Syllabus for the Post of PGT History

WRITING AND CITY LIFE

Iraq, 3rd millennium BCE

- Growth of towns
- Nature of early urban societies
- Historians' Debate onuses of writing

AN EMPIRE ACROSS THREE CONTINENTS

Roman Empire, 27BCE to 600 CE

- Political evolution
- Economic Expansion
- Religion-culture foundation
- Late Antiquity
- Historians' view on the Institution of Slavery

NOMADIC EMPIRES

The Mongol, 13th to 14th century

- The nature of nomadism
- Formation of empires
- Conquests and relations with other states
- Historians' views on nomadic societies and state formation

THE THREE ORDERS

Western Europe 13th - 16th century

- Feudal society and economy
- Formation of state
- Church and society
- Historians' views on decline of feudalism

CHANGING CULTURAL TRADITIONS

Europe 14th -17th century

- New ideas and new trends in literature and arts
- Relationship with earlier ideas
- The contribution of West Asia
- Historians' viewpoint on the validity of the notion European Renaissance

DISPLACING INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

North America and Australia, 18th to 20th century

- European colonists in North America and Australia
- Formation of White Settler societies
- Displacement and repression of local people

- Historians' viewpoint on the impact of European settlement on indigenous population

PATHS TO MODERNIZATION

East Asia, late 19th to 20th century

- Militarization and economic growth in Japan
- China and the communist alternative
- Historians' Debate on the meaning of modernization

BRICKS, BEADS AND BONES

- The Harappan Civilization
- Broad overview: Early urban centers
- Story of discovery: Harappan civilization
- Excerpt: Archaeological report on a major site

KINGS, FARMERS AND TOWNS:

- Early States and Economies (c. 600 BCE-600 CE)
- Broad overview: Political and economic History from the Mauryan to the Gupta period
- Story of discovery: Inscriptions and the Decipherment of the script. Shifts in the Understanding of political and economic history.
- Excerpt: Ashokan inscription and Gupta period land grant

KINSHIP, CASTE AND CLASS

Early Society Societies (C. 600 BCE-600 CE)

- Broad overview: Social Histories: Using the Mahabharata
- Issues in social history, including caste, class, kinship and gender
- Story of discovery: Transmission and publications of the Mahabharata
- Excerpt: from the Mahabharata, illustrating how it has been used by historians.

THINKERS, BELIEFS AND BUILDINGS

Cultural Developments (c. 600 BCE - 600 CE)

- Broad overview: A History of Buddhism: Sanchi Stupa
  (a) A brief review of religious histories of Vedic religion, Jainism, Vaishnavism, Shaivism (Puranic Hinduism)
  (b) Focus on Buddhism.
- Story of discovery: Sanchi stupa. Excerpt: Reproduction of sculptures from Sanchi.

THROUGH THE EYES OF TRAVELLERS

Perceptions of Society (tenth to seventeenth century)

- Broad Overview: outlines of social and cultural life as they appear in travelers' account.
- Story of their writings: A discussion of where they travelled, what they wrote and for whom they wrote.
- Excepts: from Al Biruni, Ibn Battuta, Francois Bernier.

BHAKTI -SUFI TRADITIONS:

Changes in Religious Beliefs and Devotional Texts (eighth to eighteenth centuries)

- Broad overview:
  (a). Outline of religious developments during this period saints.
  (b). Ideas and practices of the Bhakti-Sufi
- Story of Transmission: How Bhakti-Sufi compositions have been preserved.
- Excerpt: Extracts from selected Bhakti-Sufi works

AN IMPERIAL CAPITAL: VIJAYANAGARA (fourteenth to sixteenth centuries)

- Broad over View: New Architecture: Hampi

(a). Outline of new buildings during Vijayanagar period-temples, forts, irrigation facilities.
(b). Relationship between architecture and the political system

- Story of Discovery: Account of how Hampi was found.
- Excerpt: Visuals of buildings at Hampi

PEASANTS, ZAMINDARS AND THE STATE:

Agrarian Society and the Mughal Empire (c. sixteenth-seventeenth centuries)

- Broad overview: The Ain-i-Akbari

(a). Structure of agrarian relations in the 16th and 17th centuries.
(b). Patterns of change over the period.

- Story of Discovery: Account of the compilation and translation of Ain I Akbari
- Excerpt: from the Ain-i-Akbari.

COLONIALISM AND THE COUNTRYSIDE: Exploring Official Archives

- Broad overview: Colonialism and Rural Society: Evidence from Official Reports
  (a)Life of zamindars, peasants and artisans in the late 18th century
  (b). Permanent Settlement, Santhals and Paharias
- Story of official records: An account of why official Investigations in to rural societies were undertaken and the types of records and reports produced.
- Excepts: From Fifth Report

REBELS AND THE RAJ: 1857 Revolt and its Representations

- Broad overview:
  (a) The events of 1857-58.
  (b) Vision of Unity
  (c) How these events were recorded and narrated. Focus: Lucknow
- Excerpts: Pictures of 1857.
- Extracts from contemporary accounts.

MAHATMA GANDHI AND THE NATIONALIST MOVEMENT:

- Civil Disobedience and Beyond Broad
  (a) The Nationalist Movement 1918-48.
  (b). The nature of Gandhian politics and leadership.

- Focus: Mahatma Gandhi and the three movements and his last days as "finest hours"
- Excepts: Reports from English and Indian language newspapers and other contemporary writings.

FRAMING THE CONSTITUTION:

- The Beginning of a New Era Broad overview: The Making of the Constitution an overview:
  (a). Independence and then new nation state.
  (b). The making of the Constitution
- Focus: The Constituent Assembly Debates
- Excerpts: from the debates