

GOA UNIVERSITY**Visiting Research Professorship Programme****D.D. Kosambi Research Chair in Interdisciplinary Studies**

Code No. and Title of the One-Credit Course: ONB – 112, Revisiting Ancient Indian History
(Contact hours: 15)

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Instructor of the Course: Prof.Romila Thapar, D.D.Kosambi Visiting Research Professor.

Duration of the Course: From 10.02.2014 to 20.02.2014.

Objectives: This course aims to look afresh at the recent developments in reconstructing and understanding ancient Indian history. It would focus on the sources and their interpretation, historiographical approaches and debates. Further the formation of state and society would be analysed.

Prerequisites: Students and Researchers of History and all those interested in the subject could register for the course. They are required to go through the readings suggested for the course.

Enrolment for this Course may be done **on or before 5th February, 2014.**

Course contents, contact hours, teaching and evaluation:

1. Sources for the reconstruction of ancient Indian history.
(Lecture for 1hr.and 15minutes + discussion for 45minutes = 2hrs.)
2. Historiography of ancient India.
(Lecture for 1hr.and 15minutes + discussion for 45minutes = 2hrs.)
3. The Indo-Aryan Debate.
(Lecture for 1hr.and 15minutes + discussion for 45minutes = 2hrs.)
4. Social formation in early India.
(Lecture for 1hr.and 15minutes + discussion for 45minutes = 2hrs.)
5. State formation in early India.
(Lecture for 1hr.and 15minutes + discussion for 45minutes = 2hrs.)

6. History and Literature with reference to *Shakuntala*.

(Lecture for 1hr. and 15 minutes + discussion for 45 minutes = 2hrs.)

7. Communalism and the writing of ancient Indian history.

(Lecture for 1hr. and 15 minutes + discussion for 45 minutes = 2hrs.)

This would be a **public lecture**. Apart from the participants of the course, others interested could participate.

8. Evaluation. (Written examination).

TIME TABLE

Topic	Day and Date	Time and Venue
Sources for the Reconstruction of Ancient Indian History	Monday 10.02.2014	3 to 5p.m. Seminar Hall, Faculty of Social Sciences.
Historiography of Ancient India	Tuesday 11.02.2014	3 to 5p.m. Seminar Hall, Faculty of Social Sciences.
The Indo-Aryan Debate	Thursday 13.02.2014	3 to 5p.m. Seminar Hall, Faculty of Social Sciences.
Social Formation in Early India	Saturday 15.02.2014	3 to 5p.m. Seminar Hall, Faculty of Social Sciences.
TEST (50marks): Any one question to be answered out of four.	Monday 17.02.2014	3 to 4p.m. Venue will be announced in the class later.
State Formation in Early India	Tuesday 18.02.2014	3 to 5p.m. Seminar Hall, Faculty of Social Sciences.
History and Literature with reference to <i>Shakuntala</i>	Wednesday 19.02.2014	3 to 5p.m. Seminar Hall, Faculty of Social Sciences.
Communalism and the Writing of Ancient Indian History	Thursday	3 to 5p.m. Conference Hall, Office of the Vice - Chancellor.

(Public lecture)	20.02.2014	
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Suggested Readings:

1. Sources for the reconstruction of ancient Indian history:

D.C. Sircar, *Indian Epigraphy*, Chapters 1-8. (Motilal Banarsidas, Delhi, 1996). (for Inscriptions).

P.L. Gupta, *Coins*, Chapters I-X. (National Book Trust, New Delhi, 1969). (for Numismatics).

A.B. Keith, *A History of Sanskrit Literature*, Part I – All chapters ; Part II – Chapters 2, 4, 7, 22, 23. (Motilal Banarsidas, Delhi, 1993). (for Literary texts).

Bridget and Raymond Allchin, *The Birth of Indian Civilisation: India and Pakistan before 500B.C.* (Penguin Books, 1968) (for Archaeology).

2. Historiography of ancient India:

C.H. Philips (Ed.), *Historians of India, Pakistan and Ceylon* (Oxford University Press, 1961).

Romila Thapar, *Interpreting Early India* (OUP, Delhi, 1992).

Romila Thapar, *The Past Before Us: Historical Traditions of Early North India*, (Permanent Black, Delhi, 2013).

3. The Indo-Aryan Debate:

Romila Thapar, *The Aryan: Recasting Constructs, Three Essays Collective* (Delhi, 2008).

4. Social Formation in Early India:

D.D. Kosambi, *Introduction to the Study of Indian History* (Popular Prakashan, Bombay, 1975).

5. State Formation in Early India – to the emergence of the Mauryan Empire:

Romila Thapar, *From Lineage to State* (OUP, Delhi, 2003).

Romila Thapar, *Cultural Pasts* (OUP, Delhi, 2003).

6. History and Literature – with reference to *Shakuntala*:

Romila Thapar, *Sakuntala, Texts, Readings, Histories* Kali For Women (Delhi, 1999).

7. Communalism and the Writing of Ancient Indian History:

Romila Thapar, *et.al., Communalism and the Writing of Indian History* (People's Publishing House, Delhi, 1969).
