



Syllabus for Ph.D. Course Work

Department of History

PAPER: CODE PH.D- HIS-5044

4 Credits

ASSAM AND ITS ADVANTAGE WITH COLONIALISM

Objective: The paper is primarily designed

This paper of Ph.D. course work aims to apprise the scholars with a broad historical understanding of the progressive transitions experienced by Assam in multiple domains ranging from the way it was politically constituted to its gradual morphing into a colonial hinterland with a dual economy at its core. To orient the scholars with the myriad social alterations that Assam encountered due to its rendezvous with colonialism more precisely, Assam's close interactions with neighbouring Bengal would be closely analysed focusing on the various issues of collaboration as well as flashpoints between the two.

Course Content:

Unit I: Colonialism: Concept of Colonialism and Basic features stages of Colonialism in Brahmaputra Valley: Phases of Colonialism and Colonial Policies in Brahmaputra Valley.

Unit II: The Colonial Involvement of Brahmaputra Valley: Creating of a colonial edge, British Expansion in the Brahmaputra valley, General Impact of the British rule in North East India and Particular to the Brahmaputra Valley.

Unit III: Colonial Appraisals and its Developments: The all-encompassing development of Assam (1826-1947) Agriculture, Trade and Commerce, Indigenous traditional industries in the Brahmaputra Valley of colonial period.

Unit IV: Colonial Policy and its Socio-Economic Enlargements Reviews on Brahmaputra Valley of Assam: Colonial intervention in the socio-economic sectors, Communication developments: Roadways, Railways, Streamers, Plantations and Commodities such as Tea, Coal, Oil, Forests and wasteland settlement, The new land revenue framework.

Reading Books List:

- 1) Barooah, N & *Bardoloi, G. The Assam Problem and Nehru's Centre*, Bhabani Publishers, Guwahati, 2012.
- 2) Baruah, Sanjib, *India Against Itself: Assam and the politics of Nationality*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2000.
- 3) Barpujari, H. K. *The Comprehensive History of Assam* (Vol. V). Guwahati: Publication Board, Guwahati, 1993.
- 4) Barpujart H. K. *Problem of the Hill Tribes North- East Frontier 1822- 42*. Gauhati: Lawyer's Book Stall Gauhati, 1960.
- 5) Barua, B. K. *A Cultural History of Assam (Early Period)- Volume I*. Madras: C S Press, Narasingapuram, Mount Road, Madras, 1951.
- 6) Baruah S.L. *Comprehensive History of Assam*. Mushiram Manoharlal Publishers Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi, 2005.
- 7) Bhuyan, S. *Early British Relations with Assam*. Shillong: Assam Government Press, 1949.
- 8) Bhuyan, Suryya Kumar. *Anglo- Assamese Relations (1771- 1826)*. Gauhati: The Government of Assam in the Department of Historical and Antiquarian Studies in Assam, 1949.
- 9) Goswami, Priyam. *Assam in the Nineteenth Century: Industrialization and Colonial Penetration*, Spectrum Publications, Guwahati, 1999.
- 10) Guha, Amalendu. *Planter Raj to Swaraj, Freedom Struggle and Electoral Politics in Assam, 1826-1947*, Tulika Books, New Delhi, 2006.
- 11) Guha, Amalendu. *Medieval and Early Colonial Assam: Society, Polity and economy*, CSSS, Calcutta, 1991.
- 12) Hamilton, F. *An Account of Assam* (First Edition ed.). Guwahati: Government of Assam in the Department of Historical and Antiquarian Studies Narayani Handiqui Historical Institute Assam, 1940.
- 13) Hunter, W. W. *A Statistical Account of Assam*. Delhi: B R Publishing Corporation, Delhi, 1879.
- 14) M'Cosh, J. *Topography of Assam*. Calcutta: G H Huttman, Bengal Military Orphan Press, 1879.
- 15) Saikia, Rajen. *Social and Economic History of Assam, (1853-1921)*, Manohar Publication, New Delhi, 2002.
- 16) Sharma, Jayeeta . *Empire's Garden: Assam and the Making of India*, Permanent Black, New Delhi, 2002.

