

CURRICULUM

INDIAN CULTURE AND HERITAGE

1.0 Rationale

India is one of the ancient civilizations of the world which has stood the test of time. In fact what makes Indian culture unique among other ancient civilizations is its ability to accommodate and assimilate external influences and weave them into its own cultural fabric. This composite influence has not only enriched the cultural milieu of India, it has also made it stronger. Indian art, architecture, music, language, philosophy and religion reflect this diversity of influence that has occurred through centuries. This is the beauty of Indian Culture and Heritage. As Indian citizens not only do we need to be proud of this pluralistic and rich cultural heritage but also to study it objectively and assess it critically.

2.0 Objectives

The main objectives of this course are:

- to familiarize learners with various aspects of the culture and heritage of India.
- to acquaint learners with the contributions of our ancestors in the areas of religion, philosophy, science, arts, education, languages and literature.
- to enable learners to appreciate the underlying unity amidst diversity in all aspects of India's culture.
- to acquaint learners with the impact of Indian culture in different countries of the world.
- to enable learners to appreciate the composite nature of Indian culture.
- to develop among learners a feeling of love and a sense of belonging towards the nation.

3.0 Description of Course

Module	Title	Marks
1.	Culture	10
2.	History and Culture through the Ages	15
3.	Languages and Literature	10
4.	Religion and Philosophy	12
5.	Painting, Performing Arts and Architecture	12
6.	Science and Technology	10
7.	Education	09
8.	Social Structure	10
9.	Spread of Indian Culture Abroad	12
Total		100

Description of Course

Module 1: Culture

Marks : 10

Study Hours : 20

Approach

This module is designed to develop an understanding of the concept and meaning of culture. The salient features of Indian culture which make it distinct will also be discussed.

Lesson 1 : Culture: An Introduction

- Concept of Culture
- Culture and civilization
- Culture and Heritage
- General Characteristic of culture
- Components – Aspects of culture
- Importance of culture in human life

Lesson 2 : Indian Culture

- Meaning of culture
- Characteristics of Indian culture
- Cultural Identity, Religion, Region and Ethnicity
- Cultural Influence

Module 2 : History and Culture through the Ages

Approach

Marks : 15

Study Hours: 35

This module aims at developing an understanding of the historical development of Indian Culture. The evolution of Indian Culture through the Ages will be traced. This module aims to highlight significant cultural developments during the ancient, medieval and modern periods of Indian history.

Lesson 3 : Ancient India

- Harappan Civilization.
- Vedic Culture : Society and Religion, Material Life and Economy.
- Popular Religious Reforms.
- Persian Invasion and its Impact on Indian Culture.
- Greek Invasion and its Impact on Indian Culture.
- Ashoka the Great.
- Art and Architecture in the Mauryan and Post-Mauryan period.
- Gupta period : Architecture and Painting.
- Transformation of Vedic Brahminism into Puranic Hinduism.
- Nalanda's Emergence as a great centre of learning.
- Christianity in India.
- South India : The Pallavas and the Cholas.

Lesson 4 : Medieval India

- Arrival of the Muslims.
- Rise of Sufism.
- Political Background of the period.
- Cultural Development in India.
- Influence on Religion and Society.
- Development of Folk Arts, Music, Painting.
- Rise of Modern Indian Languages.
- Rise of New Faiths: Sikhism, Zoroastrianism.
- South India : Development under the Cholas, the Vijayanagara and Bahmani Kingdoms.

Lesson 5 : Modern India

- Impact of western Renaissance and Reformation Movements on India.
- India by the end of the Eighteenth Century : Social and Religious conditions.
- Social and Religious Reformers : Ram Mohan Roy, Swami Dayanand Saraswati, Jyotiba Phule, Narayana Guru, Pandita Ramabai.
- Press and the Growth of Modern Languages and Literature: Role of newspapers, Some important newspapers.
- India Since Independence: Social and Political Developments.

Module 3 : Languages and Literature

Marks : 10

Study Hours: 25

This module is intended to acquaint the learners with the languages and literature of India. This module shall examine the important role of Sanskrit in ancient India. It explores the range of literature available in Sanskrit, Prakrit and Pali. It also seeks to familiarize learners with the rich legacy of Sangam literature in Tamil, and the literature available in other South Indian languages i.e. Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam.

Lesson 6 : Indian Languages and Literature -I

- Indian Languages: The role of Sanskrit.
- The Vedas: Rig Veda, Yajur Veda, Sama Veda, Atharva Veda.
- The Upanishads.
- Epics: Ramayana and Mahabharata.
- Bhagavad Gita
- Puranas and Smritis.
- Buddhist and Jain Literature in Pali, Prakrit and Sanskrit: The Tripitakas and the Jataka stories.
- Other Sanskrit Literature: The Dharmashastras, Kautilya's Arthashastra and works of Bhasa, Shudraka, Kalidasa and Banabhatta, books on Medical Science, Sanskrit Literature in Kashmir.
- Sangama literature.
- Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam literature.

