INDIAN TRADITION, CULTURE AND SOCIETY

Subject code: KNC-602

Topic 1-society state policy in India

Society: **The aggregate of people living together in more or less ordered community.**

State: **A state is a policy under system of governance with a monopoly.**

1. **Uniform rules**
2. **One system**

Policy: **A course OR principle of action adopted OR proposed by an organization or individual.**

State in Ancient India Theories:

Political thinkers have attempted to explain the origin of the state in various ways. Where and how the state came into existence have not been recorded anywhere in history.

1. ## Evolutionary theory:

   It explains the state is the product of growth, a slow and steady evolution extending over a long period of time and ultimately shaping itself into the complex structure of a modern state. This theory is more scientific.

   There were a number of factors which helped the evolution of the state. They were kinship, religion, war, migration economic activities and political consciousness. The important factors which contributed to the growth of the state are

1. Kinship:

   Kinship is the most important and was based upon blood relationship and kinship was the first strongest bond of unity.

2. Religion:

   Religion provided the bond of unity in early society. It also affected all walks of life. The worship of a common ancestor and common goods created a sense of social solidarity.

3. Property and defense:

   Property and defense played a vital role in the evolution of state in ancient times

4. Force:

   Force also played an important part in the evolution of the state. It was the use of physical force that was responsible for the growth of kingdoms and empires.

5. Political consciousness:

   The last is political consciousness arising from the fundamental needs of life for protection and order.

2. Force theory:

According to this theory, the state originated due to force exerted by the strong over the weak. The idea contained in the statement is that 'war begat the king'.

3. Mystical /divine origin theory:

According to this theory, was a subordinate to law, which was made by the society and not him? The community as a whole was given greater importance than the king. The king was not allowed to act indiscriminately and was expected to act as a father to his subjects, and treat them with affection and kindness.

4. **Social contract theory:**

The social contract theory, one of the common theories of the origin of state, believes that state is a result of a contract between the king and his subjects or representatives. The king, thus appointed, was expected to save the state and the subjects from external aggression and establish order and security within the state.

Topic-2 Stage of state formation in ancient India-

The Six Stages of the Creation of the State

1. **Stage 1: Looting**
2. **Stage 3: Tribute**
3. **Stage 4: Occupation**
4. **Stage 5: Monopoly**
5. **Stage 6: State**

Stage 1: Looting

The first stage comprises robbery and killing in border fights, endless combats broken neither by peace nor by armistice. It is marked by killing of men, carrying away of children and women, looting of herds, and burning of dwellings.

Stage 2: Truce

Gradually, from this first stage, there develops the second, in which the peasant, through thousands of unsuccessful attempts at revolt, has accepted his fate and has ceased every resistance.

Stage 3: Tribute

The third stage arrives when the "surplus" obtained by the peasantry is brought by them regularly to the tents of the herdsmen as "tribute," a regulation that affords to both parties self-evident and considerable advantages.

Stage 4: Occupation

The fourth stage, once more, is of very great importance, since it adds the decisive factor in the development of the state, as we are accustomed to see it, namely, the union on one strip of land of both ethnic groups.

Stage 5: Monopoly

The logic of events presses quickly from the fourth to the fifth stage, and fashions almost completely the full state. Quarrels arise between neighboring villages or clans that the lords no longer permit to be fought out, since by this the capacity of the peasants for service would be impaired.

Stage 6: State

State formation is the process of the development of a centralized government structure in a situation where one did not exist prior to its development.

Topic 3 kingship

Kinship is the most important and was based upon blood relationship and kinship was the first strongest bond of unity.

The Lord created a king for the protection of this whole creation, taking eternal particles of Indra , of the Wind, of the Yama, of the Sun, of Fire, of Varuna, of the Moon and of the Lord of Wealth.

Functions and duties of the King

- To offer protection to the subjects.
- To fight battles in order to repulse external attacks.
- Protection of private property..
- Preservation of family and prevention of adultery.
- As time passed the concept of welfare state developed and development of agriculture, trade and commerce, promotion of industries, etc. were other responsibilities which the king carried on his shoulders. His other functions included removal of poverty and misery of his subjects and to support the helpless, aged, blind, cripple, orphans and widows.

Topic 4- Council of Ministers administration

The Council of Ministers is a traditional name given to the supreme executive organ in some governments. The term is usually equivalent to the word "cabinet" (Council of State is a similar term that also may refer to a Cabinet.

The Council of Ministers comprises Ministers who are members of Cabinet, Ministers of State (independent charge), Ministers of State and Deputy Ministers.

The Prime Minister of India is the deciding authority on how the Council of Ministers will be structured. Based on factors such as experience and seniority the Council of Ministers is divided into the following:

- The Cabinet
- Minister of State
- Deputy Minister
- Parliamentary Secretaries

Topic 5 Political Ideals

In social studies, a political ideology is a certain set of ethical ideals, principles, doctrines, myths or symbols of a social movement, institution, class or large group that explains how society should work and offers some political and cultural blueprint for a certain social order.

1. The Vedas:
The Vedas are regarded as the authentic works of Gods at the time of the creation of the world and so are considered the original source of information.

2. The Mahabharata:

This Indian epic is considered a classic work on the art of politics.

3. The Arthashastra:

This work authored by Kautilya is again a masterpiece on polity.

4. Works of Thinkers:

Some of the great works that act as major sources of the political thought of ancient India

5. Inscriptions:

Stone and copper inscriptions throw light on the contemporary political life of the people and the administrative system of those days.

6. Accounts of Foreign Travelers:

The writings of foreign travelers to India like Megesthanes, Fahien, Huang Tsang and others provide great information about the ancient Indian society, administration, trade and industry and the like.

Topic 6 Ancient Conditions of welfare societies

Charity and social welfare during the ancient Period

Charity:

Charity was the first form of social work practice in India. Charity means love and compassion for the poor and one's fellowmen on the religious ground. It is practiced through rendering service to the needy, basically to attain blessing from God.

Good governance:

In the cities the municipal administration was responsible for the construction of gardens, recreational centers, forest management, cremation ground, feeding houses and pilgrimage.

Poor Relief:

Poor relief was one of the most important measures of the state during the rule of kings since ancient India. It was the duty of the state to help and support during natural calamities. Special efforts were taken for the dependent and sick people.

Employment:

State during the kings' rule provided employment for those who suffered from their own fate like helpless widows, crippled women, prostitutes, handicapped etc. the dependents were taken care and were trained to take up responsibilities of the state. The orphans were provide with all the facilities and educated in various fields and provided with jobs.

Market Policies:

People friendly market policies were strictly executed. It was the responsibility of the king to control the market price of consumers' goods by bargaining with the traders. Stringent punishments were ordered against any kind of corruption in the market system. Food adulteration was strictly prohibited.

Regulation of Slavery:

The occupation of slaves was defined. The masters were cautioned not to use their slaves in mean work such as carrying the dead, sweeping ordure, urine and the like.

Topic 7- the seven limbs of the state

Kautilya enumerated seven prakritis or essential organs of the state. They are as follow: (i) Swami (The Ruler) 1 (ii) Amatya (The Minister) (iii) Janapada (The Population) (iv) Durga (The Fortified Capital) (v) Kosha (The Treasury) (vi) Danda (The Army) (vii) Mitra (Ally and Friend)

(i) Swami (The Ruler)

It is the first and the most important element. Swami means the monarch. He should be a native of the soil and born in a noble family. He should be brave and well learned. He makes all the important appointments and supervises the government. He has to be virtuous and should treat his subjects like his own children. Kautilya has given extensive powers to the monarch but those powers are

meant for the welfare of them subjects. In the welfare and happiness of his subjects, lies his own happiness.

(ii) Amatya (The Minister)

It refers to the council of ministers as well as the supporting officials and subordinate staffs. They are meant for assisting the monarch in day to day affairs of the state. Amatya gives suggestions to king, collects taxes, develops new villages and cities, ensures defense of the state and all other tasks as assigned by the king.

(iii) Janpada (The Population) it refers to territory and people of the state. The territory of the state should be fertile and should have abundance of forest, rivers, mountains, minerals, wild life etc. It should have good climate. People should be loyal to their king, hard working, disciplined, religious, ready to fight for their motherland, should pay taxes regularly and happily.

(iv) Durga (The Fortified Capital)

it refers to forts. The state should have sufficient number of forts across its territory at strategic locations for ensuring defense against foreign invasions. Forts should be built near hills/mountains, deserts, dense forests and big water bodies. They garrison soldiers, store food grains for emergency and also serve as a hideout for the king when his life in danger.

Topic 8 -Society in Ancient India

It was, however, one of the most formative eras of **ancient Indian** civilization. So far as **society** is concerned, the coming of Aryans into **ancient India**, and their establishing themselves as the dominant group, gave rise to the caste system. This divided **Indian society** into rigid layers, underpinned by religious rules.
The **Ancient Indian society** was based upon Varna and ashrams, a four-fold

classification of the entire people into varnas and a fourfold division of the life of each individual into ashrams (stages).

Four principal categories (varnas) are defined:

1. **Brahmins** (priests, gurus, etc.),
2. Kshatriyas (warriors, kings, administrators, etc.)
3. **Vaishyas** (agriculturalists, traders, etc., also called Vysyas),
4. Shudras (labourers).

Following ashrams (stages)-

Under the **Ashram** system, the human lifespan was divided into four periods.

1. Brahmacharya (student),
2. Grihastha (householder),
3. Vanaprastha (retired) and
4. Sannyasa (renunciate).

Topic 9 -Purusartha

The Purusharthas are the inherent values of the Universe:

1. Artha (economic values),
2. Kama (pleasure),
3. Dharma (righteousness), and
4. Moksha (liberation).

The Purusharthas are the blueprint for human fulfillment. Working with them helps you create a satisfyingly balanced, meaningful life at the deepest and most holistic level. They offer a way for evaluating your life and making good decisions. Knowing your goals brings meaning to your spiritual practice.

Topic 10 -Varna system

Four principal categories (varnas) are defined:

1. **Brahmins** (priests, gurus, etc.),
2. Kshatriyas (warriors, kings, administrators, etc.)
3. **Vaishyas** (agriculturalists, traders, etc., also called Vysyas),
4. Shudras (labourers).

Topic 11 -Ashram or the stages of life

Following ashrams (stages)-

Ashrama in Hinduism is one of four age-based life stages discussed in Indian texts of the ancient and medieval eras.

Under the **Ashram** system, the human lifespan was divided into four periods.

1. Brahmacharya (student)
2. Grihastha (householder)
3. Vanaprastha (retired)
4. Sannyasa (renunciate)

Topic 12- Marriage

Manu's description of the eight forms of marriage is given below:
(1) Brahma form of marriage:
Brahma form of marriage is said to be the best and mostly practiced throughout India. It is considered an advanced stage of social progress.

(2) Daiva form of Marriage:
The Daiva form of marriage was slightly different from the Brahma form of marriage in the sense that the suitor was an official priest. Special qualities like

good character, scholarship in the Vedas or good family background of the bridegroom were not emphasized in selection.

(3) Arsha form of Marriage:

"When the father gives his daughter away after having received from the bridegroom one pair of kine, or two pairs for uses prescribed by law, that marriage is termed Arsha".

4) Prajapatya form Marriage:

In this form of marriage, the father gives away his daughter with due honour saying, distinctly: "May both of you perform together your civil and religious duties "You two be the partners for performing religious and secular duties.

