

Month-wise Lesson Plan: glimpses of ancient india(semester 1)

Dr Jasbir Singh

Period: 6 August 2026 to 8 December 2026

August 2026: From 6 August to 31 August, the teaching will focus on the **Harappan Civilization**. The topics will include the origin and extent of the civilization, important sites, urbanization and town planning, drainage system, houses and public buildings, society, economy, agriculture, trade, crafts, religion, script, art and culture, and the causes of its decline. Special emphasis will be given to the important Harappan sites and their geographical distribution. Maps, pictures of seals and artefacts, classroom discussions, timelines and short quizzes will be used to make the topic interesting and effective.

September 2026: During the first half of September, from 1 to 15 September, the **Vedic Age** will be taught. The lessons will cover the Early and Later Vedic periods, sources of Vedic history, religion, gods, rituals and sacrifices, polity and administration, Sabha and Samiti, social structure, Varna system, position of women, agriculture, cattle rearing, trade and other economic activities. From 16 to 30 September, the focus will shift to the **Religious Movements**, particularly Buddhism and Jainism. The life and teachings of Gautama Buddha and Mahavira, Four Noble Truths, Eightfold Path, Triratna, Sangha, causes for the emergence of these movements and their spread will be discussed. A comparison between Buddhism and Jainism will also be undertaken through group activities and classroom discussions.

October 2026: From 1 to 15 October, the lessons will cover the **Mahajanapadas and the Rise of Magadha**. Students will learn about the sixteen Mahajanapadas, their geographical location and political significance, followed by the reasons for the rise of Magadha and the important rulers and dynasties associated with its expansion. From 16 to 31 October, the **Mauryan Empire** will be studied. The topics will include the establishment of the Mauryan Empire, Chandragupta Maurya, Mauryan administration, Arthashastra, Megasthenes, Ashoka, the Kalinga War, Ashoka's Dhamma, administration, welfare measures, spread of Buddhism and the decline of the Mauryan Empire. Maps, inscriptions, source-based questions and discussions will be used as teaching aids.

November 2026: During the first ten days of November, the **Post-Mauryan States** will be covered, with special reference to the Kushanas and Satavahanas. Their political development, administration, important rulers, economy, trade, society, religion and cultural contributions will be discussed. From 11 to 20 November, the **Gupta Empire** will be taught, focusing on the conquests of Samudragupta, the achievements of Chandragupta II and the administration of the Guptas. The Allahabad Pillar inscription and other historical sources will be used for understanding the period. From 21 to 30 November, the **Post-Gupta Period** will be covered, including the Pushyabhutis, Harshavardhana and the Chalukyas. Their political achievements, administration, cultural contributions and relations with contemporary powers will be discussed. The **Triangular Struggle for Kannauj** involving the Palas, Pratiharas and Rashtrakutas will also be introduced during this period.

December 2026: From 1 to 4 December, the **Triangular Struggle for Kannauj** will be completed, with emphasis on the importance of Kannauj, the causes and course of the conflict and its political consequences. From 5 to 6 December, the **Chola polity and administration** will be taught, including central and local administration, village self-government, economy and trade. On 7 December, the **Rise of the Rajputs**, particularly the Tomars and their role in the political history of Delhi, will be discussed. On 8 December, the final topic, **Mahmood Ghaznavi and Muhammad Ghori**, will be covered. Their conflicts with Indian states, major invasions, the Battles of Tarain and the impact of their invasions on Indian political history will be discussed. The final class will also include a brief revision of the major themes covered throughout the course.

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Month-wise Lesson Plan: Glimpses of modern india

Dr Jasbir Singh

Period: 6 August 2026 to 8 December 2026

August 2026: During August, the teaching will focus on the **Establishment and Expansion of British Rule in India**. The lessons will begin with the **Battle of Buxar and its aftermath**, including the causes and consequences of the battle and the acquisition of Diwani rights by the East India Company. This will be followed by the **expansion of British rule**, with special reference to the British conflicts with Mysore and the Marathas. The major Anglo-Mysore and Anglo-Maratha wars, important rulers, British strategies and their impact on Indian states will be discussed. Maps, timelines, historical sources and classroom discussions will be used to explain the territorial expansion of British power.

