**Lesson/ Teaching Plan July 2021 To December 2021**

**Department of History**

**Bharati College, University of Delhi**

**Name of the Teacher: Minakshi**

**Name of the Paper: History of India- III (c. 750-1200)**

**Course: B.A (Hons.) History**

**Semester: Third**

**Complete/ Sharing: Complete**

**Course Description:**

This paper is designed to make students trace the patterns of change and continuities in the economic, political, social and cultural aspects of life during the ‘early medieval period’ (c. A.D. 750 – A.D. 1200) of Indian history. With its focus on multiple historiographical approaches to various issues of historical significance during this period, the course will also apprise students of the divergent ways in which historians approach, read and interpret their sources.

**Paper Syllabus**

**Unit I: Studying early medieval India**

[a] Dynamic and divergent topographies [b] Sources: texts; inscriptions; coins [c] Debates on the early medieval

**Unit II: Political structures and processes**

[a] Evolution of political structures: Rajput polities; Chola state; Odisha  
[b] Symbols of political power: Brahmanas and temples; sacred spaces and conflicts; courtly cultures  
[c] Issue of ‘Foreign and Indian’: Arabs and Ghazanavids in the north-west, Cholas in Southeast Asia

**Unit III: Social and economic processes**

[a] Agricultural expansion; forest-dwellers, peasants and landlords

[b] Expansion of varna-jati order and brahmanization

[c] Forms of exchange; inter-regional and maritime trade [d] Processes of urbanization

**Unit IV: Religious, literary and visual cultures**

[a] Bhakti: Alvars and Nayanars  
[b] Puranic Hinduism; Tantra; Buddhism and Jainism [c] Sanskrit and regional languages: interactions  
[d] Art and architecture: temples – regional styles

**Unit 1-** This unit will seek to familiarise students with the nature of historical geography and the range of sources available for the early medieval period of Indian history. Most importantly, students will engage with the debates and varied scholarly views on the nature of early medieval Indian social formation and the most important aspects and factors of change therein.**(Teaching Time: 4 weeks Approx. 20 Lecture and 8 Tutorials)**

**Unit II-** This unit aims to apprise students of the dynamic nature of political structures and the varied perspectives from which scholars study them.**(Teaching Time: 3 weeks Approx. 15 Lectures and 6 Tutorial)**

**Unit III-** This unit will familiarise students with social and economic processes of the early medieval period in Indian history. The diverse ways in which these have been studied will be the chief focus.**(Teaching Time: 4 weeks Approx. 20 Lecture and 8 Tutorials)**

**Unit IV-**This unit will focus on the religious, literary and visual cultures of the early medieval period in the Indian subcontinent. Having done this unit, students will be able to trace the patterns of change in these spheres of life.**(Teaching Time: 3weeks Approx. 15 Lectures and 6 Tutorial**

