

Delhi Through the Ages: The Makings of its Early Modern History**GE_I. Semester I****Course Objective**

The course aims to explore the city of Delhi from its early history to the eighteenth century. The city grew into one of the largest cities in the world and was the capital of some great empires. As a capital, Delhi profited from continuous immigration, state patronage and vibrant cultural life. The city depended not merely on its rulers for cultural and political sustenance. The course also focuses on Sufis, litterateurs and merchants who gave the city its unique character and resilience in political turbulence.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, the student shall be able to:

- To acquaint students with the **History of Delhi** till the early modern period.
- Analyse the processes of urbanization as shaped by political, economic and social changes

Course Content:**Unit I. Delhi's Ancient Past up to 12th century**

- a) Indraprastha – Hastinapur, Panipat, Tilpat
- b) Yoginipura
- c) Ashokan Edicts
- d) Tomars and Chauhans: Anangpur fort, Lal Kot and Qila Rai Pithora
- e) Mehrauli Iron Pillar

ESSENTIAL READINGS:

This unit will introduce students to the early history of Delhi, focusing on Indraprastha, Ancient Edicts and Pillar, and Delhi of the Tomars and Chauhans. (Teaching Time: 12 hours)

- Richard J. Cohen, "An Early Attestation of the Toponym Dhillī", *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, Vol. 109 (1989), pp. 513-519.
- Singh, Upinder. (2006). *Ancient Delhi*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 68-76; 117-178; pp. 185-206.
- Mani, B.R. (1997). *Delhi: Threshold of the Orient*; (Studies in Archaeological Investigations), Aryan Books International

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- Sharma, Dasharatha. (1959). Early Chauhan Dynasty: A Study of Chauhan Political History, Chauhan Political Institutions and Life in the Chauhan Dominions (From C. 800 to 1316. A.D.). S. Chand & Co. p. 44; pp. 59-60; pp. 80-81
- Talbot, Cynthia. (2015). Delhi in the Making of the Last Hindu Emperor. In Cynthia Talbot, *The Last Hindu Emperor: Prithviraj Chauhan and the Indian Past, 1200-2000*, Cambridge University Press , pp. 69-106
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- Lal, B.B. (2020), Indraprastha: The Earliest Delhi Going Back to the Mahabharata Times, Aryan Books International. pp. 1-44
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Unit II. From Settlements to Cityscape - Understanding Delhi's 13th and 14th Century Cities.
Case Study Any Two:

- 1) Dehli-i Kuhna's Masjid-i Jami
- 2) Siri
- 3) Ghiyaspur-Kilukhari
- 4) Tughulqabad
- 5) Firuzabad

ESSENTIAL READINGS:

This unit will study the cities of Sultanate Delhi in the 13th and 14th centuries. It will discuss the various reasons for the shift of capital and the city's changing character. Case studies of any two of these cities will be undertaken. Students will be encouraged to plan field trips related to the themes and readings. (Teaching Time: 16 hours)

- Ali, Athar. (1985). "Capital of the Sultans: Delhi through the 13th and 14th Centuries", in R.E. Frykenberg, ed., *Delhi Through the Ages: Essays in Urban History, Culture and Society*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 34-44
- Kumar, Sunil. (2011). "Courts, Capitals and Kingship: Delhi and its Sultans in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries CE" in Albrecht Fuess and Jan Peter Hartung. (eds.). *Court Cultures in the Muslim World: Seventh to Nineteenth Centuries*, London: Routledge, pp. 123-148
- Kumar, Sunil. (2009) 'Qutb in Modern Memory'. In: Kaul, Suvir, (ed.), *Partitions of Memory*. Delhi: Permanent Black, pp. 140-182.
- Jackson, Peter. (1986). 'Delhi: The Problem of a Vast Military Encampment', in: R.E. Frykenberg (ed.). *Delhi Through the Ages: Essays in Urban History, Culture, and Society*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1986), pp.18-33.
- Haidar, Najaf. (2014). 'Persian Histories and a Lost City of Delhi', *Studies in People's History*, vol. 1, pp. 163-171
- Aquil, R. (2008). "Hazrat-i-Dehli: The Making of the Chishti Sufi Centre and the Stronghold of Islam." *South Asia Research* 28: 23-48.
- Welch, Anthony and Howard Crane. (1983). "The Tughluqs: Master Builders of the Delhi Sultanate". *Muqarnas*, vol. 1 pp. 123-166.
- Welch, Anthony. (1993). Architectural Patronage and the Past: The Tughluq Sultans of India: *Muqarnas*, Vol. 10, Essays in Honor of Oleg Graber, pp. 311-322, Published by Brill.