Lesson 7: Indian Languages and Literature - II

- Northern Indian Languages and Literature - Evolution of languages: The spoken and the written languages, Brahmi script, Hindi and its Dialects.
- Urdu and Persian Literature.
- Hindi Literature.

- Bengali, Assamese and Oriya Literature.
- Punjabi and Rajasthani Literature.
- Gujarati Literature.
- Sindhi Literature.
- Marathi Literature.
- Kashmiri Literature.
- Role of Christian Missionaries: Role of Lithographic press and Missionaries Schools and Colleges.

Module 4: Religion and Philosophy

Marks : 12

Study Hours: 25

Approach

This module aims to trace the developments in Indian philosophical thought and examine the major religious traditions that emerged and flourished in India over the ages. This module also discusses the movements started in the modern period to reform the various ills that had crept into the different religions of India.

Lesson 8 : Religion and Philosophy in Ancient India

- Pre-Vedic and Vedic Religion.
- Unorthodox Religious movements - Buddhism and Jainism.
- Theistic Religions - Vaishnavism, Shaivism and Shaktism.
- Folk Cults - Worship of Yakshas and Nagas.
- Vaishnava and Shaiva Movements in the South.
- Vedic philosophy - Samkhya, Yoga, Nyaya, Vaisheshika, Mimamsa, Advaita.
- Charvaka school of Philosophy.
- Jain Philosophy.
- Buddhist Philosophy.

Lesson 9 : Religion and Philosophy in Medieval India

- The Sufi movement - the Chishti and Suhrawardi silsilahs, importance of the Sufi movement.
- The Bhakti movement - Nirgun and Sagun schools of Bhakti; the role of saints like Kabir, Nanak, Mirabai and others.
- Philosophy in medieval India - Vishistadvaita, Sivadvaita, Dvaita, Dvaitadvaita, Suddhadvaita.

Lesson 10 : Religious Reform Movements in Modern India

- Brahmo Samaj and Raja Rammohan Roy.
- Prarthana Samaj and Ranade.
- Arya Samaj and Dayanand Saraswati.
- Ramakrishna Mission and Swami Vivekananda.
- Theosophical Society and Annie Besant.
- The Aligarh Movement and Sayyid Ahmad Khan.

Module 5: Painting, Performing Arts and Architecture

Marks : 12

Study Hours: 25

Approach

Indian culture is often characterised by its artistic productions, be it painting, sculpture, music or dance. This is because the arts are the most manifest aspect of culture. In a sense they may be regarded as cultural production. This module traces the evolution of the various art forms in India such as painting, handicrafts, music, dance, drama, architecture and sculpture.

Lesson 11: Indian Painting

- Art in Ancient India: Creative painting in the Harappan civilization, Buddhist paintings and rock-cut caves, *chitrashalas* and *shilpashastras*.
- Art in Medieval India: Mughal Miniature Painting, Pahari Painting.
- Art in the Modern Period: Influence of Rabindra Nath Tagore and Abinandranath Tagore, Nandalal Bose, M.F. Hussain and others.
- Decorative Art: *Rangoli*, *Alpana*, *Aipan*, *Rangavalli*, *Kullam* and *Mendana*.
- Folk Painting; Mithila Painting, Kalamkari Painting, Warli Painting, Kalighat Painting.
- Indian Handicrafts: Bandhni from Rajasthan, Bidri and Pochampalli sarees from Andhra Pradesh and Kanjeevaram silk sarees from Tamil Nadu, silk and sandalwood items from Mysore, cane furniture from Assam and terracotta models from Bengal.

Lesson 12 : Performing Arts : Music, Dance and Drama

- Concept of Performing Arts : A Brief History.
- Divisions of Indian classical music : Hindustani and Carnatic.
- Modern Indian Music and Folk Music.
- Dances of India: Various Dance forms, well-known Dancers of Modern India.
- Drama: Classical and Folk, Rise of Modern Theatre, Various types of Drama, Important Dramas and their Authors.

- Performing Arts and its Impact on Human Personality.

Lesson 13 : Indian Architecture

- Architecture : Its Origin and the Indian Perspective.
- Evolution of Indian Architecture : Pre-Historic; Harappan Period; Development in the Rig Vedic Period; Early Historic Period : Cave Architecture; Rock-cut temples; Free-standing Temples, Architecture in the Mughal Era.
- Colonial Architecture and The Modern Period.

Module 6 : Science and Technology

Marks : 10

Study Hours: 30

Approach

As in all other fields of culture, so too in the field of science and technology, Indians have inherited a rich legacy from their ancestors. This module examines the important developments in the field of science and technology in India, during the course of its history. It also assesses the contributions made by outstanding scientists of India during the modern period.