* **TEACHING TIME(No. Of Weeks)**

12 Weeks approximately (70 lectures +28 tutorials)

**ESSENTIAL READINGS**

* Champakalakshmi, R. (1996). ‘From Devotion and Dissent to Dominance: The Bhakti of the Tamil Alvars and Nayanars’, in *Tradition, Dissent and Ideology*, ed. R. Champakalakshmi & S. Gopal, pp. 135-63. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
* Narayanan, M.G.S. and K. Veluthat. (2000). ‘Bhakti Movement in South India’, in*The Feud- al Order: State, Society and Ideology in Early Medieval India*, ed. D.N. Jha, pp. 385-410. New Delhi: Manohar. The essay was originally published in *Indian Movements: Some As- pects of Dissent, Protest and Reform*, ed. S.C. Malik. Simla: Indian Institute of Advanced Study, 1978. The same was also reproduced in *Feudal Social Formation in Early India*, ed. D.N. Jha. Delhi: Chanakya Publications, 1987.
* Mahalakshmi, R. (2000). ‘Outside the Norm, Within the Tradition: Karaikkal Ammaiyar and the Ideology of Tamil Bhakti’,*Studies in History*, 16, no. 1, pp. 17-40.  
  Chakrabarti, Kunal. (1996). ‘Texts and Traditions: The Making of the Bengal Puranas’, in *Tradition, Dissent and Ideology*, ed. R. Champakalakshmi & S. Gopal, pp. 55-88. New Del- hi: Oxford University Press.
* Stein, Burton. (1968). ‘Social Mobility and Medieval South Indian Hindu Sects’, in *Social Mobility in the Caste System in India: An Interdisciplinary Symposium*, ed. James Silverberg, pp. 78-94. The Hague: Mouton. The article is also reproduced in *Religious Movements in South Asia 600-1800*, ed. David N. Lorenzen, pp. 81-101. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2004. Paperback edition, 2005.
* Majumdar, R.C. n.d. ed. *History and Culture of the Indian People: The Struggle for Empire*. Bombay: Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan. Relevant part is Chapter XV (‘Language and Literature’), pp. 297-397.
* Pollock, Sheldon. (1998). ‘ India in the Vernacular Millennium: Literary Culture and Polity, 1000-1500’, in *Early Modernities*, ed. Shmuel Eisenstadt, Wolfgang Schluchter and Bjorn Wittrock, special issue of *Daedalus*, 127 (3), pp. 41-74.
* Desai, Devangana. (1989). ‘Social Dimensions of Art in Early India’, *Presidential Address (Ancient India), Proceeding of the Indian History Congress, 50th session, Gorakhpur*, pp. 21- 56.
* नंदी, रमेन्द्रनाथ. (1998). प्राचीन भारत में धमर् के सामािजक आधार. नई िदल्ली: ग्रंथिशल्पी.
* िसं ह, उिपन्दर. (2017). प्राचीन एवं पूवर्*-*मध्यकालीन भारत का इितहास*:* पाषाण*-*काल से *12*वीं शताब्दी तक. नई िदल्ली: पीयसर्न इंिडया एजुके शन. प्रासंिगक भाग ह,ै अध्याय 10: 'उभरता क्षेत्रीय िवन्यास', प.ृ सं. 588-689.
* Saloman, Richard. (1998).*Indian Epigraphy: A Guide to the Study of Inscriptions in Sanskrit, Prakrit and the Other Indo-Aryan Languages*. New York: Oxford University Press. (The relevant portions are: Chapter I: 'The Scope and Significance of Epigraphy in Indological Stud- ies', pp. 3-6; Chapter VII: 'Epigraphy as a Source for the Study of Indian Culture', pp. 226-51.)
* Schwartzberg. J. (1993). *Historical Atlas of South Asia*. New York: Oxford University Press. (To be used mostly as a reference book)
* Jha, D.N. (2000). ‘Introduction’, *The Feudal Order: State, Society and Ideology in Early Medieval India*, (ed.), D.N.Jha, Delhi: Manohar, pp. 1-60. [Also available in Hindi]
* Sharma, R.S. (1958). ‘Origins of Feudalism in India’. *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient*, vol. 1, pp. 297-328.
* Mukhia, H. (1981). ‘Was there Feudalism in Indian History?’ *The Journal of Peasant Studies,* vol. 8, pp. 273-310. Also reproduced in *The State in India, 1000-1700*, ed., H.Kulke, pp. 86-133. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1995. Paperback edition, 1997.
* Sharma, R.S. (1982). ‘The Kali Age: A Period of Social Crisis’ in *The Feudal Order: State, Society and Ideology in Early Medieval India*, ed., D.N.Jha, Delhi: Manohar, pp. 61-77. (Originally published in S.N.Mukherjea, ed., *India: History and Thought*. Essays in Honour of Professor A.L.Basham.)