(5) Asura form of Marriage:

In the Asura form of marriage, the bride was given to the husband in payment of a consideration called 'sulka" or bride-price. When the bridegroom, having given its much wealth as he can afford to the father or paternal kinsmen and to the damsel herself, takes her voluntarily as his bride ' it Is called the Asura Marriage.

(6) Gandharva form of marriage:

The Gandharva form of marriage is the union of a man and a woman by mutual consent.

(7) Rakshasa form of marriage:

In simple terms the 'Rakshasa' form of marriage may be described as marriage by capture, resembling the right of a victor to the person of the captive in war.

(8) 'Paishacha' form of marriage:

It is the worst form of marriage among the Hindus. When the lover secretly embraces the damsel, either sleeping of flushed with strong liqueur, or disordered in her intellect, that sinful marriage, called paishacha is the eighth and the lowest form.

Topic 13 -Understanding Gender as a social category

Gender as a social construction its basically social concept. It refers to the social and cultural differences a society assigns to people based on their biological concept. Masculine, Feminine, male female, transgender.

Topic 14- the representation of Women in Historical Traditions

Throughout history, women have made extraordinary contributions to their societies. Some are well known some less so, but all have been trail blazers.

Explore a small selection of these women and learn what the reality still is today for many women and girls worldwide. History has seen **some fiercely intelligent**, powerful and **inspirational women** who have been pioneers for women's rights and racial equality and have defined the worlds of science, mathematics, aviation and literature.

Here are the 12 women who changed the world

- Jane Austen (1775 – 1817)
- Anne Frank (1929 – 1945)
- Maya Angelou (1928 – 2014)
- Queen Elizabeth I (1533 – 1603)
- Catherine the Great (1729 – 1796)
- Sojourner Truth (1797 – 1883)
- Rosa Parks (1913 – 2005)

1. Jane Austen (1775 – 1817)

"The person, be it gentleman or lady, who has not pleasure in a good novel, must be intolerably stupid."

2. Anne Frank (1929 – 1945)

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world."

3. Maya Angelou (1928 – 2014)

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

4. Queen Elizabeth I (1533 – 1603)

"Though the sex to which I belong is considered weak you will nevertheless find me a rock that bends to no wind."

5. Catherine the Great (1729 – 1796)

"Power without a nation's confidence is nothing."

Topic 15- Challenges faced by women

Challenges faced by women:

1. Although women took care of households but were allowed in all major ceremonies.
2. They were given equal opportunity as men for their spiritual and intellectual development.
3. Were also allowed to attend popular ceremonies.
4. No child marriage and sati.
5. Women were considered inferior.
6. They were subordinate to men.
7. Child marriage became common during this period.
8. They lost political rights to attend assemblies.
9. Not being allowed to study.

10. Always being treated as second class citizens.
11. Not having any say in important decision of your life
12. Possibly pushed on the funeral pyre of husband.
13. Confined to just four walls of your house.
14. Not being able to decide whom to marry.
15. Getting marriage at the age of 5 to possibly a 30 or 35 year old men.

Topic 16- Four class classification

Four principal categories (varnas)/four classes of society:

1. **Brahmins** (priests, gurus, etc.),
2. Kshatriyas (warriors, kings, administrators, etc.)
3. **Vaishyas** (agriculturalists, traders, etc., also called Vysyas),
4. Shudras (labourers).

Topic 17 - Slavery

In **Ancient** Egypt, **slaves** were mainly obtained through prisoners of war. Other ways people could become **slaves** was by inheriting the status from their parents. One could also become a **slave** on account of his inability to pay his debts. **Slavery** was the direct result of poverty.

Slavery in ancient Rome played an important role in society and the economy. Besides manual labour, slaves performed many domestic services and might be employed at highly skilled jobs and professions. Accountants and physicians were often slaves. Slaves of Greek origin in particular might be highly educated.

Types of Slavery

1. **Sex Trafficking-**The manipulation, coercion, or control of an adult engaging in a commercial sex act.
2. **Child Sex Trafficking.**
3. **Forced Labor.**

4. **Forced Child Labor.**
5. **Bonded Labor or Debt Bondage.**
6. **Domestic Servitude.**
7. **Unlawful Recruitment and Use of Child Soldiers.**

INDIAN TRADITIONS, CULTURAL AND SOCIETY   KNC-602

Module 2- Indian Literature, Culture, Tradition, and Practices Evolution of script

& languages in India

i)Introduction
ii)Harappan Script and Brahmi Script
iii) The Vedas, the Upanishads
iv) The Ramayana and the Mahabharata
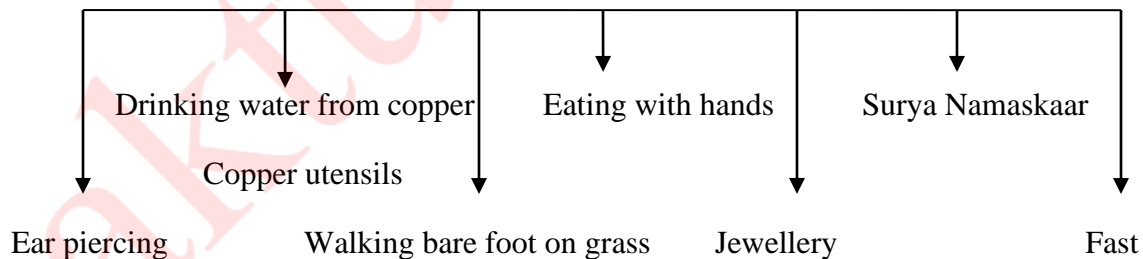v) Buddhist and Jain Literature in Pali,Prakrit and Sanskrit
vi) Kautilya's Arthashastra
vii)Famous Sanskrit Authors, Telugu Literature, Kannada Literature, Malayalam
Literature ,Sangama Literature
vii) Northern Indian Languages & Literature, Persian And Urdu ,Hindi Literature

i) Introduction

- **Indian Culture-** Indian culture is the heritage of social norms, ethical values, traditional customs, belief systems, political systems, artifacts and technologies that originated in or are associated with the Indian subcontinent.

- **Indian Tradition-** A tradition is a belief or behavior (folk custom) passed down within a group or society with symbolic meaning or special significance with origins in the past. Traditions are a subject of study in several academic fields, especially in social sciences such as folklore studies, anthropology, archaeology, and biology.

Indian Traditions which are good for health

Drinking water from copper   Eating with hands   Surya Namaskaar

Copper utensils

Ear piercing   Walking bare foot on grass   Jewellery   Fast

- **Indian Practices-** Indian culture and traditions are something which has now become renowned all across the world. We all refer to customs and traditions of India as something very diverse and unique.

➢ **Practices Evolution of script-** Script in any particular system of writing or the written means of human communication. The emergence of writing systems is regarded as one of the most significant milestones towards human civilization.

➢ **Languages in India -** The languages of India are divided into various language families, of which the Indo-Aryan and they are the most widely spoken. There are also many languages belonging to different people and groups.

ii) Harappan Script and Brahmi Script

a) Harappan Script

The Indus script also known as Indus Valley Civilization.
The Indus writing in its fully developed form can be dated to about 2600-1900 BC.
The Harappan civilization was located in the Indus River valley.

The two features of Harappan script are --
i) It was pictographic in nature as the script consisted of designs of animals, fishes and various forms of human figure too.
ii) It was found to be inscribed on seals, terracotta tablets, etc.

b) Brahmi Script

- ❖ The Brahmi script is the earliest writing system developed in India after the Indus script.
- ❖ It is one of the most influential writing systems; all modern Indian scripts and several hundred scripts found in Southeast and East Asia are derived from Brahmi is the modern name for a writing system of ancient India.
- ❖ The Brahmi writing system, or script, appeared as a fully developed universal one in South Asia at least by the third century BCE.
- ❖ Devanagari script is derived from Brahmi script.
- ❖ All Indian languages (both Dravidian and North Indian) are originated from Brahmi script.
- ❖ Devanagari script is used only for Hindi and Sanskrit(Other north Indian languages like Punjabi and Kashmiri are influenced by Devanagari script though)

iii) The Vedas, the Upanishads

a) The Vedas

The Vedas are a large body of religious texts originating in ancient India. Composed in Vedic Sanskrit, the texts constitute the oldest layer of Sanskrit literature and the oldest scriptures of Hinduism.

There are four Vedas

The Rigveda   **The Samaveda**   **The Yajurveda**   **The Atharvaveda**
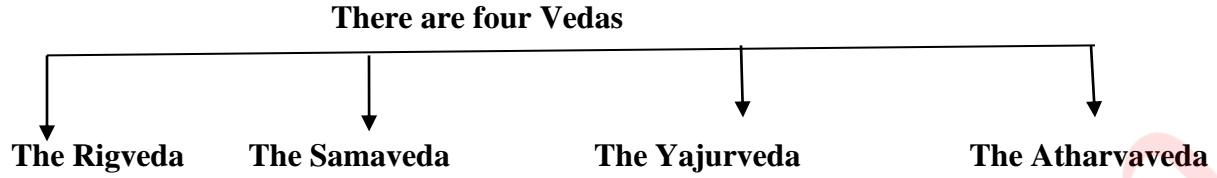
The Rigveda- The Rig Veda is the oldest of the works comprised of 10 books (known as mandalas) .

❖ **These verses concern themselves with proper religious observance and practice.**

❖ **It is based on the universal vibrations as understood by the sages who first heard them, but also address fundamental questions regarding existence.**

The Samaveda- based on knowledge of art.

❖ **The melodies are thought to encourage dance which, combined with the words, elevates the soul.**

❖ **The Sama Veda ("Melody Knowledge" or "Song Knowledge") is a work of songs, chants, and texts meant to be sung.**

❖ **The content is almost wholly derived from the Rig Veda and, as some scholars have observed, the Rig Veda serves as the lyrics to the melodies of the Sama Veda.**

The Yajurveda-

❖ **The Yajur Veda ("Worship Knowledge" or "Ritual Knowledge") consists of recitations, ritual worship formulas, mantras, and chants directly involved in worship services.**

❖ **It has two sections- The dark Yajur Veda has those parts which are unclear and poorly arranged & the "light Yajur Veda" applies to the verses which are clearer and better arranged.**

The Atharvaveda- It is comprised of 20 books .

❖ The Atharva Veda ("knowledge of Atharvan") differs significantly from the first three in that it concerns itself with magical spells to ward off evil spirits or danger, chants, hymns, prayers, initiation rituals, marriage and funeral ceremonies, and observations on daily life.

b) The Upanishads

❖ The Upanishads present a vision of an interconnected universe with a single, unifying principle behind the apparent diversity in the cosmos, any articulation of which is called Brahman.

❖ The Upanishads teach that Brahman resides in the atman, the unchanging core of the, human individual.

❖ The sage who, according to tradition, composed the Upanishads was Vyasa.

Difference between Vedas & Upanishads

❖ Vedas were composed over a time period ranging from 1200 to 400 B.C.E.

❖ The Upanishads were written over a time period ranging from 700 to 400 B.C.

❖ Vedas focused on ritualistic details, uses and traditions.

❖ Upanishads focused on Spiritual enlightenment.

iv)The Ramayana and the Mahabharata, Puranas

a) The Ramayana

❖ Ramayana is one of the two major Sanskrit epics of ancient India, the other being the Mahabharata.

