence India (Reorganization of States, Foreign Policy – Non-Alignment, Panchsheel).

All Subject's Complete Study Material KIT available.

Professor Adda Call WhatsApp Now 7690022111 / 9216228788

- World History
- Historiography
- Research Methodology
- in-depth study of ancient india
- In-depth study of medieval India
- in-depth study of modern india

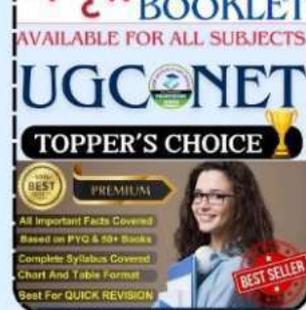
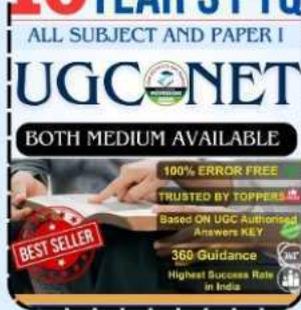
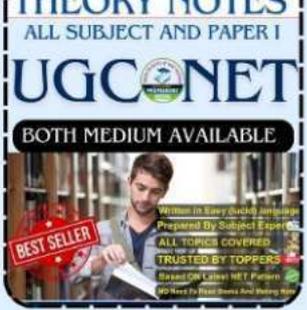
Unit 1: Ancient India

● **Source And Historiography:**

- **Archaic Source:** Numismatics (Study of Coins - Economy, Metals, Portraits of Rulers), Inscriptions (Sohgaura Copper Plate - Granary; Hathigumpha - Kharavela; Rabatak - Kanishka/Kadphises Relationship; Eran Pillar - Sati; Aihole - Ravikirti; Inscriptions of Ashoka - Dhamma, Kalinga Vijay, Contemporary Rulers, Language/Script), Archaeological Sites (Kalibangan, Lothal, Rakhigarhi, Chanhudaro, Bhimbetka; Megalithic sites – Maski, Nagarjunakonda; Neolithic sites – Gufkral, Daojali).
- **Literary Source:** Vedas (Rigveda - Marudhar-Vacha; Atharvaveda - Assembly/Committee daughters of Prajapati), Brahman texts (Aitareya - Shunahshep narrative), Upanishads (Ken), Sutras (Dharmasutra, Grhyasutra), Epics (Ramayana, Mahabharata - Hun mentioned in Bhishma Parva), Puranas, Sangam literature (Neytal, Mullai, Palai, Kurunji, Marutama), Buddhist texts (Suttanipata, Dhammapada, Milindapanho, Nidan Katha, Mahaparinibbana Suttant), Jain texts (Bhagavati Sutra - 16 Mahajanapada, Essential Sutras - Chandragupta/Bhadrabahu), Arthashastra (Kautilya - Saptanga Siddhanta, Upavasa, Varnadharma), other Sanskrit literature (Ashwaghosa - Saundarananda; Bhasa - Daridracharudatta; Kalidasa - Ritusamhara, Malavikagnimitra; Vishakhadatta - Samayamatrika; Karpuramanjari; Nayanachandra Suri - Hammir Mahakavya), Tamil Literature (Kamba - Kamba Ramayana; Manimekhalai).
- **The Foreigner Report:** Megasthenes (Indica), Fahyan, Hwensang, Al-Biruni.
- **Historiography:** Herodotus (Father of History), James Mill (Division of Time), Von Ranke, E.H. Carr, Mark Block, Eric Hobsbawm, B. Sheikh Ali.

● **Prehistoric And Adya-Historical Period:**

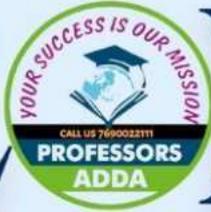
- Stone Age: Palaeolithic, Mesolithic (Bhimbetka painting), Neolithic (Gufkral,



10 MODEL PAPER

ALL SUBJECT AND PAPER I

UGC NET



BOTH MEDIUM AVAILABLE

100% ERROR FREE ✓

TRUSTED BY TOPPERS

According NET EXAM Pattern

ALL SYLLABUS COVERED

DETAILED ANSWER



+91-76900-22111

+91-92162-28788

UGC-NET History Paper-II Model Paper (Easy Level)

Q1. What does the term 'Veda' literally mean?

- (A) Ritual
- (B) Knowledge
- (C) God
- (D) Prayer

Correct Answer: (B)

Explanation:

1. The word 'Veda' originates from the Sanskrit root 'vid'.
2. 'Vid' means 'to know'.
3. Therefore, 'Veda' literally translates to 'knowledge' or 'wisdom'.
4. The Vedas are considered sacred scriptures in Hinduism.
5. They represent a vast body of knowledge encompassing hymns, rituals, and philosophy.
6. They are considered 'Shruti' (what is heard), believed to be divinely revealed.