Unit III. 16th to 17th Century Delhi: Changing Morphology of Delhi

- a) Humayun's Garden Tomb
- b) Shahjahanabad

ESSENTIAL READINGS:

This unit will explore the structure and meanings of Humayun's Garden Tomb and the imperial city of Shahjahanabad in the 16th and 17th centuries (**Teaching Time: 16 hours**)

- Chandra, Satish. (1991). "Cultural and Political Role of Delhi, 1675-1725", in R.E. Frykenberg, *Delhi through the Ages: Essays in Urban History, Culture and Society*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 106-116.
- Blake, Stephen, (1985). "Cityscape of an Imperial City: Shahjahanabad in 1739", in R.E. Frykenberg, *Delhi Through the Ages: Essays in Urban History, Culture and Society*, Oxford University Press, pp. 66-99.
- Hasan, Nurul, S. (1991). "The Morphology of a Medieval Indian City: A Case Study of Shahjahanabad", In Indu Banga (ed.). *The City in Indian History*, Delhi: Manohar, pp. 87-98.
- Gupta, Narayani. (1993). "The Indomitable City," in Eckart Ehlers and Thomas Krafft, eds., *Shahjahanabad / Old Delhi: Tradition and Change*. Delhi: Manohar, pp. 29-44.
- Koch, Ebba. (1994). "Diwan-i-'Amm and Chihil Sutun: The Audience Halls of Shah Jahan". *Muqarnas*, vol. 11, pp. 143-165.

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- Lowry, Glenn D. (1987). Humayun's Tomb: Form, Function, and Meaning in Early Mughal Architecture. *Muqarnas*, Vol. 4, pp. 133-148
- Dickie, James (Zaki, Yakub), (1985). The Mughal Garden: Gateway to Paradise, *Muqarnas*, Vol. 3, pp. 128-137.
- Koch, Ebba. (1997). 'Mughal Palace Gardens from Babur to Shahjahan (1526-1648), *Muqarnas*, pp. 143-165.
- Rezavi, Syed Ali Nadeem, (2010). "The Mighty Defensive Fort": Red Fort at Delhi Under Shahjahan -- Its Plan and Structures as Described by Muhammad Waris." *Proceedings of the Indian History Congress* 71, pp. 1108-1121.

Unit IV. 18th Century Delhi - Understanding Political and Social Changes

- a) The Mughal 'Decline'
- b) The Marathas and Sikhs in Delhi

ESSENTIAL READINGS:

This unit will discuss the developments in Shahjahanabad in the 18th century. The 'decline' in the authority meant turbulence in the city. Still, it also empowered new groups like the Marathas and the Sikhs, etc., creating a cultural and social dynamism that some embraced and saw as a challenge to others. (Teaching Time: 16 hours)