Additional Books Readings List:

- 1). Amalendu Guha. *Planter Raj to Swaraj - Freedom Struggle & Electoral Politics in Assam*. Tulika Books, 2012
- 2). Barpujari, H. K. *The Comprehensive History of Assam* (Vol. I – IV). Guwahati: Publication Board, Guwahati, 1993.
- 3). Baruah, S. *India Against Itself: Assam and the Politics of Nationality*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1999.
- 4). Chatterjee, I. *Forgotten Friends: Monks, Marriages and Memories of Northeast India*. Oxford University Press, 2013.
- 5). Chatterjee, I. 'Women, Monastic Commerce and Coverture in Eastern India circa 1600-1800 CE', *Modern Asian Studies*, Vol. 50, Part 1, Cambridge University Press, 2016.
- 6). Edward Albert Gait. *A History of Assam* (Second ed.). Calcutta & Simla: Thacker, Spink & Co, 1926
- 7). Elwin, V. *India's North- East Frontier in the Nineteenth Century*. London: Oxford University Press, 1959.
- 8). Ganguli, J. B. *An Economic History of North East India (1826- 1947)*. New Delhi: Akansha Publishing House, 2006.
- 9). Kumar, Dharma & Desai, Meghnad (eds) *The Cambridge Economic History of India, c. 1757-c. 1970*, Vol. 2, Orient Longman, Hyderabad, 1984.

COURSE CODE PH.D- HIS-5054

4 Credits

REVIEW OF LITERATURE & FIELD-WORK

Objective: The Paper is Primarily Designed

This paper of Ph.D. course work aims to introduce sources both Primary and Secondary to study History from ancient to modern. To do a Systematic and Objective research one need to be acquainted with existing sources on the subject. Therefore, the course intends to discuss the major primary sources both of Archaeological and Historical on History and Archaeology. Alongside, the course also aims to familiarizing research scholars with methods of Archaeological data collection in fields, Documentation of artefacts and methods of evaluation of data. Tic and objective research one need to be acquainted with existing sources on the subject.

Course Contents:

Unit 1: Introduction to Sources of History and Archaeology: Ancient Texts and Material Remains- Archaeological, Epigraphs, Coins, Sculptures and Monuments, Survey of Medieval and Modern Sources.

Unit 2: Nature and Types of Primary Sources: a.) Brahmanical, Buddhist and Jain Texts, Classical Translations of Ancient Texts, Commentary on Ancient Texts, Foreign Accounts of India and Biographical Literature, Archaeological reports, Catalogue of Coins, Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum, Documentation of Sculptures and Monuments b.) Archival, Senses Reports, Bibliographical Accounts, Official Records, Memorial etc

Unit 3: Nature and Types of Secondary Sources: a.) Significant Publication on Historical Reconstruction: Dharmashstra, Iconography, Architecture etc, Classical Volumes on History and Culture, Ideology based Publications of Twentieth Century on Ancient India b.) Historical works, Encyclopaedias, Popular Lectures etc.

Unit4: Field Work: Nature and Significance of Field Work, Process of Pre-Field Work, Methods of Field Work: a) Archaeological Explorations and Excavation, b) Ethno-Cultural Studies, Visit of Museums, Documentation and Analysis, Assignment and Evaluation.

Reading Books List:

- 1). Winternitz. M. History of Indian Literature, Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.1991. in 2Vols.
- 2). Beals, S. *Si-Yu-ki- Buddhist Record of the Western World: Chinese Accounts of India* (Translated from Chinese of Hiuen Tsang). Varanasi, 1980.
- 3). Gopinath Rao, T. A., *Elements of Hindu Iconography*, Motilal Banarsidas, New Delhi, 1998 (New Edition)
- 4). Elliot, H. M. and Downson, J., *History of India as told by its Historians, (8 pts)*. London, 1866-77.
- 5). Allan.J. *Catalogue of the Indian Coins in the British Museum*. 1936. London.
- 6). Ramson. E.J.A, *Catalogue of the Indian Coins in the British Museum- Coins of the Andhra & Western Kshatrapa Dynasty*, British Museum, London. 1908.
- 6). Kausambi. D.D. *Indian Numismatics*, Calcutta, 1981 (reprint).
- 7). Kausambi, D.D., *Combined Methods in Indology and Other Writings*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi. 2002.
- 8). Renfrew, C and P. Bhan, *Archaeology Essentials: Theories, Methods, and Practice*, Thames & Hudson. London 2011.