Q2. The Indus Valley Civilization primarily flourished during which period?

- (A) Paleolithic Age
- (B) Neolithic Age
- (C) Bronze Age
- (D) Iron Age

Correct Answer: (C)

Explanation:

1. The Indus Valley Civilization (IVC) is also known as the Harappan Civilization.
2. It existed approximately from 3300 BCE to 1300 BCE.
3. Its mature phase was around 2600 BCE to 1900 BCE.
4. This period falls within the Bronze Age in South Asia.

5. The civilization was characterized by the extensive use of bronze tools and artifacts.
6. It predates the widespread use of iron in the region (Iron Age began later, around 1000 BCE).

Q3. Who was the founder of the Mauryan Empire?

- (A) Ashoka
- (B) Bindusara
- (C) Chandragupta Maurya
- (D) Bimbisara

Correct Answer: (C)

Explanation:

1. Chandragupta Maurya founded the Mauryan Empire around 322 BCE.
2. He overthrew the Nanda Dynasty in Magadha.
3. He was guided by his mentor and chief advisor, Kautilya (Chanakya).
4. His reign marked the beginning of a large, centralized empire in India.
5. He expanded the empire significantly across North India.
6. Bindusara was his son, and Ashoka was his grandson. Bimbisara belonged to the earlier Haryanka dynasty.

Q4. Gautama Buddha delivered his first sermon at:

- (A) Bodh Gaya
- (B) Sarnath
- (C) Kushinagar
- (D) Lumbini

Correct Answer: (B)

Explanation:

1. After attaining enlightenment at Bodh Gaya, Buddha travelled to Sarnath.
2. Sarnath is located near Varanasi (Benares).
3. He delivered his first sermon here to his first five disciples.

4. This event is known as 'Dharmachakrapravartana' (Turning of the Wheel of Law/Dharma).
5. Lumbini was his birthplace; Kushinagar was where he attained Mahaparinirvana (death).

Q5. The term 'Sangam' in the context of ancient South Indian history refers to:

- (A) A type of tax
- (B) A royal dynasty
- (C) Assemblies or academies of Tamil poets
- (D) A religious ritual

Correct Answer: (C)

Explanation:

1. 'Sangam' is a Tamil word meaning 'assembly' or 'academy'.
2. According to tradition, three Sangams were held in ancient South India, primarily in Madurai.
3. These assemblies were gatherings of Tamil poets and scholars.
4. They flourished under the patronage of the Pandya kings.
5. The literature produced during this period (roughly 300 BCE - 300 CE) is known as Sangam Literature.
6. It is a major source for the early history of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and parts of Sri Lanka.

Q6. Who wrote the famous treatise on statecraft, the 'Arthashastra'?

- (A) Ashoka
- (B) Megasthenes
- (C) Kautilya (Chanakya)
- (D) Kalidasa

Correct Answer: (C)

Explanation:

1. The *Arthashastra* is an ancient Indian Sanskrit treatise.
2. It covers statecraft, economic policy, and military strategy.
3. Authorship is traditionally attributed to Kautilya, also known as Chanakya or Vishnugupta.

PROFESSORS ADDA

One Stop Solution for NET / JRF / A. Professor / CUET

4. Kautilya was the chief advisor to Emperor Chandragupta Maurya.
5. The text provides insights into Mauryan administration and political thought.
6. Megasthenes wrote *Indica*; Kalidasa was a classical Sanskrit poet/dramatist.

Q7. The Gupta era is often referred to as the 'Golden Age' of ancient India primarily due to:

- (A) Extensive military conquests only
- (B) Flourishing of arts, science, and literature
- (C) Complete absence of social evils
- (D) Establishment of a democratic government

Correct Answer: (B)

Explanation:

1. The Gupta period (roughly 4th to 6th centuries CE) is often called a 'Golden Age'.
2. This is due to significant achievements in various fields.
3. Arts: Development of classical Indian art, sculpture (e.g., Sarnath Buddha), and temple architecture.
4. Science: Major advancements in mathematics (concept of zero, decimal system - Aryabhata) and astronomy.
5. Literature: Flourishing of classical Sanskrit literature (e.g., works of Kalidasa).
6. While there were military achievements and stable administration, the cultural and intellectual flourishing is the primary reason for the 'Golden Age' label.

Q8. Who was the founder of the Slave Dynasty (Mamluk Dynasty) in Delhi?

- (A) Iltutmish
- (B) Balban
- (C) Razia Sultana
- (D) Qutb-ud-din Aibak

Correct Answer: (D)

All Subject's Complete Study Material KIT available.