Lesson 14 : Science and Technology in India

- Development in different branches of Science in Ancient India: Contributions of Aryabhatta and Varahamihira in the fields of Astronomy and Mathematics; Contribution of Charaka and Sushruta; Developments in metallurgy; Development of Geography.
- Scientific and Technological Developments in Medieval India; Influence of the Islamic world and Europe; The role of *maktabs*, *madrasas* and *karkhanas* set up; Developments in the fields of Mathematics, Chemistry, Astronomy and Medicine; Innovations in the field of agriculture - new crops introduced, new techniques of irrigation etc.
- Science and Technology in Modern India: Development of research organisations like CSIR and DRDO; Establishment of Atomic Energy Commission; Launching of the space satellites, other advances made in Science and Technology.

Lesson 15 : Scientists of Ancient India

- Mathematics and Astronomy
- Baudhayan
- Aryabhatta
- Brahmgupta
- Bhaskaracharya
- Mahaviracharya
- Science

- Kanad
- Varahamihira
- Nagarjuna
- Medical Science of Ancient India (Ayurveda & Yoga)
- Susruta
- Charak
- Yoga & Patanjali

Lesson 16 :Science and Scientists of Medieval India

- Sciences in Medieval Period
- Mathematics
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Astronomy
- Medicine
- Agriculture

Lesson 17 : Scientists of Modern India

- Srinivas Ramanujan: Paper on Bernoulli Numbers.
- C.V. Raman: Raman Effect.
- Jagdish Chandra Bose: Invention of Crescograph and Wireless Instruments.
- Homi Jehangir Bhabha: Started TIFR; First Chairman of Atomic Energy Commission.
- Dr. Vikram Sarabhai: A great Industrialist; started manufacturing Military Hardware and Penicillin; Chairman of Indian National Commission for Space Research; Directed Thumba Atomic Rocket Launching Station; Recipient of the Padma Bhushan and the Padma Vibhushan.
- Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam: Eleventh President of India; held prestigious positions in institutes like ISRO and DRDO; Led India into an era of self-defence.

Module 7: Education

Marks : 9

Study Hours: 30

Approach

Education is a means of cultural transmission. It is the mode through which the accumulated knowledge available within a social group is passed on, in a structured manner. India has, since very ancient times, evolved its own unique system of education often imbibing

influences from other civilizations. This module traces the evolution of educational systems, over the different periods of Indian history. It also highlights significant developments in this field, the subjects and contents of education, etc. The module also aims to enable learners to make a critical assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of the pre-modern and modern systems of education in India.

Lesson 18 : Education in India

- Education in Ancient India: Vedic *ashramas*; Mauryan and Post-Mauryan guilds; Jain and Buddhist Monasteries; *Ghatikas* or colleges; Aims of Education; Subjects Taught; Status of Women's Education.
- Education in the Medieval period: *Madrasas*, *Makhtabs*; Traditional and Rational Sciences, Introduction of subjects like Public Administration, Geometry and Accountancy.
- Education in the Modern Period: Colonial Legacy; Macaulay's Minutes, Wood's Despatch, Indian Universities Act
- Education in Post-Independence India: Elementary Education: Universal access and Retention; Secondary Education, The 10+2+3 system; Vocational Education; Higher Education; Adult Education; Social Relevance and Technical Education; National Education Policy; Correspondence Education; Distance Education

Module 8: Social Structure

Marks : 10

Study Hours: 30

Approach

To know Indian culture in all its aspects, it is necessary to study the structure of its society. This module aims to examine the various components of Indian society and analyze its structure. It also tries to examine some contemporary socio-cultural issues of contemporary India.

Lesson 19 Indian Social Structure

- Tribes, *Varna and Jati*
- Untouchability
- Slavery
- Purushartha, Ashrama, Sanskara
- Jajmani system
- Family and Marriage in India
- Position of women
- Tribal communities of India

Lesson 20 : Socio-Cultural Issues in Contemporary India

- Caste System

- Issues Related to women
- Dowry system
- The problems of girls child and women
- Substance abuse
- Communalism
- Issues related to the Elderly
- Issues of poverty and unemployment
- Beggary
- Problem of Children

Module 9: Spread of Indian Culture Abroad

Marks : 12

Study Hours: 30

Approach

Indians have interacted with the outside world since very ancient times. They have travelled far and wide and left indelible impressions wherever they went. Similarly throughout its history, India has also been frequented by foreign travellers who have carried home some traces of Indian culture. In turn, India has also imbibed several elements of the culture of all these different peoples and their civilizations. In this module we shall examine the exchange of cultural influences between India and other parts of the world.

Lesson 21 : Spread of Indian Culture Abroad

- Modes of Cultural Exchange - Through Traders, Teachers, Emissaries, Missionaries and Gypsies
- Indian Culture in Central and East Asia
- Indian culture in Sri Lanka and South East Asia.
- India's Cultural contact with the Arab civilization
- India's contact with Rome
- The Role of Ships and Foreign Trade in the cultural exchange between India and the world