- Alam, Muzaffar. (2013) "Introduction to the second edition: Revisiting the Mughal Eighteenth Century" in *The Crisis of Empire in Mughal North India: Awadh and the Punjab 1707-1748*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. xiii-lxiv
- Bayly, Christopher Alan. (1986). "Delhi and Other Cities of North India during the 'Twilight'", in *Delhi through the Ages: Essays in Urban History, Culture, and Society*, edited by Robert Eric Frykenberg, Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 221-36.
- Farooqui, Amar. (2013). *Zafar and the Raj: Anglo-Mughal Delhi c. 1800-1850*. Chapter 1: The Making of a New Dispensation. pp. 3-29. Primus Books
- Raeside, Ian, Phadnis, N. and Nankeshwar, A. (1984) *The Decade of Panipat (1751-1761)*. Popular Prakashan, pp. 68-73 and pp. 119-131.
- Malhotra, Karamjeet, K (2016) *The Eighteenth Century in Sikh History: Political Resurgence, Religious and Social Life and Cultural Articulation*, OUP (Chapter 1)
- Singh, Sangat (2005) *Sikhs in History*, Amritsar: Singh Brothers (Chapter 2)
- Ataullah. (2006-2007). "Mapping 18th Century Delhi: The Cityscape of a Pre-Modern Sovereign City" *Proceedings of the Indian History Congress*, vol. 67 pp. 1042-1057.
- Chenoy, Shama Mitra. (1998). *Shahjahanabad, a City of Delhi, 1638-1857*. New Delhi: Munshiram Manohar Lal Publishers.
- Raziuddin Aquil, (2017) "Violating Norms of Conduct" in *The Muslim Question: understanding Islam and Indian History*, Delhi: Penguin Random House, pp. 133-156.

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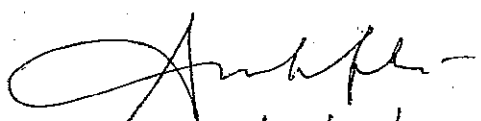
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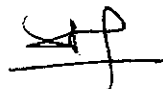
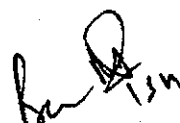
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- Sardesai, G.S, New History of the Marathas (Vol II) Phoenix Publications, 1948, pp.31-49.
- Kulkarni, Uday S., The Mastery of Hindustan: Triumphs & Travails of Madhavrao Peshwa, Mula Mutha Publishers, Pune, 2022, pp. 5-14, pp. 430-72.
- Banerjee, C. "Revival of Maratha power in the North (1761-69)," *Indian Historical Quarterly*, 17, 3 (September 1941)
- Sarkar, Jadunath, Sindhiya as Regent of Delhi (1787 & 1789-91) published by the Director of Archives, Government of Bombay, 1954, pp. 1-58.
- Pal, M K, Historical Gurudwaras of Delhi, Niyogi Books, 2013.
- Gupta, Hari Ram. History of the Sikhs: Sikh domination of the Mughal Empire, 1764-1803. India: Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers, 2009, pp. 158-170, pp.196-267, pp. 353-75
- करकरे, नीलेश ईश्वरचंद, तवारीख-ए-शिंदेशाही, ग्वालियर, 2017, पृ. 72-87

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- Ray, Aniruddha. (2015). Towns and Cities of Medieval India: A Brief Survey. Manohar. pp. 34-53
- Liddle, Swapna. The Idea of Delhi. Summerhill: IAS Review, Vol. XXI
- Anthony Welch, 'A Medieval Centre of Learning in India: The Hauz Khas Madrasa in Delhi', *Muqarnas*, 13 (1996): 165-90;
- Anthony Welch, 'The Shrine of the Holy Footprint in Delhi', *Muqarnas*, 14 (1997): 116-178;
- Asher, Catherine B. (2000). "Delhi Walled: Changing Boundaries" in James D. Tracy, *City Walls: The Urban Enceinte in Global Perspective*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 247-281.
- Blake, Stephen P. (1991). *Shahjahanabad: The Sovereign City in Mughal India, 1639-1739*. Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Chandra, Satish. (1991). "Cultural and Political Role of Delhi, 1675-1725", in R.E. Frykenberg, *Delhi through the Ages: Essays in Urban History, Culture and Society*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 106-116.
- Hasan, Zafar. (1922). *A Guide to Nizamu-d Din*. New Delhi: Memoirs of the Archaeological Survey of India #10
- Kumar, Sunil. (2019) "The Tyranny of Meta-Narratives; Re-reading a History of Sultanate Delhi"; in Kumkum Roy and Naina Dayal. (Ed.). *Questioning Paradigms, Constructing Histories: A Festschrift for Romila Thapar*, Aleph Book Company, pp 222-235.
- Flood, Finbarr B. (2008). "Introduction" in Finbarr B. Flood, *Piety and Politics in the Early Indian Mosque*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. xi-lxxviii
- Matsuo, Ara. (1982). "The Lodi Rulers and the Construction of Tomb-Buildings in Delhi". *Acta Asiatica*, vol. 43, pp. 61-80.
- Page, J.A. (1926). *An Historical Memoir on the Qutb*. New Delhi: Memoirs of the Archaeological Survey of India #22