* Chattopadhyaya, B.D. (1983). ‘Political Processes and the Structure of Polity in Early Me- dieval India: Problems of Perspective’. Presidential Address, Ancient India Section, Indian History Congress, 44th Session. This is also reproduced in *The State in India, 1000-1700,* ed., H.Kulke, Delhi: Oxford University Press pp. 195-232. Paperback edition, 1997.
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* झा, िद्वजेन्द्रनारायण (सं.) (2007). भारतीय सामंतवाद*:* राज्य*,* समाज और िवचारधारा. नईिदल्ली: ग्रंथिशल्पी. शमार्, रामशरण. (1993). भारतीय सामंतवाद. नई िदल्ली: राजकमल प्रकाशन.
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* स्टाइन, बटर्न. (1998). 'मध्यकालीन भारत में राजनीित, िकसान और फ्यूडिलज़्म का िवखंडन', फ्यूडिलज़्म और गैर*-*यूरोपीय समाज, (सं.), हरबंस मुिखया. नईिदल्ली: ग्रंथिशल्पी, प.ृ सं. 183-226.
* Sharma, R.S. (1965). *Indian Feudalism, c.300-1200*. Delhi: Macmillan (2nd edition, 1980) (Especially relevant are, pp. 63-90.).
* Chattopadhyaya, B.D. (1983). ‘Political Processes and the Structure of Polity in Early Me- dieval India: Problems of Perspective’, Presidential Address, Ancient India Section, Indian History Congress, 44th Session. This is also reproduced in *The State in India, 1000-1700,* ed., H.Kulke, pp. 195-232.
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* Chattopadhyaya, B.D. (1976). ‘Origin of the Rajputs: The Political, Economic and Social Processes in Early Medieval Rajasthan’, *Indian Historical Review*, vol. 3, no. 1. Also repro- duced in B.D. Chattopadhyaya, *The Making of Early Medieval India*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 1-37. Paperback edition, 1997.
* Stein, Burton. (1977). ‘The Segmentary State in South Indian History’. In *Realm and Region in Traditional India*, ed., Richard Fox, New Delhi: Vikas, pp. 3-51. Stein’s views might also be accessed in another article by him, more easily accessible: Stein, Burton. 1995. The Seg- mentary State: Interim Reflections. In *The State in India*, ed., Kulke, 134-161. New Delhi: Oxford University Press. Paperback edition, 1997. Originally published in *Purusartha*, vol. 13 (1991): 217-88.
* Heitzman, James. (1987). ‘State Formation in South India, 850-1280’,*Indian Economic and Social History Review*, 24, no. 1, pp. 35-61. Also reproduced in *The State in India: 1000-1700*, ed. H.Kulke, pp. 162-94.
* Ali, Daud.(2004).*Courtly Culture and Political Life in Early Medieval India.* New Delhi: Cambridge University Press, 2006. (Especially useful is Chapter 2: ‘The Culture of the Court’, pp. 69-102.)
* Davis, Richard. (1999). *Lives of Indian Images*. New Delhi: Motilal Banarsidas Publishers, pp. 88-112 and pp. 186-221.
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* Habib, Mohammad. (1927). ‘Sultan Mahmud of Ghaznin’, in *Politics and Society during the Early Medieval Period, Collected Works of Professor Habib*, vol. 2, (Ed.) K.A.Nizami, New Delhi: People’s Publishing House, pp. 36-104. Reprint, 1981.
* Kulke, Hermann, Kesavapany & Sakhuja, (Eds.) (2009). *Nagapattinam to Suvarnadvipa: Reflections on the Chola Naval Expeditions to Southeast Asia*, Singapore: Institute of South- east Asian Studies.
* शमार्, रामशरण. (1998). 'भारतीय सामंतवाद िकतना सामंती?', फ्यूडिलज़्म और गैर*-*यूरोपीय समाज*,* (सं.), हरबंस मुिखया. नई िदल्ली: ग्रंथिशल्पी, पृ. सं. 50-86.
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* चट्टोपाध्याय, ब्रजदुलाल. (2000). 'राजपूतों की उत्पित्त: पूवर्-मध्ययुगीन राजस्थान में राजनैितक, आिथर् क एवं सामािजक प्रिक्रयाएं ', प्राचीन भारत*,* पृ. सं. 136-153.
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* थापर, रोिमला. (2000). 'सोमनाथ और महमूद', सहमत मुक्तनाद, वषर् 2, अंक 1-2, पृ. स.ं 37-44.
* थापर, रोिमला. (2015). सोमनाथ*:* इितहास एक*,* स्वर अनेक. नयी िदल्ली: ग्रंथिशल्पी.
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**Assessment method/ Evaluation Plan:**

**Internal Assessment: 25 Marks**

Internal Assessment of 25 marks will be conducted as per university guidelines.