❖ Along with the Mahabharata, it forms the Hindu Itihasa.

- ❖ **The epic, traditionally ascribed to the Maharishi Valmiki, narrates the life of Rama, a legendary prince of Ayodhya city in the kingdom of Kosala.**
- ❖ **The Ramayana is an ancient Sanskrit epic which follows Prince Rama's quest to rescue his beloved wife Sita from the clutches of Ravana with the help of an army of monkeys.**
- ❖ **It is traditionally attributed to the authorship of the sage Valmiki and dated to around 500 BCE to 100 BCE.**

b) The Mahabharata

- ❖ **The Mahabharata is an important source of information on the development of Hinduism between 400 BCE and 200 CE and is regarded by Hindus as both a text about dharma (Hindu moral law) and a history (Itihasa, literally "that's what happened".**
- ❖ **Including within it the Bhagavad Gita, the Mahabharata is one of the most important texts of ancient Indian, indeed world, literature.**
- ❖ **The Mahabharata is an ancient Indian epic where the main story revolves around two branches of a family - the Pandavas and Kauravas - who, in the Kurukshetra War, battle for the throne of Hastinapura.**

c) Puranas

- ❖ **The word Purana literally means "ancient, old", and it is a vast genre of Indian literature about a wide range of topics, particularly legends and other traditional lore.**
- ❖ **The Puranas are known for the intricate layers of symbolism depicted within their stories.**
- ❖ **The Matasya Purana (IAST- Matasya Puraṇa) is one of the eighteen major Puranas (Mahapurana), and among the oldest and better preserved in the Puranic genre of Sanskrit literature in Hinduism.**
- ❖ **The text is a Vaishnavism text named after the half-human and half-fish avatar of Vishnu.**
- ❖ **Puranas cover a wide range of topics including origin and creation of the universe, creation of gods, demi-gods, humans & demons.**

v) Buddhist and Jain Literature in Pali, Prakrit and Sanskrit

- ✓ **Many evil customs crept into Hindu society.**
- ✓ **The shudras were denied the right to study religious texts.**
- ✓ **In the 6th century two great religious reformers, Vardhamana Mahavira and Gautama Buddha were born.**

a) Buddhist Literature in Pali

Buddhism and Jainism are two Indian religions that developed in Magadha (Bihar) and continue to thrive in the modern age.

- ❖ **Early Prakrit was Pali.**
- ❖ **The religious book of Jain & Buddhist refers to historical persons & incidents.**
- ❖ **The earliest Buddhist work is written in Pali.**
- ❖ **It became the language of the Buddhists.**
- ❖ **. It can be divided into the canonical and the non-canonical.**
- ✓ **Canonical- Best represented by the Tripitakas-means-3baskets**

Vinaya, Sutta, Abhidhamma
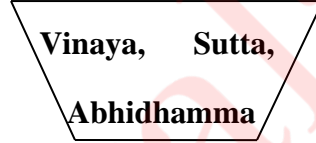
- ✓ **Non- Canonical- Represented by Jatakas with the most interesting stories on previous birth of Buddha.**

b) Jain Literature in Prakrit

- ❖ **The Jain text was written in Prakrit.**
- ❖ **Most of the literature generally called Prakrit is devoted to Jainism.**
- ❖ **It was finally compiled in the 6th century AD in Vallavi in Gujarat.**
- ❖ **The most important works are known as Angas, Upangas, and Sutras etc.**

c) In Sanskrit

- ❖ **Sanskrit is the mother of much Indian language.**
- ❖ **It is the most ancient language of our country.**
- ❖ **The Vedas, Puranas, Upanishads are written in Sanskrit.**
- ❖ **It is appreciated & makes the civilization rich & cultured.**
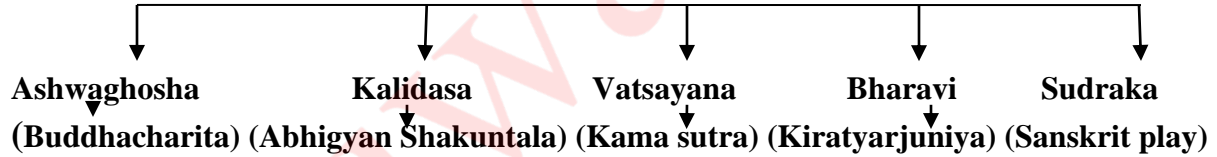- ❖ **Kalidasa has added beauty to the storehouse of Sanskrit writings.**

vi) Kautilya's Arthashastra

❖ **Arthashastra was transcribed in around 4th century BC by the Prime Minister of the Great Mauryan Empire Kautilya, also called Chanakya or Vishnugupta.**

❖ **It had wide influence on Sanskrit literature.**

❖ **It is written on economic policy and military strategy, written in Sanskrit.**

❖ **Arthashastra is used in the sense of material well-being, in livelihood, economically productive activity trade etc.**

❖ **In simple way, 'Arthashastra' can be explained as 'science and art of politics and diplomacy'.**

❖ **Kautilya's Arthashastra is mainly a work on the art of government.**

❖ **In his political and administrative ideas, the focus of attention was the king.**

❖ **Kautilya's administrative and judicial structure was hierarchical in nature.**

❖ **The intent of Arthashastra texts was to guide the king and his ministers, and they included such subjects as public administration, economic regulation, foreign policy, techniques of warfare, and civil law.**

vii) Famous Sanskrit Authors, Telugu Literature, Kannada Literature, Malayalam Literature, Sangama Literature

a) Famous Sanskrit Authors

Ashwaghosha — Kalidasa — Vatsayana — Bharavi — Sudraka
(Buddhacharita) (Abhigyan Shakuntala) (Kama sutra) (Kiratyarjuniya) (Sanskrit play)

b) Telugu Literature, Kannada. Literature, Malayalam Literature, Sangama Literature

There are four languages Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada developed their own literature.

Four Dravidian Literatures

Telugu — Kannada — Malayalam — Tamil / Sangama

- ✓ **Telugu- Krishnadevaraya the greatest ruler of Vijayanagara was a poet of great merit.**
  - ❖ **His work Amukta Malyada w regarded as an excellent work in Telugu literature.**
  - ❖ **It was the golden age of Telgu literature.**

  - ✓ **Malayalam- It was spoken in Kerala and subjoining areas.**
    - ❖ **By 15th century Malayalam was recognized as independent language.**
    - ❖ **Rama Pannikr & Ramanujam are well known authors of Malayalam literature.**

  - ✓ **Kannada- It developed fully after 10ᵗʰ century.**
  - ❖ **Pampa was known as father of Kannada.**
  - ❖ **It flourished between 14ᵗʰ & 16ᵗʰ century under patronage of Vijayanagara kings.**

- ✓ **Tamil- It as the oldest language among the four.**
  - ❖ **It produced Sangama literature the literature in Tamil.**
  - ❖ **Sangama literature was produced in the early four centuries of the Christian era.**
  - ❖ **The Sangama literature is a collection of long and short poems composed by various poets in praise of numerous heroes and heroines.**
  - ❖ **They are secular in nature and of a very high quality.**

viii) Northern Indian Languages & Literature, Persian and Urdu, Hindi Literature

a) Northern Indian Languages & Literature

- ❖ **In North-India the major languages in which literature was being produced were Hindi, Urdu, and Punjabi.**
- ❖ **A large number of people speak Hindi in its different forms that include Braj Bhasha, and Awadhi, Bhojpuri, Magadhi, and Maithili, and Rajasthani and Khadi Boli.**
- ❖ **Rajasthani is another variant or dialect of Hindi.**

b) Persian and Urdu, Hindi Literature

- ✓ **Persian- Persian was the language of the court, much of the literature produced in this period was written in Persian.**
- ❖ **Amir Khusrau and Amir Hasan Dehelvi wrote superb poetry in Persian.**

❖ **Arabic and Persian were introduced in India with the coming of the Turks and the Mongols.**

❖ **Persian remained the court language for many centuries.**

❖ **Persian literature has been produced by the courtiers of the Mughal.**

❖ **Abul Fazl's Akbarnamah and Ain-e-Akbari is a fine piece of literature**

❖ **Ferdowsi is perhaps Iran's most famous poet, credited for writing the Shahnameh, the national epic of the Persian speaking world and the longest work of epic poetry ever written, composed of more than 60,000 verses.**

✓ **Urdu- Urdu emerged as an independent language towards the end of the 4th century AD.**

❖ **It developed in the Delhi Sultanate.**

❖ **Urdu as a language was born out of the interaction between Hindi and Persian.**

❖ **Urdu became more popular in the early eighteenth century.**

❖ **Urdu was given its pride of place by a large number of poets who have left inimitable poetry for posterity.**

❖ **Amir Khushro exercised great influence on the initial growth of not only Urdu literature.**

✓ **Hindi- Hindi evolved during the Apabhramsa stage between the 7th and 8th centuries A.D. and the 14th century.**

❖ **The most famous figures from this period were Kabir and Tulsidas.**

❖ **Hindi is a direct descendant of Sanskrit through Prakrit and Apabhramsa.**

❖ **It has been influenced and enriched by Dravidian, Turkish, Farsi, Arabic, Portuguese and English.**

❖ **It is a very expressive language. In poetry and songs, it can convey emotions using simple and gentle words.**

❖ **It can also be used for exact and rational reasoning.**

❖ **Bharatendu Harishchandra wrote in many languages including Hindi, Punjabi, Bengali and Marwari.**
   Regarded as the 'Father of Modern Hindi Literature and Hindi Theatre',
   There was a tremendous growth of regional languages like Hindi, Bengali, Assamese, Oriya, Marathi and Gujarati during this time.

❖ **The emergence of all these languages resulted in the decline of Sanskrit as they came to be used as the medium through which the administrative machinery functioned.**

UNIT-3RD

TOPICS

- ➢ PRE VEDIC AND VEDIC RELIGION
- ➢ BUDDHISM AND JAINISM
- ➢ SIX SYSTEM INDIAN PHILOSOPHY
- ➢ SHANKARACHARYA
- ➢ VARIOUS PHILOSOPHICAL DOCTRINES
- ➢ OTHER HETERODOX SECTS
- ➢ BHAKTI MOVEMENT
- ➢ SUFI MOVEMENT
- ➢ SOCIO RELIGIOUS REFORM MOVEMENT OF 19 TH CENTURY
- ➢ MORDEN RELIGIOUS PRACTICES

TOPIC-1

PRE VEDIC AND VEDIC RELIGION

The word "Veda" means knowledge, wisdom, or vision.

PRE VEDIC

The pre-Vedic age or Vedic age is term coined by European archaeologist. But as per Indian History, there is not any statement regarding pre-Vedic. Because Vedas were from the very beginning of existence, for around 1,96,08,53,118 years. The Vedic Religion was the historical predecessor of modern **Hinduism.** The Vedic Period refers to the time period from approximately 1750-500 BCE, during which Indo- Aryans settled into northern India, bringing with them specific religious traditions.

The word **Hindu** is an eponym, and while **Hinduism** has been called the oldest religion in the world, many practitioners refer to their religion as **Sanātana Dharma** (Sanskrit: सनातन धर्म,)

VEDIC RELIGION

Vedism was a sacrificial **religion** involving the worship of numerous male divinities (and a few goddesses), most of whom were connected with the sky and natural phenomena. The priests who officiated at that worship were drawn from the Brahman social class.

