



दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय University of Delhi

परिषद शाखा - II, कमरा नं: 211, नया प्रशासनिक खंड, दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय, दिल्ली-110007, दूरभाष: 011-27001156/54
Council Branch - II, Room No. 211, New Administrative Block, University of Delhi, Delhi - 110007, Ph: 27001156/54

CNC-II/093/1/Misc./2026/47

Dated: 01.09.2026

NOTIFICATION

Sub: Amendment to Ordinance V

Following addition be made to Appendix-II-A to the Ordinance V (2-A) of the Ordinances of the University;

Add the following:

The syllabus of the following four courses offered by the Department of History under Faculty of Social Sciences based on UGCF 2022, are notified for the information of all concerned as per **Annexure-1**:

- (i) DSE : Medieval Deccan, 1300-1700 CE
- (ii) DSE : Transitions in Eastern India; C. 1000-1850
- (iii) DSE : Revolutionaries in India's Struggle for Freedom
- (iv) DSE : Gender Relations in Mughal India

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REGISTRAR

DSE 16: Medieval Deccan, 1300-1700 CE

Credit Distribution, Eligibility, and Pre-requisites of the Course

Course Title & Code	Credits	Credit Distribution of the Course			Eligibility Criteria	Prerequisite of the Course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
MEDIEVAL DECCAN, 1300-1700	04	3	1	0	Nil	Nil

Course Objectives:

This course focuses on the political and cultural history of the medieval Deccan from the early fourteenth century to the seventeenth century. It will introduce students to idea of space shaped by complexity of external influences and local resistance-cum-assimilation in Deccan. It will also highlight the social, Religious and cultural dimensions of changes that were associated with Space of Deccan.

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of course, the students would be-

- Familiar with Deccan as a space, and associated change and continuity
- Aware about state of affairs in Deccan
- Having clarity about Military labour market and its role in shaping nature of state
- Understand Trading and African Diaspora
- Understand localisation of Sufi orders and role of Bhakti Saints
- Understand gender and social aspect of Deccani poetry
- Comprehend role of language as instrument of resistance from below in Deccan

Course Content:

Unit 1: Political Culture: Bahamani, Vijaynagar and Marathas: This unit examines the political culture in Deccan through the case studies of the Bahmani Sultanate and the Vijayanagar Empire through institutions of kingship, military organization, regional power structures, and elite interactions. (12 Hours)

Unit 2: Identity, Resistance and Afaqi-Deccani Tension: This unit explores identity formation, migration, and political contestations in the medieval Deccan, focusing on Afaqi-Deccani rivalries, African diasporic communities, military cultures, and resistance. (12 Hours)

Unit 3: Bhakti Saints and Sufi Saints: This unit examines Bhakti and Sufi traditions in the Deccan and South India, exploring devotional practices, saintly authority, religious institutions, and vernacular expressions of faith. It highlights their roles in shaping social identities, challenging hierarchies, designing spiritual communities, and articulating visions of religious coexistence. **(12 Hours)**

Unit 4: Cultural contours: Language, Literature and Architecture: This unit explores the cultural worlds of the Deccan and Vijayanagara through language, literature, art and architecture. It examines how monuments, temples, courts, and literary traditions produced meanings of power, memory, identity, and cultural interaction across diverse religious and linguistic communities. **(12 Hours)**

Essential Readings:

Unit 1: Political Culture: Bahamani and Vijaynagar

- Aiyangar, S.K., *Ancient India and South Indian History and Culture: Papers on Indian History and Culture; India to A.D. 1300*. Poona: Oriental Book Agency.1941.
- Aiyangar, S.K., *Some Contributions of South India to Indian Culture*. Calcutta: University of Calcutta, 1923.
- Eaton, Richard M. *Social History of the Deccan, 1300 – 1761, Eight Indian Lives*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 2005 (pp. 1-32).
- Fritz, John M and Michell, George. *Hampi Vijayanagar*. Jaico Publishing House, 2017. (pp.11-55).
- Kantak, M.R., *The Political Role of Different Hindu Castes and Communities in Maharashtra in the Foundation of Shivaji's Swarajya*, Bulletin of the Deccan College Post Graduate and Research Institute, 1978-79, Vol.38, No.1/4(1978-79), pp.40-56
- Mahalingam, T. V. *South Indian Polity*. Madras: University of Madras, 1955, Chapter 1 and 2 (introduction and kingship)
- Ranade, Mahadev Govind. *Rise of the Maratha Power*. Bombay: University of Bombay, 1900.
- Sardesai, Govind Sakharam. *New History of the Marathas*. Vol. 1. Revised ed. Bombay: Phoenix Publications, 1957.
- Sherwani, H.K. *The Bahmanis of the Deccan*. New Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal, 1985. (pp. 48-170)
- *Stewart Gordon: The Marathas 1600–1818*, Cambridge 1993 (Intro+Ch 1&2)

- Talbot, Cynthia. "Inscribing the other, Inscribing the self: Hindu-Muslim Identities in Pre-Colonial India". *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, Vol.37, No-4, 1985. pp. 692-722
- Venkatasubramanian, T.K., "Devoluted Patterns of Power During Vijayanagar Hegemony and Their Impact on Society and Religion". *Proceedings of the Indian History Congress, 1999, Vol.60, Diamond Jubilee (1999)*. (pp.235-250).
- Wagoner, Philip B., "Fortuitous Convergences and Essential Ambiguities, Transcultural Political Elites in the Medieval Deccan", *International Journal of Hindu Studies*3, no.3 (December 1999). (pp.241-64).