September 2026: During September, the focus will be on the **Consolidation of British Rule**. The **Subsidiary Alliance System** introduced by Lord Wellesley and the **Doctrine of Lapse** associated with Lord Dalhousie will be explained, along with their objectives and impact on Indian rulers and states. The annexation of **Punjab and Awadh** will also be studied, including the causes and consequences of these annexations. The second half of the month will be devoted to the **Uprising of 1857**, covering its political, economic, social, religious and military causes, major centres and leaders, expansion of the revolt, reasons for its failure and its results. Maps and source-based activities will help students understand the spread and significance of the uprising.

October 2026: The month will begin with the **Government of India Act of 1858 and the beginning of the Crown's Regime**. Students will study the transfer of power from the East India Company to the British Crown, changes in administration and the policies adopted after the Revolt of 1857. The lessons will then move to **Socio-Religious Reform Movements**, focusing on the **Brahmo Samaj, Arya Samaj and Ramakrishna Mission**. The contributions of Raja Rammohan Roy, Swami Dayanand Saraswati and Swami Vivekananda, along with their efforts towards social and religious reform, education and removal of social evils, will be discussed. Students will undertake comparative activities and prepare short presentations on the major reformers.

November 2026: During November, the main focus will be on the **Emergence of the Indian National Movement under the Indian National Congress**. Students will learn about the formation of the Congress, its objectives, early leadership and the development of nationalism. The **Political Reforms of 1909 and 1919** will then be studied, including the main provisions and their impact on Indian politics. The role of **Revolutionaries in the National Movement**, with special reference to **Bhagat Singh**, will also be discussed. His revolutionary ideas, activities, sacrifice and contribution to the freedom struggle will receive special attention. Classroom discussions, source-based questions, timelines and biographies will be used to develop students' understanding.

December 2026: During December, the teaching will focus on the final phase of the Indian freedom struggle. The role of **Mahatma Gandhi and Indian Nationalism** will be studied through the **Non-Cooperation Movement, Civil Disobedience Movement and Quit India Movement**, including their causes, programmes, major events and results. The contribution of **Subhash Chandra Bose and the Indian National Army (INA)** will then be discussed, with emphasis on his leadership and role in India's struggle for independence. The final topic will cover **Communal Politics, Partition and Independence**, including the growth of communal politics, the events leading to Partition, the creation of India and Pakistan, and the achievement of independence in 1947. The course will conclude with a comprehensive revision, chronological timeline and assessment covering the major developments from the establishment of British rule to Indian Independence.

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Monthly Lesson Plan: History major semester 3

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Period: 6 August 2026 to 8 December 2026

August 2026: From 6 August to 31 August, the teaching will focus on the **Decline of the Mughal Empire and the Rise of Successor States**, followed by the **Advent of European Powers in India**. Students will study the major causes of Mughal decline, the emergence of regional powers such as Bengal, Awadh, Hyderabad, Mysore and the Marathas, and the arrival and rivalry of the Portuguese, Dutch, English and French. The month will conclude with an introduction to the **British Conquest of Bengal**, including the Battle of Plassey and the Battle of Buxar, and their significance in establishing British political power in India.

September 2026: During September, the focus will be on the **British Conquest of India**, covering the expansion of British power in **Mysore, the Marathas, Awadh, Sind and Punjab**. Students will examine the Anglo-Mysore Wars, Anglo-Maratha Wars, British relations with Awadh, the conquest of Sind and the Anglo-Sikh Wars leading to the annexation of Punjab. The month will also cover the **18th Century Indian Society and Economy**, including the condition of peasants, artisans, zamindars, merchants, social structure, regional economies and important changes under emerging political powers.

