



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

**GE 20: Ancient Indian Architectural system**

**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		
Ancient Indian Architectural system	04	3	1	0	Nil	Sanskrit

**Learning Objectives**

The ancient Sanskrit Literature contains various marvellous concepts of Architectural Science. Aims of This course is to get the students acquainted with the basic principles of Indian Architecture. It also intends to give an elementary understanding of Vastuvidya, and to enable students to learn the town planning and construction of residential houses in Sanskrit texts easily. [C] Unit-Wise Division: Section 'A' Importance of Architecture

**Detailed Syllabus**

**Unit I : An Introduction with Ancient Indian Architectural system**

The fundamental truth in mind that Brahma, before creating the world (भोज-समरांगणसूत्रधार, विश्वकर्मणः पुत्रसंवाद 2. 1 to 6)

Basic Five elements of the Universe (पंचमहाभूत), भोज-समरांगणसूत्रधार (महदादिसर्ग 4. 4 to 19 & 28 to 37)

Varnaashrama dharma and the importance of grihastha Ashrama (वास्तुरत्नाकर-भूपरिग्रहप्रकरण 4 to 11)

**Unit II : Types of Architecture in Sanskrit Literature**

Vastupurush ka Svarupa (Embodiment of the Cosmic man) (Brihatsamhita, vastuvidyadhayaya, verses 2 to 3)

Classification of Vastu (Cosmic man) on the basis of construction: Sarvtobhadra, Nandyavarta, Vardhmana, Swastika, Ruchka, Hiranya & Trishala (Brihatsamhita, vastuvidyadhayaya, verses 31 to 38)

Types of Vastu (Cosmic man) Based on land Topography (Bhumi Plavatva); Pitamahavastu, Supathvastu, Dhirghayuvastu, Punkavastu, Apathvastu, Rogakaravastu, Argalavastu (Brihatvastumala, 47-53)

**Unit III : Selection of Land in Ancient Indian Architectural system**

Examination and Selection of Land (Brihatvastumala, 1. 13 to 17)



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Types of Land (Bhumi), Gajprishtha, Kurmaprishtha, Daityaprishtha, Nagprishtha (Brihatvastumala, 1. 82 to 89)

Classification of Bhumi based on Topography (Plavatva); Govithi, Jalvithi, Yamvithi, Gajvithi, Bhutavithi, Nagvithi, vaishvnari and Dhanvithi (Brihatvastumala, 1. 41 to 46)  
Land rectification (Bhumisanshodhana); (Brihatvastumala, 1. 106 to 111)

**Unit IV: Construction and Decoration of House in Ancient Indian Architectural system**

House commencement (Griharambha), Bhumipooja; (Brihatvastumala, 1. 116 to 117),  
Prathamavidhana ( Brihatsamhita, vastuvidyadhayaya, verses 98 to 100),  
Shilpnyasavidhi (Brihatvastumala, 1. 124), Stambhsthapana (Brihatvastumala, 1. 125 to 127),  
Grihvibhaga (Brihatvastumala, 1. 150 to 156),  
Dhikgyana (Brihatvastumala, 2. 7 to 10),  
Dwarniraya (Brihatvastumala, 3. 149, 152-158 & 162 to 166),  
Dwarsajja (Brihatvastumala, 3. 159),  
Nishiddhalekhakarma ( Brihatvastumala, 5.8),  
Mangalika vriksharopana ( Brihatvastumala, 6. 3 to 5 & 12)

**Essential Readings**

1. बृहद्वास्तुमाला- पं० रामनिहोरद्विवेदी, चौखम्बा सुरभारती प्रकाशन वाराणसी
2. वास्तुतन्त्राकर - श्री विन्ध्येश्वरी प्रसाद द्विवेदी, चौखम्बा संस्कृत सीरीज ऑफिस वाराणसी
3. बृहत्संहिता - आचार्य वराहमिहिर, व्याख्याकार पं० श्री अच्युतानन्द झा, चौखम्बा विद्याभवन वाराणसी
4. समरांगणसूत्रधार- श्री भोजदेव, ( in two vol.) Edited with English Translation by Prof. Pushpendra Kumar, New Bharatiya Book Corporation 2004.

**Recommended Readings:**

1. भारतीय वास्तुशास्त्र और प्रतिमा विज्ञान, श्री शुकदेव चतुर्वेदी, Lucknow, 1967.
2. Brihat Samhita – Varahamihir, (in two vol.) Edited with English Translation by M. Ramakrishana Bhat, Motilal Banarasidass, Delhi, 1995.
3. Shukla, D. N., Vastu Shastra, Hindu Science of Architecture (in two vol.) Shukla Printing Press, Lucknow 1960.