

B.COM.SEMESTER-1		
7	VAC1	INDIAN KNOWLEDGE SYSTEM 1

Name of the Course: **Indian Knowledge System1**

Total marks: **50**

PARTICULAR	NO.OF LECTURES
UNITNO.1: INTRODUCTION TO INDIANKNOWLEDGE SYSTEM	
Introduction, Definition, Concept of Indian Knowledge System (IKS), A broad overviewofdisciplinesincludedintheIKS,andhistoricaldevelopments,Scopeof IKS, Organization of IKS, IKS based approaches on Knowledge Paradigms, IKS in ancient India and in modern India	10
UNITNO.2: IKS AND INDIAN SCHOLARS, INDIAN LITERATURE	
Introduction, Philosophy and Literature (Maharishi Vyas, Manu, Kanad, Pingala, Parasar, Banabhatta, Nagarjuna and Panini), Mathematics and Astronomy (Aryabhatta, Mahaviracharya, Bodhayan, Bhashkaracharya, Varahamihira and Brahmgupta), Medicine and Yoga (Charak, Susruta, Maharishi Patanjali and Dhanwantri),Shastra(Nyaya,vyakarana,Krishi,Shilp,Vastu,NatyaandSangeet)	10
UNITNO.3: INDIAN ECONOMY THOUGHTS AND MODEL	
History of Indian Economy Thoughts : Context from Dharmashastras, Shukraniti, Mahabharata, and Arthashastra; Kautiya's Economic thoughts in specific India and Global GDP: Ancient India.	10
Total Lectures/Hours	30

UNIT-1

INTRODUCTION TO INDIAN KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS

Q.1: Introduction

Indian civilization has placed a great deal of value on knowledge, greatest collection of scripts in the world. It is well documented, heritage of texts, thinkers and wide range of subject areas. India has a long history of knowledge that is unbroken like the Ganga River. From the Vedas to knowledge has been all research is precious.

Indian knowledge systems (iks) have a strong foundation in Indian culture, philosophy, spirituality and have evolved through thousands of years. These knowledge systems including Ayurveda, Yoga, Vedanta, Vedic science are still available in the modern world.

- 1) Well being: focus on the health
- 2) Stress management: promote internal brain health
- 3) Sustainable living: Indian knowledge system promotes sustainable living “Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam”(the world is on family).
- 4) Spiritual growth: spiritual growth into the nature of reality, peaceful mind and a internal & external healthy lifestyle.

Q. 2: Meaning (definition) of knowledge systems (imp)

Knowledge is a fundamental aspect of human existence, empowering individuals and societies to adapt, innovate and progress. The acquisition, organization and application of knowledge have led to the development of knowledge systems.

Some other definitions:

Traditional definition of knowledge system:

Any method of imparting knowledge from one person to another and every procedure used to store and share information in a meaningful way. So that information useful for human purposes.

Technological definition of knowledge system:

A knowledge system is a structured framework that collects processes and circulates information for efficient learning, problem-solving and decision making.

Characteristics (features) of a knowledge system:

- 1) It is a sum of many different methods or activities.
- 2) The aim of this system is to keep knowledge flowing from generation to generation.

- 3) The basic function of a knowledge system is to transfer knowledge from a more knowledgeable source to a novice source.

Q.3: concept of Indian knowledge system

Indian knowledge system (iks) differs from modern approaches. Ancient civilization is great all the ways. Knowledge systems are the backbone of human progress. Indian knowledge system refers to the wisdom, practices and insights within specific cultures and communities.

Indian knowledge system (iks) is characterized by its holistic approach and interconnected between humans. Iks have a rich and diverse heritage, covering various fields such as philosophy, medicine, mathematics, yoga and architecture.

These systems have been passed through generations to generation. Indian knowledge is written in ancient languages like Sanskrit, Pali and Tamil. The loss of interest in learning these languages to the decline of traditional knowledge.

Ancient knowledge systems relied on memorization model. Students learned through direct interactions with teachers. In these ways, iks is strong foundation in all the ways.

Q.4: short notes

1) Vedic knowledge system (2025)

The vedic period, roughly dating back to around 1500 BCE, was characterized by composition of the texts known as the Vedas.

This era laid the foundation for Hinduism and its impact can still be felt in contemporary Indian religious practices.

Manuscripts of that time:

- 1) Rigveda: Composed in Sanskrit, it contains hymns dedicated to various deities and natural forces.
- 2) Samaveda: This veda is known for its musical chants and melodies, derived from rigveda hymns.
- 3) Yajurveda: This text comprises rituals and formulas for offerings and sacrifices.
- 4) Atharvaveda: This veda known as “knowledge storehouse”. This veda includes hymns for various purposes.