Professor Adda Call WhatsApp Now 7690022111 / 9216228788

Explanation:

1. Qutb-ud-din Aibak was a general of Muhammad Ghori.
2. After Ghori's death in 1206 CE, Aibak became the ruler of his Indian territories.
3. He established the first dynasty of the Delhi Sultanate.
4. This dynasty is known as the Mamluk or Slave Dynasty because its early rulers were originally slaves.
5. Aibak ruled from 1206 to 1210.
6. Iltutmish, Balban, and Razia were later rulers of the same dynasty.

Q9. The market regulation policy was a significant measure introduced by which Delhi Sultan?

- (A) Balban
- (B) Alauddin Khalji
- (C) Muhammad bin Tughlaq
- (D) Firoz Shah Tughlaq

Correct Answer: (B)

Explanation:

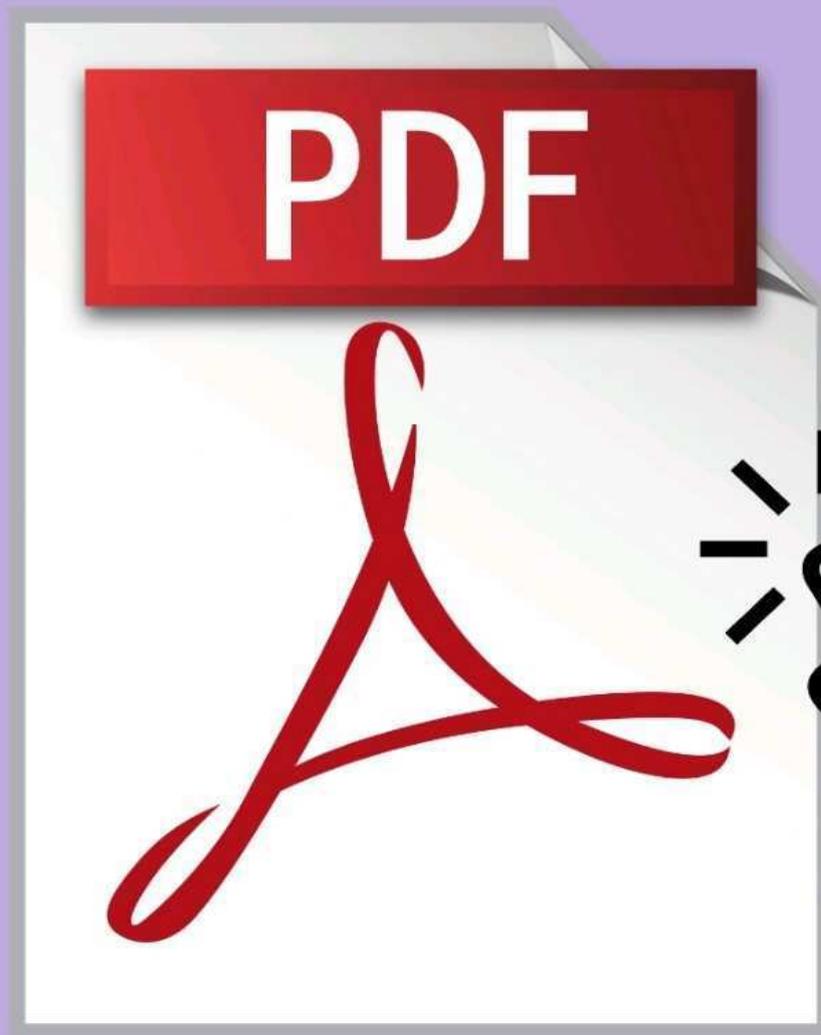
1. Alauddin Khalji (reigned 1296–1316) implemented extensive market control policies.
2. Purpose: Primarily to maintain a large army at low cost.
3. Measures: Included fixing prices of essential goods, setting up regulated markets, and strict enforcement.
4. Officials: Appointed market superintendents (Shahna-i-mandi) to oversee the system.
5. Impact: Succeeded in controlling prices in Delhi during his reign.

Q10. Who moved the capital of the Delhi Sultanate from Delhi to Daulatabad (Devagiri)?

- (A) Alauddin Khalji
- (B) Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq
- (C) Muhammad bin Tughlaq
- (D) Firoz Shah Tughlaq

Correct Answer: (C)

ALL SUBJECT AVAILABLE



click here

**GET FREE UNIT WISE
NOTES SAMPLE**

 **+91 7690022111 +91 9216228788**

UGC-NET CSIR PGT SET CUET JRF ASST. PROF

**STUDY
KIT**



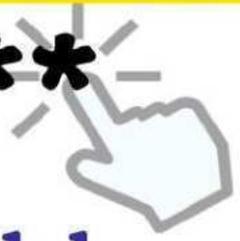
**SPECIAL
PRICE**

REGULAR PRICE

~~₹ 5999~~

LIMITED TIME PRICE

₹ ***



[click here](#)



+91 7690022111 +91 9216228788

TESTIMONIALS



Nikita Sharma
UGC NET (PAPER 1)
Delhi

"The premium course by Professors Adda gave me everything in one place – structured notes, MCQ banks, PYQs, and trend analysis. The way it was aligned with the syllabus helped me stay organized and confident."