Unit 2: Identity, Resistance and Afaqi-Deccani

- Ali, S.S. *African Dispersal in the Deccan: From Medieval to Modern Times*. Hyderabad: Orient Longman, 1996. (pp. 14-17; 41-80).
- Alpers, Edward A., "Recollecting Africa: Diasporic Memory in the Indian Ocean World", *African Studies Review* 43, no. 1 (April 2000): (pp. 83-99).
- Cohen, Robin. *Global Diasporas*. New York: Routledge, 2008. (pp. 1-54)
- Kumar, Surendra. "African Diaspora in Medieval Deccan, A Historical Analysis from 14th to 17th century", *International Journal of Research in Social Sciences*, Vol.10. Issue 10, October, 2020. (pp. 31-46)
- Mahalingam, T. V. *South Indian Polity*. Madras: University of Madras, 1955. Chapter 6: "Military Organization: Warfare and Diplomacy."
- Ramdas, Samrath Swami, *Dasbodh*, Banaras: Hindi Sahitya Kutir, Vikram Samvant 2016. pp. 17-124
- Sherwani, H.K. *Mahmud Gawan: The Great Bahamani Wazir*. Allahabad: Kitabistan, 1942. (pp. 37-72; 152-200)
- Tamaskar, B.G. *The Life and Work of Malik Ambar*. Delhi: Idarah-I Adabiyat-I Delli, 1978. (pp. 77-105; 311-324)

Unit 3: Bhakti Saints and Sufi Saints

- Abbot, Justin E. *Bahina Bai: A translation of Her Autobiography and Verses*. The Poet-Saints of Maharashtra, No. 5, 1929. (pp.3-5; 85-87)
- Eaton, Richard. *Sufis of Bijapur 1300-1700: Social Roles of Sufis in Medieval India*. Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers Pvt Ltd, 1996. ((pp.107-173; 243-278)
- Green, Nile. Stories of Saints and Sultans: Remembering Sufi Shrines at Aurangabad. *Modern Asian Studies*, Vol.38, No. 2, 2004. (pp- 419-446).
- Jackson, William J. *Vijayanagara Voices: Exploring South Indian History and Hindu Literature*. Albany: State University of New York Press, 1991. (It Examines poets, saints, and devotional expression in the empire; shows how literature conveyed religious experience.)
- Mahalingam, T. V. *Administration and Social Life under Vijayanagar*. Madras: University of Madras, 1940 (rev. ed. 1969-75). Chapter 9: "Religion."
- Omvedt, Gail. *Seeking Begumpura: The Social Vision of Anticaste Intellectuals*. Delhi: Navayana, 2016. (pp. 7-31; 67-90; 109-132)

- Talbot, Cynthia. *Precolonial India in Practice: Society, Region, and Identity in Medieval Andhra*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2001. (pp. 1-17)
- Zelliott, Eleanor and Puneekar, Rohini Mokashi. *Untouchable Saints: An Indian Phenomenon*, Delhi: Manohar, 2005. (pp. 9-51; 123-189)

Unit 4: Cultural contours: Language, Literature and Architecture

- Eaton, Richard M. and Wagoner, Philip B. *Power, Memory and Architecture- Contested Sites on India's Deccan Plateau, 1300-1600*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2014. (pp. 166-240).
- Mahalingam, T. V. *Administration and Social Life under Vijayanagar*. Madras: University of Madras, 1940 (rev. ed. 1969–75). Chapter 11: "Architecture, Sculpture and Painting."
- Michell, George and Zebrowsk, Mark. *Architecture and Art of the Deccan Sultanates*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999. (pp.1-114).
- Michell, George. *The Hindu Temple: An Introduction to Its Meaning and Forms*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1988.
- Nanadkumar, Prema. *Goda's Garland of Devotion: An Introduction to Amukta Malyada by Krishnadeva Raya*. Madras: Samata Books, 1989. (pp. 1-64).
- Panchal, Parmanand. "Traditional Indian Forms of Deccani Poetry". *Indian Literature*, Vol.53, No.5, 2009. pp- 211-219
- Poornachand, C., and D. Kiran Kranth Choudary. *Splendours of the Vijayanagara Empire: Architecture, Art & Painting*. Delhi: Sharada Publishing House, 2022.
- Shah II, Ibrahim Adil, *Kitab -I-Nauras (Trans. Ahmad, Nazir)*. Delhi: Bhartiya Kala Kendra, 1956. (pp.1-147).
- Tukaram and Machwe, Prabhakar. (1969). "Twenty-Five Poems". *Mahfil*, Vol.5, No.1/2, Published by *Asian Studies Centre, Michigan State University*, 1969 (pp. 61-69).
- Whyte, William, "How do Buildings Mean? Some Issues of Interpretation in the History of Architecture", *History and Theory*, Vol. 45, No.2 (May,2006). (pp.153-177).

Suggested Readings:

- Curtin, Philip D, *Cross-Cultural Trade in World History*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1994
- Eaton, Richard. *A Social History of Deccan, 1300-1761*, Cambridge University Press, 2005
- Gilmartin, David and Lawrence, Bruce B. *Beyond Turk and Hindu: Rethinking Religious Identities of Vijayanagar*. Gainesville, FL: University of Florida, 2006.
- Kulkarni, A.R., M.A. Nayeem and T.R. de Souza. (eds), *Medieval Deccan History: Commemoration Volume in Honour of P.M. Joshi*. Bombay: Popular Prakashan, 1996.
- Kruijtzter, Gijs. *Xenophobia in Seventeenth-Century India*. Leiden: Leiden University Press,2009.

- Rao, Valcheru Narayan and Subrahmanyam, Sanjay., “*Notes on Political Thought in Medieval and Early Modern South India*”. *Modern Asian Studies*, Vol.43, No. pp-175-210. 2009.
- Richards, J.F., *Mughal Administration in Golconda*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1975.
- Sherwani, H.K. and P.M. Joshi. (eds), *History of Medieval Deccan, 1295 – 1724*, 2 vols. Hyderabad: Government of Andhra Pradesh, 1975.
- Wagoner, Phillip B. (1993). *Tidings of the King: A Translation and Ethnohistorical Analysis of Rayvacakamu*. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.
- Delury, G.A., *The Cult of Vithoba*. Pune: Deccan College Postgraduate and Research Institute, 1960.
- Stein, Burton, *The New Cambridge History of India Vol 1-2. Vijayanagara*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008.
- Talbot, Cynthia. *Precolonial India in Practice: Society, Religion and Identity in Medieval Andhra*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2001.

