



Department of Sanskrit
University of Delhi
Under Graduate Course for Sanskrit
B.A. Honours & Programme Under UGCF-22

DSE 3: Introduction to Itihāsa-Purāṇa Tradition

Credit distribution, Eligibility and Pre-requisites of the Course

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Pre-requisite of the course	Department Offering the Course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
Introduction to Itihāsa-Purāṇa Tradition	04	3	1	0	Semester IV	Sanskrit

Learning Objectives

- To enable students to know the origin and evolution of Itihāsa-purāṇa tradition.
- To impart knowledge of texts and authors of Itihāsa-purāṇa
- To prepare students to understand the role of Itihāsa-purāṇa in development of Indian narrative tradition.
- To make students aware of religious, spiritual and cultural significance of Itihāsa-purāṇa tradition.

Learning outcomes

- The students will be familiar with the Itihāsa-purāṇa tradition.
- The students will be able to appreciate the role of Itihāsa-purāṇa tradition as a foundation of Indian culture and civilization
- Students will be able to understand the impact of Itihāsa-purāṇa tradition on Indian literature.
- They will get acquainted with salient feature of Indian Narrative Tradition as reflected in Rāmāyaṇa, Mahābhārata and Purāṇas.

Detailed Syllabus

Unit 1- Meaning and Significance of Itihāsa- purāṇa

- Meaning of Itihāsa and purāṇa, its mention in Atharvaveda (15-6-8,11), Chāndogya upniṣada 7.4, Arthaśāstra 1.5)
- Exposition of इतिहासपुराणाभ्यां वेदं समुपबृंहयेत्



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- Panca Lakṣaṇa (five characteristics) of purāṇa
- Place of Itihāsa- purāṇa in Indian narrative tradition

Unit 2- Rāmāyaṇa

The text and author, various versions and critical edition, ethos and culture in Rāmāyaṇa, as a source-book (Upajīvyā) for the later literary production.

1 Credit

Unit 3- Mahābhārata

The text and author, evolution of the text- Jaya, bhārata, mahābhārata, brief description of 18 chapters, Mahābhārata as an encyclopaedic text, as a source-book (Upajīvyā) for the later literary production.

1 Credit

Unit 4- Purāṇa

Brief introduction to 18 Purāṇas , purāṇa as source-book of history, religion, culture, geography, art and craft

1 Credit

Essential/recommended readings

14. श्रीमद्वाल्मीकीय रामायण ,गोरखपुर ,गीताप्रेस ,2021
15. भारतीय साहित्य पर महाभारत का प्रभाव ,चन्द्रकांत बांडिवदेकर आर्य प्रकाशन मंडल ,2009
16. Badarinath Chaturvedi, *Mahabharata: An Inquiry in the Human Condition*, Delhi, Orient Longman, 2006
17. *History of Classical Sanskrit Literature*, Keith, A.B., MLBD, Delhi
18. *Ramayana* – C. Rajgopalachari, Mumbai, Bhartiya Vidya Bhawan, 2013
19. *Mahabharata* – C. Rajgopalachari, Mumbai, Bhartiya Vidya Bhawan, 2010

Essential/recommended readings

1. संस्कृत साहित्य का इतिहास- डॉ० उमाशंकर शर्मा ऋषि
2. संस्कृत साहित्य का समीक्षात्मक इतिहास- डॉ० कपिलदेव द्विवेदी
3. पुराण-विमर्श- बलदेव उपाध्याय
4. स्वामी सत्यरूपानंद ,महाभारत-मुक्ता ,नागपुर ,रामकृष्ण मठ ,2018
5. रामायणकालीन संस्कृति, नानूराम व्यास, सस्ता साहित्य मंडल
6. दिनकर जोशी ,महाभारत एक दर्शन ,प्रभात प्रकाशन ,2020

Examination scheme and mode: Subject to directions from the Examination Branch/University of Delhi from time to time