Some of the other important Vedic gods are:

1. Soma – the Moon
2. Ishwara – the Supreme soul and ruler
3. The Asvins – the twin gods of medicine
4. Varuna – the god of oceans
5. The Maruts – the storm
6. Mitra – the protectors and the guardian of Truth;
7. Ushas – goddess of dawn
8. Vayu – the lord of the winds
9. SURYA – impeller, power of the Sun;

TOPIC-2

BUDDHISM AND JAINISM

BUDDHISM-

Buddhism is a faith that was founded by Siddhartha Gautama ("the Buddha") more than 2,500 years ago in India. With about 470 million followers, scholars consider Buddhism one of the major **world religions**. Buddhism is the world's fourth-largest religion with over 520 million followers, or over 7% of the global population, known as Buddhists. Buddhism encompasses a variety of traditions, beliefs and spiritual practices largely based on original teachings attributed to the Buddha and resulting interpreted philosophies.

Founder of Buddhism

<u>Siddhartha Gautama</u>, the founder of Buddhism who later became known as "the Buddha," lived during the 5th century B.C.

<u>Gautama was born</u> into a wealthy family as a prince in present-day Nepal. Although he had an easy life, Gautama was moved by suffering in the world.

Types of Buddhism

Today, many forms of Buddhism exist around the world. The three main types that represent specific geographical areas include:

- **Theravada Buddhism**: Prevalent in Thailand, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Laos and Burma
- **Mahayana Buddhism**: Prevalent in China, Japan, Taiwan, Korea, Singapore and Vietnam
- **Tibetan Buddhism**: Prevalent in Tibet, Nepal, Mongolia, Bhutan, and parts of Russia and northern India.

Dharma

Buddha's teachings are known as "dharma." He taught that wisdom, kindness, patience, generosity and compassion were important virtues.

Specifically, all Buddhists live by five moral precepts, which prohibit:

- Killing living things
- Taking what is not given
- Sexual misconduct
- Lying
- Using drugs or alcohol

Four Noble Truths

The Four Noble Truths, which Buddha taught, are:

- The truth of suffering
- The truth of the cause of suffering

- The truth of the end of suffering
- The truth of the path that frees us from suffering
Eightfold Path

The Buddha taught his followers that the end of suffering, as described in the fourth Noble Truths, could be achieved by following an Eightfold Path.

In no particular order, the Eightfold Path of Buddhism teaches the following ideals for ethical conduct, mental disciple and achieving wisdom:

- Right understanding
- Right thought
- Right speech
- Right action
- Right livelihood
- Right effort
- Right mindfulness
- Right concentration

JAINISM-

Its founder is often, inaccurately, identified as the sage **Vardhamana** OR MAHAVIR JAIN.

Jainism is an ancient **religion** from India that teaches that the way to liberation and bliss is to live lives of harmlessness and renunciation. ... The three guiding principles of **Jainism**, the 'three jewels', are right belief, right knowledge and right conduct. The supreme principle of Jain living is non violence (ahimsa). **Jainism**, Indian religion teaching a path to spiritual purity and enlightenment through disciplined nonviolence to all living creatures.

- True Faith
- Right Knowledge
- Pure Conduct

tirthankaras, Stage/14 steps which are based on the scriptures and the Five Vows:

- Stage 1: The soul languishes in darkness, ignorant of its true nature, and a slave to passions and illusion.

- Stage 2: The soul catches a glimpse of truth but is too mired in illusion to retain it.
-
- Stage 3: The soul recognizes its own bondage and tries to break free but is still bound to attachments and illusion and falls backwards to Stage 1.

- Stage 4: The soul, having recognized its bondage, yearns to break free again but is suppressing, rather than eliminating, its attachments and so remains bound.

- Stage 5: The soul has a flash of enlightenment and understands it must take the Five Vows and adhere to them in order to free itself from bondage.

- Stage 6: The soul is able to restrain its attachments and passions to a degree through the discipline of the Five Vows.

- Stage 7: The soul overcomes spiritual lethargy and is strengthened through meditation and observance of the Five Vows. Self-awareness grows as well as a grander vision of the nature of the soul itself and reality.

- Stage 8: Hurtful karma is discarded, self-control perfected, and deeper understanding achieved.

- Stage 9: More karmic debt is eliminated through conscious living and greater spiritual insight is attained.

- Stage 10: At this stage, one has eliminated attachments almost completely but is still attached to the concept of one's body-as-one's-self. This is understood as "greed for a body", which one must overcome in order to progress.

- Stage 11: Here, one works on eliminating the identification of the self with the body and releasing all other attachments. One recognizes the transient nature of those people and objects one is attached to and releases them.

- Stage 12: All of the karma-producing passions have been eliminated at this point, including one's attachment to the body.

- Stage 13: Recognizing fully the nature of reality and of the soul, one engages in deep meditation to withdraw from all activity which might result in karma-producing passions and backsliding to an earlier stage.

- Stage 14: As one approaches death, one is freed from all karmic debt and experiences the liberation of *moksha*, complete understanding, wisdom, and total freedom from bondage. The soul is freed and will never be incarnated again on the earthly plane to experience suffering and death.

TOPIC-3

SIX SYSTEM INDIAN PHILOSOPHY

The **Six** Systems of **Indian Philosophy** by Friedrich Max Müller is a goldmine of comprehensive account of **six** major systems of **Indian** philosophical thought.
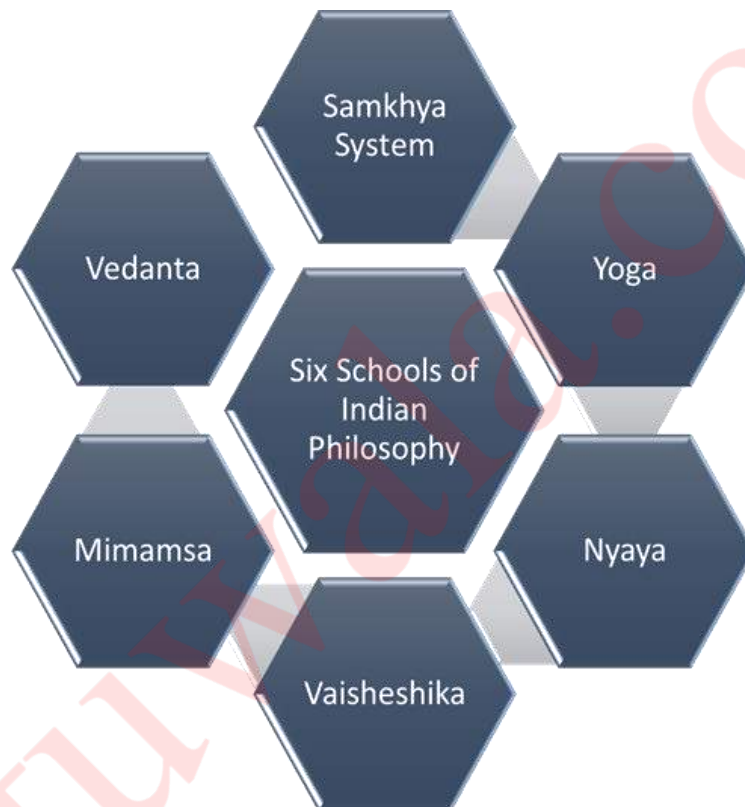
Six system of Indian philosophy are	
Samkhya	Prakriti and Purush
Yoga	Releasing Purush from Parkriti
Nyaya	Logical thinking
Vaisheshika	Realistic and objective philosophy of universe
Mimamsa	Analyzing Samhita and Brahmana portion of Veda.
Vedanta	It is the climax of Indian Phylosophy

TOPIC-4

SHANKARACHARYA

The word Shankaracharya, is composed of two parts, Shankara and Acharya. Acharya is a Sanskrit word meaning "teacher", so Shankaracharya means "teacher of the way of Shankara.

Shankaracharya (**शङ्कराचार्य**) is a commonly used title of heads of monasteries called mathas in the Advaita Vedanta tradition of Hindu Dharma. The title derives from Adi Shankara, teachers from the successive line of teachers dating back to him are known as Shankaracharyas.

<u>Adi Shankara</u> set up four monasteries known as Mathas or Peeth, in the North, South, East and West of India, to be held by realized men who would be known as Shankaracharyas. They would take on the role of teacher and could be consulted by anyone with sincere queries of a spiritual nature.

TOPIC-5

INDIAN PHILOSOPHY AND VARIOUS PHILOSOPHICAL DOCTRINES

Indian philosophy refers to philosophical traditions which developed in the Indian subcontinent. Modern scholars generally divide the field between "Hindu Philosophy" (also known as "Vedic Philosophy") and non-Hindu traditions such as Buddhist Philosophy and Jain Philosophy. This division is generally derived from traditional Indian classifications.

1) Hindu Philosophy

2) Non-Hindu Philosophy

(i) Buddhist Philosophy

Buddhist philosophy refers to the <u>philosophical</u> investigations and systems of inquiry that developed among various <u>Buddhist schools</u> in <u>India</u> .

The Buddhist path combines both philosophical reasoning and meditation.[2] The Buddhist traditions present a multitude of <u>Buddhist paths to liberation,</u>

(ii) Jain Philosophy

Jain philosophy refers to the ancient Indian philosophical system found in Jainism. One of the main features of Jain philosophy is its dualistic metaphysics, which holds that there are two distinct categories of existence, the living, conscious or sentient being (*jiva*) and the non-living or material (*ajiva*).

PHILOSOPHICAL DOCTRINES-

A **philosophical doctrine** is a particular theory, principle, position, system, code of beliefs or body of teachings. These are the famous "-isms" of **Philosophy**.

Doctrine (from Latin: doctrine, **meaning** "teaching, instruction") is a codification of beliefs or a body of teachings or instructions, taught principles or positions, as the essence of teachings in a given branch of knowledge or in a belief system.

SOME PHILOSOPHICAL DOCTRINES-

THERE ARE 43 DOCTRINES IN ALLOVER WORLD SOME ARE EXPLAINED BELOW-

Nihilism – The view that life has no meaning, purpose, and value. Nihilists reject religious and moral principles. Moral Nihilism, moreover, is the ethical view that there are no objective moral facts and that no act or behaviour can ever be declared good or bad in the objective sense.

Existentialism – The view that emphasizes the individual person as a free agent who determines her own development through acts of the will.

Idealism – The view that the mind is all that exists and that the external world is either an illusion created by the mind or is mental itself.

Intellectualism – The view that knowledge is wholly or mainly derived from pure reason, that the intellect is superior to the individual's will, and that the intellect is basis for human decisions and behavior.

Fideism – The view that faith is independent of reason and that reason is unnecessary for the justification of religious belief. This is opposed to a more evidential based faith that seeks to provide arguments and justifications for belief in God through revelation and natural theology.

Materialism – The view that only material matter exists and that all things are composed of material interactions and phenomena. On this view the supernatural does not exist.

Monism – The view that everything is one. It is a view held by some in the philosophy of mind, namely, that mental states and the physical brain are one. It is also the religious doctrine that only one supreme being exists.

Naturalism – The view that only nature and the natural world exists. Arguably the majority of atheists (see above) are naturalists.

Physicalism – The view that all things that exist can be reduced to their physical properties or is nothing more than its physical properties.

Positivism – The view that the only knowledge is that which can be scientifically verified and is capable of logical or mathematical proof. Often espoused in contemporary Scientism.

