

BHIC-131

BACHELOR OF ARTS

(BAG)

ASSIGNMENT

**For the students enrolled in
July 2019 and January 2020 sessions**

COURSE CODE: BHIC-131

**HISTORY OF INDIA FROM THE
EARLIEST TIMES TO c.300 C.E.**



**SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY
MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110068**

Dear Student,

As we have informed you in the Programme Guide, evaluation at IGNOU consists of two parts: i) continuous evaluation through assignments, and ii) term-end examination. In the final result, assignments of a course carry 30% weightage while 70% weightage is given for term-end examination.

You will have to do three Tutor Marked Assignments (TMA) for a six credit course and two TMAs for a four credit course. This Assignment booklet has TMAs for the core course **BHIC- 131 History of India From the Earliest Times to c. 300 C.E.** which is a six credit course. The booklet therefore has three TMAs whose total marks add up to 100 and carry a weightage of 30 %.

Assignment A has Descriptive Category Questions (DCQs). These are meant for writing essay type answers, with an introduction and a conclusion. These are intended to test your ability to describe your understanding/knowledge about the topic in a systematic, to-the-point and coherent manner.

Assignment B has Middle Category Questions (MCQs). These questions require you to first analyse the topic in terms of arguments and explanations and then write the answers in a concise manner. They are meant to test your ability to distinguish, compare and contrast, or clear understanding of the concepts and processes.

Assignment C has Short Category Questions (SCQs). These questions are meant to improve your skill of recall in brief the relevant/precise information about persons, writing, events, or clear understanding of concepts and processes.

Before you attempt the assignments, please read the instructions carefully provided in the Programme Guide. It is important that you write the answers to all the TMA questions in your own words. Your answers should be within the approximate range of the word-limit set for a particular section. Remember, writing answers to assignment questions will improve your writing skills and prepare you for the term-end examination.

As mentioned in the Programme Guide, you need to submit all the assignments within the stipulated time for being eligible to appear in the term-end examination.

Submission of the completed assignments :

Admission batch	Last date of submission	Place of submission
For the students enrolled in July 2019	30th April 2020	Coordinator of the student's study center
For the students enrolled in January 2020	31st October 2020	

You must obtain a receipt from the Study Centre for the assignments submitted and retain it. If possible, keep a xerox copy of the assignments with you.

The Study Centre will have to return the assignments to you after they are evaluated. Please insist on this. The Study Centre has to send the marks to the Student Evaluation Division at IGNOU, New Delhi.

We expect you to answer each question as per guidelines for each category as mentioned in the assignment. You will find it useful to keep the following points in mind:

- 1) **Planning:** Read the assignments carefully, go through the Units on which they are based. Make some points regarding each question and then rearrange them in a logical order.
- 2) **Organisation:** Be a little selective and analytic before drawing up a rough outline of your answer. Give adequate attention to your introduction and conclusion.

Make sure that your answer:
 - a) is logical and coherent;
 - b) has clear connections between sentences and paragraphs, and
 - c) is written correctly giving adequate consideration to your expression, style and presentation.
- 3) **Presentation:** Once you are satisfied with your answer, you can write down the final version for submission, writing each answer neatly and underlining the points you wish to emphasize. Make sure that the answer is within the stipulated word limit.

Wish you all the best !

**Discipline of History
SOSS, IGNOU, New Delhi**

**BHIC-131 : HISTORY OF INDIA FROM THE
EARLIEST TIMES TO c.300 C.E.**

Tutor Marked Assignments

**Course Code: BHIC-131
Assignment Code: ASST /TMA /July 2019 & January 2020
Total Marks: 100**

Assignment A

DCQ: Answer any two questions in about 500 words each:

1. What are the problems encountered in the use of literary sources for writing ancient Indian history? Illustrate with examples. 20 marks
2. How do we reconstruct the nature of the pre-historic hunter-gatherers' societies ? Discuss. 20 marks
3. Discuss the nature of religion and religious practices of the Harappans. 20 marks
4. Describe the revenue administration of the Mauryas. 20 marks

Assignment B

MCQ: Answer any four questions in about 300 words each:

5. What are the main factors that led to urbanization during c. 6th century BCE? 12 marks
6. Was the Aryan invasion a myth or a reality? Discuss. 12 marks
7. Comment on the main factors that led to agricultural growth in c.600 BCE. 12 marks
8. What was the thrust of the teachings of Mahavira? Discuss. 12 marks
9. What was the impact of Alexander's invasion on India? 12 marks
10. Who were the Muvendars? Discuss the nature of their powers. 12 marks
11. Discuss the nature of the society in Tamilaham. 12 marks
12. Comment on the nature of Tamil heroic poems. What were their literary merits? 12 marks

Assignment C

SCQ: Answer any two in 100 words each:

6+6 marks

13. (i) Espionage Department of the Mauryas
- (ii) Mahajanapada of Kosala
- (iii) Pottery of the Chalcolithic cultures
- (iv) Ecological Imbalance and the decline of the Harappan civilization