2) Hindu philosophical knowledge system (2025)

Flourishing from 800 BCE to medieval period, schools of Hindu philosophy offered ethics and nature of reality.

Philosophers and Texts:

1) Nyaya: Founded by Gautama, the nyaya sutras laid the groundwork for logical thinking and debate. Uddyotakara was a notable personality of that time.

2) Vaisheshika: Kanada established this school. The vaisheshika sutra explores nature of reality. Prashastapad was a notable personality of that time.

3) Samkhya: Founded by sage kapila, samkhya provides principles of purusha and prakriti.

4) Yoga: Patanjali authored yoga sustras, includes meditation and self-discipline.

3) Buddhist knowledge system

Buddhism emerged in the 5th century BCE and gained notable knowledge system in ancient india.

Philosophers and Texts:

The Tripitaka form the core scriptures of Buddhism:

- 1) Vinaya pitaka: Focuses on monastic rules and disciplines.
- 2) Sutta pitaka: Contains discourses and attributed to Buddha.
- 3) Abhidhamma pitaka: Explores philosophical and psychological analysis.

Siddhatha Gautama, known as Buddha, founded Buddhism. Notable Buddhist scholars include Nagarjuna, Asanga and Vasubandhu.

4) Jain knowledge system

Jainism was founded by Lord Mahavira. It evolved as a parallel knowledge system to Hinduism and Buddhism.

Philosophers and Texts:

- 1) Agamas: These scriptures contain the teachings of Lord Mahavira, focusing on ethics, non-violence and spiritual practices.
- 2) Tattvartha sutra: written by Acharya Umasvati, it offers jain philosophy.

Lord Mahavira was the 24th and last tirthankara of Jainism.

5) Ayurvedic knowledge system

Ayurveda, the ancient Indian system of medicine.

Philosophers and Texts:

- 1) Charaka samhita: written by sage Charaka, these texts covers diagnosis, treatment and medicinal herbs.
- 2) Sushruta samhita: written by sage Sushruta, this texts covers surgical practices and techniques.

Charaka and Sushruta are pioneers of Ayurvedic medicine.

6) Mathematical and Astronomy knowledge system

India's mathematical and astronomical achievements flourished during ancient times.

Philosophers and Texts:

Notable mathematicians include Aryabhata, who wrote Aryabhatiya. Brahmagupta's contribution to algebra and number theory through his book Brahmasphutasiddhanta. Indian number theory including the concept of Zero.

7) Literary knowledge system

Indian art and literature developed from ancient times.

Philosophers and Texts:

1) Epics: sage Valmiki wrote the Ramayana, is an epic that explores virtues and dharma. Sage Vyasa wrote the Mahabharata, is an epic that explores duty and truth.

2) Puranas: these texts are a rich source mythological and historical. 18 major puranas, such as Vishnu purana and Shiva purana. Kalidasa wrote Abhijnanasakuntalam. Mahakavi Kamban who wrote the Kamban Ramayana.

Q.5: Scope of Iks (Imp)

In recent times, there has been resurgence incorporating Iks into modern life. From healthcare and education to agriculture, these ancient knowledge are very important.

1) Healthcare

One of the most notable areas where Iks have gained traction in this field. Ayurveda, the traditional system of medicine that dates back thousands of years. Ayurvedic treatments and herbal remedies are integrated into healthcare.

2) Education

The traditional Indian method of Gurukul system, wherein students lived with their teachers to receive knowledge. Concepts like, learning inspiration from ancient system, the importance of teacher-student relationship and a more understanding of education beyond memorization.

3) Agriculture

Iks have also impacted sustainable agriculture practices. Traditional agriculture techniques like organic farming and crop rotation are adopted by modern farmers. These methods in preserving soil fertility and promoting biodiversity.

4) Governance

India's ancient scriptures like Arthashastra are very useful in governance and policymaking. Policymakers are exploring this text to adapt and apply their principles in modern time, guidance on sustainable development and social welfare.

5) Other sectors

Iks has been prominent in the fields of yoga, meditation and mindfulness. Now, these methods are widely accepted and practiced not only in india but also across the world for physical, mental and spiritual benefits.

Q.6: Iks in ancient india and in modern india

(Or)

Write a short note on non-traditional knowledge vs. traditional knowledge. (2024) (2026)

India developed its knowledge system, tested it through practice, verified and improved it over thousands of years. As a result, Indian knowledge system is founded on the "well being of all". It is based on a deep understanding of human being as well as nature.

Over the ages, various cultures and civilization has taken shape. A civilization is the expression of a culture in the form of behavior and societal system. In the modern India, knowledge is acquired by individuals through formal education, scientific research and technological advance.

