

**DIRECTORATE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION**



**SYLLABUS**  
**M.A. Course**  
**in**  
**HISTORY**



**VIDYASAGAR UNIVERSITY**

**MIDNAPORE - 721102**

**M.A. Syllabus in History  
1991 - 92 onwards**

**VIDYASAGAR UNIVERSITY, MIDNAPORE**

MA. syllabus in History of Vidyasagar University consists of Eight Papers, containing 100 marks in each paper. The course is divided into Part-I and Part-II comprising four papers in each Part.

The whole syllabus is divided under the following Papers :

**M.A. Part-I**

- Paper – I : Historiography  
Paper – II : Freedom Movement in India and the birth of Indian Republic 1885 – 1950.  
Paper – III : History of West Asia and South-East Asia. (From the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> upto the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century).  
Paper – IV : History of Mediaval Bengal 1658 A.D. – 1756 A.D.

**M.A. Part-II**

- Paper – V : The Modern World, 1919 A.D. – 1945 A.D.  
Paper – VI : Industrial Revolutions (Particularly the Revolutions in England, France, Germany and Russia).  
Paper – VII : History of Modern India 1757 A.D. – 1857 A.D. (Political and constitutional)  
Paper – VIII : History of Modern India, 1757-1947 A.D.  
(Socio-Economic)

**M.A. Part - I**

**Paper – I Historiography**

**GROUP – A**

- Unit – I : What is History? Some important definitions – Nature, object and value of History.

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Unit – II : The Philosophy of History – change of concepts in the West across the centuries – Pre-Renaissance Period / Renaissance Period / Modern Times – Debate among Historians – (a) History is a corpus of ascertained facts - upheld by Ranke, Niebuhr, Lord Acton etc. (b) History is an analysis of events – some modern advocates – the views of Croce, Collingwood, Carr, Namier, Karl Popper and Others.

### GROUP - B

Unit – III : History of Historiography in the West

- A : Historiography of Ancient Near -
- B : Greco - Roman Historiography
- C : The influence of Christianity
- D : Modern European Historiography - Writings of German historians (Oswald Spengler) Writings of British historians (Arnold J. Toynbee) G.M. Trevelyan, Mears.
- E : Growth of scientific materialist tradition – Hegel and Marx.

Unit IV : History and Historiography in India.

- A : Concept of History and attempt at historiography in early India – Critical study of the historical works of Banabhatta, Bilhana, Sandhyakar Nandi, Jayanaka, Kalhana.
- B : Historiography in Mediaeval India – Critical study of the works of Minhazuddin Siraj, Ziauddin Barani, Abul Fazl.

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- C : Historiography in Modern India.
- (i) Historians working on Ancient India – R.D. Banerji, R.C. Majumdar, H.C. Raychaudhuri, D.D. Kosambi, Vincent Smith, Akshaya Maitreya.
  - (ii) Historians working on Mediaeval India :- Jadunath Sarkar, G.S. Sardesai, K.R.K. Anungo, W.H. Moreland.
  - (iii) Historians working on Modern India, R.C. Datta, Surendranath Sen, Kalikinkar Datta, Narendra Krishna Sinha, W. W. Hunter.

### Books Recommended :

1. E.H. Carr, What is History?
2. R.G. Collingwood, Idea of History.
3. J.W. Thompson, History of Historical Writing.
4. Patrick Gardiner, Theories of History.
5. F.J. Teggart, Theory and Process of History.
6. G.R. Elton, The Practice of History.
7. A. Marwick, The Nature of History.
8. John Cannon (Edt). The Historians at Work.
9. Paul Thompson. The voice of the Past : Oral History.
10. Romila Thapar, Past and Prejudice.
11. Jean Chesneaux, What History stands for : Past of Future?
12. R.C. Majumdar, Historiography of Modern India.
13. S.P. Sen (Edt), Historians and Historiography in Modern India.
14. C.H. Philips (Edt) Historians of India, Pakistan and Ceylon
15. রমেশচন্দ্র মজুমদার, ভারতে ইতিহাস রচনা ও প্রণালী।
16. অমলেশ ত্রিপাঠী, ইতিহাস ও ঐতিহাসিক।