Tutorials: Tutorials in the MA History provide a smaller interactive space for critical discussion, close reading of sources, historiographical assessment, case studies, debates, group activities, and guided writing exercises. They prepare students for presentations, literature reviews, source-based analyses, archival and field-based assignments, seminar discussions, and research projects while strengthening hermeneutic skills.

Note: Examination scheme and mode shall be as prescribed by the Examination Branch, University of Delhi, from time to time.

DSE 17: Transitions in Eastern India; C. 1000-1850

Credit Distribution, Eligibility, and Pre-requisites of the Course

Course Title and Code	Credits	Credit Distribution of the Course			Eligibility Criteria	Prerequisite of the Course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
Transitions in Eastern India; C. 1000-1850	04	3	1	0	Nil	Nil

Course Objectives: The objective of this elective course is to explore the political, cultural and environmental history of medieval and early modern Eastern India, surveying Bihar, Bengal, Assam and Orissa. It will not only familiarise students with the history of these regions in the light of the existing historiographical debates but also encourage and sensitise them to move beyond these established epistemologies. The curriculum is designed to train students to understand and approach history with multi-dimensional lens while engaging with wide variety of sources. Ecology certainly was an important aspect in the history of Eastern Indian provinces, and students will be introduced to diverse strands that led to the evolution of agrarian environment.

Learning Outcome:

At the end of the course, students would be able to:

- Ascertain the role of environment and ecology in shaping the history of a region.
- Examine the nature of political contestation and regional power relations in Bihar, Bengal, Assam and Orissa.
- Analyse the development of arable landscapes, irrigation systems, and agricultural production.
- Understand the significance of vernacular literatures in the writing of environmental history.
- Comprehend the relationship between religion, culture, social formation, and nature in eastern India.

Course Content:

Unit 1: Terrain and ecology: This unit deals with river system of mid-Ganga, lower Ganga and Brahmaputra basins, and the transformation of nature. This unit examines the geographical features and ecological significance of the mid-Ganga, and lower Ganga river systems, and analyses their influence on settlement patterns, agriculture, and communication

networks. It also explores the transformation of nature through human intervention and environmental change, while assessing the historical role of floods, shifting river courses, and ecological conditions in shaping regional history. **(12 Hours)**

Unit 2: Politics and Warfare: This unit examines the processes of political consolidation under the Palas and the changing patterns of political contestation that emerged with the expansion of the Delhi Sultanate and the Mughals into the region. It also explores how the Afghans, local chieftains, Ujjainiya Rajputs, Ahoms, Koch kingdom and Eastern Gangas responded to these expanding powers, and how their resistance and negotiations shaped regional politics and power relations. **(12 Hours)**

Unit 3: Society and Economy: This unit examines the structure of rural society and patterns of agrarian organisation in eastern India, with particular emphasis on the expansion of cultivation, irrigation systems, and agricultural production. It also explores the social and economic consequences of droughts, famines, and floods, while analysing the growth of trade, commerce, urban centres, and systems of taxation in the region. **(12 Hours)**

Unit 4: Literature, Culture and Religion: This unit examines the major customs, rituals, and cultural practices prevalent in eastern India, while exploring the role of melas, festivals, and popular traditions in shaping regional culture. It also analyses the growth of vernacular languages and literature, and assesses the influence of Vaishnavism, mystical traditions, and processes of Islamisation on the social and cultural life of the region. **(12 Hours)**

Essential Readings and Unit-Wise Outcomes:

Unit 1: Terrain and ecology

- Eaton, Richard M. *The Rise of Islam and the Bengal Frontier, 1204–1760*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1993.
- Iqbal, Iftekhhar. *The Bengal Delta: Ecology, State and Social Change, 1840–1943*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010.
- Singh, Vipul. *Speaking Rivers: Environmental History of a Mid-Ganga Flood Country*. Delhi: Primus Books, 2018.
- Saikia, Arupjyoti. *The Unquiet River: A Biography of the Brahmaputra*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2019.

Unit 2: Politics and Warfare

- Askari, Syed Hasan, and Qeyamuddin Ahmad, eds. *The Comprehensive History of Bihar*. 2 vols. Patna: K.P. Jayaswal Research Institute, 1983–1987.
- Barman, Rup Kumar. *Kingdom Formation in Regional India: A Historical Study of the Koch Kingdom c.1540-1773*. Delhi: Primus Books, 2025.

- Chatterjee, Kumkum. *Merchants, Politics and Society in Early Modern India, Bihar: 1733–1820*. Leiden: E.J. Brill, 1996.
- Datta, Rajat. *Society, Economy and the Market: Commercialization in Rural Bengal c. 1760–1800*. Delhi: Manohar, 2000.
- Guha, Amlendu. *Medieval and Early Colonial Assam: Society, Polity and Economy*. Guwahati: Anwesha, 2015. (pp.39-97)
- Kulke, Hermann. *Kings and Cults: State Formation and Legitimation in India and Southeast Asia*. New Delhi: Manohar Publishers & Distributors, 1993.
- Kolff, Dirk. *Naukar, Rajput and Sepoy: The Ethnohistory of the Military Labour Market in Hindustan, 1450–1850*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990.
- McLane, John R. *Land and Local Kingship in Eighteenth-Century Bengal*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002.

Unit 3: Society and Economy

- Guha, Amlendu. *Medieval and Early Colonial Assam: Society, Polity and Economy*. Guwahati: Anwesha, 2015. (pp.98-138)
- D'Souza, Rohan. *Drowned and Dammed: Colonial Capitalism and Flood Control in Eastern India*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2006.
- Singh, Vipul. *Speaking Rivers: Environmental History of a Mid-Ganga Flood Country*. Delhi: Primus Books, 2018. (pp. 92–186)
- Mukherjee, Ayesha. ed. *A Cultural History of Famine*. London and New York: Routledge, 2019.
- Bhattacharyya, Debjani. *Empire and Ecology in the Bengal Delta: The Making of Calcutta*. Delhi: Cambridge University Press, 2018.
- Lahiri-Dutt, Kuntala, and Gopa Samanta. *Dancing with the River: People and Life on the Chars of South Asia*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2013.
- Yang, Anand A. *Bazaar India: Markets, Society, and the Colonial State in Gangetic Bihar*. Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers, 2000.