Rationalism – The view that knowledge is not only derived from observation but also through deductive reasoning and intuition.

TOPIC-6

OTHER HETERODOX SECTS

The Schools of Indian Philosophy that do not accept the authority of Vedas are by definition unorthodox (nastika) systems. From this Hindu point of view, there are six major schools of orthodox (astika) Indian Hindu philosophy-

- Nyaya,
- Vaisheshika,
- Samkhya,
- Yoga,
- Mīmāṃsā
- Vedanta

 Five major **heterodox** (nastika) schools-

The heterodox schools of Indian Philosophy are discussed below:

1. Jain- According to Jainism, Nirvana or liberation is obtained through three jewels:
   - Right Philosophy,
   - Right Knowledge and
   - Right Conduct (Tri-ratna)

   Right conduct implies 5 abstinences:
   - not to lie,
   - not to steal,
   - not to strive for luxury and not to strive for possessions,
   - Not to be unchaste and not to injure (Ahimsa).

2. Buddhist-
   It is a system of beliefs based on the teachings of Siddhartha Gautma. Buddhism is a non-theistic philosophy whose tenets are not especially concerned with the existence or non-existence of God.

3. Ajivika (fatalism)-
   First disciple of Vardhaman Mahavira. According to him every object of the universe is coordinated with fate and destiny. This philosophy believed in Karma, Fatalism and extreme passivity. It was very popular during the time of Mauryan Emperor.

4. Ajananas.
   Believed in ignorance t is impossible to attain knowledge and even if possible, it is useless.

5. **Charvaka**
   Eat, Drink, Make merry. There is no 'other' world. There is no God or

Bramha. Man is at the center of universe, he should eat, consume and enjoy sensual pleasures.

TOPIC-7

<u>BHAKTI MOVEMENT</u>

- The meaning of the term Bhakti is analogous to but different from <u>Kama</u>.
- Kama connotes emotional connection, sometimes with sensual devotion and erotic love.
- Bhakti, in contrast, is spiritual, a love and devotion to religious concepts or principles, that engages both emotion and intellection.
- Karen Pechelis states that the word Bhakti should not be understood as uncritical emotion, but as committed engagement.
- Bhakti movement in Hinduism refers to ideas and engagement that emerged in the medieval era on love and devotion to religious concepts built around one or more gods and goddesses.
- Bhakti movement preached against the caste system using the local languages so that the message reached the masses. One who practices bhakti is called a bhakta.

- The Bhakti movement refers to the theistic devotional trend that emerged in medieval Hinduism and later acted as the de facto catalyst to the formation of Sikhism.

- It originated in eighth-century south India (now Tamil Nadu and Kerala), and spread northwards. It swept over east and north India from the 15th century onwards, reaching its zenith between the 15th and 17th century CE.

- The Bhakti movement regionally developed around different gods and goddesses, and some sub-sect were

Vaishnavism (Vishnu)
Shaivism (Shiva)

Shaktism (Shakti goddesses)
Smartism

- Bhakti movement preached using the local languages so that the message reached the masses.

- The movement has traditionally been considered as an influential social reformation in Hinduism, and provided an individual-focused alternative path to spirituality regardless of one's birth or gender.
- The Bhakti movement began with the aim of reforming Hinduism. Contemporary scholars question this traditional view and whether the Bhakti movement ever was a reform or rebellion of any kind.

- They suggest Bhakti movement was a revival, reworking and recontextualization of ancient Vedic traditions. Bhakti refers to passionate devotion .

- Scriptures of the Bhakti movement include the Bhagavad Gita, Bhagavata Purana .

TOPIC-8

SUFI MOVEMENT

The Sufi movement was a socio-religious movement of fourteenth to sixteenth century. The exponents of this movement were unorthodox Muslim saints who had a deep study of vedantic philosophy and Buddhism of India. They could see the Indian religion from very near and realized its inner values.

The term Sufi derived from Arabic word Safa which has two distinct meaning - One who wear woollen clothes; and Symbolises purity and sacredness. The Sufi Mysticism is associated with the liberal interpretation of Quran called Tarikat. Shariat is the conservative interpretation of Quran. It is believes that Haq (God) and Khalaq (Soul) are the same.

List of Sufi order, founder and principle:

Order	Founder	Principle
Chisti	Khwaja Moinuddin Chisti	Keep aloof from royal court. Popularised music recitations called Sama (Mehboob-i-ilahi)
Suhrawadi	Sheikh Shihabuddin Suhrawardi	Accepted royal Service
Qadri	Sheikh Nizamat Ullah	Relies strongly upon adherence to the fundamentals of Islam.
Naqshbandi	Khwaja Pir Mohammad	Orthodox Sect. Mujaddid opposed Shia, philosophy of Wahadat-ul-Shahdud , wrote 'Red-i-Khafid' arrested by Jhangir
Firdausi	Sheikh Sarfudin Yahya	Branch of Suhrawardi

Rashaniya (Akbar's reign)	Miyan Bayazid Ansari (Pir Roshan)	Wrote the bookKhai-ul-Byan
Mahadawi	Mullah Mohammad Mahdi	Opposed orthodox muslims
Risi	Nuruddin Noorani (Wali)	Oposed orthodox muslims
Qalandaria	Abu Wali Qalander	Wandering monks were called Darveshes
Shattari	Abdullah Shattari	Claimed direct contact with God

TOPIC-9

SOCIO RELIGIOUS REFORM MOVEMENT OF 19 TH CENTURY

Basically, there were two kinds of reform movements in the 19th century in India:

Reformist-

These movements responded with the time and scientific temper of the modern era.

Revivalist-

These movements started reviving ancient Indian traditions and thoughts and believed that the western thinking ruined Indian culture and ethos.

BRAHMO SAMAJ (Reformist)

Founded in 1828 in Calcutta by pioneer social reformer Raja Ram Mohan Roy (1772 – 1833), the movement fought against idol worship, polytheism, caste oppression, unnecessary rituals and other social evils like Sati, polygamy, purdah system, child marriage, etc. The society also strove for women's rights like widow remarriage and education of women. It also fought attacked prevailing superstitions among Hindus.

ARYA SAMAJ (Revivalist)

Founded in 1875 in Bombay by Swami Dayanand Saraswati, this society strove against idolatry, polytheism, rituals, priesthood, animal sacrifice, child marriage and the caste system. It also encourages the dissemination of western scientific knowledge.

THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

It promoted the study of ancient Hindu, Buddhist .It promoted the concept of universal brotherhood as expounded in the Upanishads and Vedas. It laid stress on occultism.

RAMAKRISHNA MISSION

This mission was founded by Swami Vivekananda in 1892 in Belur near Calcutta to promote the teachings of Vivekananda's Guru Ramakrishna Paramahansa. It opposed the caste system and un-touch ability. It focused on the universality of all religions and propagated Vedanta.

SATYASHODHAK SAMAJ

This society was founded by Jyotirao Govindrao Phule on 24 September 1873 in present-day Maharashtra. It campaigned against idolatry and the caste system. It advocated rational thinking and rejected priesthood.

YOUNG BENGAL MOVEMENT

He criticized the prevailing religious practices of orthodox Hinduism. He also inspired free-thinking and propagated the spirit of liberty, equality and freedom.

ALIGARH MOVEMENT (Reformist)

This movement was started by Sir Sayyid Ahmed Khan in the 1860's in Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh. It focused on spreading western scientific education among the Muslim masses in India.

WIDOW REMARRIAGE ASSOCIATION

This was founded by Vishnu Shastri Pandit and Mahadev Govind Ranade in Bombay in 1861. It promoted widow remarriage and campaigned against child

marriages, the heavy cost of marriages and custom-like the shaving of widow's head, etc.

DEOBAND MOVEMENT

This was started in 1867 in Deoband in UP by theologians, Muhammad Qasim Nanawatawi and Rashid Ahmad Gangohi. It was an anti-British movement that aimed at the uplifting the Muslims through educational efforts.

TOPIC-10

MORDEN RELIGIOUS PRACTICES

Hinduism in India

Hinduism – the most widely followed religion in India – can be interpreted diversely. Pinpointing what constitutes Hinduism is difficult, with some suggesting that it is an umbrella term that encompasses various religions and traditions within it. Nonetheless, Hinduism in all its forms has been particularly influential in Indian society.

Social Structure

One influential component of Hinduism impacting India is the large-scale caste system, known as the 'varna' system. The varna caste system represented the Hindu ideal of how society ought to be structured. This form of organisation classified society into four ideal categories: brahmin (priestly caste), kshatriya (warrior, royalty or nobility caste), vaishya (commoner or merchant caste) and shudra (artisan or labourer caste).

Islam in India

Islam is the second most followed religion in India, influencing the country's society, culture, architecture and artistry. The partition of the subcontinent in 1947 led to mass emigration of roughly 10 million Muslims to Pakistan and nearly as many Hindus and Sikhs from Pakistan into India. This event changed the demographics of both countries significantly and is continually felt throughout India.

Sikhism in India

Originating in India, Sikhism is a monotheistic religion that promotes devotion to a formless God. The religion is centered on a tenet of service, humility and equality, encouraging its followers to seek to help those less fortunate or in need.

Buddhism in India

Buddhism originated as a countermovement to early Hinduism by presenting a universal ethic rather than basing ethical codes on an individual's caste. The core doctrine of Buddhism, known as the 'Four Noble Truths', teaches that one can be liberated from the suffering that underpins the cycle of death and rebirth by practicing the 'Noble Eightfold Path'.

Jainism in India

Jainism also originated as a countermovement that opposed some of the teachings and doctrines of early Hinduism.

Christianity in India

Christianity is the third most followed religion in India, mostly concentrated in the far south and Mumbai. The most prominent denomination of Christianity in India is Roman Catholicism, but there are also localized Christian churches (such as the Church of North India and the Church of South India). Converts to Christianity have come mainly from traditionally disadvantaged minorities such as lower castes and tribal groups.

INDIAN TRADITIONS, CULTURAL AND SOCIETY   KNC-602

Module 4-

i) Science, Management and Indian Knowledge System

ii) Astronomy in India

iii) Chemistry in India, Mathematics in India

iv) Physics in India, Agriculture in India

v) Medicine in India, Metallurgy in India, Geography, Biology

vi) Harappan Technologies

vii) Water Management in India

viii) Textile Technology in India, Writing Technology in India, Pyrotechnics in India

ix) Trade in Ancient India/, India's Dominance up to Pre-colonial Times

i) Science, Management and Indian Knowledge System in India

➤ Traditional knowledge is transmitted orally from generation to generation.
➤ The history of scientific discoveries and development in India dates back to the Vedic era. Aryabhatt, the famous mathematician of the Vedic era, invented 'zero'.
➤ Science is one of the domains of knowledge.
➤ The scientific study of the nature is not dependent upon any particular nation, race and colour of the people.
➤ The management of traditional knowledge in India has come through successive stages.
➤ It includes the creation of social awareness.
➤ In ancient India, the development of the six traditional branches of knowledge and gradually other scientific disciplines like arithmetic, algebra, astronomy, medicine, chemistry, biology, astrology, logic and grammar.
➤ Knowledge has evolved with the evolution of humankind and depending on their ecological contexts, knowledge and cultures have evolved.

ii) Astronomy in India

➤ The first 'astronomical' objects, found in the Andaman's, belong to the Paleolithic era, some 12,000 years ago.