Ravindra Yadav
UGC NET (Commerce)
Jaipur

"Joining the premium group was the best decision I made. The daily quiz challenges, mentor guidance, and focused discussions kept me disciplined and exam-ready."



Priya Mehta
UGC NET (Education)
Bangalore

"Professors Adda's study course is like a personal roadmap to success. The live sessions and targeted revision plans were crucial in helping me clear my exam on the first attempt."



Swati Verma
UGC NET (English Literature)
Kolkata

"What makes the Professors Adda premium course unique is the combination of high-quality content and a dedicated support group. It kept me motivated and accountable throughout."



Aman Joshi
UGC NET (Sociology)
Prajagraj

"The premium group gave me access to serious aspirants and mentors who guided me every step of the way. The peer learning, doubt sessions, and motivation from the group were unmatched."



Riya Sharma
UGC NET (Psychology)
Hyderabad

"What really kept me going was the constant encouragement from Professors Adda's mentors. Their support helped me stay motivated even when I felt overwhelmed by the syllabus."



Anjali Singh
UGC NET (Political Science)
Indore

"Professors Adda taught me that smart preparation is as important as hard work. Their strategic study plans and motivational talks made all the difference in my success."



Aditya Verma
UGC NET (History)
Guwahati

"The Institute not only provides excellent study resources but also builds your confidence. The motivational sessions helped me overcome exam anxiety and keep a positive mindset!"