Iks in modern India such as, information technology, data science and artificial intelligence. Modern time in also used to traditional knowledge and get benefits of lifestyle. Iks is great source of every future years to generation to generation.

Q: 7 write a short note on four main domains of education system. (2024)

Education in India has a long history dating back thousands of years. Various educational institutions have played an important part in shaping the country's intellectual and cultural heritage.

The Gurukul system, Pathshala, Vidhyalaya and Vishwavidhyalaya are four important fields of education in India.

A) System of Gurukuls

The Gurukul system was a unique educational institution in ancient India. In this system, students lived in ashrams with their Gurus, acquiring information through direct interactions and experience learning.

1) Relationship between the Guru and the disciple

The Guru was the disciple's mentor and guide who fostered disciple's whole growth. The relationship between the teacher and the pupil was highly esteemed and respect for one another.

2) Vedic studies

The Vedas and Upanishads were studied in Gurukul. These lessons provided principles and ethics.

3) Life skills

To develop a well rounded personality, students got training in a variety of fields likes as physical exercise, music and agriculture.

4) Oral tradition

Knowledge was transferred orally through recitation and memorization.

(B) Pathshala

The term “Pathshala” refers to traditional Indian schools during the medieval period and continued until the British colonial era.

1) Community-centred

Pathshalas were community driven schools, generally established by local leaders or religious groups. They taught children the fundamentals of reading, writing and arithmetic.

2) Guru – Led teaching

Pathshalas were administered by a single teacher (Guru) who taught many subjects to pupils of all ages and skills.

(C) Vidhyalaya

Vidhyalaya is new style of schooling vidhyalayas are formal and structured educational institutions.

1) Government Initiatives

Vidhyalays are maintained by government agencies with the goal of providing free education.

2) Formal curriculum

Vidhyalays execute to structured curriculum established by education boards, which covers a wide range of subjects such as science, social studies, languages and mathematics.

3) Extracurricular activities

In addition to academics, vidhyalaya promotes extracurricular activities, like sports.

(D) Vishwavidhyalaya

Vishwavidhyalaya also known as Universities, are India’s highest level of education. They are higher education and research centers that offer graduate and post graduate.

1) Diverse disciplines (subjects)

Arts, Science, Technology, Medicine, Law and Social sciences are part of Vishwavidhyalaya.

2) Autonomy and research

Universities have the freedom to design their own courses and to expand knowledge in a variety of sectors.

3) Faculty knowledge

Vishwavidhyalaya is well known for its excellent faculty members who are specialists in their subjects.

4) Global participation

To increase global exposure and academic variety, several Indian colleges pursue international collaborations and exchange programs.

Q: 8 why it is considered to be challenging to gain traditional knowledge in modern times? (2024) (2025) (2026)

Traditional knowledge (TK) is challenging to gain modern times because of a number of factors, including:

1) Western dominance

The dominance of western education has led to the marginalized of traditional Indian Knowledge Systems. Modern education often overlooks Indigenous wisdom, leading to a lack of interest and investment in preserving these traditional systems.

2) Language Barriers

Much of the traditional Knowledge is written in ancient Indian language like Sanskrit, Pali and Tamil, making it less accessible to the younger generations who are more comfortable with contemporary languages. The loss of interest in learning these languages contributes to the decline of traditional knowledge.

3) Urbanization and Disconnection from Nature

Rapid urbanization and technological advancements have disconnected people from nature and traditional practices rooted in the natural world. Traditional knowledge related to agriculture, herbal medicine and ecological balance is being neglected.

4) Lack of Documentation and Preservation

Many traditional Indian knowledge systems were passed down orally and the lack of proper documentation puts them at risk of being lost forever. Without adequate efforts to preserve this knowledge, it faces the danger of fading away with time.

5) Changing Social Norms

Traditional Indian Knowledge systems are deeply intertwined with cultural and social norms. As societies modernize and evolve, these norms shift, causing some aspects of traditional knowledge to be considered outdated or irrelevant.

6) Commercial Exploitation

Traditional Indian Knowledge, particularly in areas like Ayurveda and Yoga, has garnered global interest. However, commercialization and misappropriation by profit-driven entities may dilute the authenticity and spiritual essence of these practices.

7) Skepticism and Lack of Scientific Validation

Traditional Indian knowledge systems are met with skepticism in the modern world, as they may not always conform to Western scientific standards. The lack of scientific validation can hinder their acceptance and integration into mainstream education and healthcare systems.

8) Generational Gap

The transmission of traditional knowledge relies heavily on passing it down from elders to younger generations. However, with changing values and lifestyles, there is a growing generational gap, making it challenging to sustain the continuity of these systems.

