

## History Optional Part B Mains

1. **Sources:**  
Archaeological sources:  
Exploration, excavation, epigraphy, numismatics, monuments  
Literary sources:  
Indigenous: Primary and secondary; poetry, scientific literature, literature, literature in regional languages, religious literature.  
Foreign accounts: Greek, Chinese and Arab writers.
2. **Pre-history and Proto-history:**  
Geographical factors; hunting and gathering (paleolithic and mesolithic); Beginning of agriculture (neolithic and chalcolithic).
3. **Indus Valley Civilization:**  
Origin, date, extent, characteristics, decline, survival and significance, art and architecture.
4. **Megalithic Cultures:**  
Distribution of pastoral and farming cultures outside the Indus, Development of community life, Settlements, Development of agriculture, Crafts, Pottery, and Iron industry.
5. **Arvans and Vedic Period:**  
Expansions of Aryans in India.  
Vedic Period: Religious and philosophic literature; Transformation from Rig Vedic period to the later Vedic period; Political, social and economical life; Significance of the Vedic Age; Evolution of Monarchy and Varna system.
6. **Period of Mahajanapadas:**  
Formation of States (Mahajanapada) : Republics and monarchies; Rise of urban centres; Trade routes; Economic growth; Introduction of coinage; Spread of Jainism and Buddhism; Rise of Magadha and Nandas.  
Iranian and Macedonian invasions and their impact.
7. **Maurvan Empire:**  
Foundation of the Mauryan Empire, Chandragupta, Kautilya and Arthashastra; Ashoka; Concept of Dharma; Edicts; Polity, Administration; Economy; Art, architecture and sculpture; External contacts; Religion; Spread of religion; Literature.  
Disintegration of the empire; Sungas and Kanvas.
8. **Post - Mauryan Period (Indo-Greeks, Sakas, Kushanas, Western Kshatrapas):**  
Contact with outside world; growth of urban centres, economy, coinage, development of religions, Mahayana, social conditions, art, architecture, culture, literature and science.
9. **Early State and Society in Eastern India, Deccan and South India:**  
Kharavela, The Satavahanas, Tamil States of the Sangam Age; Administration, economy, land grants, coinage, trade guilds and urban centres; Buddhist centres; Sangam literature and culture; Art and architecture.
10. **Guptas, Vakatakas and Vardhanas:**  
Polity and administration, Economic conditions, Coinage of the Guptas, Land grants, Decline of urban centres, Indian feudalism, Caste system, Position of women, Education and educational institutions; Nalanda, Vikramshila and Vallabhi, Literature, scientific literature, art and architecture.
11. **Regional States during Gupta Era:**  
The Kadambas, Pallavas, Chalukyas of Badami; Polity and Administration, Trade guilds, Literature; growth of Vaishnava and Saiva religions. Tamil Bhakti movement, Shankaracharya; Vedanta; Institutions of temple and temple architecture; Palas, Senas, Rashtrakutas, Paramaras, Polity and administration; Cultural aspects. Arab conquest of Sind; Alberuni, The Chalukyas of Kalyana, Cholas, Hoysalas, Pandyas; Polity and Administration; local Government; Growth of art and architecture, religious sects, Institution of temple and Mathas, Agraharas, education and literature, economy and society.
12. **Themes in Early Indian Cultural History:**  
Languages and texts, major stages in the evolution of art and architecture, major philosophical thinkers and schools, ideas in Science and Mathematics.
13. **Early Medieval India, 750-1200:**  
- Polity: Major political developments in Northern India and the Peninsula, origin and the rise of Rajputs  
- The Cholas: administration, village economy and society  
- "Indian Feudalism"  
- Agrarian economy and urban settlements  
- Trade and commerce  
- Society: the status of the Brahman and the new social order  
- Condition of women  
- Indian science and technology
14. **Cultural Traditions in India, 750-1200:**  
- Philosophy: Skankaracharya and Vedanta, Ramanuja and Vishishtadvaita, Madhva and Brahma-Mimansa  
- Religion: Forms and features of religion, Tamil devotional cult, growth of Bhakti, Islam and its arrival in India, Sufism  
- Literature: Literature in Sanskrit, growth of Tamil literature, literature in the newly developing languages, Kalhan's Rajtarangini, Alberuni's India  
- Art and Architecture: Temple architecture, sculpture, painting
15. **The Thirteenth Century:**  
- Establishment of the Delhi Sultanate: The Ghurian invasions – factors behind Ghurian success  
- Economic, social and cultural consequences  
- Foundation of Delhi Sultanate and early Turkish Sultans  
- Consolidation: The rule of Iltutmish and Balban
16. **The Fourteenth Century:**  
- "The Khalji Revolution"  
- Alauddin Khalji: Conquests and territorial expansion, agrarian and economic measures  
- Muhammad Tughluq: Major projects, agrarian measures, bureaucracy of Muhammad Tughluq  
- Firuz Tughluq: Agrarian measures, achievements in civil engineering and public works, decline of the Sultanate, foreign contacts and Ibn Battuta's account
17. **Society, Culture and Economy in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries:**  
- Society: composition of rural society, ruling classes, town dwellers, women, religious classes, caste and slavery under the Sultanate, Bhakti movement, Sufi movement  
- Culture: Persian literature, literature in the regional languages of North India, literature in the languages of South India, Sultanate architecture and new structural forms, painting, evolution of a composite culture  
- Economy: Agricultural production, rise of urban economy and non-agricultural production, trade and commerce
18. **The Fifteenth and Early Sixteenth Century – Political Developments and Economy:**  
- Rise of Provincial Dynasties: Bengal, Kashmir (Zainul Abedin), Gujarat, Malwa, Bahmanids  
- The Vijayanagra Empire  
- Lodis  
- Mughal Empire, First phase: Babur and Humayun  
- The Sur Empire: Sher Shah's administration  
- Portuguese Colonial enterprise  
- Bhakti and Sufi Movements
19. **The Fifteenth and early Sixteenth Century – Society and Culture:**  
- Regional cultural specificities  
- Literary traditions  
- Provincial architecture  
- Society, culture, literature and the arts in Vijayanagara Empire.
20. **Akbar:**  
- Conquests and consolidation of the Empire  
- Establishment of Jagir and Mansab systems  
- Rajput policy  
- Evolution of religious and social outlook, theory of Sulh-i-kul and religious policy  
- Court patronage of art and technology
21. **Mughal Empire in the Seventeenth Century:**  
- Major administrative policies of Jahangir, Shahjahan and Aurangzeb