Unit 4: Literature, Culture and Religion

- Behl, Aditya. *Love's Subtle Magic: An Indian Islamic Literary Tradition, 1379–1545*. Edited by Wendy Doniger. New York: Oxford University Press, 2012.
- Eaton, Richard M. *The Rise of Islam and the Bengal Frontier, 1204–1760*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1993.
- Behl, Aditya, and Simon Weightman. *Madhumālātī: An Indian Sufi Romance*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2000.

- Curley, David L. *Poetry and History: Bengali Mangal-Kāvya and Social Change in Precolonial Bengal*. Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 2008.
- Donaldson, Thomas E. Konark. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2005
- Eck, Diana L. *India: A Sacred Geography*. New York: Harmony Books, 2012.

Suggested Readings:

- Aquil, Raziuddin. *Sufism, Culture, and Politics: Afghans and Islam in Medieval North India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2007.
- Bagchi, Jhunu. *The History and Culture of the Palas*. Delhi: Abhinav Publications, 1993.
- Bayly, C.A. *Rulers, Townsmen and Bazaars: North Indian Society in the Age of British Expansion, 1770–1870*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1983.
- Bhatia, Varuni. *Unforgetting Chaitanya: Vaishnavism and Cultures of Devotion in Colonial Bengal*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2017.
- Bhattacharya, Neeladri. *The Great Agrarian Conquest: The Colonial Reshaping of a Rural World*. Ranikhet: Permanent Black, 2019.
- Chattopadhyaya, B.D. *The Making of Early Medieval India*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1997.
- Chaudhari, Ram Gopal Singh. *Rambles in Bihar*. Delhi: Vikalp Prakashan, First published 1917, Reprint 2022.
- Huntington, Susan L. *The Pala-Sena School of Sculpture*. Leiden: E.J.Brill, 1984.
- Jackson, Peter. *The Delhi Sultanate*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999.
- Kanungo, Kalika Ranjan. *Sher Shah and His Times*. Hyderabad: Orient Longman, 1965.
- Mukhopadhyaya, Durgadas. *Religion, Philosophy, and Literature of Bengal Vaishnavism*. Delhi: B.R. Publishing, 1990.
- Orsini, Francesca, ed. *Tellings and Texts: Music, Literature and Performance in North India*. Cambridge: Open Book Publishers, 2015.

Tutorials: Tutorials in the MA History provide a smaller interactive space for critical discussion, close reading of sources, historiographical assessment, case studies, debates, group activities, and guided writing exercises. They prepare students for presentations, literature reviews, source-based analyses, archival and field-based assignments, seminar discussions, and research projects while strengthening hermeneutic skills.

Note: Examination scheme and mode shall be as prescribed by the Examination Branch, University of Delhi, from time to time.

DSE 24: Revolutionaries in India's Struggle for Freedom

Credit Distribution, Eligibility and Pre-requisites of the Course

Course Title & Code	Credits	Credit Distribution of the Course			Eligibility Criteria	Prerequisite of the Course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
Revolutionaries in India's Struggle for Freedom	4	3	1	0	Nil	Nil

Course Objectives:

There were multiple ways in which Indians waged struggles against the colonial regime. Revolutionary nationalists formed an indispensable part of this resistance. From the latter part of the 19th century, through a deeply-felt realization about the servitude of the motherland, and moved by intense yearning for liberty, a series of revolutionary protests and actions worked to enthuse and inspire a sizeable segment of population. Pitted against the mighty British empire and its growing surveillance and repression, these organizations and individuals inspired patriotism among the people. This course aims to equip students with a nuanced understanding of the ideas and activities of these individuals and groups in the national and international contexts.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course, students will be able:

- To develop a holistic understanding of different strategies of gaining freedom from the colonial rule and place revolutionary movements in proper perspective.
- To explain the background and intellectual underpinnings which inspired individuals and organizations to develop deep-rooted patriotism and stand up selflessly against the mighty British empire.
- To understand the structure and objectives of revolutionary organizations and their global networks and work among the Indian diaspora.
- To comprehend the nature of colonial surveillance and repression and underline the inspiring stories of revolutionary men and women.

Course Content:

Unit 1: Intellectual Foundations and Early Trends: Intellectual foundations: the impact of 1857, writings of Bankimchandra, Vivekananda, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Aurobindo, Lajpat Rai, Hemchandra Kanungo and others; Impact of international revolutionary movements, Early revolutionary thought, organizations and nationalists: Vasudeo Balwant Phadke, Chapekar Brothers, Abhinav Bharat, Anushilan and Jugantar. Swadeshi movement, secret societies. (12 hours)

Unit 2: Growth of Revolutionary Nationalism and Global Networks: Global Revolutionary Networks; India House in London and associated activities; Ghadar Movement, Indian Diaspora; World War I and international conspiracies; role of Shyamji Krishnavarma, V.D. Savarkar, Lala Hardayal, Bhikaji Cama, Sohan Singh Bhakna and others. (12 hours)

Unit 3: Mature Phase: Ghadar movement to the Second World War: Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA) and Bhagat Singh: Bhagat Singh's writings, revolutionary upsurge, court statements, martyrdom; Revolutionary Ideology and objectives; Chandrashekhar Azad, Sukhdev, Batukeshwar Dutt, Barkatullah, Ashfaqullah; Kakori Conspiracy Case, Chittagong Armoury Raid etc. (12 hours)

Unit 4: Surveillance and Repression, Imagery of Revolutionaries, Women revolutionaries: Surveillance and repression: CID reports, colonial intelligence, detention camps, prison life, trials: Meerut Conspiracy Case; imagery of revolutionaries and post-colonial appropriation; Women in revolutionary movements: Participation of figures like Sabitribai Phule, Rani Lakshmibai, Bhikaji Cama, Kalpana Dutt, Pritilata Waddadar, Durgawati Devi and others. (12 hours)