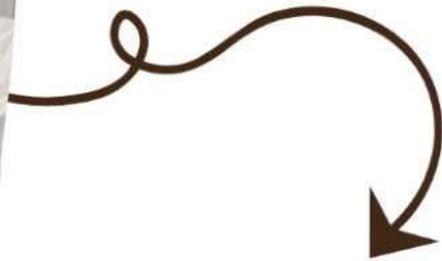
*IMAGES ARE IMAGINARY



+91 7690022111 +91 9216228788



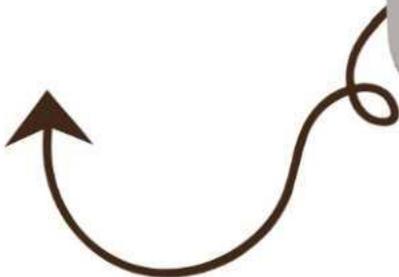
**GET BEST
SELLER
HARD COPY
NOTES**



**PROFESSORS
ADDA**

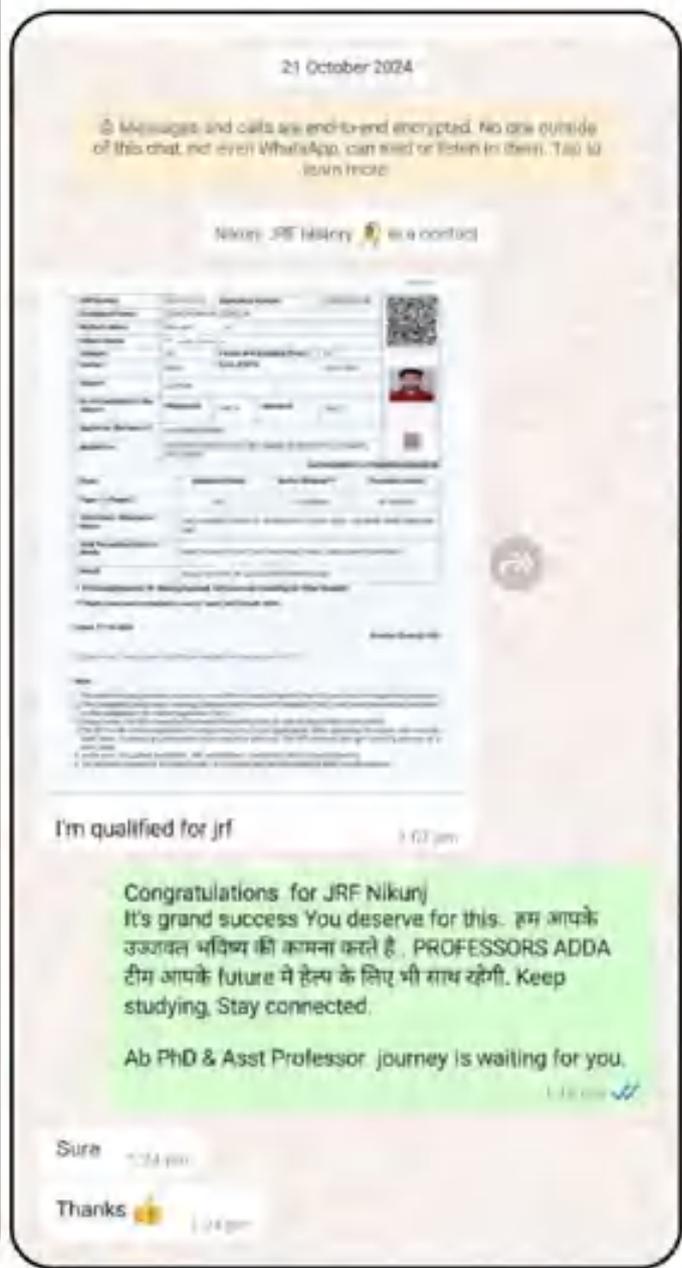
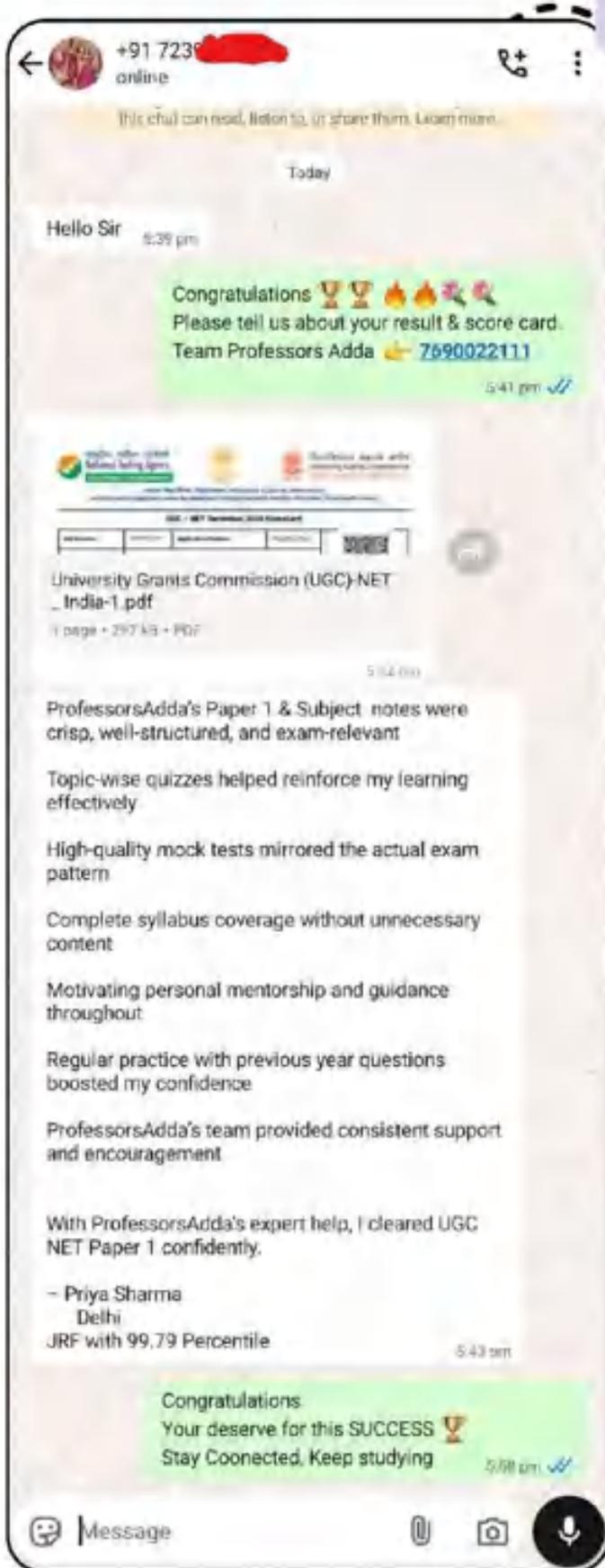


**CLICK HERE
TO GET**



+91 7690022111 +91 9216228788

Our Toppers



TESTIMONIALS



Nikita Sharma
UGC NET (PAPER 1)
Delhi

"The premium course by Professors Adda gave me everything in one place – structured notes, MCQ banks, PYQs, and trend analysis. The way it was aligned with the syllabus helped me stay organized and confident."



Ravindra Yadav
UGC NET (PAPER 1)
Jaipur

"Joining the premium group was the best decision I made. The daily quiz challenges, mentor guidance, and focused discussions kept me disciplined and exam-ready."