- The Empire and the Zamindars
  - Religious policies of Jahangir, Shahjahan and Aurangzeb
  - Nature of the Mughal State
  - Late Seventeenth century crisis and the revolts
  - The Ahom Kingdom
  - Shivaji and the early Maratha Kingdom.
22. **Economy and Society in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries:**
- Population, agricultural production, craft production
  - Towns, commerce with Europe through Dutch, English and French companies : a trade revolution
  - Indian mercantile classes, banking, insurance and credit systems
  - Condition of peasants, condition of women
  - Evolution of the Sikh community and the Khalsa Panth
23. **Culture in the Mughal Empire:**
- Persian histories and other literature
  - Hindi and other religious literature
  - Mughal architecture
  - Mughal painting
  - Provincial architecture and painting
  - Classical music
  - Science and technology
24. **The Eighteenth Century:**
- Factors for the decline of the Mughal Empire
  - The regional principalities: Nizam's Deccan, Bengal, Awadh
  - Maratha ascendancy under the Peshwas
  - The Maratha fiscal and financial system
  - Emergence of Afghan Power, Battle of Panipat: 1761
  - State of politics, culture and economy on the eve of the British conquest

## **PAPER - II**

1. **European Penetration into India:**  
The Early European Settlements; The Portuguese and the Dutch; The English and the French East India Companies; Their struggle for supremacy; Carnatic Wars; Bengal -The conflict between the English and the Nawabs of Bengal; Siraj and the English; The Battle of Plassey; Significance of Plassey.
2. **British Expansion in India:**  
Bengal – Mir Jafar and Mir Kasim; The Battle of Buxar; Mysore; The Marathas; The three Anglo-Maratha Wars; The Punjab.
3. **Early Structure of the British Raj:**  
The early administrative structure; From diarchy to direct control; The Regulating Act (1773); The Pitt's India Act (1784); The Charter Act (1833); The voice of free trade and the changing character of British colonial rule; The English utilitarian and India.
4. **Economic Impact of British Colonial Rule:**
- (a) Land revenue settlements in British India; The Permanent Settlement; Ryotwari Settlement; Mahalwari Settlement; Economic impact of the revenue arrangements; Commercialization of agriculture; Rise of landless agrarian labourers; Impoverishment of the rural society.
- (b) Dislocation of traditional trade and commerce; De-industrialisation; Decline of traditional crafts; Drain of wealth; Economic transformation of India; Railroad and communication network including telegraph and postal services; Famine and poverty in the rural interior; European business enterprise and its limitations.
5. **Social and Cultural Developments:**  
The state of indigenous education, its dislocation; Orientalist-Anglicist controversy, The introduction of western education in India; The rise of press, literature and public opinion; The rise of modern vernacular literature; Progress of science; Christian missionary activities in India.
6. **Social and Religious Reform movements in Bengal and Other Areas:**  
Ram Mohan Roy, The Brahmo Movement; Devendranath Tagore; Iswarchandra Vidyasagar; The Young Bengal Movement; Dayanada Saraswati; The social reform movements in India including Sati, widow remarriage, child marriage etc.; The contribution of Indian renaissance to the growth of modern India; Islamic revivalism – the Feraizi and Wahabi Movements.
7. **Indian Response to British Rule:**  
Peasant movements and tribal uprisings in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries

- including the Rangpur Dhing (1783), the Kol Rebellion (1832), the Mopla Rebellion in Malabar (1841-1920), the Santal Hul (1855), Indigo Rebellion (1859-60), Deccan Uprising (1875) and the Munda Ulgulan (1899-1900); The Great Revolt of 1857 - Origin, character, causes of failure, the consequences; The shift in the character of peasant uprisings in the post-1857 period; the peasant movements of the 1920s and 1930s.
8. **Factors leading to the birth of Indian Nationalism:** Politics of Association; The Foundation of the Indian National Congress; The Safety-valve thesis relating to the birth of the Congress; Programme and objectives of Early Congress; the social composition of early Congress leadership; the Moderates and Extremists; The Partition of Bengal (1905); The Swadeshi Movement in Bengal; the economic and political aspects of Swadeshi Movement; The beginning of revolutionary extremism in India.
9. **Rise of Gandhi; Character of Gandhian nationalism:** Gandhi's popular appeal; Rowlatt Satyagraha; the Khilafat Movement; the Non-cooperation Movement; National politics from the end of the Non-cooperation movement to the beginning of the Civil Disobedience movement; the two phases of the Civil Disobedience Movement; Simon Commission; The Nehru Report; the Round Table Conferences; Nationalism and the Peasant Movements; Nationalism and Working class movements; Women and Indian youth and students in Indian politics (1885-1947); the election of 1937 and the formation of ministries; Cripps Mission; the Quit India Movement; the Wavell Plan; The Cabinet Mission.
10. **Constitutional** Developments in the Colonial India between 1858 and 1935
11. **Other strands in the National Movement**  
The Revolutionaries: Bengal, the Punjab, Maharashtra, U.P, the Madras Presidency, Outside India.  
The Left; The Left within the Congress: Jawaharlal Nehru, Subhas Chandra Bose, the Congress Socialist Party; the Communist Party of India, other left parties.
12. **Politics of Separatism:** the Muslim League; the Hindu Mahasabha; Communalism and the politics of partition; Transfer of power; Independence.
13. **Consolidation as a Nation; Nehru's Foreign Policy:** India and her neighbours (1947-1964); The linguistic reorganisation of States (1935-1947); Regionalism and regional inequality; Integration of Princely States; Princes in electoral politics; the Question of National Language.
14. **Caste and Ethnicity after 1947:** Backward castes and tribes in post-colonial electoral politics; Dalit movements.
15. **Economic development and political change:** Land reforms; the politics of planning and rural reconstruction; Ecology and environmental policy in post - colonial India; Progress of science.
16. **Enlightenment and Modern ideas:**
- I. Major ideas of Enlightenment: Kant, Rousseau
  - II. Spread of Enlightenment in the colonies
  - III. Rise of socialist ideas (up to Marx); spread of Marxian Socialism.
17. **Origins of Modern Politics:**
- I. European States System.
  - II. American Revolution and the Constitution.
  - III. French revolution and aftermath, 1789-1815.
  - IV. American Civil War with reference to Abraham Lincoln and the abolition of slavery.
  - V. British Democratic Politics, 1815-1850; Parliamentary Reformers, Free Traders, Chartists.
18. **Industrialization:**
- (i) English Industrial Revolution: Causes and Impact on Society
  - (ii) Industrialization in other countries: USA, Germany, Russia, Japan
  - (iii) Industrialization and Globalization.
19. **Nation-State System:**
- (i) Rise of Nationalism in 19<sup>th</sup> century
  - (ii) Nationalism: state-building in Germany and Italy
  - (iii) Disintegration of Empires in the face of the emergence of nationalities across the world.
20. **Imperialism and Colonialism:**
- (i) South and South-East Asia

