

HEMCHANDRACHARYA NORTH GUJARAT UNIVERSITY, PATAN

M.Phil.

Indian Diaspora and Cultural Studies

(In Force from June 2006)

PAPER-I

History, Culture and Theory: A Case of India

(This paper will consist of five units. Candidates have to attempt one question from one unit.)

Unit-I

Research Methodology:

1. How to set about the task of research? (How to select a research topic?)
2. Finding materials.
3. Use of library, Internet and other sources of information.
4. Making notes.
5. Documentation: Quotations, Reference, Indices, Appendices, Bibliographies etc.

Unit-II

1. Indian Philosophical Thoughts and Traditions:

This will contain selections from different schools of Indian Philosophy. This section's objective is to highlight the evolution of multi religious and multi cultural ethos of India. This section will also try to familiarize the students with the nine schools of Indian Philosophy. This section will try to indicate the creative synthesis in Indian Philosophical system with such discrepant tendencies as idealism, materialism, absolutism, relativism, etc.

2. Indian Architecture, Sculpture and Music:

Culture is for most part learnt and communicated in its traditional art forms, in its encounters with music, dance, drama, architecture, sculpture, rituals, cinema etc. one of the objectives of the course is to acquaint the students to Indian culture through its traditional art forms. This component would try to give a historical overview of ancient art, architecture, Folklore, Dramatics. The component will give the students an idea as to how these ancient arts, survived the onslaught of various invasions and how they continued to survive during the long colonial period and what is their condition in the post independent, post colonial state.

3. Indian Civilization and Culture:

This component will deal with understanding Culture in India, understanding the land and its History, (Harappan civilization, Vedic civilization, Mauraya and Gupta Empires, The coming of the Mughals and the colonial period.) This component will deal with the concepts of family and secularism in the modern, post-colonial Indian state. This component will also try to analyze that unique feature of Indian society called 'caste' from various perspectives dwelling on concepts like Varna and Jati as well.

Unit- III

Ancient Indian Cultural Theorists / Philosophical Theorists.

This unit will try to familiarize students with some of the noted cultural theorists of ancient India as well as philosophers who wrote about Indian culture and its uniqueness such as:

- **Manu:** Laws of Manu selected chapters translated by G. Bulher (Ed. Max Muller)

Or

Dharma Shastra translated by (Max Muller)

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- **Sankara:** His commentaries on Gita and Brahamasutra His interpretation of Maya, Avidya. The contribution of his teaching on Indian Culture. How his teachings led to the revival of Hindu values.

Unit –IV

Modern Indian National Theorists:

1. Ram Mohan Roy, Keshab Chandra Sen and Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay's contribution to Indian Society and culture and freedom struggle with special reference to their works.
2. Anand K. Commarswamy, Swami Vivekananda and Sri Aurbindo's- contribution to the cause of Indian Nationalism.
3. Gandhi- His unique way of resistance which combined the Hindu as well as the Christian moral patterns. His way of disseminating nationalism at a mass level with special reference to Hind Swaraj translated by Mahadev Desai, Navjivan Press, Ahmedabad.
4. Nehru- His reading of Indian culture and history with a bent of mind which was inclined to the left with special reference to Discovery of India and selected speeches.
5. Radhakrishnan – His contribution to popularizing Indian Philosophy in the academic world would be dwelt upon with special reference to his work Indian Philosophy (two vols.)

All the above-mentioned personages and their ideas would be taken up for critiquing and reassessment from a contemporary perspective.

Unit- V

(A) Western Culture Theorists:

- I. Raymond Williams (Selected Essays) (Excerpts from Keywords : A Vocabulary of Culture and Society, OUP, New York, 1976)
- II. Edward Said (Excerpts from Orientalism (Penguin, UK, 1978) and Culture and Imperialism (Vintage 1993)
- III. Foucault Michel: (Excerpts from Discipline and Punishment.)

(B) African/ Caribbean Theorists:

- I. Frantz Fanon- 'On National Culture'.
- II. Chinua Achebe- 'Named for Victoria Queen of England'.
- III. George Lamming – 'The Occasion for Speaking'

(All the above essays are easily available in The Post Colonial reader Ed. by B. Ashcroft, G. Griffith, and H. Tiffin., Routledge, UK, 1995.