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- Page, J.A. (1937). *A Memoir on Kotla Firoz Shah, Delhi*. New Delhi: Memoirs of the Archaeological Survey of India #52
- Shamsur Rahman Faruqi, (2001). "A True Beginning in the North" and "A Phenomenon called 'Vali'" in *Early Urdu Literary Culture and History*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 109-126, 129-142.
- Shokoohy, Mehrdad. (2007). *Tughluqabad: a paradigm for Indo-Islamic Urban Planning and its architectural components*. London: Araxus Books.
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- Anand Taneja, 'Saintly Visions: Other histories and history's others in the medieval ruins of Delhi' *IESHR*, 49 (2012).
- Pinto, Desiderios. J. (1989). "The Mystery of the Nizamuddin Dargah: the Account of Pilgrims", in Christian W. Troll, ed., *Muslim Shrines in India*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 112-124.
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- Jadunath, Sarkar. (1953). "Delhi Affairs 1761-1788: Newsletters from Parasnis Collection"
- Majumdar, R.C. and Dighe, V.G. (Ed.) (2021). *The Maratha Supremacy*. Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan.
- Prasad, Pushpa., *Sanskrit Inscriptions of Delhi Sultanate-1191-1526*, Oxford University Press, 1990, pp. 3-18, pp. 22-32.
- Chopra, Prabha (ed.) (1941). *Delhi: History and Places of Interest*, Delhi Gazetteer, Delhi Administration, Delhi, 1970.
- अवस्थी, आदित्य, दास्तान-ए-दिल्ली, कल्याणी शिक्षा परिषद, नई दिल्ली, 2018
- चांदीवाला, व्रज कृष्ण, दिल्ली की खोज, प्रकाशन विभाग, सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय, 2005
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- Maheshwari, J. K. (1966). *Illustrations of the Flora of Delhi*.
- Kulkarni, Uday S., *The Extraordinary Epoch of Nanasahab Peshwa*, Mula Mutha Publishers, Pune, 2020, pp. 213-24, pp.378-416.
- द्विवेदी, हरिहरनिवास .दिल्ली के तोमर, विद्या मंदिर प्रकाशन, ग्वालियर.
- Kumar, Suphal (2006). *Delhi: City of Yoginis*, Pilgrims Publishing, Varanasi, 2006.

Teaching Learning Process:

Classroom teaching is supported by group discussions or presentations on specific themes/ readings. Given that the students enrolled in the course are from a non-history background, adequate emphasis shall be given during the lectures on what is broadly meant by the historical approach and the importance of historicising various macro- and micro-level developments/phenomena. Interactive sessions through group discussions or group presentations shall be used to un-learning prevailing misconceptions about historical developments and periods and to facilitate revision of issues outlined in the lectures. Supporting audio-visual aids like documentary films and PowerPoint presentations and an appropriate field visit will be used where necessary.

Assessment Methods:

Students will be regularly assessed for their grasp of debates and discussions covered in class. Two written submissions, one of which could be a short project, will be used for the final grading of the students. Students will be assessed on their ability to explain significant historical trends and engage with the historical approach.

Internal Assessment: 25 Marks

Written Exam: 75 Marks Total:
100 Marks

Keywords:

History, settlements, cityscape, morphology, social empowerment, Delhi, urbanisation

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