- (ii) Latin America and South Africa
  - (iii) Australia
  - (iv) Imperialism and free trade: Rise of neo-imperialism.
21. **Revolution and Counter-Revolution:**
- (i) 19th Century European revolutions
  - (ii) The Russian Revolution of 1917-1921
  - (iii) Fascist Counter-Revolution, Italy and Germany.
  - (iv) The Chinese Revolution of 1949
22. **World Wars:**
- (i) 1st and 2nd World Wars as Total Wars: Societal implications
  - (ii) World War I: Causes and consequences
  - (iii) World War II: Causes and consequence
23. **The World after World War II:**
- (i) Emergence of two power blocs
  - (ii) Emergence of Third World and non-alignment
  - (iii) UNO and the global disputes.
24. **Liberation from Colonial Rule:**
- (i) Latin America-Bolivar
  - (ii) Arab World-Egypt
  - (iii) Africa-Apartheid to Democracy
  - (iv) South-East Asia-Vietnam
25. **Decolonization and Underdevelopment:**
- (i) Factors constraining development: Latin America, Africa
26. **Unification of Europe:**
- (i) Post War Foundations: NATO and European Community
  - (ii) Consolidation and Expansion of European Community
  - (iii) European Union.
27. **Disintegration of Soviet Union and the Rise of the Unipolar World:**
- (i) Factors leading to the collapse of Soviet communism and the Soviet Union, 1985-1991
  - (ii) Political Changes in Eastern Europe 1989-2001.
  - (iii) End of the cold war and US ascendancy in the World as the lone superpower.

# **SHANKAR IAS ACADEMY**

## **History (Prelims)**

1. NCERT – For Ancient / Medieval / Modern
2. Ancient India – A.L. Bhasam & Romila Thaper
3. Medieval – Sathish Chandra Volume I & II
4. Modern – Bibin Chandra , Grover & Grover
5. Krishna Reddy Guide.

## **History (Mains)**

1. IGNO – Material
2. NCERT – For Ancient / Medieval / Modern
3. Ancient India – A.L. Bhasam & Romila Thaper
4. Medieval – Sathish Chandra Volume I & II
5. Modern – Bibin Chandra , Grover & Grover
6. Krishna Reddy Guide.