RECOMMENDED READING:

1. Altick, Richard D. The Art of Literary Research. New York, London: W.W. Norton & Co.
2. The MLA Style Sheet
3. The MLA Handbook
4. Basham, A.L. The Wonder That Was India: A Survey of the Culture of the Indian Sub-continent Before the Coming of Muslims. New York: Grove Press, 1954.
5. Basham, A.L. A Cultural History of India Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1957.

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6. Bhattacharya, H. (ed.) The Cultural Heritage of India. (4 Vols.) Calcutta: The Rama Krishna Mission Institute of Culture, 1957-62.
7. Chenna Kesavan, Sarasvati. Concept of Mind in Indian Philosophy. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidas, 1980.
8. Conze, Edward. Buddhism: Its Essence and Development. New York: Harper Torch books, 1959.
9. Conze, Edward. Buddhist Thought in India Ann Arbor. Michigan: University of Michigan Press, 1967.
10. Deussen, Paul. The System of the Vedanta. (Tr. By Charles Johnston). Chicago: Open Court, 1977.
11. Deussen, Paul (ed.) Sixty Upanishads of the Veda. 2Vols. (Tr. By V.M. Bedekar and G. B. Palsule). Delhi: Motilal Banarasidas.
12. Friedhem, Hardy. The Religious Culture of India: Power, Love and Wisdom. Cambridge, New York: Cambridge University Press, 1983.
13. Natalia, Isayeva. Sankara and Indian Philosophy. Albany: Suny Press, 1993.
14. Jaini, Padmanabh S. The Jaina Path of Purification. Berkley: University of California Press, 1979.
15. Klostermaier, Klaus K. A Survey of Hinduism. Albany: Suny Press, 1989.
16. Radhakrishnan, S.: Indian Philosophy. 2. Vols. London: Allen & Unwin, 1948.
17. Sankara. Commentary on Brahma Sutra. New Delhi: Motilal Banarasidas.
18. Zaehner, R.C. Hinduism. London: OUP, 1962.
19. Zimmer, Heinrich. Philosophies of India. Princeton: Bollingen Foundation, 1951.
20. Sri Aurobindo, The Doctrine of Passive Resistance (2nd Ed. 1952)
21. Sri Aurobindo, The Renaissance in India (4th Edition, 1951)
22. Gokhle, B.G. The Making of the Indian Nation. New Delhi: Asia Publishing House (2nd Edition, 1960)
23. Majumdar, R.C. Three Phase of India's Struggle for Freedom. Bombay: Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, 1961.
24. Lonett, Sir Herney, A History of the India Material Movement. London: John Murray, 1920
25. Bhattacharya, Haridas (Ed.). The Cultural Heritage of India. (Vol. IV), Calcutta: The Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, 1956.
26. Aurobindo. The Foundations of Indian Culture and the Renaissance in India Vol. 14 Pondicherry, 1972.
27. Tagore, Rabindra Nath, Nationalism. 1929
28. Smith, W. Ray, Nationalism and Reform in India. 1935
29. Desai. A.R. Social Background of Indian Nationalism. 1966
30. Muller Max, What India Can Teach.
31. Arabind Poddar, Renaissance in Bengal: Search for Identity. Shimla: Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, 1976.
32. Aloysius, G. Nationalism without A Nation. Delhi: OUP, 1997.

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Anthologies to be used for Unit-V:

1. Milner, Andrew & Browitt, Jeff. Contemporary Cultural Theory. Jaipur, New Delhi: Rawat Publications, 2003.
2. Aschroft, Tiffin, Griffiths, (ed.), The Postcolonial Studies Reader. London
3. Routledge, 1995.

The following books may be used for background reference for Unit –V:

1. Said, Edward. Culture and Imperialism. London: Vintage, 1993.
2. Said, Edward. Orientalism, Penguin and London: Vintage, 1978.
3. Geoffrey Hartman. The Fateful Question of Culture. New York: Grove Press, 1997.
4. Archer, Margaret. Culture and Agency. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1976.
5. Clifford Geertz: The Interpretation of Culture. London: Methuen, 1975.
6. Hall, Stuart. The State and Popular Culture. London: Milton Keynes, 1982.
7. Raymond, Williams. Culture and Society. UK: Penguin, 1958.
8. Frow, John. Cultural Studies and Cultural Value. London: OUP, 1985.