**Paper II : Freedom Movement in India and the birth of Indian Republic, 1885 – 1950**

**GROUP – A**

- Unit – I : Rise and growth of Nationalism in India before 1885.
- Unit – II : The Indian National Congress (1885-1905) – The Emergence of the Congress. – The early Congress – Moderate Phase. – Police, Programme and Achievements.
- Unit – III : The Extremist Phase. – Rise of Extremism. – The Partition of Bengal and Swadeshi Movement. – The Surat Split. – The Ghadar Party. – Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Bipin Chandra Pal, Lala Lajpat Rai and Aurobinda Ghosh. – Impact of the first world war.
- Unit – IV : Home Rule League. – Role of Mrs. Annie Besant. – Role of Tilak. – Impact of world war I.

**GROUP - B**

- Unit - V : The Khilafat and Non-Cooperation Movement. – The Bowllatt Acts – The Jallianwala Massacre. – Emergence of Mahatma Gandhi. – The Khilafat Movement. – Non-Cooperation Movement.
- Unit - VI : The Swaraj party and C.R.Das.
- Unit - VII : Civil Disobedience Movement. – Salt Satyagraha. – Gandhi – Irwin Pact. – Round Table Conferences. – The Poona pact.
- Unit - VIII : The Quit India Movement. – The failure of the Cripps Missi. – The August Resolution (1942).

- Unit – IX : I.N.A. and Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.
- Unit – X : Hindu – Muslim Communalism and the partition of India. – Pakistan Resolution (1940) and the role of M.A.Jinnath. – The Cabinet Mission Plan. – Indian Independence Act – Freedom and Partition.
- Unit – XI : Emergence of Indian Republic - India and the Princely Status. Kashmir Hyderabad and other minor states. – Birth of the Indian Republic (1950).

**Books Recommended :**

1. A.R.Desai, Social Background of Indian Nationalism.
2. Anil Seal. The Emergence of Indian Nationalism.
3. J.R.Melance, Indian Nationalism amd the Early Congress.
4. B.B.Majumdar Congress and Congressmen in Pre-Gandhian Era.
5. R.C.Majumdar. History of the Freedom Movement in India, 3 vols.
6. Tarachand History of the Freedom Movement in India, 4 vols.
7. B.R.Nanda, Gokhale; The Indian Moderates and the British Raj.
8. Amalsh Tripath, the Extremist Challenge.
9. Sumit Sarkar Swadesh Movement in Bengal.
10. M.N.Das India under Minto and Morley.
11. Pattabhi Sitaramayya. History of the Indian National Congress 2 vols.
12. J.M.Brown Gandhi's Rise to Power : Indian Politics, 1915 – 22.
13. G. Pandey (Edt.). The Indian Nation in 1942.
14. S.C.Mukhopadhyay, Nehru and the Cabinet Mission

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15. Harihar Das, Subhas Chandra Bose and the Indian National Movement.
16. B.K.Ahaluwalia and Sashi Ahaluwalia, Netaji and Indian Independence.
17. Ram Gopal. Indian Muslims – A Political history.
18. J.S.Bright. The life of Jawaharlal Nehru.
19. N.Mansergh (Edt). Transfer of Power 1942-47. 10 Vols.
20. B.Chandra. Communalism in Modern India.
21. B.R.Nanda. The Mahatma.
22. D.G.Tendulkar, Mahatma : Life of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, 8 vols.
23. Pyarelal Mahatma Gandhi – the last phase.
24. A.K.Azad, India Wins Freedom.
25. V.P.Menon. The Transfer of Power in India.
26. V.P.Menon. The story of the Integration of the Indian States.
27. A. Chakraborty (Edt). India since 1947.

**Paper III : History of West Asia and South-East Asia (From the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century to the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century).**

**GROUP – A : West - Asia**

- Unit – I : Ottoman Empire and the Sultans of Turkey in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Attitude of European Nations with Turkey – Policy of Pan-Islamism – Sultan Muhammad II – Tangimat Reform and the Young Turk Movement.
- Unit – II : Near Eastern Question (1815-56) and the European powers.

