

UGCF- 2022
SEMESTER- VIII
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
CATEGORY I
B.A. HONOURS HISTORY

DISCIPLINE SPECIFIC CORE (DSC): Reading Sources in Indian History : An Introduction to Literary Traditions II

Credit distribution, Eligibility and Pre-requisites of the Course

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the course			Eligibility criteria	Pre-requisite of the course (if any)
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/ Practice		
Reading Sources in Indian History: An Introduction to Literary Traditions II	4	3	1	0		

Learning Objectives

This course endeavors to introduce undergraduate students to the field of research, raise and frame questions of inquiry and interpretation and pay attention to the intersection of history, archive and literary imagination. Students should learn to explore the documents and given themes in conjunction with other evidence and readings. While documents often reveal information, a critical approach will consider hidden agendas, unintended meanings, and bias or point of view of the creator of the document provoking the students to verify the information with photographs, objects, oral histories, or other available sources to reconstruct the material world.

Learning outcomes

Introducing students to primary sources enable students to:

- develop critical thinking
- develop the skills for contextualized interpretation of sources
- sympathetically engage with and critique alternative interpretations

Syllabus

Unit I: *Nuskha-i Dilkusha*

Unit II: Census of India, 1901 and 1931; Land Surveys; District Gazeteers (British Period)

Unit III:

1. Bankimchandra Chattopadhyay's *Anandmath*

2. Mahmud Farooqui/ W. W Hunter
3. Swami Vivekananda's East and the West or *Prachya o Paschatya*

Unit IV:

1. Premchand's *Rangbhoomi*
2. Phaniswar Nath Renu's *Maila Anchal*

Practical component (if any) - NIL

Essential/recommended readings

Unit 1: *Nuskha-i Dilkusha* of Bhimsen (Teaching time: 2 weeks approximately)

With its focus on a Persian text composed by a kayastha soldier and writer in Aurangzeb's regime, this unit seeks to apprise students of how the Mughal state appeared to one of its own employees. Considering that Aurangzeb's reign was one of the most contentious in the history of the Mughals, this text may potentially reveal to students a state in tumult. With reference to the ways in which historians have used the book, it will also expose students to the varied challenges that such texts throw for historians, and the diverse ways in which the latter deal with them. **(time: 3 weeks approximately)**

- Bhimsen Burnhanpuri, *Nuskha-i Dilkusha*, edited and translated by V.G. Khobrekar, Sir Jadunath Sarkar Birth Centenary Commemoration Volume, Bombay, 1972.
- Taymiya R. Zaman (2015), 'Nostalgia, Lahore, and the Ghost of Aurangzeb,' in *Fragments*, vol. 4.
- Majida Khan (1980), 'A Kayastha Family of Mughal Officials in the Reign of Aurangzeb', *Proceedings of the Indian History Congress*, vol. 41, pp. 386-394.
- Majida N. Khan. 'Bhimsen's Views on the Political and Economic Problems of the Mughal Empire During Aurangzeb's Reign', *Proceedings of the Indian History Congress*, vol. 39, Volume I (1978), pp. 549-554.

Unit 2: *Census of India*, 1901 an1931; Land Surveys; *District Gazeteers* (British Period) (Teaching time: 4 weeks approximately)

- B. Padmanabh Samarendra, 'Census in Colonial India and the Birth of Caste,' *Economic & Political Weekly*, August 13, 2011 vol. xlvI no. 33, pp.51-58.
- Timothy L. Alborn, 'Age and Empire in the Indian Census, 1871–1931', *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, xxx:1 (Summer, 1999), 61–89.
- Nicholas B. Dirks, *Castes of Mind: Colonialism and the Making of Modern India*, Delhi: Permanent Black, 2006.
- Bernard S. Cohn, *An Anthropologist Among the Historians and Other Essays*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1987.
- C. J. Fuller "Anthropologists and Viceroys: Colonial Knowledge and Policy Making in India, 1871–1911." *Modern Asian Studies* 50, no. 1 (2016): 217–58.
- Véronique Bénéï, 'Reappropriating Colonial Documents in Kolhapur (Maharashtra): Variations on a Nationalist Theme', *Modern Asian Studies*, Oct., 1999, Vol. 33, No. 4 (Oct., 1999), pp. 913-950.

Unit 3: Bankimchandra Chattopadhyaya's *Anandmath*; Mahmud Farooqui/ W W Hunter; Swami Vivekananda's *East and the West or Prachya o Paschatya* (**Teaching time: 4 weeks approximately**)

- Jasodhara Bagchi 'Positivism and Nationalism: Womanhood and Crisis in Nationalist Fiction: Bankimchandra's *Anandmath*, 'Economic and Political Weekly, Oct. 26, 1985, Vol. 20, No. 43 (Oct. 26, 1985), pp. WS58-WS62
- W W Hunter; Indian Musalmans: Are they bound in Conscience to rebel against the Queen? Lahore: The Premier Book House, Reprinted in 1968.
- Syed Ahmad Khan (1872), Review on Dr Hunter's Indian Musalmans: Are they bound in Conscience to rebel against the Queen? Benaras: Printed at medical Hall Press.
- Mahmud Faruqui, *Beseiged Voices from Delhi 1857*; Penguin, 2010.
- *Gadar 1857 : Aankhon Dekha Vivaran* by Moinuddin Hasan tr. Abdul Haq, Delhi University Hindi Nideshalay 1999.
- Santosh Kumar Rai, 'Bhartiya Muslim Samaj mein Jati aur Pitrisatta' in *Samajiki: A Peer Reviewed Magazine of Social Science and Humanities*, New Delhi: Rajkamal Prakashan and Govind Ballabh Pant Social Science Institute, Allahabad, October-December 2021, pp.47-60.
- Amiya P. Sen, Swami Vivekananda, New Delhi: OUP, 2013.

Unit 4: Premchand's Rangbhoomi, Phaniswar Nath Renu's Maila Anchal; (**Teaching time: 3 weeks approximately**)

- Geetanjali Pandey, 'Premchand and the Peasantry: Constrained Radicalism,' *Economic and Political Weekly*, Jun. 25, 1983, Vol. 18, No. 26 (Jun. 25, 1983), pp. 1149-1155.
- Sudhir Chandra, 'Premchand and Indian Nationalism', *Modern Asian Studies*, 1982, Vol. 16, No. 4 (1982), pp. 601-621.
- Akhilesh Kumar, 'The Intersection of Caste and Disability in Premchand's Rangbhoomi', *Indian Literature*, September–October 2023, Vol. 67, No. 5 (337) (September–October 2023), pp.126-135, Sahitya Akademi.
- Kathryn Hansen, 'Renu's Regionalism: Language and Form': *The Journal of Asian Studies*, Feb., 1981, Vol. 40, No. 2, pp. 273-294.
- Nemichandra Jain and Rupert Snell, 'SENSITIVE AND MUSICAL: "MAILA ANCHAL"', *Journal of South Asian Literature*, Summer, Fall 1982, Vol. 17, No. 2, pp. 131-136, Asian Studies Center, Michigan State University. Stable URL: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/40872481>.

Suggested Readings:

- Bernard S. Cohn, *Colonialism and its Forms of Knowledge: The British in India*, Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 1996.
- Norbert Peabody, 'Cents, Sense, Census: Human Inventories in Late Precolonial and Early Colonial India', *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, 43 (4), 2001, pp.819-850.

Note: Examination scheme and mode shall be as prescribed by the Examination Branch, from time to time.