

Ph. D Entrance Test (PET Examination)

PET Examination Code : 1

Subject : Archaeology And Ancient History

SYLLABUS

Note :

There will be one question paper in two parts(Part – A and Part – B). Part – A will have General Aptitude based 35 Multiple Choice Questions and Part – B will have Subject Based 50 Multiple Choice Questions. Each Question carries 2 Marks.

Part - B

Unit—I

Definition, aim and scope of archaeology, history and growth of archaeology, History of Indian Archaeology

Relationship of Archaeology with social and natural sciences

Retrieval of Archaeological data : Techniques of explorations and excavations

Aims and methods of conservation and preservation of archaeological remains

Recording and preparation of reports

Unit—II

Chronology and dating : Relative, Stratigraphy, Typology, Absolute, Carbon 14, Potassium Argon, Fission Track, Thermoluminescence, Dendrochronology, Pollen analysis, Varve clay analysis

Others methods : Flourine test, nitrogen and phosphate analysis, soil analysis

Methods of objective interpretations : Ethno-archaeology, Experimental archaeology, Application of new archaeological methods in India

Unit—III

Geological, biological and cultural dimension of man

Quaternary period : Pleistocene and Holocene, Environment and climatic changes

Pleistocene flora and fauna, Main stages of human evolution and important fossil records

Appearance of stone tools and development of technology : Main techniques and tools of Stone Age, Methods of study of prehistoric remains

Unit—IV

Hunting-Gathering stage : Palaeolithic in Africa, Europe and South-East Asia, Mesolithic in Europe and West Asia; Palaeolithic and Mesolithic remains and important sites of India

Beginning of food production : Neolithic stage in West Asia, Major neolithic cultures and important sites of India

Unit—V

Pre and early Harappan Village Cultures of North and North-Western India

Harappa Culture : Origin, extent, chronology, factors of urbanization, trade, script, religion, art and craft, factors for the decline

Devaluation of Harappa Culture : Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat

Chalcolithic village communities of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra

Copper using cultures of Gangetic plains

Unit—VI

Early occurrence of iron : Chrono-cultural features

Main characteristics of the cultures : Painted grey ware, Black slipped ware and Megalithic cultures

Northern Black polished ware culture : Extent, chronology, characteristics traits

Important city sites : Rajghat, Ujjain, Vaisali, Taxila, Mathura, Sravasti, Kaushambi and Sishupalgarh

Important sites of historical period : Sringverapur, Khairadih, Satanikota, Chandraketugarh, Nasik, Arikamedu and Adam

Unit—VII

Architecture of structural stupas : North and South India

Rock-cut architecture : Monastries and shrines

Main styles of temples : Origin and development of temples, Main features and examples of Nagar, Vesara and Dravid styles

Main styles of sculptural art : Mauryan, Sunga, Kushana, Gupta, Satvahana, Chalukya, Pallava and Chola periods

Unit—VIII

Origin and antiquity of coinage in India. Techniques of manufacturing coins.

Important coins : Punch-marked coins, inscribed and uninscribed caste coins; Principal types of Indo-Greek coinage; Saka and Kushan coinage; Principal types of Gupta Gold coinage; Brief account of pre-Islamic Medieval Indian coinage

Unit—IX

Origin and antiquity of writing in India : Origin of Brahmi and Kharasthi scripts, Study of some select inscriptions—Ashokan edicts, Besnagar Garuda pillar inscription; Hathigumpha inscription of Kharvela, Junagarh inscription of Rudradaman, Allahabad pillar inscription of Samudragupta, Aihole pillar inscription of Pulakesin II and Gwalior inscription of Mihira Bhoja

Unit—X

Proposed area of research; aims and objectives; proposed methodology; primary and secondary sources; review of previous researches in the proposed area, and likely contribution of the proposal

Elective—I

Geo-chronology and Stone Age cultures of India : Sohan Valley; Belan Valley; Son Valley and Kortlayar Valley

Palaeolithic cultures of India : Sohan and Acheulian traditions; Middle Palaeolithic cultures; Upper Palaeolithic cultures; Habitation tendencies of the Palaeolithic period

Patterns of Mesolithic cultures of India : Characteristic features of alluvial plains; horse-shoe lake; sand-dune; plateau and rock shelter sites

Neolithic cultures of India : Early farming communities of Baluchistan and Kashmir, Vindhya-Belan region, Kaimur Foot hills and Ganga plains, Chota Nagpur plateau and the North-East, and Pastoral communities of Deccan and South

Elective—II

Pre-Harappan cultures of India and Border lands : Salient features

Harappa culture : Origin, geographical distribution and settlement patterns, town planning and architecture, trade-hinterland and overseas, arts and crafts, material equipment, subsistence pattern, socio-political organization, religion and authorship; important excavated sites, concepts of Sorath and Sindhi Harappans in Gujarat

Decline and survival of Harappa culture : Causes of de-urbanization, Late Harappa cultures of Punjab, Haryana, Western Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat

Other copper using cultures : Copper Hoards and Ochre Coloured pottery, Ahar, Kayatha, Malwa and Deccan Chalcolithic cultures, Cultures of Gangetic Plains

Elective—III

Historical urbanization : Northern Black polished ware culture, extent, chronology, cultural traits

Important city sites : Rajghat, Ujjain, Vaishali, Taxila, Mathura, Sravasti, Kaushambi, Sishupalgarh, Satanikota

Growth of urban settlements during Kushan period : Plan and expansion of settlements and growth of trade centres; Main features of material culture

Excavated remains of Gupta and Early Medieval periods : Nature of settlements and main features of material culture

Elective—IV

Architecture

Structural features of ancient fortified settlements

Origin and evolution of Stupa architecture: Sanchi, Bharhut, Amaravati and Nagarjuna Konda

Development of Rock-cut architecture : Chaityas and Viharas.

Origin and evolution of temples; Gupta temples; Chalukyan temples; Pallava rathas and temples; Khajuraho temples; temples of Orissa and Chola temples

Sculpture

Mauryan Capital figures; Early Yaksha Statue; Sunga Sculptures; Kaushana sculptures : Mathura and Gandhara schools; Gupta Sculptures: Sarnath School; Sculptures of Chalukyas; Pallavas; Palas; Chola and Chandellas

Paintings

Rock-cut Cave Paintings of Ajanta and Bagh

Elective—V

Epigraphy

Epigraphy as a source of history, Origin of Indian scripts : Different theories

Study of select Epigraphs : Asokan Edicts; Rock Edicts X, XII, XIII; Lumbini inscriptions of Asoka; Minar Rock Edict of Bairat, Besnagar Garuda Pillar inscription; Hathigumpha inscription of Kharvela; Junagarh inscription of Rudradaman; Swat Relic casket inscription; Sarnath Buddha image inscription of the time of Kanishka I. Lucknow Museum Jain image inscription of the time of Huvishka (126 AD); Allahabad pillar inscription of Samudragupta; Aihole pillar inscription of Pulakesin II; Gwalior inscriptions of Mihira Bhoja; Tanjavaur inscription of Rajendra Chola and Sangli Copper plate of Govinda IV (Swarn Varsha)

Numismatics

Origin and antiquity of coinage in ancient India. Metal and techniques used for coins

Main coin types : Punch-marked coins; Inscribed and Uninscribed caste coins; Principal types of Indo-Greek coinage; Coins of Saka, Kushan and Satvahana; Principal types of Gupta Gold coins; Roman coins; and brief account of pre-Islamic Medieval Indian coinage