



St. Xavier's College – Autonomous  
Mumbai  
Syllabus  
For 1<sup>st</sup> Semester Course in Ancient  
Indian Culture and Archaeology  
(June 2018 onwards)

**Contents:**

**AAIC0101. CULTURAL HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY OF ANCIENT INDIA FROM  
EARLY TIMES UPTIL c. A.D 320**

## F.Y.B.A SYLLABUS UNDER AUTONOMY

### ANCIENT INDIAN CULTURE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

SEMESTER: - I

COURSE: - AAIC0101

### CULTURAL HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY OF ANCIENT INDIA FROM EARLY TIMES UPTIL c. A.D 320

[60 LECTURES]

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1. Construction of early Indian history and culture with the help of archaeological and literary sources.
2. Understanding the basic parameters of Indian culture.
3. Critical analysis of mythology and hypothesis.

#### UNIT I

[15 Lectures]

1. Importance of literary and archaeological sources.
2. Role of geography and environment in Indian history and culture.
3. Hunter gatherers of the Palaeolithic and Mesolithic ages in India.
4. The transition to food production. (Neolithic Chalcolithic and Megalithic sites in Indian subcontinent.)
5. Civilization and First Urbanization in India c 3500-1900 B.C.E

#### UNIT II

[15 Lectures]

#### **Cultural transitions from c 2000- 600 B.C.E. in India.**

1. Aryan problem, tribes and wars.
2. Cultural traditions as reflected through the Vedas. (Gender, religion, popular beliefs, Varna and hierarchy.)
3. Pastoralism, agriculture and other occupation.
4. The impact of Iron technology.
5. The problem of co-relating literary and archaeological sources.

**UNIT III**

**[15 Lectures]**

**Second Urbanization and age of industries.**

1. Growth of republican states.
2. Political conflict and the growth of Magadhan Empire.
3. Persian and Macedonian invasions in India.
4. Rise of Buddhism and Jainism.

**UNIT IV**

**[15 Lectures]**

**The Maurya & Post- Mauryan Empire; India's Contact with the Outside World**

1. The foundation of the Mauryan Empire and its importance. (Rule of Chandragupta Maurya, Bindusara and Ashoka.)
2. Nature and structure & Decline of Mauryan Empire.
3. The political and cultural history of North India, c. 200 BC – 300 AD
4. India's contact with the outside world: Mesopotamia, Persia, Greece, Rome, Egypt and Sri Lanka.

**C.I.A: Quiz/Test/Presentations.**

**Field trip is compulsory to Nehru centre- Discovery of India.**

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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4. **ALLCHIN. BRIDGET** - LIVING TRADITIONS. THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS DELHI;1995
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10. **ROY. KUMKUM**- WOMEN IN EARLY INDIAN SOCIETIES, NEW DELHI;1999
11. **MUKHERJEE.B.N**- BETWEEN THE EMPIRES: SOCIETY IN INDIA 300BCE TO 400 CE, OXFORD AND NEW YORK: OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS.
12. **CHANDRA. MOTI** – TRADE AND TRADE ROUTES IN ANCIENT INDIA; ABHINAV PUBLICATIONS, NEW DELHI; 1977
13. **ERDOSY .GEORGE**- URBANIZATION IN EARLY HISTORIC INDIA; OXFORD ; 1988
14. **THAPAR. ROMILA** – FROM LINEAGE TO STATE: SOCIAL FORMATION IN THE MID-FIRST MILLENNIUM BC IN THE GANGA VALLEY; DELHI;OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS; 1990
15. **TRAUTMANN.THOMAS**- THE ARYAN DEBATE; OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS; 2005

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