



Department of Sanskrit

University of Delhi

Under Graduate Course for Sanskrit

B.A. (Hons.) Under UGCF-22

GE-8: Indian Epigraphy & Palaeography

Credit distribution, Eligibility and Pre-requisites of the Course

Course title & Code	Credits	Credit distribution of the Course			Eligibility criteria	Prerequisite of the course
		Lecture	Tutorial	Practical/Practice		
Indian Epigraphy & Palaeography	04	3	1	0	Semester II Passed	Working Knowledge of Sanskrit

Learning Objectives

This course provides the students with the knowledge of the Indian Epigraphy and Palaeography and basics of Indian history of ancient period. Learners interested in acquiring historical facts direct from the original source can be benefitted with this course. It is extremely helpful for those who are willing to involve in archaeological studies.

Learning outcomes

After completion of this course, the students will form a solid understanding of the various Inscriptions, antiquity of writing and other issues related to Indian Epigraphy and Palaeography

Detailed Syllabus

Unit: I

10Hrs.

Welfare state: repair of dam, mati-saciva, karma-saciva in Junagadh Inscription of Rudradāman.

Unit: II

10Hrs.

1. Eran Pillar Inscription: Status of Samudragupta
2. Mehrauli Iron Pillar Inscription of Candra: Victory, Recognition of Chandra

Unit: III

15Hrs.

1. Antiquity of writing in India

- Observations from foreign scholars
- Literary evidences
- Observations made by Indian Epigraphists.

2. Importance of the study of Inscriptions.

- Geographical description
- Historical evidences
- Society



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- d) Religion
- e) Literature
- f) Economic Conditions
- g) Administration

1. Writing material:

- a) Rocks b) Pillars c) Metal Plates Brush, Chisel, Stylus, Paint/Colour
- d) Statues e) Pen

Unit: IV **10Hrs.**

1. Origin of the Brahmi Script

- a) Foreign Origin
- b) Indian Origin

2. Development of the script upto 700 A.D.

Essential/recommended readings

1. Buhler, G, On the origin of the Indian alphabet & numerals.
2. Dani, A. H, Indian Paleography
3. Ojha, G. H, Bharatiya Praćina Lipimāla (Hindi)
4. Pandey, R.B, Asoka ke Abhilekha (Hindi), Bharatiya Puralipi (Hindi)
5. Rana, S.S., Bharatiya Abhilekha
6. Sircar, D.C., Indian Epigraphy, Select Inscriptions (Part - I)
7. Upadhyay, V., Praćina Bharatiya Abhilekha (Hindi)
8. Thapar, Romila, Asoka tatha Maurya Samrajya Ka Patana (Hindi)

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