Essential Readings:

Unit 1: Intellectual Foundations and Early Trends:

- Ghosh, Aurobindo. *Speeches: On Indian Politics and National Education*. Puducherry: Aurobindo Ashram, 1922.
- Heehs, Peter. *The Bomb in Bengal: The Rise of Revolutionary Terrorism in India, 1900–1910*. Delhi: OUP, 1993.
- Joshi, V.S. *Vasudeo Balwant Phadke: First Rebel against the British Rule*. Mumbai: D.S. Marathe, 1959.
- Kanungo, Hemchandra. *An Account of the Revolutionary Movement in Bengal*. Calcutta: National Book Agency, 1928.
- Majumdar, Bimanbehari. *Militant Nationalism in India and Its Socio-Religious Background (1897–1917)*. Kolkata: General Printers & Publishers, 1966.
- Majumdar, R.C., ed. *The History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. 11: *Struggle for Freedom*. Mumbai: Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, 2003 (first edition 1969) (Chapters 3 and 8).
- Mukherjee, Haridas, and Uma Mukherjee. *'Bande Mataram' and Indian Nationalism (1906–1908)*. Kolkata: Firma K.L. Mukhopadhyay, 1957.
- Mukherjee, Uma. *Two Great Indian Revolutionaries: Ras Behari Bose and Jyotindranath Mukherjee*. Kolkata: Firma K.L. Mukhopadhyay, 1966.
- Sarkar, Sumit. *Swadeshi Movement in Bengal 1903–1908*. New Delhi: PPH, 1973 (Chapters 2 and 9).

Unit 2: Growth of Revolutionary Nationalism and Global Network:

- Bose, Arun Coomer. *Indian Revolutionaries Abroad: 1905-1922: In the Background of International Developments*, Patna: Bharati Bhavan, 1971.
- Brown, Emily C. *Har Dayal: Hindu Revolutionary and Rationalist*. Delhi: Manohar Books, 1975.
- Datta, V.N. *Madan Lal Dhingra and the Revolutionary Movement*. New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House, 1978.
- Fischer-Tine, Harald. *Shyamji Krishnavarma: Sanskrit, Sociology and Anti Imperialism*. Delhi: Routledge, 2014.
- Josh, Sohan Singh. *Baba Sohan Singh Bhakna: Life of the Founder of the Ghadar Party*. New Delhi: PPH, 1970.
- Puri, Harish K. *Ghadar Movement: Ideology, Organisation & Strategy*. Amritsar: Guru Nanak Dev University Press, 1983.
- Ramnath, Maia. *Haj to Utopia: How the Ghadar Movement Charted Global Radicalism and Attempted to Overthrow the British Empire*, Berkley: University of California Press, 2011 (Chapters 1-4).
- Sampath, Vikram. *Savarkar: Echoes from a Forgotten Past 1883-1924*, Gurugram: Penguin India, 2019 (Chapters 3-6).
- झा, भुवन कुमार. 'श्यामजी कृष्णवर्मा और प्रवासी भारतीय क्रांतिकारी संरचना', *लमही* (विशेषांक: प्रतिबंध और प्रतिरोध 1850-1947), 16 (4), April-June 2024 (pp. 41-65).

Unit 3: The Mature Phase: Ghadar movement to the Second World War:

- Chatterjee, Manini. *Do and Die: The Chittagong Uprising 1930-34*. Penguin Books, 1999.
- Ghosh, Durba, *Gentlemanly Terrorists: Political Violence and the Colonial State in India, 1919-1947*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017 (Chapters 3-4).
- Grewal, J.S. ed. *Bhagat Singh and His Legend*. Patiala: World Punjabi Centre Punjabi University, 2008.
- Lal, Chaman, ed. *The Bhagat Singh Reader*. Gurugram: HarperCollins, 2019.
- Maclean, Kama. *A Revolutionary History of Interwar India: Violence, Image, Voice and Text*. New York: OUP, 2015 (Chapters 1-3).
- Majumdar, R.C. ed. *The History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol.11: *Struggle for Freedom*, Mumbai: Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, 2003. (first edition 1969) (Chapter 22).
- Sanyal, Sanjeev. *Revolutionaries: The Other Story of How India Won Its Freedom*. Gurugram: HarperCollins, 2023 (Chapters 5-7).
- बिस्मिल, रामप्रसाद. *आत्मकथा: निज जीवन की एक छटा*, नयी दिल्ली: पेंगुइन, 2025

- सान्याल, शचीन्द्रनाथ. *बंदी जीवन: उत्तर भारत में क्रांति का उद्योग* (संपादक: बनारसीदास चतुर्वेदी). दिल्ली: आत्माराम एंड संस, 1963.
- सिंह, जगमोहन और चमन लाल. *भगत सिंह और उनके साथियों के दस्तावेज़*. नयी दिल्ली, 1983.

Unit 4: Surveillance and Repression, Imagery of Revolutionaries, Women revolutionaries:

- Barrier, N. Gerald. *Banned: Controversial Literature and Political Control in British India, 1907-47*. Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1974.
- Chattopadhyaya, Kamaladevi. *Indian Women's Battle for Freedom*. New Delhi: Abhinav Publications, 1983.
- Dutt, Kalpana. *Chittagong Armoury Raiders: Reminiscences*. Kolkata: National Book Agency, 1963.
- Dutt, Ullaskar. *Twelve Years of Prison Life*, Kolkata: Arya Publishing House, 1924
- Forbes, Geraldine. *Women in Modern India*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008 (Chapter 5).
- Ghosh, Durba. *Gentlemanly Terrorists: Political Violence and the Colonial State in India, 1919–1947*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017 (Chapters 5–6).
- Kaur, Manmohan. *Women in India's Freedom Struggle*. New Delhi: Sterling Publishers, 1968.
- Maclean, Kama. "The Portrait's Journey: The Image, Social Communication and Martyr-Making in Colonial India" in *The Journal of Asian Studies*, 70 (4), November 2011 (pp. 105-1082).
- Moffat, Chris. *India's Revolutionary Inheritance: Politics and the Promise of Bhagat Singh*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2019.
- Nanda, Savitri Devi. *Women in the Freedom Movement*. New Delhi: Publication Division, Government of India, 1962.
- Ranade, Pratibha. *Rani Laxmibai: Warrior-Queen of Jhansi*. Translated by Sanjay Ranade. Mumbai: Indus Source Books; HarperCollins Publishers India, 2019.
- Raza, Ali. *Revolutionary Pasts*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2020. (Chapter 4)
- Saha, Panchanan. *Madam Cama (Bhikaji Rustom K.R.): Mother of Indian Revolution*. Kolkata: Manisha Granthalaya, 1975.
- Sanyal, Sanjeev. *Revolutionaries: The Other Story of How India Won Its Freedom*. New Delhi: HarperCollins, 2022.
- Singh, Harleen. *The Rani of Jhansi: Gender, History, and Fable in India*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014.
- Vohra, Asha Rani. *Nari Vidroh ke Bharatiya Manch*. Delhi: National Publishing House, 1972.

Suggested Readings:

- Barooah, Nirode K. *Chatto: Life and times of an Indian anti-imperialist*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2004.

- Bhattacharyya, Buddhadeva (ed.). *Freedom Struggle and Anushilan Samiti*, Vol.1. Kolkata: Anushilan Samiti, 1979 (Chapters 1-3).
- Bismil, Ram Prasad. *Musings from the Gallows: Autobiography of Ram Prasad Bismil*, Chandigarh: Unistar Books, 2007 (translated by Rajinder Singh)
- Cao, Yin. "Bombs in Beijing and Delhi: The Global Spread of Bomb Making Technology and Revolutionary Terrorism in Modern China and India" in *Journal of World History*, 30 (4), 2019 (pp.559-589).
- Chakraborty, Trailokyanath. *Thirty Years in Prison: Sensational Confessions of a Revolutionary*. Kolkata: Alpha-Beta Publications, 1963.
- Chatterji, Jogesh Chandra. *In Search for Freedom*. Kolkata: Jogesh Chandra Chatterjee, 1958.
- Chopra, Prabha and P.N. Chopra. *Forgotten Heroes of India's Freedom Struggle: A Who's Who (British Secret Documents)*. Delhi: Agam Prakashan, 1992.
- Dhanagare, D.N. *Peasant Movements in India, 1920-1950*, New York: OUP, 1983
- Dharmavira. *Lala Har Dayal and Revolutionary Movements of His Time*, New Delhi: Indian Book Company, 1970.
- Gordon, Leonard A. *Bengal: The Nationalist Movement, 1876-1940*. Delhi: Manohar Books, 1974 (Chapters 3-5).
- Gupta, Manmathnath. *History of the Indian Revolutionary Movement*. Mumbai: Somajya Publications, 1972.
- Heehs, Peter. "Foreign Influences on Bengali Revolutionary Terrorism 1902-1908" in *Modern Asian Studies*, Vol. 28, No. 3, 1994 (pp. 533-556).
- Manjapra, Kris. "Knowledgeable Internationalism and the Swadeshi Movement, 1903-1921" in *Economic and Political Weekly*, 47 (42), October 2012 (pp.53-62).
- Mukherjee, Amitabha. *Militant Nationalism in India 1876-1947*. Kolkata: Institute of Historical Studies, 1959.
- Mukherjee, Prithwindra. *Bagha Jatin: Life and Times of Jatindranath Mukherjee*. New Delhi: National Book Trust, 2017.
- Owen, Nicholas. "The Soft Heart of the British Empire: Indian radicals in Edwardian London" in *Past and Present* 220 (1), 2013 (pp.143-184).
- Sareen, Tilak Raj. *Indian Revolutionary Movement Abroad (1905-1921)*. New Delhi: Sterling Publishers, 1979.
- Savarkar, Vinayak Damodar. *The Indian War of Independence 1857*. Facsimile Publisher, 2020.
- Zachariah, Benjamin. "A Long, Strange Trip: The lives in exile of Har Dayal" in *South Asian History and Culture*, 4(4), 2013 (pp. 574-592)
- गुप्त मन्मथनाथ. *क्रांतिकारी आंदोलन का वैचारिक इतिहास*. नयी दिल्ली: निधि प्रकाशन, 1980.
- धर्मवीर. *भाई परमानन्द एवं उनका युग*,. दिल्ली:भाई परमानन्द स्मारक समिति, 1981.

Tutorials: Tutorials in the MA History provide a smaller interactive space for critical discussion, close reading of sources, historiographical assessment, case studies, debates, group activities, and guided writing exercises. They prepare students for presentations, literature reviews, source-based analyses, archival and field-based assignments, seminar discussions, and research projects while strengthening hermeneutic skills.

Note: Examination scheme and mode shall be as prescribed by the Examination Branch, University of Delhi, from time to time.

DSE 39: Gender Relations in Mughal India

Credit Distribution, Eligibility, and Pre-requisites of the Course

Course Title and Code	Credits	Credit Distribution of the Course			Eligibility Criteria	Prerequisite of the Course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
Gender Relations in Mughal India	04	3	1	0	Nil	Nil

Course Objectives: The objective of the course is to acquaint the students with the significance of gender in shaping the socio-political culture in Mughal India. Students will explore the complex operations of gender in reproducing socio-cultural life, specifically concerning property relations, household intimacies, caste inequities and imperial sovereignty.