Q: 9 give an overview of the Indian Knowledge system and the discipline in its historical development. (2026)

IKS emphasizes a holistic approach, integrating different aspects of human life and promoting well-being through a deep understanding of the self, the world and their interconnectedness.

1) Philosophy

IKS includes diverse schools of thought exploring metaphysics, ethics and the nature of reality.

2) Science

This encompasses various fields like biology, physics, chemistry, medicine, astronomy and mathematics.

3) Mathematics

Ancient Indian mathematicians made significant contributions to number theory, algebra, geometry and trigonometry.

4) Medicine

Ayurveda, a traditional system of medicine, focuses on holistic health and well-being, encompassing physical, mental and spiritual aspects.

5) Astronomy

Indian astronomers developed sophisticated systems for understanding celestial movements and developing calendars.

6) Architecture

Vastu Shastra a traditional system of architecture and design emphasizes harmony with nature and the built environment.

7) Arts

This includes various forms of dance, music, painting, sculpture and creative expressions that were integrated with spiritual and philosophical concepts.

8) Social and Cultural Practices

IKS also includes traditional ecological knowledge, social structures, ethical frameworks and various customs and rituals.

Q: 10 what were the ancient methods to gain traditional knowledge? (2026)

Ancient societies had ingenious methods of procuring traditional knowledge that played a vital role in preserving and passing down their cultural wisdom from one generation to another.

These methods were deeply rooted in oral traditions, experiential learning, and community practices.

1) Oral Tradition and Storytelling

Before the advent of writing, knowledge was primarily transmitted orally through storytelling. Elders, Gurus, and traditionally in India, Brahmins were considered to be the custodians of ancient knowledge, legends, and historical events to younger members of the community.

Example: the ancient Indian Epics of Mahabharata and Ramayana were initially told and retold verbally for many hundreds of years before they were put on paper.

2) Apprenticeship and Mentorship

In traditional societies, knowledge was often passed from master to apprentice through hands-on training and mentorship. Young individuals would learn skills, crafts, and professions by working closely with experienced artisans and practitioners.

Example: In ancient India, the Gurukul system involved students living with their teachers (Gurus) to learn various disciplines such as philosophy, medicine, music, and welfare.

3) Rituals and Ceremonies

Many cultures incorporated rituals and ceremonies as important conduits of knowledge transfer. Through sacred rites, festivals, and traditional knowledge, spiritual beliefs, and cultural practices were ingrained in the hearts and minds of participants.

4) Proverbs and Sayings

Short and memorable proverbs were common tools for imparting practical knowledge and life lessons. These concise expressions often contained deep cultural insights and were easily recalled and shared.

5) Cultural Festivals and Gatherings

Traditional knowledge was often shared and celebrated during cultural festivals, gatherings, and community events. These occasions allowed for the exchange of expertise, stories, and practices.

Example: the Hindu New Year (Diwali), a significant cultural festival, brings families together to share traditional knowledge, customs, and rituals, promoting unity and cultural continuity.

UNIT-2

IKS AND INDIAN SCHOLARS, INDIAN LITERATURE

Short notes:

Q.1: Maharishi Vyasa

Maharshi Vyasa also known as vyasa or vedvyas. He is considered the legendary author of Mahabharata, one of the longest epic poems in the world.

Life and times of maharishi vyasa:

The historical details about maharishi vyasa's life are shrouded in mythology. According to traditional accounts, he is lived during the Dvapara yuga. He is considered one of the seven immortals in Hindu mythology. Vyasa was the son of sage parasara and satyavati. He acquired his name "vyasa" meaning "the complier", because of his role in arranging the Vedas.

Contributions of Maharishi Vyasa: (Imp)

1) Compilation of the Vedas

One of vyasa's major accomplishments was compiling and classifying of vedic hymns into four distinct Vedas- Rigveda, Yajurveda, Samaveda, Atharvaveda. He also divided the scriptures into four parts- Samhitas, Brahmanas, Aranyakas and Upanishads.

2) Composition of the Mahabharata

The Mahabharata one of the most significant epics in Indian mythology. In the Bhagavad Gita, a spiritual dialogue between lord Krishna and prince Arjuna. The Mahabharata not only contains the story of great Kurukshetra war but also imparts wisdom, ethics and truth.

3) Puranas

Vyasa is also credited eighteen puranas, which are myths, legends, cosmology and religious teachings. The puranas are crucial for understanding of Hindu mythology.

4) Brahma sutras

Maharishi vyasa wrote the Brahma sutras, also known as Vedanta sutras. The Brahma sutras became a fundamental text for the school of Vedanta.

5) Guru and Mentor

Vyasa played a significant role as a teacher and spiritual guide. He taught several disciples.