Priya Mehta
UGC NET (PAPER 1)
Bangalore

"Professors Adda's study course is like a personal roadmap to success. The live sessions and targeted revision plans were crucial in helping me clear my exam on the first attempt."



Swati Verma
UGC NET (PAPER 1)
Kolkata

"What makes the Professors Adda premium course unique is the combination of high-quality content and a dedicated support group. It kept me motivated and accountable throughout."



Aman Joshi
UGC NET (PAPER 1)
Prajagraj

"The premium group gave me access to serious aspirants and mentors who guided me every step of the way. The peer learning, doubt sessions, and motivation from the group were unmatched."



Riya Sharma
UGC NET (PAPER 1)
Hyderabad

"What really kept me going was the constant encouragement from Professors Adda's mentors. Their support helped me stay motivated even when I felt overwhelmed by the syllabus."



Anjali Singh
UGC NET (PAPER 1)
Indore

"Professors Adda taught me that smart preparation is as important as hard work. Their strategic study plans and motivational talks made all the difference in my success."



Aditya Verma
UGC NET (PAPER 1)
Guwahati

"The institute not only provides excellent study resources but also builds your confidence. The motivational sessions helped me overcome exam anxiety and keep a positive mindset!"

*IMAGES ARE IMAGINARY



+91 7690022111 +91 9216228788

←  Professors Adda UGC NE 
87162 members, 2123 online

 Pinned Message 
Offer 🌸 UGC -NET / JRF ASST PROFESSO...

 2478 join requests 

 ProfessorsAdda NET JRF

Dear Students ! Hme daily NET / JRF
Qualified students ke msg mil rhe hai.
So, aap bhi aapne Result pr tick kre 
..Agr hmari Hard work aapke result me
convert hoti hai, to hmari Team NET
students ke liye aur bhi EXTRA work kregi .
@ProfessorsAdda

Anonymous Poll

- 28% NET + PhD NET+PhD SELECTION 631 
- 17% JRF JRF SELECTION 383 
- 23% Only PhD 
- 30% Planning for upcoming NET exam 
- 13% Already NET / JRF Cleared . Next target
for PhD / Asst Professor Exams . 
- 8% Get Asst Professor study kit & future
Academic help from our EXPERT team.
WhatsApp 7690022111 

