Chapter - 01 History

How, When and Where

• How important are dates:

- (i) History is synonymous with dates.
- (ii) We compare the past with present.
- (iii) We continue to associate history with a string of dates.

• Which Dates:

- (i) Selection of date depends on the story of past.
- (ii) Focusing on a particular set of events is important.

How do we Periodise:

- (i) James Mill divided the Indian history into three periods: Hindu, Muslim and British.
- (ii) British rule represented all the forces of progress and civilization.

• What is colonial:

- (i) Colonial refers to the British rule.
- (ii) British rule brought about changes in values and tastes, customs and practices.

• How do we know Administration:

- (i) One important source is the official records of the British administration.
- (ii) The British felt all important documents and letters needed to be preserved.
- (iii) Specialized institutions like archieves and museums were established to preserve important records.

• Surveys become important:

- (i) The practice of surveying became commone under colonial administration.'
- (ii) Surveys like botanical zoological, archaeological, anthropological and forest survesys were in the list of British administration.

• What do Official Records not Tell:

- (i) The official records do not tell about the needs of people of India.
- (ii) Many official records hide the truth and only show one aspect of the event.