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- Unit – III : Turkey and the World War I. Paris Peace Conference, Treaty of Serves and Turkey-Rise of Mustafa Kamal Pasha and the modernisation of Turkey. Foreign Policy of Turkey between the two world wars.
- Unit – IV : Arab nationalism after World War-I Role of Saudi Arab.
- Unit – V : Mandate System in West Asia. French mandate in Syria and Lebanon. British mandate in Iraq – Problem of Palestine
- Unit – VI : European intervention in the middle East – Rise of nationalism in Egypt – Anglo – Egyptian relations between the two world wars.
- Unit – VII : Rise of Iran – Reza Shah Pahlavi and his reforms.
- GROUP – B : South – East Asia**
- Unit – XI : Anglo-Dutch rivalry in Malay. British role in Malay States. Nationalist movement in Malay Kampuchia and Laos.
- Unit – XII : Dutch colonial and administrative policy in Indonesia Sukarno and the nationalist movement inIndonesia – Birth of Indonesian Republic.
- Unit – XIII : The French in Indo-China – The Indo – China imbroglio. Communist states of Indo-China.
- Unit – XIV : Siam (Thailand) under Mongkut and Chulalongkorn (1851-1910). Modernisation of Thailand and the Revolution of 1932. Thailand and the World War II.
- Unit – XV : Burma from the treaty of Yandaboo to the creation of the province of British Burma. Burma and the World War II. Burmese nationalism.

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### Books Recommended :

1. P.K.Hitti The Arabs : A Short History.
2. George Kirk : A Short History of the Middle East.
3. Bernard Lewis : The Emergence of Modern Turkey.
4. J.A.R. Marriott. The Eastern Question.
5. Sidney Fisher, The Middle East – A History.
6. J.M.Armad, The intellectual Origin of Egyptian nationalism.
7. H.E.Warham, Mustafa Kamal.
8. Hans Kohn A History of Nationalism in the East.
9. D.G.E.Hall, A History of South-East Asia.
10. J.Kennedy, A History of Malay.
11. V.Thomson, Thailand, the new Siam.
12. J.F.Cady. A History of Modern Burma.
13. J. Bastin, Essays of Indoncesian and Malayasian History.
14. B.R.Bhattacharya, A History of Indonesia.
15. জহর সেন, দক্ষিণ-পূর্ব এশিয়ার ইতিহাস।

### Paper – IV : History of Mediaeval Bengal, 1658 – 1756

#### GROUP – A

- Unit – I : Subahdari of Bengal under Prince Shuja. – New rentroll of Bengal. Bengal architecture. – Shah Jahan's illness and the fractricidal wars. – Shuja's expulsion from Bengal and his tragic death. – Subahdari of Mir Jumla.
- Unit – II : Subahdari of Shaista Khan. – The Mughal conquest of Kuch Bihar and Chittagong. – His rivalry with the English and the expulsion of the English from Bengal. – Subahdari of Ibrahim

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- Khan and Aurangzeb's farman (1690). – Job Charnock and the English return to Sutanuti (1690). The Calcutta Zamindari (1698). – Rebellions of Sobha Singh and Rahim Khan. – Subahdari of Bengal under Azim-us Shan.
- Unit – III : Murshid Quli Khan. – His appointment as diwan of Bengal. Powers of diwan and Nazim defined. His further appointment of Deputy-Nazim. Rivalry with Azim-us Shan. – Murshid Quli's land revenue administration. Land survey and rent-roll. – system of Zamindari and Murshid Quli's relations with the Zamindars of Bishnupur, Birbhum, Jessore, Bhusna, Tipara, Kuch Bihar and Assam. – Bengal trade under Murshid Quli. His relation with Fateh Chand entitled Jagat Seth. – Nawab's relation with the English Company. The Surman Embassy and the Farrukh-Siyar's farman of 1717. – An estimate of Murshid Quli.

#### GROUP – B

- Unit – IV : Sujaddin Khan. His dispute with Safaraz. – Shujaddin's success of becoming the Nawab of Bengal and Orissa. – His administration and the Council of Ministers. – Bihar was added with Bengal. Shuja's arrangement of Bihar administration under Alivardi. – Alivardi's relations with the Zamindars of Bihar. – Shuja's relation with the European traders. – His relations with Bengal Zamindars. – His Character and personality – Succession of Sarfaraz Khan. His councilors. – Rivalry of Alivardi with Safaraz – The battle of Girls (1740).