October 2026: The month of October will cover **Unit II**, beginning with **British Administration, Economic and Foreign Policies**. Students will study the major administrative developments, land-revenue systems, judicial and police administration, economic policies, commercialization of agriculture, trade and the impact of British economic exploitation. The teaching will then move to the **Social and Economic Impacts and Cultural Renaissance**, including the effects of Western education, printing, modern ideas, social reform and the development of new intellectual and cultural movements. The month will conclude with **Early Resistance and the Revolt of 1857**, including its causes, major centres, important leaders, course and consequences.

November 2026: During November, teaching will focus on **Unit III: Emergence of the National Movement and Revolutionary Nationalism**. Students will learn about the formation of the Indian National Congress, the growth of nationalism, early nationalist leaders, the Swadeshi and Boycott Movement, the emergence of revolutionary activities and important revolutionary organisations and personalities. The **National Freedom Movement (1885–1947)** will then be studied chronologically, covering the Moderates and Extremists, Gandhian movements, Non-Cooperation Movement, Civil Disobedience Movement, Quit India Movement and other major developments leading towards independence.

December 2026: From 1 December to 8 December, the focus will be on **Emergence of Communal Politics and Constitutional Development**, including the growth of communal organisations, major constitutional reforms, the Government of India Acts, negotiations and developments leading to independence and partition. Alongside this, revision and practice of **Unit IV Map Work** will be undertaken along with theory classes and Students will locate and identify **India in 1764, important places associated with the Revolt of 1857, centres of socio-religious movements, important places connected with revolutionary movements, and places associated with significant sessions of the Indian National Congress**. Special attention will be given to the **9-mark map work and 5-mark explanatory notes**, followed by revision, map-based practice, important questions and assessment of the complete syllabus.

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Monthly Lesson Plan – History major semester 1

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Period: 6 August 2026 to 8 December 2026

August 2026: The teaching will begin with **Sources of Ancient India: Types and Uses**. Students will learn about archaeological, literary, religious, foreign and material sources and understand their importance in reconstructing ancient Indian history. This will be followed by the **Stone Age**, covering the Food Gathering and Hunting Stage and the Food Producing Stage, with emphasis on tools, subsistence patterns, settlements and the transition to agriculture and domestication. The month will conclude with an introduction to the **Harappan Civilization**, including its origin, extent and major features of town planning.

September 2026: During September, the study of the **Harappan Civilization** will be completed, covering its economy, trade, crafts, agriculture, religious practices and the major theories concerning the problem of its decay. Students will then study the **Vedic Age**, with particular emphasis on society, economy, polity and religion during the Early and Later Vedic periods. The month will conclude with the **Second Urbanization and the Rise of Territorial States**, including the development of towns, trade and the emergence of Mahajanapadas.

October 2026: October will focus on **New Religious Movements: Jainism and Buddhism**, including their origin, teachings, important personalities, causes of their emergence and contribution to Indian society and culture. This will be followed by the **Mauryan Empire**, covering its formation and consolidation under Chandragupta Maurya, the role of Ashoka, his Dhamma, administration, social and economic conditions, and the causes of the decline of the Mauryan Empire.

November 2026: During November, students will study the **Post-Mauryan Age**, including the Kushanas and their political and cultural contribution, along with the **Sangam Age** and the Satavahanas, Cholas and Pandyas, with emphasis on society, economy, trade and cultural developments. The teaching will then move to the **Gupta Empire**, covering its formation and consolidation and its major contributions to Indian culture, literature, science, art, architecture and education. The month will conclude with the study of the **Pushpabhutis and Harshavardhana**, including his administration, empire and cultural achievements.

December 2026: From 1 December to 8 December, the focus will be on the **Tripartite Struggle** and the **historical background to the establishment of the Delhi Sultanate**, providing students with an understanding of the political developments between the ancient and medieval periods. Special revision will also be conducted for **Unit IV Map Work**, along with theory lectures, covering important sites of the **Harappan Civilization**, the **extent of Ashoka's Empire and important pillars/edicts, ports and trade routes of Ancient India**, the **extent of the Kushana Empire**, and the **extent of Harshavardhana's Empire**. Students will practise the **9-mark map work and 5-mark explanatory notes**, followed by syllabus revision, map identification exercises and assessment.

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