- They are calendar sticks noting the waxing and waning of the moon by incising daily notches on a wooden stick.
- Ringtones found at Mohenjo-Daro, the largest city of the Indus civilization (2600-1900 BCE), which exhibit rows of small drilled holes.
- They have been interpreted as calendrical devices keeping track of the sunrise at different times of the year.
-

iii) Chemistry in India, Mathematics in India

a) Chemistry in India

- Chemistry is a relatively young discipline.
- The Harappan' metallurgical skills have been described in the module on Metallurgy in India.
- There is plentiful evidence of knowledge of chemical practices in some of India's early literature.
- India's chemical traditions were rich and varied, and fused elaborate techniques with a spiritual component.
- They did result in considerable practical applications, especially in fields like metallurgy, gemology and medicine.

b) Mathematics in India

- The classical period of Indian mathematics was 400 AD to 1200 AD.
- Important contributions were made by scholars like Aryabhatt, Brahmagupta, Bhaskara II, and Varāhamihira.
- The decimal number system & zero in use today was first recorded in Indian mathematics.

iv) Physics in India, Agriculture in India

- Ancient India was a land of sages and seers as well as a land of scholars and scientists.
- Over the past century, India has produced stars in physics and astronomy·
- CV Raman. Chandrasekhar Venkata Raman won the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1930 for his pioneering work on scattering of light.
- Born in Tiruchirapalli on November 7, 1888, he was the first Asian and first non-White to receive any Nobel Prize in the sciences.

Agriculture in India

- Agriculture is the main stay of India's economy. It accounts for 26% of the gross domestic product.

- The history of Agriculture in India dates back to Indus Valley Civilization.
- The domestication of plants and animals are reported in the subcontinent by 9000 BC.
- Wheat, barley and jujube were among crops, sheep and goats were among animals that were domesticated.
- Indus Valley civilization relied on the considerable technological achievements of the pre-Harappan culture, including the plough.
- Cultivation of a wide range of cereals, vegetables, and fruits is described in the Vedic period.
- Foreign crops were introduced to India and Indian products soon reached the world via existing trading networks.

v) Medicine in India, Metallurgy in India, Geography, Biology

- Sushruta is the most celebrated physician and surgeon in India.
- Sushruta (c. 7th or 6th century BCE) was a physician in ancient India known today as the "Father of Indian Medicine" and "Father of Plastic Surgery" for inventing and developing surgical procedures.
- All ancient civilizations of the world developed their own medicinal systems.
- Medical observation and theorization in the Vedic period laid the foundation for a more rational and methodical system of Indian medicine known as Yajurveda.

✓ Metallurgy in India

- Georg Agricola was the father Metallurgy in India.
- The beginning of the 1st millennium BCE saw extensive developments in iron metallurgy in India.
- Technological advancement and mastery of iron metallurgy was achieved during this period of peaceful settlements.
- The first crucible steel was the steel that originated in India before the beginning of the common era.

✓ Geography

- India lies on the Indian Plate, the northern part of the Indo-Australian Plate.
- Its continental crust forms the Indian subcontinent.
- The geography of India is extremely diverse, with landscape ranging from snow-capped mountain ranges to deserts, plains, hills and plateaus. India comprises.
- The Ancient Indian cities thrived mainly in areas which aided the growth of a civilization.
- They were geographically located mainly near rivers, mountains, and forests.
- One of the main rivers of the Ancient Indians is the Indus Valley River. Major civilizations flourished along the banks of the river Indus.
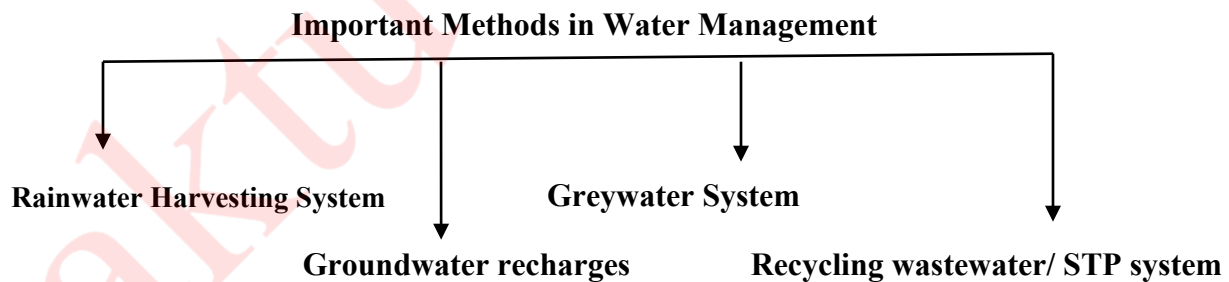
- ✓ **Biology**
- ➢ **The first man to make a significant contribution in biology is Alcmaeon, living in Crotona in the 5th century.**
- ➢ **Maria Sibylla Merian, it is known as the mother of biology.**
- ➢

vi) Harappan Technologies

- ➢ **The Indus River Valley Civilization, also known as Harappan civilization, developed the first accurate system of standardized weights and measures, some as accurate as to 1.6 mm.**
- ➢ **Harappan created sculpture, seals, pottery, and jewelry from materials, such as terracotta, metal, and stone.**
- ➢ **The Indus Valley people are considered to be the first in many technological advancements, one of which being a developed measurement system.**
- ➢ **They had accurate methods of measuring length, mass and time by developing their own system of weights and rulers that were all identical.**
- ➢ **Bricks, Beads and Bones. Describe the agricultural technologies adopted by the Harappans.**

vii) Water Management in India

- ➢ **Water Resources Management (WRM) is the process of planning, developing, and managing water resources, in terms of both water quantity and quality, across all water uses.**
- ➢ **It includes the institutions, infrastructure, incentives, and information systems that support and guide water management.**

Important Methods in Water Management

Rainwater Harvesting System **Greywater System**

Groundwater recharges **Recycling wastewater/ STP system**

- ➢ **Water management helps in developing efficient irrigation practices for the betterment of agriculture in the country.**
- ➢ **Proper utilization of water in our homes too can save this precious resource.**
- ➢ **Water management teaches us to use a limited amount of water whenever required.**

viii) Textile Technology in India, Writing Technology in India,

Pyrotechnics in India

a) Textile Technology in India

- The earliest technologies primarily used human hands as the main tools.
- Initially very simple technologies were used for making the textiles.
- The most basic skill involved spinning the fiber into yarn and then change it to fabric by a process called weaving.
- The Harappans invented the needle with the eye at the pointed end as is used in sewing machines.
- Indian textile industry. Indian textile technology seems to have flourished from mediaeval period up to Mughal period.
- It suddenly saw a slump with industrial revolution.
- Today India's strengths have already been defined in traditional textiles and natural fibers globally.
- Despite the economic slowdown and downturn in the overall demand for textiles due to Covid-19, the industry continues to be the second largest employer in India.

b) Writing Technology in India

- The Indus Script is the writing system developed by the Indus Valley Civilization and it is the earliest form of writing known in the Indian subcontinent during 3500-2700 BCE).
- We find the earliest known examples of the Indus Script signs, attested on Ravi and Kot Diji pottery excavated at Harappa.
- The pictographs (picture-writing) were most likely used for government business and trade and for marking one's own property.
- Many years later, the Indian people developed an alphabet and a written language called Sanskrit, and began writing literature.
- .

c) Pyrotechnics in India

- Crackers and fireworks up to nineteenth century India, were probably quite expensive.
- It was commissioned mainly by the rulers for personal and citizen entertainment or by the economically well-to-do of the community.
- Fireworks, like its primary ingredient Gunpowder, have a long history in India.
- Fireworks and pyrotechnic shows existed as a form of royal entertainment in many medieval Indian kingdoms during festivals, events and special occasions like weddings.

➢ **The first fireworks factory in India was set up in Kolkata in the nineteenth century.**

IX) Trade in Ancient India, India's Dominance up to Pre-colonial Times

a) Trade in Ancient India

➢ **During ancient times Hindus were the masters of the seaborne trade of Europe, Asia and Africa.**

➢ **18th century almost every nation on earth obtained to a large extent its supplies of fine cotton and silk fabric, spices, indigo, sugar, drugs, precious stones and many curious works of art from India in exchange of gold and silver.**

➢ **In industrial production ancient India was far ahead in comparison with other countries of those times.**

➢ **Indian goods were known for its excellence.**

➢ **Fairs were an important means for commercial activities and were held in every part of the country.**

➢ **The traditional prosperity of India began to vanish only at the dawn of the Industrial Revolution in the west.**

b) India's Dominance up to Pre-colonial Times

From the time of its victory at the Battle of Plassey in 1757, the British East India Com- pany became a prominent political entity on the Indian subcontinent, marking an endpoint to the pre-colonial era (Dutt, 1950, 1-2).

INDIAN TRADITIONS, CULTURAL AND SOCIETY   KNC-602

Module 5-   Cultural Heritage and Performing Arts Indian Architect

i) Engineering and Architecture in Ancient India

ii) Sculptures, Seals, coins, Pottery

iii) Puppetry, Dance, Music, Theatre, drama

iv) Painting, Martial Arts Traditions, Fairs and Festival

v) Current developments in Arts and Culture

vi) Indian's Cultural Contribution to the World

vii) Indian Cinema

Introduction

a) Culture-

> Culture is the characteristics and knowledge of a particular group of people, encompassing language, religion, cuisine, social habits, music and arts.

> In other words - Culture is a way of life of a group of people--the behaviors, beliefs, values, and symbols that they accept, generally without thinking about them, and that are passed along by communication and imitation from one generation to the next.

> For example, Christmas trees can be considered ceremonial or cultural objects.

> Idol of Durga is also considered as cultural object.

> Culture is symbolic communication.

> Culture provides important social and economic benefits. It refers to improved learning and health, increased tolerance, and opportunities to come together with others.

> Culture enhances our quality of life and increases overall well-being for both individuals and communities.

b) Cultural Heritage

> Cultural Heritage is an expression of the ways of living developed by a community and passed on from generation to generation, including customs, practices, places, objects, artistic expressions, and values.

- ➢ Tangible culture (such as buildings, monuments, landscapes, books, works of art, and artifacts),
- ➢ Intangible culture (such as folklore, traditions, language, and knowledge), and natural heritage (including culturally significant landscapes, and biodiversity).
- ➢ It helps us examine our history and traditions and enables us develop awareness about ourselves.
- ➢ It helps us understand and explain why we are the way we are.
- ➢ In every country, cultural heritage is both a record of life and history and also an irreplaceable source of creativity and inspiration.
- ➢ Cultural heritage is central to protecting our sense of who we are.