Influence and legacy of maharishi vyasa:

Maharishi vyasa's contributions have left an indelible mark on Indian literature, philosophy and spirituality. His works including Vedas, Mahabharata, Puranas and Brahma sutras continue to be studied by scholars across the world.

Q.2: Sage Manu

Sage Manu also known as Manu Maharishi or Manu Vaivasvata. He is considered the first human being and progenitor of humanity in Hindu tradition. Manu received divine knowledge from the Gods and his teaching are recorded in the Manusmriti.

Life and times of Sage Manu:

The life of sage Manu is deeply rooted in ancient Indian mythology. According to Hindu scriptures, Manu is believed to have lived during Satya yuga. The Satya yuga is considered a golden yuga, characterized by truth and wisdom.

Contributions of Sage Manu:

Manu received divine knowledge and teaching from the gods and formulated a code of conduct. Manusmriti also known as Laws of Manu. The Manusmriti covers various of human life, including social norms, duties, ethics and principles of justice. It provides guidelines for individuals, kings and rulers.

Influence and legacy of Manu:

Manusmriti had a profound impact on Hindu society. Manusmriti served guidance for kings, rulers in ancient India.

Q.3: Kanad

Kanad also known as, Acharya Kanad. He is credited with formulating the concept of "Anu " or "Paramanu". Kanad's idea laid the foundation for the atomic theory in Indian philosophy. Kanad's contribution to the field of philosophy and science.

Life and times of Kanad:

The exact historical period of Kanad's life is not well-documented but he is believed to lived around 6th century BCE.

Contributions of Kanad:

Kanad's most significant contribution in the atomic theory. According to his theory, the entire world is composed of paramanus.

Principles of Kanad's theory: (Imp)

1) Anu (atom): Kanad proposed anu is the fundamental building blocks of all matter. These atoms are very small.

2) Parmanu: Kanad theorized parmanu is indestructible and retains its identity even after combining with other parmanu.

3) Categories of parmanu: He categorized parmanu based on their properties and characteristics, which included difference types of parmanu.

4) Panchabhuta: Kanad: Kanad also discussed the five elements- Earth, Water, Fire, Air and Sky- their combinations formed from difference types of atoms.

Influence and legacy of Kanad:

Kanad's work had a lasting impact on Indian philosophy and science. His atomic theory became an integral part of the Vaisheshika School and contributed to the development Nyaya-Vaisheshika tradition. Thus, Kanad was notable personality in ancient India.

Q.4: Pingala

Pingala was an ancient Indian mathematician who made significant contributions to the field of poetry. Pingala's influential work, known as the "Chhandas shustra" or "Chhandasutra", provided a systematic analysis of meters.

Life and times of Pingala:

The historical details about Pingala's life are not well documented and he is believed to have lived between 2nd and 3rd centuries BCE.

Contributions of Pingala: (2026)

Pingala's most significant contribution in poetic meters. In his treatise, "Chhandas shastra", he introduced a novel system to represent binary sequences. These methods known as "Pingala's binary numeral system" or "Pingala's algorithm".

Influence and legacy of Pingala's work:

Pingala's work on binary numeral system had a lasting impact on Indian literature and mathematics. His contribution to the understanding of poetic meters in the study of classical Indian poetry. The Pingala's binary numeral system is also significant in the history of mathematics.

Q.5: Sage Parasara(father of ved vyasa)

Sage Parasara, also known as Maharishi Parasara, was an ancient sage in Hindu tradition. He was a renowned vedic scholar, philosopher, astrologer, literature Parasara is credited for "Vishnu Purana", one of the eighteen major puranas in Hindu literature.

Life and times of sage Parasara:

The historical details about the life of sage Parasara are not well-documented. According to legend, Parasara was born as the son of sage Shakti and Adrishyanti.

Contributions of sage Parasara: (2026)

1) Vishnu purana

Parasara is the author the “Vishnu Purana”, an ancient Hindu scripture that narrates stories related to Lord Vishnu.

2) Jyotish shastra

Sage parasara is considered one of the pioneers of Indian astrology. He wrote “Brihat Parasara Hora Shastra”. This text covers birth charts, planetary influences and predictive techniques.

3) Maitrayani Samhita

Parasara is also attributed to the authorship of Krishna Yajurveda called “Maitrayani Samhita”, which is a collection of vedic hymns and rituals.

Influence and legacy of Parasara:

Sage Parasara’s contributions had a lasting impact on Indian culture. His texts Vishnu purana and Brihat Parasara hora shastra continue to be studied by scholars. His profound insights into cosmology, mythology and spiritual wisdom.

Q.6: Banabhatta

Banabhatta was an ancient Indian Sanskrit poet. He is best known for “Kadambari”. His works are considered significant in the development of classical Sanskrit literature.