- 9). Hodder, 1., *Interpreting Archaeology: Finding Meaning in the Past*, Routledge, New York, 1995.
- 10). Jones, Andrew, *Archaeological Theory and Scientific Practice*, Cambridge University Press. Cambridge. 2002.
- 11). Thapar, Romila, *Cultural Pasts: Essays in Early Indian History*, Oxford India Paperbacks, New Delhi, 2012.
- 12). Sheel, Ranjana and Upadhyay, A.K., *AKN's Omnibus of Writings on Ancient History, Culture and Archaeology of South and Central Asia*, B.R. Publishing Corporation, New Delhi, 2013.

Additional Books Readings List:

- 1). Bernard Knapp, (Ed.), *Archaeology, Annales and Ethno-history*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1992.
- 2). David. N. and C. Kramer, *Ethno-Archaeology in Action*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge. 2000.
- 3). Narain, A.K. *The Indo- Greek*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1957.
- 4). Momin, M. & C.A. Mawlong (eds.), *Society and Economy in North East India, Vol. 1*, Regency Publications, New Delhi, 2004 (Relevant papers).
- 5). Qadri, F.A. (ed.). *Society and Economy in North East India, Vol. 2*, Regency Publications, New Delhi, 2006 (Relevant papers).
- 6). Syiemlieh, D.R. & Sharma, M. (eds.), *Society and Economy in North East India, Vol. 3*, Regency Publications, New Delhi, 2008 (Relevant papers).

COURSE CODE PH.D- HIS-5062

2 Credits

Term Paper/Project Work in PhD History Coursework

Course Overview:

The Paper is Primarily Designed

This paper of Ph.D. course work aims to introduce to develop advanced research skills, critical analysis, and academic writing proficiency. Through this component, scholars engage with historiographical debates, primary sources, and methodological approaches relevant to their research interests. The Term Paper/Project Work is an essential component of the PhD coursework in History.

Objectives:

1. To enhance research and analytical skills in historical studies.
2. To develop the ability to conduct independent research using primary and secondary sources.

3. To train scholars in academic writing, citation, and referencing styles.
4. To encourage original contributions to historical debates and knowledge.

Course Structure

Unit 1: Selection of Topic: Scholars must choose a research topic relevant to their PhD thesis or coursework themes. **Proposal Submission:** A research proposal (1000-1500 words) outlining objectives, methodology, sources, and historiographical context. **Research & Data Collection:** Extensive review of literature and, where applicable, archival or field research.

Unit 1I: Draft Submission: Submission of a working draft for faculty feedback. **Final Paper Submission:** A well-structured academic paper (5,000–8,000 words) following standard citation formats (Chicago, APA, MLA, etc.). **Presentation & Defense:** Scholars must present their findings in a seminar and defend their arguments before faculty members.

N.B: The “Term Paper” of History Department is essentially a written academic assignment. It involves researching and analyzing a specific topic in depth, usually based on the subject matter of the course. This type of writing requires a clear structure, critical thinking, and proper citation of sources.

1. Recommended Readings

1. Tosh, John. *The Pursuit of History: Aims, Methods, and New Directions in the Study of History*.
2. Munslow, Alun. *Narrative and History*.
3. Presnell, Jenny L. *The Information-Literate Historian: A Guide to Research for History Students*.
4. Turabian, Kate L. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*.
5. Bloch, Marc – *The Historian’s Craft*
6. Presnell, Jenny L. – *The Information-Literate Historian: A Guide to Research for History Students*
7. Marius, Richard, & Melvin Page – *A Short Guide to Writing About History*
8. Garraghan, Gilbert J. – *A Guide to Historical Method*

2. Additional Books Readings List:

1. Carr, E.H. – *What Is History?*
2. Marwick, Arthur – *The Nature of History*3.
3. Munslow, Alun – *Narrative and History*
4. Burke, Peter (ed.) – *New Perspectives on Historical Writing*.
5. Appleby, Joyce, Lynn Hunt & Margaret Jacob – *Telling the Truth About History*.
6. Jenkins, Keith – *Re-Thinking History*.

3. Citation & Referencing Guides

1. Chicago Manual of Style – A Guide to Writing and Citation for History Papers.
2. MLA Handbook – Modern Language Association Guide for Research Papers.
3. APA Manual – American Psychological Association Writing Guide

4. Primary & Archival Research

1. Howell, Martha, & Walter Prevenier – *From Reliable Sources: An Introduction to Historical Methods*
2. Barzun, Jacques, & Henry F. Graff – *The Modern Researcher*.
3. Gunn, Simon, & Lucy Faire – *Research Methods for History*

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