2254 votes

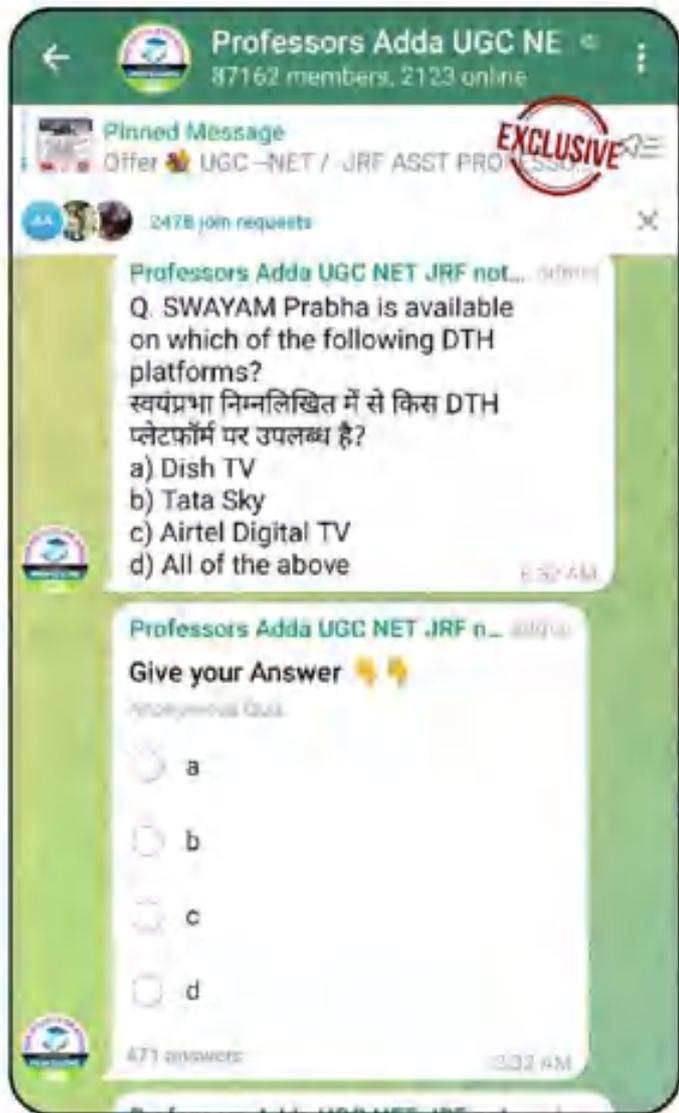
 53 JK 7:38 AM 

**OUR
UGC NET
SELECTION
RESULTS**



+91 7690022111 +91 9216228788

Exclusive English GROUP



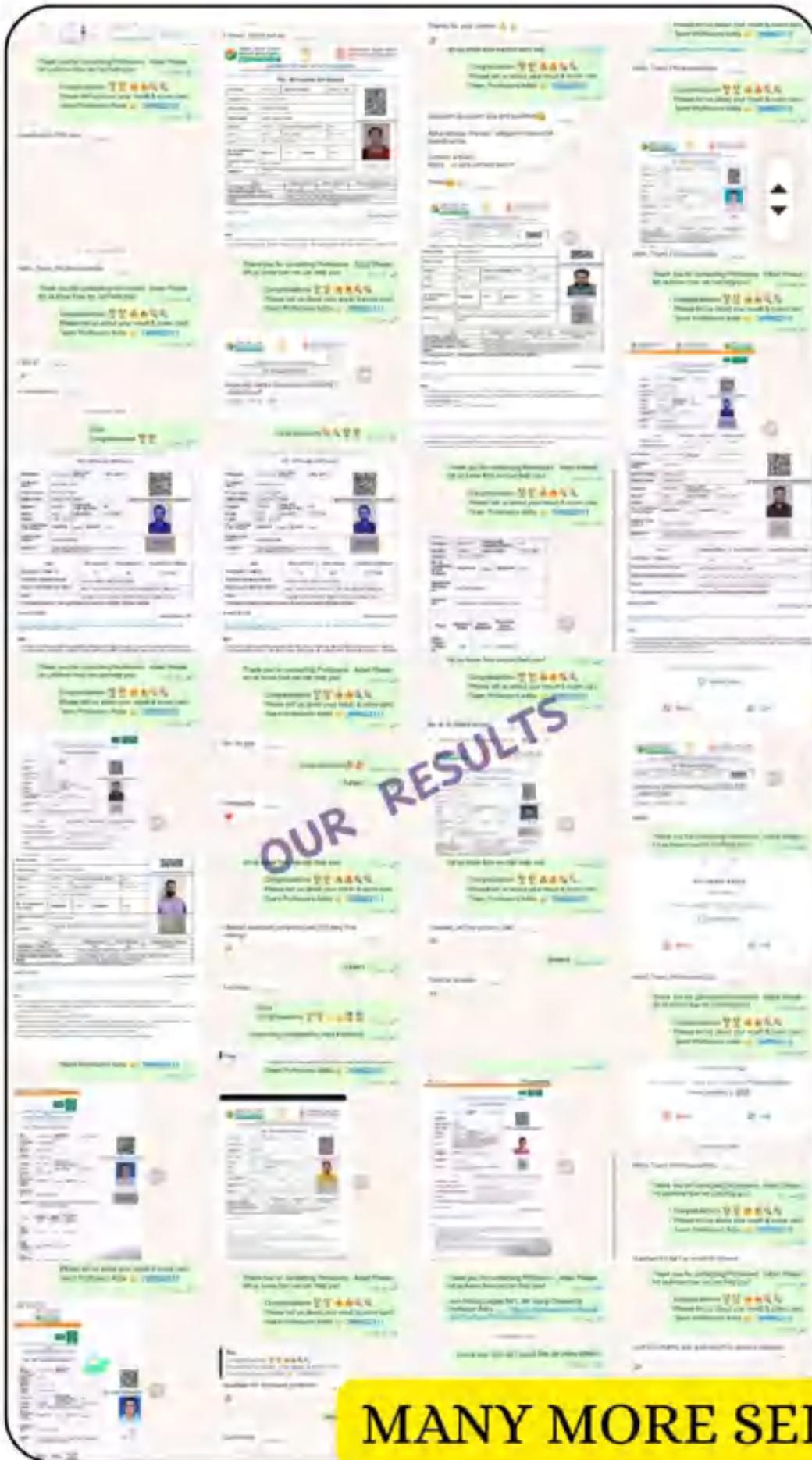
INDIA'S NO 1 UGC NET GROUP



CLICK HERE TO JOIN



+91 7690022111 +91 9216228788



**OUR
UGC NET
SELECTION
RESULTS**



MANY MORE SELECTION



+91 7690022111 +91 9216228788



Trusted By Toppers

BOOK YOUR HARD COPY COMPLETE STUDY PACKAGE

Hurry! Limited copies remaining—get yours before they're gone.