Life and times of Banabhatta:

Banabhatta lived during the 7th century CE. He was born into a Brahmin family in Uttarpradesh. Banabhatta was a court poet in the kingdom of Thanesar under the king Harshavardhana. Banabhatt’s association with the royal court provided him with opportunities to showcase his literary skills and gain recognition as a poet.

Contributions of Banabhatta:

1) Kadambari

the “Kadambari” is Banabhatt’s famous literature in classical Sanskrit. His text covers adventure, fantasy and philosophical.

2) Harshacharita

Banabhatta wrote another book “Harshacharita” or “the life of Harsha”. This biography related to achievements of king Harsha vardhana. This book covers socio-political and culture of ancient India.

Influence and legacy of Banabhatta:

Banabhatta's writings and literary talents earned him a prominent place in Indian literary tradition. His work as a artistic and literary achievements of Gupta period, which was considered the golden age of ancient Indian civilization.

Q.7: Nagarjuna

Nagarjuna also known as Acharya Nagarjuna, was famous Buddhist scholar and philosopher, founded Madhyamaka. His profound insights into the concept of emptiness and practice of the middle way.

Life and times of Nagarjuna:

The historical details of Nagarjuna's life are not well documented but believed to during 2nd to 3rd centuries CE, reign of Satavahana dynasty. Nagarjuna was born into Brahmin family and later accepted Buddhism.

Contributions of Nagarjuna:

1) Madhyamaka philosophy

Nagarjuna is the founder of Madhyamaka School. He explained concept of emptiness. According to Nagarjuna, all phenomena are empty of existence or independent reality.

2) Prajnaparamita commentaries

Nagarjuna composed prajnaparamita sutras, which are Buddhist scriptures that perfection of wisdom.

3) Nagarjuna's verses

Nagarjuna's most famous work is "Mulamadhyamakarikā" which comprises 27 chapters with philosophical verses. This text covers logical and systematic approach.

Influence and legacy of Nagarjuna:

Nagarjuna's philosophical teachings had a transformative impact on the development of Buddhism. His contributions to Buddhist thought also extended beyond philosophy. Most famous scholar of Buddhism was Nagarjuna.

Q.8: Panini (Imp)

Panini also known as Maharshi Panini was an ancient Indian grammarian of Sanskrit grammar. His work "Ashtadhyayi" is a foundational text in the field of Sanskrit language.

Life and times of Panini:

The exact details about Panini's life are not well-documented but probably lived in during 5th or 6th century BCE. Panini's life was marked for languages and grammar. He travelled to various centers of learning to study and research linguistic systems.

Contributions of Panini:

Panini's most significant contribution on Sanskrit grammar.

1) Ashtadhyayi

The "Ashtadhyayi" is famous text and considered one of the earliest linguistics work in the world. It is composed of 8 chapters and includes nearly 4000 rules structure and syntax of the Sanskrit language.

2) Sutras

Panini's grammarian rules are formulated in the form of concise sutras. These sutras are composed in a highly systematic and logical manner of linguistic analysis.

3) Language preservation

Panini's work played a vital role in preserving the Sanskrit language. His meticulous grammatical rules contributed to purity of language.

Influence and legacy of Panini:

Panini's profound work impact on the study of language in ancient India. His grammatical system became the strong foundation in India. Moreover, Panini had done great work in various fields such as logic, philosophy, grammar rules etc. He was a notable personality in language texts.

Q.9: Aryabhata (Imp)

Aryabhata was an ancient Indian mathematician and astronomer who lived during the 5th century CE. He was a pioneer in the field of mathematics and astronomy.

Life and times of Aryabhata:

Aryabhata was born in 5th century in Kusumapura, which is now known as Patna in Bihar. He belonged to the region of Magadha. Aryabhata received his education at the ancient Nalanda University.

What is the contribution of aryabhata in ancient Indian knowledge? (2024) (2025) (2026)

1) Aryabhata's Magnum opus

Aryabhata's most significant work is the "Aryabhatiya" that covers various branches of mathematics and astronomy. "Aryabhatiya" consists of 121 verses written in Sanskrit, and one of the earliest texts in Indian mathematics.

2) Astronomical Contribution

Aryabhatt's work on astronomy was groundbreaking for its time. He proposed a model of the solar system, and suggesting that Earth rotates on its axis and orbits around the sun.

3) Trigonometry

Aryabhatt made significant achievements in trigonometry and introduced the concept of trigonometric functions. He provided methods of trigonometric ratios for various angles and developed tables of sine values.

4) Arithmetic and Algebra

Aryabhatt's work in arithmetic and algebra laid the foundation in ancient India. He solved mathematical problems related to equations and continued fraction.