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the course, students would:

- Critically evaluate the role of royal women in shaping political authority and legitimacy.
- Analyse gender as an intersecting category of power in relation to class, caste, religion, household structures, labour, and regional social formations in early modern South Asia.
- Examine constructions of masculinity, imperial service, bodily discipline, and non-normative gender formations within the political and cultural worlds of the Mughal Empire.
- Develop the ability to critically interpret diverse historical sources- including memoirs; court chronicles visual materials, edicts, devotional narratives, and literary texts-through gender-sensitive and interdisciplinary frameworks.
- Understand how emotions, intimacy, corporeality, seclusion, and domesticity shaped social relations, political culture, and everyday life in Mughal and early modern South Asian contexts.
- Appreciate the regional and transregional dimensions of gender history by situating Mughal India within broader comparative worlds, including Central Asia, the Ottoman Empire, Rajasthan, and South India, while engaging with contemporary debates in gender and queer historiography.

Course Content

Unit 1: Gender, Kingship, and Sovereignty in Mughal India: This unit examines the gendered foundations of Mughal sovereignty by exploring kingship, dynastic politics,

imperial households, queenship, succession, and the role of royal women in shaping political authority and legitimacy. (12 Hours)

Unit 2: Courtly Life, Intimacy, and Elite Women in the Mughal World: This unit explores the social and cultural worlds of the Mughal court, focusing on harem politics, intimacy, patronage, marriage alliances, aesthetics, literary cultures, and the agency of elite women. (12 Hours)

Unit 3: Masculinities, Sexualities, and Non-Normative Genders in the Mughal Empire: This unit investigates constructions of masculinity, ideals of manliness, bodily practices, sexuality, and the social and political roles of 'non-normative' gender formations in the Mughal Empire. (12 Hours)

Unit 4: Women, Domesticity, Households and Everyday Life beyond the Imperial Court: This unit studies the experiences of non-elite women in Mughal India by examining, domesticity, religion, mobility, family structures, and women's participation in regional and everyday social worlds. (12 Hours)

Essential Readings:

Unit 1: Gender, Kingship, and Sovereignty in Mughal India

- Bokhari, Afshan. "Imperial Transgressions and Spiritual Investitures: Female Agency in Seventeenth Century Mughal India." *Journal of Persianate Studies* 4, no. 1 (2011).
- Lal, K. S. *The Mughal Harem*. New Delhi: Aditya Prakashan, 1998.
- Lal, Kishori Saran. "Ghilmans and Eunuchs" and "Sex Slavery." In *Muslim Slave System in Medieval India*, New Delhi: Aditya Prakashan, 1994. Chapters 9 and 12, 105–118, 150–174.
- Lal, Ruby. "The Domestic world of Peripatetic Kings: Babur and Humayun, c. 1494–1556." *The Medieval History Journal* 4, no. 1 (2001): 43–82.
- Lal, Ruby. "Historicizing the Harem: The Challenge of a Princess's Memoir." *Feminist Studies* 30, no. 3 (Fall/Winter 2004).
- Lal, Ruby. *Domesticity and Power in the Early Mughal World*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005.
- Pierce, Leslie P. *The Imperial Harem: Women and Sovereignty in the Ottoman Empire*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1993.
- Singh, N. G. K. (2017). Babarvani and the call for gender justice†. *Sikh Formations*, 13(1–2), 5–19.
- Stephen Dale, *The Garden of Eight Paradises: Babur and the Culture of Empire in Central Asia, Afghanistan and India (1483–1530)*, Leiden, 2004.

Unit 2: Courtly Life, Intimacy, and Elite Women in the Mughal World

- Balabanlilar, Lisa. "The Begums of the Mystic Feast: Turco-Mongol Tradition in the Mughal Harem." *Journal of Asian Studies* 69, no. 1 (February 2010): pp. 123–47.

- Balabanlilar, Lisa. *The Lords of the Auspicious Conjunction: Turko-Mongol Imperial Identity on the Subcontinent*. Columbus: Ohio State University, 2007.
- Ebba Koch (ed.), *Mughal Art and Imperial Ideology, Collected Essays*, New Delhi : OUP , 2001.
- Hambly, Gavin, ed. *Women, Patronage and Self-Representation in Islamic Societies*. Albany: State University of New York Press, 2000.
- Kalb, Emma. "A Harem in Disorder: Narrating Elite Female Seclusion in Late Mughal Delhi." *Gender & History* 37, no. 3 (2025): 817-827.
- Kalb, Emma. "Framing gender in Mughal South Asia." *History Compass* 19, no. 11 (2021): e12691.
- Pierce, Leslie. *Morality Tales: Law and Gender in the Ottoman Court of Aintab*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2003.
- Sharma, K. (2009). A Visit to the Mughal Harem: Lives of Royal Women. *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies*, 32(2), 155–169.
- Walthall, Anne, ed. *Servants of the Dynasty: Palace Women in World History*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2008.
- Yegenoglu, Meyda. "Veiled Fantasies: Cultural and Sexual Difference in the Discourse of Orientalism." In *Colonial Fantasies: Towards a Feminist Reading of Orientalism*, edited by Meyda Yegenoglu, 39–67. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998.

Unit 3: Masculinities, Sexualities, and Non-Normative Genders in the Mughal Empire

- Faruqi, Munis D. *The Princes of the Mughal Empire, 1504-1719*. United Kingdom: Cambridge University Press, 2012.
- Gandhi, Supriya. *The emperor who never was: Dara Shukoh in Mughal India*. Harvard University Press, 2019.
- Ghosh, Sourav. "Scrambling for glory: assessing 'true' Rajput identity in a Mughal war of succession (1657–1659)." *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* (2026): 1-31.
- Hanlon, Rosalind O'. "Kingdom, Household and Body: History, Gender and Imperial Service under Akbar." *Modern Asian Studies* 41, no. 5 (2007), pp: 887–922.
- Hanlon, Rosalind O'. "Manliness and Imperial Service in Mughal North India." *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient* 42, no. 1 (February 1999), pp: 47–93.
- Hanlon, Rosalind O'. "Military Sports and the History of the Martial Body in India." *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient* 50, no. 4 (2007), pp: 490–523.
- Lal, Ruby. "Rethinking Mughal India: Challenge of a princess' memoir." *Economic and Political Weekly* (2003): 53-65.

