

BA (Programme, CBCS)

Semester-II

Course Title- An Introduction to Indian Society and Culture

Course Instructor-Dr. Etee Bahadur

Course Description- This course will help the student draw an image of India and it will introduce the student to an understanding of Indian History and heritage and Indian society and social change. The Course is divided into three Units. Each Unit is further divided into sub-topics. In the First Unit we will understand and develop an understanding of the Image of India through readings on the Intellectual history of India. In the Second Unit the students will read on Social change in Modern India. The third Unit will focus on the Cultural heritage of India. The course is inter-disciplinary, it will be of interest to students of History, Sociology, Anthropology, Philosophy and for students interested in visual and folk expressions.

Unit- I India and the Comparative Study of Civilizations

- (a) Image of India
- (b) The Spiritual East and the Materialist West
- (c) The Religious Traditions in India

Readings:

Will Durant, *The story of Civilization*, Five Communication, US Jan, 1993 (11 Vols)

A.L Bhasham, *The Wonder that was India*, Picador Published Indian ed, 2014

-----, *A Cultural History of India*, Claredon Press, 1975

S. Radhakrishnan: Culture of India in *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, Vol 233, India Speaking (May 1994) pp. 18-21 (4 pages)

Swami Vivekananda, *Complete Works* 4, Almura: Advaita Ashram Mayavati, 1926-36:254-255

Jawaharlal Nehru, *Discovery of India*, pp.578-579

Collected Works of Mahatma Gandhi, Ahmedabad: Government of India, Publications Division , 1965:Volume 17, pp. 13

Unit- II Modernization and Traditionalization

- (a) Social organization of the Indian Civilization
- (b) Sanskritization and Cultural mobility
- (c) Westernization and Sanskritization

Readings:

N.K. Bose, *Culture and Society in India*, Bombay, Asia Publishing House 1967

S.C. Dube, *India's Changing Village*, London

M.N. Srinivas, *Caste in Modern India and other essays*, Bombay Asia Publishing House, 1962

-----, *Social Change in Modern India*, Berkeley and Los Angeles, University of California Press, 1968

Y. Singh, *Modernization of Indian Tradition*, Delhi Thompson Press, 1973

Milton Singer B., ed. *Introduction to the civilization of India: Changing dimensions of Indian society and culture*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1957

Unit III – Indian Civilization: Structure and Change

(a) Great Tradition and Little Tradition

(b) Little tradition-- Oral history

(c) Oral literature, Folklore, Material Culture, Social Folk customs and Performing Art forms

Readings:

Milton Singer and B.S. Cohn (Eds), *Structure and change in Indian Society*, Chicago: Aldine Publishers ,1967

-----., *When a great tradition modernizes, An Anthropological Approach to Indian Civilization*, Praeger Publishers , New York . Washington. London

A.K. Ramanujan, *Another harmony: New Essays on the folklore of India* , American folklore society,1986

Ajit Mukherjee, *Folk Art of India*, 1986, Clarion Books

Shovana Narayan, *Indian Classical Dances*, Shubhi Publications, 2005

Kapila Vatsayan: *Traditional Indian Theatre*, Multiple Streams, 2005, NBT, New Delhi