5) Timekeeping

Aryabhatt devised a highly accurate method for time keeping and calendar calculations. He introduced the concept of "Kalpa" to represent a day of Brahma, which is a vast unit of time.

6) Mathematical operations

Aryabhatt contributed to addition subtraction, multiplication and division. He devised efficient algorithms for these operations.

Influence and legacy of Aryabhatt:

Aryabhatt's contributions had a lasting impact on ancient Indian mathematics and astronomy. His works were studied by generation to generation. His achievements in trigonometry were significant role in these fields. His book "Aryabhatiya" continued to be studied and influence across the world. Arab and Persian scholars translated his works and circulated knowledge.

Q.10: Mahaviracharya

Mahaviracharya also known as Mahavira of the 9th century who made significant contributions to the fields of mathematics.

Life and times of Mahaviracharya:

Mahaviracharya lived during the 9th century CE in Karnataka. He was a Jain scholar belonging to Digambara sect of Jainism.

Contributions of Mahaviracharya:

1) Ganita sara samgraha

Mahaviracharya is known for his Ganita sara samgraha which translates to the “The Essence of Mathematics compendium”. His works covering a wide ranges of topics such as, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, trigonometry.

2) Advancements in Mathematics

Mahaviracharya’s Ganita sara samgraha contains advancements in mathematical knowledge. He provided solutions to equations and cubic equations.

3) Calculus

Mahaviracharya is believed to have made significant role in the fields of calculus.

Influence and legacy of Mahaviracharya:

Mahaviracharya’s contributions to the fields of mathematics. His “Ganita sara samgraha” essential text in the history of Indian mathematics.

Q.11: Baudhayana

Baudhayana also known as Baudhayana Maharishi was an ancient Indian scholar and mathematician. He particularly had known for his work in geometry.

Life and times of Baudhayana:

The historical details about Baudhayana’s life are not well-documented but probably lived during 5th century to 8th century BCE. He was associated with the Vedic culture.

Contributions of Baudhayana:

1) Baudhayana Sulbasutras

Baudhayana is renowned for his work is geometry. Ancient Indian texts dealing with geometry for Vedic rituals.

2) Geometry and Phthagorean theorem

The “Baudhayana Sulbasutra” contains geometrical principles and mathematical methods for vedic rituals. He described method for constructing a square with same area as a given circle. His work contains a version of Pythagorean Theorem.

3) Indian mathematics

His contributions to geometry and mathematics are part of the broader tradition of Indian mathematics.

Influence and legacy of Baudhayana:

His work in Geometry and mathematics as evidenced by “Baudhayana Sulbasutras”. His geometric principles and mathematical methods very useful in ancient India.

Q.12: Bhaskarachary (Imp)

Bhaskarachary also known as Bhaskara, was an ancient Indian mathematician and astronomer. He was a renowned scholar from the Indian state of Maharashtra. His works had a lasting impact on Indian mathematics.

Life and times of Bhaskaracharya:

Bhaskaracharya was born in 12th century CE in the town of Vijjadavida. He belonged to the Brahmin community. He was associated with the court of king Bijjala of the Kalachuri dynasty and was honored with the title “Acharya”, meaning teacher or scholar.

Contributions of Bhaskaracharya: (2025) (2026)

1) Lilavati

Bhaskaracharya's most famous work is “Lilavati”, that covers on mathematics such as arithmetic, algebra and geometry. This book is named after his daughter, Lilavati. It is written in verse form.

2) Bijaganita

His work “Bijaganita” is dedicated to algebra and deals with equations. It contains methods for solving these equations

3) Siddhanta Shiromani

Bhaskaracharya's “Siddhanta Shiromani” is a comprehensive work on astronomy. It consists of four parts: Lilavati, Bijaganita, Grahaganita and Goladhyaya.

4) Astrology and calendar system

Bhaskaracharya made significant contributions to Indian astrology and calendar system. His works on planetary positions and determining auspicious times for religious and social occasions.

Influence and legacy of Bhaskaracharya:

Bhaskaracharya's contribution to mathematics and astronomy knowledge. His techniques and astronomy knowledge. His techniques and solutions were highly advanced for his time.

Q.13: Varahamihira

Varahamihira was an ancient Indian astronomer, mathematician and astrologer who lived during the 6th century CE. His work played crucial role in astrological practices during his time.

Life and times of Varahamihira:

Varahamihira was born in Ujjain, located in Madhya Pradesh. Ujjain was famous for culture during ancient times. Varahamihira belonged to a Brahmin family. He served as a court astrologer and mathematician of Vikramaditya. Vikramaditya's court was a hub of intellectual and cultural activities.