- Murray, Stephen O., and Will Roscoe, eds. *Islamic Homosexualities: Culture, History, and Literature*. New York: New York University Press, 1997.
- Najmabadi, Afsaneh. *Women with Moustaches and Men without Beards: Gender and Sexual Anxieties of Iranian Modernity*. California: University of California Press, 2005.
- O'Hanlon, Rosalind. "Issues of masculinity in North Indian history: the Bangash Nawabs of Farrukhabad." *Indian Journal of Gender Studies* 4, no. 1 (1997): 1-19.
- Penrose, W. (2006). Colliding cultures: Masculinity and homoeroticism in Mughal and Early Colonial South Asia. In K. O'Donnell & M. O'Rourke (Eds.), *Queer Masculinities, 1550-1800* (pp. xx-xx). Palgrave Macmillan.
- Rajpurohit, Dalpat S. "Loyalty, Kinship and Honour: The Tales of Poet Jān in Mughal India." *Cracow Indological Studies* 27, no. 2 (2025).
- Readings from Sources-I: Abul Fazl. *Akbarnama*, trans. H. Beveridge. *The Akbarnama of Abul Fazl*. Reprint, Delhi, 1993.
- Ruby Lal, 'Harem and eunuchs', *Celibate and Childless Men in Power: Ruling Eunuchs and Bishops in the Pre-Modern World*. London, Taylor & Francis, 2017.

Unit 4: Women, Domesticity, Households and Everyday Life beyond the Imperial Court

- Ahmed, Leila. *Women and Gender in Islam*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1992.
- Bilgrami, Rafat. "Property Rights of Muslim Women in Mughal India." *Proceedings of the Indian History Congress* 48 (1987), pp: 261–70.
- Foroutan, Kiyan. "On the question of domestic slaves in late medieval and early modern Zoroastrianism." *Bulletin of SOAS* 87, no. 3 (2024): 421-445.
- Hasan, Farhat. *State and Locality in Mughal India: Power Relations in Western India, c. 1572–1730*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005.
- Jennings, Robert. "Women in Early 17th Century Ottoman Judicial Records: The Shari'a Courts of Anatolian Kayseri." *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient* 18 (1975), pp: 53–114.
- Ramaswamy, Vijaya, ed. *Women and Work in Precolonial India*. Delhi: SAGE Publication, 2016.
- Ramaswamy, Vijaya. "perspectives on women and work in pre-colonial south india." *International Journal of Asian Studies* 7, no. 1 (2010): 51-79.
- Ramaswamy, Vijaya. *Walking Naked: Women, Society, Spirituality in South India*. Shimla: Indian Institute of Advanced Study, 1997.
- Ramya Sreenivasan, 'Honouring Family: Narratives and Politics of Kinship in Pre-colonial Rajasthan', in Indrani Chatterjee, ed. *Unfamiliar Relations: Family and History in South Asia*, Delhi : Permanent Black, 2004, pp.46-73.

- Sahai, Nandita P. "Collaboration and Conflict: Artisanal Jati Panchayats and the Eighteenth-Century Jodhpur State." *The Medieval History Journal* 5, no. 1 (April 2002): 77–101.
- Sahai, Nandita P. "The 'Other' Culture: Craft Societies and Widow Remarriage in Early Modern India." *Journal of Women's History* 19, no. 2 (June 2007): 36–58.
- Sangari, Kumkum. "Mirabai and the spiritual economy of bhakti." *Economic and Political Weekly* (1990): 1537–1552.
- Singh, Dilbagh. "Regulating the Domestic: Notes on the Pre-colonial State and the Family." *Studies in History* 19, no. 1 (2003): 69–86.

Suggested Readings:

- Ahmed, Leila. *Women and Gender in Islam*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1992.
- Balabanlilar, Lisa. *Imperial Identity in the Mughal Empire: Memory and Dynastic Politics in Early Modern South and Central Asia*. New York: I. B. Tauris, 2012.
- Butler, Judith. *Bodies that Matter: On the Discursive Limits of Sex*. London: Routledge, 2011.
- Dalal, Urvashi. "Femininity, State and Cultural Space in Eighteenth Century India." *Medieval History Journal*, (April 2015), pp: 120–165.
- Dalal, Urvashi. "Women's Time in the Havelis of North India." *Medieval History Journal*, 2, 2 (October 1999), pp: 277–308.
- Findly, Ellison Banks. *Nur Jahan: Empress of Mughal India*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1993.
- Fisher, Michael H. "Women and the Feminine in the Court and High Culture of Awadh, 1722–1856." In *Women in the Medieval Islamic World*, edited by Gavin Hambly, 489–513. New York, 1988.
- Lal, Kishori Saran. "Ghilmans and Eunuchs" and "Sex Slavery." In *Muslim Slave System in Medieval India*, New Delhi: Aditya Prakashan, 1994. Chapters 9 and 12, 105–118, 150–174.
- Lal, Ruby. *Empress: The Astonishing Reign of Nur Jahan*. New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 2018.
- Meisami, Julie Scott. *Medieval Persian Court Poetry*. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 1987.
- Paramananda, Kavindra. *The Epic of Shivaji: Kavindra Paramananda's Śivabhārata*. Translated and introduced by James W. Laine, in collaboration with S. S. Bahulkar. New Delhi: Orient Longman, 2001.

- Penrose, William. "Colliding Cultures: Masculinity and Homoeroticism in Mughal and Early Colonial South Asia." In *Queer Masculinities, 1550–1800*, edited by K. O'Donnell, et al., 1550–1800. Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan, 2006.
- Ramaswamy, Vijaya, ed. *Women and Work in Precolonial India*. New Delhi: Permanent Black, 2016.
- Scott, Joan. "Gender: A Useful Category of Historical Analysis." *American Historical Review*, 91, 5 (Dec. 1986), pp: 1053–1075.
- Sharma, Sunita. "The Exponential Role of the Women Protagonists in the Formative Years of Babur—Linkages Revisited." In *Proceedings of the Indian History Congress*, vol. 73, pp. 358-366. Indian History Congress, 2012.

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Additional material may be provided by the Department.

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