## i) Engineering and Architecture in Ancient India

a) Engineering in Ancient India

- ➢ The concept of engineering has existed since ancient times as humans devised fundamental inventions such as the pulley, lever, and wheel.
- ➢ Each of these inventions is consistent with the modern definition of engineering, exploiting basic mechanical principles to develop useful tools and objects.
- ➢ Rama was the world's first king to build a bridge across the sea. But he did not do it on his own.
- ➢ He sought the help of a great engineer called Nala according to Valmiki Ramayana. Any wise man will seek local knowledge when he ventures in new places.
- ➢ Nala knew the shallow areas across the sea in and around Tamilnadu.
- ➢ Lord Krishna used the Sudharsana Chakra to kill his victims and returned to him the very next minute.
- ➢ Bhagirathi changed the course of the mighty river Ganges.
- ➢ The vast forest areas of modern Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal were made into fertile lands by his marvelous engineering feat.
- ➢ Ancient India was home to two of the world's first cities, Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro.
- ➢ These cities had stone buildings, multiply stories, and sewage systems.
- ➢ India was one of the very first civilizations to use algebra and calculus.
- ➢ The number zero was invented in Ancient India by a man named Aryabhatta.
- ➢ Solar drying of agricultural commodities is dated to a period of 6,000 BCE.
- ➢ Researchers have also found the evidences of engineering in Indus Valley Civilization, dating back to 4th millennium BCE. Types of engineering such as ------------------------
- ➢ Irrigation engineering, Transportation engineering were also established during this period.
- ➢ The Atharva-veda, in the 'Shala-nimrana-sukta' and the 'Shala-sukta', contains several hymns on permanent constructions.

➢ **Engineers Day: Why India celebrates Engineers Day on the birth anniversary of M. Visvesvaraya - The father of Indian engineering**

b) Architecture in Ancient India

➢ **Ancient Indian architecture is the architecture of the Indian subcontinent from the Indian Bronze Age to around 800 CE.**

➢ **The large amount of Indian rock-cut architecture, essentially beginning around 250 BCE.**

➢ **In the Bronze Age the first cities emerged in the Indus Valley Civilization.**

➢ **Mohenjo-Daro has wells which may be the predecessors of the step well.**

➢ **As many as 700 wells have been discovered in just one section of the city, leading scholars to believe that 'cylindrical brick lined wells' were invented by the Indus Valley Civilization.**

➢ **Harappa; South – Mohenjo-Daro - are among the earliest and finest examples of Urban Civics planning.**

➢ **Houses, markets, storage facilities, offices, etc. arranged in a grid-like pattern.**

➢ **The Mauryan period is considered as the beginning of the classical period of Indian architecture.**

➢ **Taj Mahal is without a doubt, one of the most impressive pieces of architecture not only in India but all around the world**

➢ **Nagara and Dravidian architectural styles developed in the early medieval period with the rise of Hindu revivalism and predominant role of Hindu temple architecture in the Indian Subcontinent.**

➢ **This variation is primarily due to India's geographical, climatic, racial, ethnic and historical diversity.**

➢ **There are three broad styles of Indian temple architecture**

Nagara (northern style)   **Vesara (mixed style)**   **Dravida (southern style)**
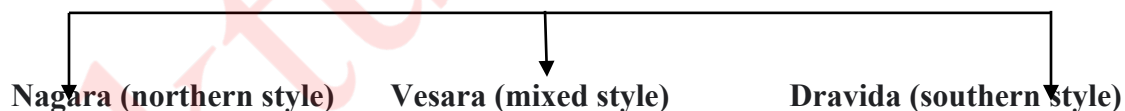
✓ **Nagara (northern style)**

➢ **According to the Silpasastara, the north Indian temples are called Nagar style of architecture.**

➢ **The Nagara became popular in northern India.**

➢ **Entire temple is generally built on a stone platform with steps leading to it.**

➢ **No grand boundary walls or gateways.**

➢ **The Gupta Dynasty (3rd century CE to 543 CE) was the first known patron of this style.**

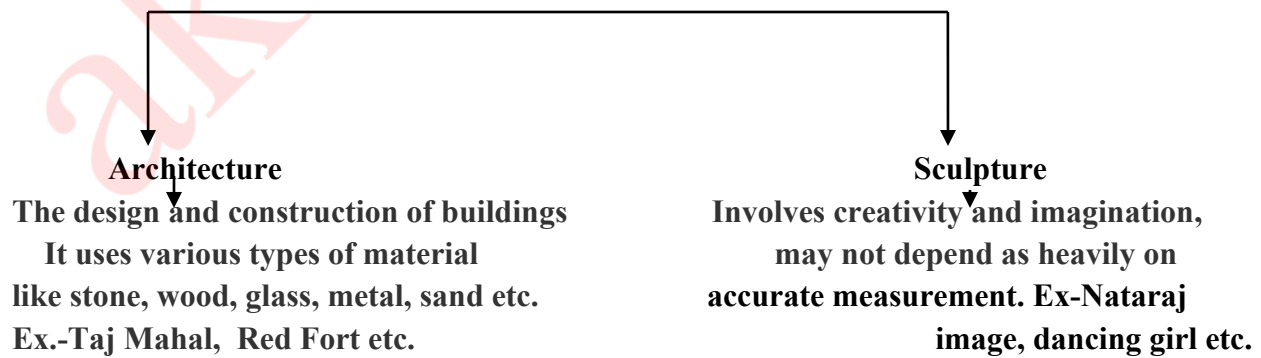➢ **Example-**

✓ **Vesara (mixed style)**
➢ **The Vesara Style is hybrid temple architecture.**
➢ **It has features of both the Nagara and Dravidian Style of Temple architecture.**
➢ **The Nagara Style is prevalent in North and Central India Dravidian Style is prevalent in South India.**
➢ **The shape of the superstructure over the sanctum is usually pyramidal in profile, and shorter than the northern shikhara tower.**
➢ **Example-Kailashnath Temple, Ellora**

✓ **Dravida (southern style)**
➢ **Dravidian architecture or the South Indian temple style is an architectural idiom in Hindu temple architecture that emerged in the southern part of the Indian subcontinent or South India and in Sri Lanka, reaching its final form by the sixteenth century.**
➢ **The features of the Dravidian Style of Architecture are mentioned below:**
   The temple is enclosed within a compound wall.
➢ **Gopuram: The entrance gateway in the centre of the front wall.**
➢ **Vimana: The shape of the main temple tower.**
➢ **Dravida style temples were first constructed by the Pallavas.**
➢ **Pallavas were the great rulers of the northern part of today's Tamil Nadu and parts of Karnataka and Andhra until the 9th century.**
➢ **Example- Brihadiswara Temple – Tanjore.**
➢ **Each of these types has its own distinct cultural influences and lineages**

ii) Sculptures, Seals, coins, Pottery

Difference

Architecture
The design and construction of buildings
It uses various types of material
like stone, wood, glass, metal, sand etc.
Ex.-Taj Mahal, Red Fort etc.

Sculpture
Involves creativity and imagination,
may not depend as heavily on
accurate measurement. Ex-Nataraj
image, dancing girl etc.

✓ **Sculpture**

➤ **The first known sculpture in the Indian subcontinent is from the Indus Valley civilization (3300–1700 BC).**

➤ **These include the famous small bronze dancing girl.**

➤ **Amongst animal figures in bronze the buffalo with its uplifted head, back and sweeping horns and the goat are of artistic merit.**

➤ **Bronze casting was popular at all the major centers of the Indus Valley Civilization.**

➤ **The subject matter of Indian sculpture was almost invariably abstracted human forms that were used to instruct people in the truths of the Hindu, Buddhist, or Jain religions.**

✓ **Seal & Coins**

➤ **Archaeologists have discovered thousands of seals, mostly made of steatite, and occasionally of agate, chert, copper, faience and terracotta, with beautiful figures of animals, such as unicorn bull, rhinoceros, tiger, elephant, bison, goat, buffalo, etc.**

➤ **Square or rectangular copper tablets, with an animal or a human figure on one side and an inscription on the other, or an inscription on both sides have also been found.**

✓ **Pottery**

➤ **Indus Valley Civilization has an ancient tradition of pottery making.**

➤ **Though the origin of pottery in India can be traced back to the much earlier Mesolithic age, with coarse handmade pottery - bowls, jars, vessels - in various colors such as red, orange, brown, black and cream.**

➤ **The Indus Valley pottery consists chiefly of very fine wheel made wares, very few being hand-made.**

➤ **Plain pottery is more common than painted ware.**

➤ **Plain pottery is generally of red clay, with or without a fine red or grey slip. It includes knobbed ware, ornamented with rows of knobs.**

➤ **The black painted ware has a fine coating of red slip on which geometric and animal designs are executed in glossy black**

iii) Puppetry, Dance, Music, Theatre, drama

a) Puppetry in India

➤ **A doll or a figure controlled by a person so that it appears to be moving on its own is called a puppet.**

➤ **The origin of puppets to India 4000 years ago, where the main character in Sanskrit plays was known as Sutradhara, "the holder of strings".**

➤ **Wayang is a strong tradition of puppetry native to Indonesia, especially in Java and Bali.**

- Indian puppetry is a subject as varied as the many cultural traditions of the Indian subcontinent.
- Rajasthan, Orissa, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu are some of the regions where this form of puppetry has flourished.
- The traditional marionettes of Rajasthan are known as Kathputli.
- It is believed that somewhere 1500 years ago, tribal Rajasthani Bhat community started the use of Kathputli as string marionette art and it is in their love for tradition that art of Kathputli survived the test of time.
- Tradition of Kathputli is based on folk tales and stories.

    Types

 i) Glove Puppets –Kerala.
 ii) Rod Puppets – West Bengal, Orissa.
 iii) Shadow Puppets – Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka.
 iv) String Puppets – Rajasthan

    ✓ **Various reasons for dying Puppet Art**
- Lack of patronage in the modern age.
- Competition from Electronic media which is a preferred mode of entertainment.
- With changing times, Puppetry does not take up modern social issues.
- Puppetry Art is usually confined to only devotional and mythological stories.

b) Dance, Music in India

- Sangeet Natak Academy recognizes eight classical dance and music forms, namely Bharatanatyam, Kathak, Kuchipudi, Odissi, Kathakali, Sattriya, Manipuri and Mohiniyattam.
- India's Ministry of Culture also includes Chhau in its classical list.
- Indian dance culture is mostly weaved around various 'rasas' meaning emotions.
- There are 9 kinds of rasa which defines the mood of the dance and the songs of India

i) Hasya (happiness)   ii) Shoka (sorrow)   iii) Krodha (anger)
iv) Karuna (compassion)   v) Bhibasta (disgust)   vi) Adhbhuta (wonder)
vii) Bhaya (fear)   viii) Viram (courage)   ix) Shanta (serenity

 The popular forms of Indian classical dances

i)Kathak

- The word 'Kathak' has been derived from the word 'katha' which means a storyteller.

- The dance form of Kathak was originated from the nomadic bards of ancient North India.
- It has been extensively influenced by the Mughal tradition and thus presents an amazing combination of Hindu-Muslim texture.
- Later with Mughal coming in power, this dance from was introduced in the courts which moved the dance from its religious association to entertainment.

ii)Odissi

- Odissi was a traditional dance which was mainly performed in temples.
- This was a form of religious offering by the temple dancers.
- This dance form with its exceptional technique, style, its stages, the repertoire along with finale is one of the most popular and acclaimed Indian classical dances.

iii)Bharatanatyam

- One of the oldest and most popular dance forms is Bharatanatyam.
- It was originated from Southern part of India (Tamilnadu) and is now famous all over the world.
- In this dance form, you will find equal presentation of music, movements and mime.

iv)Kuchipudi

- This dance belongs to the state of Andhra Pradesh in southeastern India.
- It is highly ritualized, with a formalized song-and-dance introduction, sprinkling of holy water, and burning of incense, along with invocations of goddesses.

v)Manipuri

- Manipuri comes from Manipur in northeastern India. It
- It has its roots in that state's folk traditions and rituals, and often depicts scenes from the life of the god Krishna.
- Manipuri is characterized by smooth and graceful movements.
- Female roles are especially fluid in the arms and hands, while male roles tend to have more forceful movements.

vi)Kathakali

- Kathakali comes from southwestern India, around the state of Kerala.
- Kathakali is a religious dance.
- It draws inspiration from the Ramayana and stories from Shaiva traditions.
- Kathakali is traditionally performed by boys and men, even for female roles.

