

ANCIENT HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY /
HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY / ARCHAEOLOGY
(P G DEGREE STANDARD)

SUBJECT CODE: 314

UNIT – I: CULTURAL HISTORY OF TAMIL NADU UPTO 1565 AD

Importance of Archaeology – Contributions during Sangam Age, Pallavas, Cholas, Cheras, Pandyas – Religion - Society - Material life - Monuments of Pallavas – Cholas – Pandyas – Vijayanagaras – Nayaks.

UNIT- II: HISTORY OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Definition - Development of Archaeology in India – 15th to 19th centuries – 20th century – Archaeological Theories – New Archaeology – Contributions of Alexander Cunningham – Robert Bruce Foote – Burgess – Lord Curzon – Mortimer Wheeler – Relation between History and Archaeology, Geology and Archaeology, Anthropology and Archaeology - Contributions of Archaeological Survey of India, State Department of Archaeology - University Departments : University of Madras and Tamil University.

UNIT – III: FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY

Exploration techniques – Exploration tools – Excavation methods – Horizontal and Vertical Excavations – Stratigraphical Analysis - Excavation equipments - Staffs – Documentation and Interpretation – Preparation of Excavation Report – Dating methods – Remote sensing in Archaeology – Digital Archaeology.

UNIT- IV: PRE AND PROTO HISTORY OF INDIA

History of Indian Prehistory – Relation between Prehistory and Geology – Lower, Middle and Upper Palaeolithic periods – its distribution – Mesolithic period – its distribution – Neolithic period – its distribution – Stone tool industries – its functions – tool making technology – Chalcolithic culture – Harappan culture – OCP culture – Painting grey ware – Iron Age culture – Burial types in South India– NBP ware culture.

UNIT- V: EPIGRAPHY AND PALAEOGRAPHY

Importance of Epigraphy – Asokan Brahmi and Kharosti scripts - Asokan Edicts – Development of Epigraphical studies in Tamil Nadu – Origin and Development of Tamil-Brahmi and Vatteluttu - Recent developments in fixing chronology of Brahmi – Detail Study of inscriptions at: Pullimankombai, Mangulam, Vikramangalam, Velvikkudi and Leiden grants Copper plates, Uttiramerur – Hero stone inscriptions - Irulapatti inscription – Inscribed sherds - *Prasasti/Meykirti* - Structure of an inscription.

UNIT- VI : NUMISMATICS

Importance of Numismatics – Punch marked coins – Tribal coins – Coins of Indo-Greeks – Roman coins – Gupta coins – South Indian coinage – Sangam coinage – Satavahana coins - Pallava coins – Chola coins – Pandya coins – Chalukya and Rastrakuta coins – Hoysala coins – Vijayanagara coins – Symbols and Legends – Techniques - Mints.

UNIT- VII: ART AND ARCHITECTURE

Harappan Art – Mauryan Art and Architecture – Stupa, Chaitya and Vihara architecture – Art and Architecture of Deccan – Satavahanas, Chalukyas, Rastrakutas, Hoysalas, Vijayanagaras and Nayaks –Monolithic and Structural temples of Tamil Nadu - Rock cuts of Early Pandyas and Pallavas – Sculptural art of Pallavas, Early Pandyas and Cholas – Temples at Mamallapuram, Kanchipuram, Nartanmalai, Thanjavur, Gangaikonda Cholapuram, Vettuvankoil, Srirangam, Madurai and Krishnapuram.

UNIT- VIII: ICONOGRAPHY AND PAINTING

Mudras – Asanas – Vahanas - Saiva Iconography – Vaishnava Iconography – Iconography of Devis, Minor deities, Jaina and Buddhist iconography – Bronzes – Ornaments – Pallava and Pandya paintings – Chola paintings – Vijaya Nagara paintings – Nayaks paintings – Maratha paintings.

UNIT - IX: CONSERVATION AND MUSEOLOGY

Importance of conservation – Conservation of Organic and Inorganic materials – Structural conservation – Archaeological code – Legal aspects relating to conservation and preservation – Origin of Museums in India - Types of Museum – Role of National Museum, State Museum, District Museum and Local Museum – Principles of Display – Documentation – Museum Architecture – Museum administration and establishment.

UNIT- X: EARLY HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Importance of early historical archaeology – Potteries of North India and South India – Excavations at Kodumanal, Sanur, Mangudi, Azhagankulam, Arikamedu, Kaveripumpattinam, Korkai, Uraiyur and Keeladi – Urbanisation during Sangam age – Excavations at Kausambi, Sisupalgarh, Sravasti, Mathura, Taxila, Lothal and Dolavira – Maritime trade with other countries.