

Department of History Open Elective

Indian Heritage and Culture
24-HIS-OEC-101

Maximum Mark-100

External Examination-80
Internal Assessment-20
Max. Time- 3 hrs.

Note: There shall be nine questions in all. Question no. 1 shall be compulsory, consisting of eight short answer type questions covering the entire syllabus. Two questions will be asked from each unit. Students will have to attempt one question from each unit. Each question shall carry equal marks.

Objectives of the paper

- : • This course is an introductory paper on the Cultural Heritage of India. It intends to provide an insight into the rich and varied cultural heritage of India.
- To enable learners to appreciate the composite nature of Indian culture.
- To develop among learners a feeling of love and a sense of belonging towards nation-building.
- The paper introduces the various cultural heritage components like the different fairs, festivals, dances, art, architecture, and heritage, which are essential to a deeper understanding of History.

Course Outcomes: At the end of the course, the student should be able to

- Infer ideas about the various aspects of cultural heritage and cultural diversity from a historical perspective.
- Distinguish the numerous cultural practices that have evolved over the centuries.
- Analyze the changing socio-cultural scenarios of India.
- Display the diversity of our cultural heritage, cultural forms, and cultural expressions through the performing arts, fairs, and festivals.

Unit I

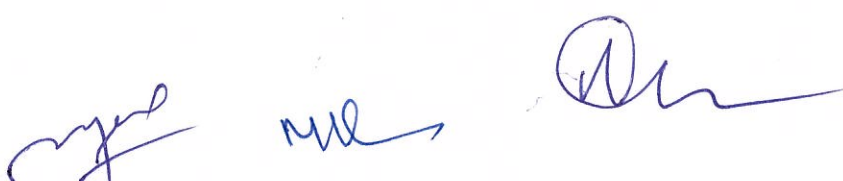
Indian Culture: An Introduction

1. Characteristics of Indian culture, Significance of Geography on Indian Culture.
2. Society in India through ages- Ancient period- varna and jati, family and marriage in India, position of women in ancient India, Contemporary period; caste system and communalism.

Unit II

Religion and Philosophy in India

1. Religion and Philosophy in India: Ancient Period: Pre-Vedic and Vedic Religion,
2. Hindu Philosophy – Vedanta and Mimamsa , Purana, Smritis, Shrimad Bhagavad Geeta, Ramayan
3. Jainism
 - i) The religious, historical, and cultural contexts of Jain narratives



- ii) Why Jainism survives: Jain sects and sub-sects
4. Buddhism- The religious, historical, and cultural context of Buddhist philosophy.
5. Sikhism

Unit III

Indian Living Heritage

1. Indian Art & Architecture: Gandhara School and Mathura School of Art; Hindu Temple Architecture, Jain and Buddhist Architecture, Medieval Architecture, and Colonial Architecture.
2. Indian Painting Tradition, ancient, medieval, and modern Indian painting, and different painting traditions, Performing Art-Dance and Music

Unit IV

Ethnic Indian Cultural Construct – Fairs & Festivals

1. Historical background of fairs and festivals.
2. Major festivals of India

Suggested Readings:

1. Indian Culture: A Compendium of Indian History, Culture and Heritage. (2021). (n.p.): Notion Press.
2. A.L Basham: The wonder that was India. Picador Publisher, Indian ed. 2014.
3. Gokulsing K Moti: Popular culture in a Globalized India, New Delhi, Routledge, 2009.
4. V. Vasudev: Fairs and Festivals, Incredible India series, 2007.
5. Prakash, O. (2005). Cultural History of India. India: New Age International.
6. S.Narayan: Indian Classical Dances, Shubhi Publications, 2005.
7. Sachin Shekhar Biswas: Protecting the Cultural Heritage (National Legislation and International Convention, Aryan Books International, 1999.
8. Varapande, M.L: History of Indian Folk Theatre (Lok Ranga Panorama of Indian Folk Theatre) Abhinav Publications, 1992.
9. Raman Varadara: Glimpses of Indian Heritage, Popular Prakashan Private Ltd., Bombay, 1989.
10. Luniya, B. N. (1975). Evolution of Indian Culture: (from the Earliest Times to the Presentday). India: (n.p.).
11. Bose, N. K. (1967). Culture and Society in India. India: Asia Publishing House.
12. The Director General Survey of India (ed.) Guide Books: World Heritage Series, New Delhi.
13. Bose, N.K: 'Culture Zones of India' in Culture and Society in India, Asia Publishing House.



14, Pande, Susmita(1990): Bhartiya Sanskriti, Madhya Pradesh Hindi Granth Academy, Bhopal.