10 Unit Theory Notes

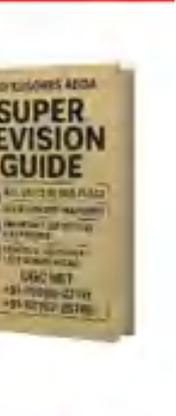
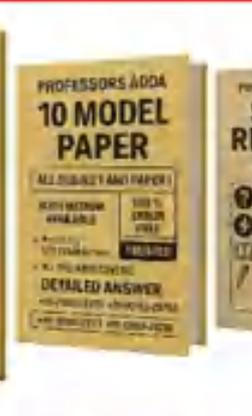
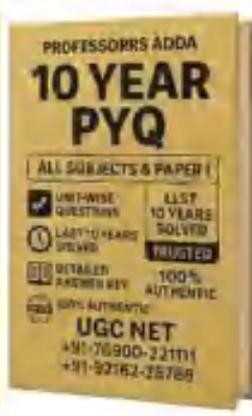
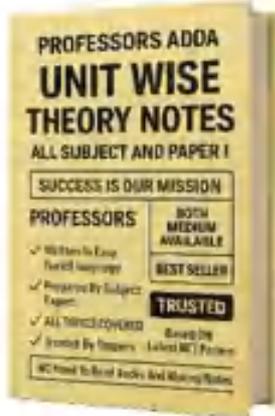
Unit Wise MCQ Bank

Latest 10 YEAR PYQ

Model Papers

One Liner Quick Revision Notes

Premium Group Membership



FREE sample Notes/
Expert Guidance /Courier Facility Available

Download **PROFESSORS ADDA APP**



91-76900-22111



Trusted By Toppers

BOOK YOUR HARD COPY COMPLETE STUDY PACKAGE

Hurry! Limited copies remaining—get yours before they're gone.

NEW PRODUCT

10 Unit Theory Notes

Unit Wise MCQ Bank

Latest PYQ

Model Papers

One Liner Quick Revision Notes

Premium Group Membership



FREE sample Notes/
Expert Guidance /Courier Facility Available

Download **PROFESSORS ADDA APP**



91-76900-22111

NEW PRODUCT

PROFESSORRS ADDA
10 YEAR PYQ
 ALL SUBJECTS & PAPER I

- ✓ UNIT-WISE QUESTIONS
- ✓ LAST 10 YEARS SOLVED
- ✓ DETAILED ANSWER KEY
- ✓ 100% AUTHENTIC

LLST 10 YEARS SOLVED
TRUSTED
 100% AUTHENTIC

UGC NET
 +91-76900-22111
 +91-92162-28788

CLICK HERE 

NEW PRODUCT

PROFESSORRS ADDA
UNIT WISE THEORY NOTES
 ALL SUBJECT AND PAPER I

SUCCESS IS OUR MISSION

PROFESSORRS

- ✓ Written In Easy (simpl) language
- ✓ Prepared By Subject Expert
- ✓ ALL TOPICS COVERED
- ✓ Trusted By Toppers

BOTH MEDIUM AVAILABLE
BEST SELLER
TRUSTED
 Based ON Latest NET Pattern
 NO Need To Read Books And Making Notes

CLICK HERE 

NEW PRODUCT

PROFESSORRS ADDA
10 MODEL PAPER
 ALL SUBJECT AND PAPER I

BOTH MEDIUM AVAILABLE

- ✓ According NET EXAM Pattern
- ✓ ALL SYLLABUS COVERED

100% ERROR FREE
TRUSTED

DETAILED ANSWER
 +91-76900-22111 +91-92162-28788
 +91-76900-22111 +91-92162-28788

CLICK HERE 

NEW PRODUCT

PROFESSORRS ADDA
अमृत BOOKLET
 AVAILABLE FOR ALL SUBJECTS

TOPPER'S CHOICE

- ✓ According BEST QUALITY
- ✓ All Important Facts Covered
- ✓ Based on PYQ & 50+ Books
- ✓ Complete Syllabus Covered

100% BEST QUALITY
TRUSTED
BEST FOR QUICK REVISION

CLICK HERE 

NEW PRODUCT

PROFESSORRS ADDA
UNIT WISE MCQ
 ALL SUBJECT AND PAPER I

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

THE ULTIMATE SOLUTION FOR UGC NET EXAM

5000+ UNIT WISE MCQs

- ✓ Prepared By Subject Expert
- ✓ ALL TOPICS COVERED
- ✓ Based ON Latest NET Pattern
- 100% ERROR FREE DETAILED

100% BEST QUALITY
TRUSTED
 +91-76900-22111 +91-92162-28788

CLICK HERE 

NEW PRODUCT

PROFESSORRS ADDA
SUPER REVISION GUIDE

- ALL UNITS IN ONE PLACE
- QUICK CONCEPT SNAPSHOTS
- IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS & KEYWORDS
- CHARTS & TABLES FOR LAST-MINUTE RECALL

UGC NET
 +91-76900-22111
 +91-92162-28788

CLICK HERE 



+91 7690022111 +91 9216228788