➤ **The costumes and makeup are especially elaborate, with faces made to look like painted masks and enormous headdresses.**

✓ Music in India

➤ **The history of music in India can be traced back to the Vedic times.**

➤ **The first reference to music was made by Panini in 500 BC.**

➤ **North Indian classical music is called Hindustani.**

➤ **The South Indian expression is called Carnatic.**

➤ **Purandara Dasa is often considered as the Father of Carnatic Music**.

➤ **In the medieval period, the nature of Indian music underwent a change due to the impact of the Muslim influence.**

➤ **With the advent of the British in India, the court arts underwent a decline.**

➤ **There was the spread of popular or `pop` music and this trend increased with the spread of cinema.**

➤ **Classical music too started being exported out of the country in the 60`s, and an experiment of combining western music with the Indian Classical form also took place.**

➤ **Apart from these western forms of music, traditional forms of Indian music, such as Khayal, Ghazal, Geet, Thumri, Qawwali etc. also find place in the contemporary music.**

✓ Theatre, drama in India

➤ **Indian theatre is one of the most ancient forms of theatre and it features detailed textual, sculptural, and dramatic effects which emerged in mid first millennium BC.**

➤ **Indian theater may have been based on Vedic rituals.**

➤ **The Mahabharata makes references to performers (nata), though it is not known if these included actors.**

➤ **The earliest form of Indian theatre was the Sanskrit theatre**.

➤ **The earliest contribution to the Indian theatre came from Bharata Muni, who wrote the 36 books of the Natyashastra.**

➤ **The Natyashastra describes a theory of theatrical performance based on style and motion**.

➤ **The great harvest of Sanskrit drama by pre-eminent play-wrights like Bhasa, Kalidasa, Shudraka, Vishakadatta, Bhavabhuti and Harsha.**

➤ **Some innovations happened in religious drama, thanks to socio-religious reform Bhakti Movements.**

iv) Painting, Martial Arts, Traditions, Fairs and Festival

a) Painting in India

- Indian art consists of a variety of art forms, including painting, sculpture, pottery, and textile arts such as woven silk.
- The earliest Indian paintings were the rock paintings of prehistoric times, such as the petroglyphs found in places like Bhimbetka rock shelters.
- Some of the Stone Age rock paintings found among the Bhimbetka rock shelters is approximately 10,000 years old.
- In the ancient painting of India especially in the flourish period of Hinduism.
- Often deities are represented with multiple arms, especially when they are engaged in combat using its cosmic form for the destruction of powerful forces of evil.
- The paintings there are explicit in their spirituality and point of being sensual.
- It portrays Buddha, sleeping women and love scenes, these Indian painting ideas can inspire any artist looking to create mesmerizing art.

b) Martial Arts

- India is home to multiple forms of martial arts, which offer a safe and effective way of combat or defence.
- Some of these martial art origins can be traced back to over 3000 years ago.
- Indian martial arts refer to the fighting systems of the Indian subcontinent.
- The responsibility for the practice of Indian martial arts fell to the hands of the Hindu Kshatriyas (warrior caste)
- Kalarippayattu is a famous Indian martial art from land of attraction Kerala and one of the oldest fighting systems in existence.
- Silambamis a weapon-based Indian martial art from Tamil Nadu is used animal movements of snake, tiger, eagle forms and footwork patterns is play a key role here as well.
- Mardani Khel is an armed method of martial art created by the Maratha at Kolhapur.
- Kathi Samu is very old Indian martial art originated in Andhra Pradesh.

c) Traditions, Fairs and Festivals

- Indian Culture and Traditions are unique across the world.
- Festivals in India are a vibrant representation of the culture and ancient traditions of the country.
- Fairs and Festivals are the cultural heritage and sprit of Indian society.
- India has seven major faiths. It has a large agricultural population and a rich historical background.
- The festivities are marked by folk dances and music played on a variety of local instruments.
- All festivals have their own spectacle, with important characteristics.

- There are religious festivals, cattle fairs and festivals to welcome the seasons of the year.

✓ **Fairs**

- **Pushkar Fair** of Rajasthan is one of the largest and most colorful cattle fairs of the world, organized during in the month of "Kartik", usually October or November, in Pushkar.
- In a huge ground, they arrange a market of domesticated animals; Cattle, Horses, Camels, etc., and beautiful shops full of handicraft items.
- **Poush Mela** -signifies the end of the harvesting season in Bengal, at the behest of Devendranath Tagore at Shantiniketan
- It is the celebration of the farmer's life and Bengal's rural lifestyle.
- **Khumbh Mela** is a very big fair and the largest gathering of Hindu pilgrims, celebrated every twelve years at four holy places Prayag (Allahabad), Haridwar, Ujjain and Nasik.
- The grand event held by rotation, on the banks of the sacred river Godavari, Shipra, Yamuna and The Ganges.
- **The Sonepur Cattle Fair** held (November) on full moon day in Bihar, on the confluence of river Ganges and Gandak.
- Sonepur fair is also known as the Harihar Chhetra Mela, the Sonepur Fair is the only one of its kind in the world.
- **Chandrabhaga Mela** is also known as Magha Saptam Mela, A grand fair is held (February) at Khandagiri near Bhubaneswar Orissa.
- The important fair and festival is celebrated every year during the full moon phase at the sacred Chandrabhaga River.

✓ **Festivals**

- The **India's biggest dance festival**, **Konark Dance Festival** is the epitome of our Classical dancing heritage which represents itself in the most awe-inspiring of settings.
- The festival is held in the backdrop of the UNESCO World Heritage Site – the Sun Temple.
- Enforcement of the Indian Constitution on January 26, 1950, marked the beginning of India as a republic country.
- Every year on 26th January Indians celebrate **Republic Day** the national festival with pride.
- Almost the same date every year, i.e. January 15, **Makar Sankranti** has different festivities associated with it.
- These are named as Lohri by North Indian Hindus and Sikhs and Uttarayan by Gujaratis.
- The **Sarasvati Pooja** festival is dedicated to the Hindu Goddess Sarasvati.

- Sarasvati Pooja takes place on a giant level in the states of Bihar, West Bengal, Odisha, and Assam.
- **Deepawali or Diwali** is a festival of lights symbolizing the victory of righteousness and the lifting of spiritual darkness.
- The word 'Deepawali' literally means rows of diyas (clay lamps). This is one of the most popular festivals in the Hindu calendar.
- The arrival of spring in India is marked with the revelers covered in bright colored powder as they celebrate **Holi.**
- **Dussehra** marks the end of the nine-day long festival of Naravratras.
- The day is commemorated as the day Lord Ram attained victory over Ravana, and therefore, this festival symbolizes the victory of good over evil.

v) Current developments in Arts and Culture

- **Art is the expression of creativity or imagination.**
- The word art comes from the Latin word ars, which, loosely translated, means "arrangement".
- Art may be taken to include forms as diverse as prose writing, poetry, dance, acting or drama, film, music, sculpture, photography, illustration, architecture, collage, painting, craft and fashion.
- The 'arts' has many different forms and may include; dance, drama, music, creative writing, painting, sculpture, photography, crafts, storytelling, festivals and creative industries.

- The word culture is derived from the Latin root cultura or cultus meaning to "inhabit, cultivate, or honour".
- Culture tell us about people living in different places have different cultures.
- There can be different cultures in different countries, and there can also be shared cultures among continents.
- Art and culture at their very core serve as some of the most significant, dynamic, participation, and social influences of human behavior and interaction.
- When put together, they have the ability to generate empathy, stir up dialogue, induce reflection and charter new relationships and ideas.

Current Developments

- The Ministry of Culture is responsible for preservation, development and promotion of arts, culture, and heritage (tangible and intangible) in the country.
- The Ministry of Culture focuses on promoting 'Our Culture Our Identity' through media and events.
- CCRT (Centre for Cultural Resource & Training) is also working for its promotion.

- CCRT works to create an interest among students in the culture of various regions of the country and develop a sense of appreciation for the diversity and continuity of cultural traditions.
- Implementation of various conventions, as directed by UNESCO.
- Actively sharing India's art and cultural heritage with the rest of the world through Indian Festivals abroad.
- Financial institutions raising cultural bonds to finance city branding and place making projects.
- Creation of crowd funding platforms to raise funds for conservation of heritage sites, monuments, art galleries.
- The current regulatory framework is geared towards the promotion of art and culture to help preserve, protect and promote the cultural capital of the country.

vi) Indian's Cultural Contribution to the World

- There are many wonderful things India has introduced to the world.
- India gave the world its first university - Takshashila University
- Babylonians used zero to signify the 'absent', but Indians were the first to use the zero as a symbol and in arithmetic operations.
- Chess is believed to have originated in Eastern India, c. 280 – 550 CE, in the Gupta Empire.
- The word shampoo is derived from Hindi word chāmpo and dates to 1762. The shampoo itself originated in the eastern regions of the Mughal Empire where it was introduced as a head massage.
- Snakes and ladders originated in India as a game based on morality called Mokhspat.
- Ayurveda is an ancient system of medicine which dates back to Iron Age India (1st millennium BC) and is still practiced today as a form of complementary and alternative medicine.
- Buddhism and Jainism originated in India.
- Cataract surgery was first found in ancient India.
- Jute has been cultivated in India since ancient times.
- The traders served as trade ambassadors and established trade relations with the outside world.

vii) Indian Cinema

- Indians, have made cinema an integral part of lives.
- The history of Indian Cinema goes back to the nineteenth century.
- In 1896, the very first films shot by the Lumiere Brothers were shown in Mumbai (then Bombay).

- It was a simple recording of a wrestling match which was screened in 1899 and is considered as the first motion picture in the Indian Film Industry.
- Indian cinema is a global enterprise.
- Indian cinema is known as Bollywood.
- The most popular commercial genre in Bollywood since the 1970s has been the masala film, which freely mixes different genres.
- It includes action, comedy, romance, drama and melodrama along with musical numbers.
- India witnessed the first motion picture in the late 1910s and was introduced by late Dhundiraj Govind Phalke, also popularly known as Dada Saheb Phalke, through the film "Raja Harishchandra."
- The first Indian film released in India was Shree Pundalik, a silent film in Marathi by Dadasaheb Torne on 18 May 1912 at Coronation Cinematograph, Bombay.
- The second full-length motion picture in India was produced by Dadasaheb Phalke named
- There are several different regional film industries throughout the country, each in a different language; the most prominent ones are Tamil, Telugu, Bengali, and Kannada languages.
- The period from the late 1940s to the early 1960s, after India's independence, is regarded by film historians as the Golden Age of Hindi cinema.
- The name "Bollywood" was coined during the 1970s, when the conventions of commercial Bollywood films were defined.
- The 1990s as "New Bollywood", contemporary Bollywood is linked to economic liberalization in India during the early 1990s.
- The 2000s saw increased Bollywood recognition worldwide due to growing and prospering NRI and Desi communities overseas.
- Bollywood is often associated with India's national identity.