Contributions of Varahamihira:

1) Brihat samhita

Varahamihira's most famous work is the "Brihat samhita" that covers a wide range of subjects; astronomy, astrology, mathematics, agriculture and gemology.

2) Panchasiddhantika

Varahamihira's "Panchasiddhantika" is a significant work on astronomy. He discusses the principles and provides his insights on their merits and limitations.

3) Contribution to astrology

Varahamihira was well-known for his expertise in astrology. He wrote the "Brihat jataka" that provides principles for horoscopes.

4) Mathematical and Geometrical contribution

Varahamihira made important contribution to mathematical and geometrical knowledge. He wrote the "Panch-siddhantika" that deals with mathematics topics.

5) Contribution to calendar system

Varahamihira's astronomical and mathematical knowledge helped in the development of accurate calendar system.

Influence and legacy of Varahamihira:

The "Brihat samhita" and "Brihat Jataka" continue to be important texts in the study of ancient Indian knowledge.

Q.14: Brahmagupta

Brahmagupta was an ancient Indian mathematician who lived during 7th century CE. He made significant contributions to various branches of mathematics and astronomy.

Life and times of Brahmagupta:

Brahmagupta was born in 7th century in Rajasthan. He was associated with the court of king Vyaghramukha.

Contributions of Brahmagupta:

1) Brahmasputasiddhanta

Brahmagupta's most famous work is Brahmasputasiddhanta on mathematics and astronomy. It covers such as arithmetic, algebra and geometry.

2) Zero and negative numbers

One of Brahmagupta's most significant contributions to mathematics Zero as a numerical value. He was the first mathematician to describe Zero as a value.

3) Algebra

Brahmagupta made important advancement in algebra and methods for solving equations.

4) Geometry and Trigonometry

Brahmagupta discussed geometric principles such as area and perimeter calculations for various shape.

5) Astronomy

Brahmagupta's work calculations related to planetary positions and eclipse. He presented methods for predicting solar and lunar eclipse.

Influence and legacy of Brahmagupta:

Brahmagupta's contributions were highly influential. His books studied within India and across the world. His contribution flourishing of mathematical knowledge in ancient India.

Q.15: Charaka (Imp)

Write a short note on medical scholars of Ancient India. (2024)

Charaka also known as Charak Maharishi or Agnivesh, was an ancient Indian physician who is considered one of the founding father of Ayurveda. His work "Charaka Samhita" is one of the most notable texts in Ayurvedic medicine.

Life and times of Charaka:

The historical details about Charaka's life are not well-documented. He is believed to have lived in the ancient city of Takshashila, which is in present-day Pakistan and studied Ayurveda under the guidance of his teacher, Atreya Punarvasu.

Contributions of Charaka: (2025)

1) Charaka samhita

Charaka's most significant contribution is "the Charaka SAMhita" of Ayurvedic knowledge. This text is written in Sanskrit. His text covers various aspects of medicine, anatomy and treatment.

2) Theory of Tridosha

Charaka is credited the theory of Tridosha, which is a fundamental concept in Ayurveda. According to this theory, the human body is governed by three doshas: Vata, Pitta and Kapha. The balance of these doshas is essential for maintaining health.

3) Diagnosis and Treatment

Charaka samhita including various methods of diagnosis pulse, tongue and other bodily signs. His text covers maintaining health and preventing diseases. Charaka's approach to treatment includes use of herbal medicines, diet and lifestyle modification.

4) Pharmacology

Charaka's work contains a wealth of information on medicinal plants and their properties. He classified herbs based on their taste and effects on the doshas.

Influence and legacy of Charaka:

Charaka's "Charaka samhita" is one of the most respected text in Ayurvedic medicine. It has been studied by countless scholars. His contribution to Ayurveda had a lasting impact on medicine sector. In recent times, Charaka is notable personality for Ayurveda.

Q.16: Sushruta (Imp)

Write a short note on medical scholar of Ancient India. (2024)

Sushruta also known as Sushruta Maharishi or Sushruta Acharya, was an ancient Indian physician and surgeon who is one of the founding father of surgery. His text is one of the most comprehensive texts on surgery and medicine in ancient India.

Life and times of Sushruta:

The historical details about Sushruta's life are not well-documented. He is believed to have lived in the city of Varanasi in Uttarpradesh.

Contributions of Sushruta: (2026)

1) Sushruta Samhita

Sushruta's most significant contribution is "Sushruta Samhita" text on surgery and medicine. This text is written in Sanskrit. His text covers various aspects of medicine, surgery and pediatrics.

2) Surgical techniques

"Sushruta Samhita" contains various surgical techniques, instruments and procedures. He wrote different types of surgeries, including plastic surgeries, eye surgeries and removal of Urinary stones.

3) Classification of disease

Sushruta classified disease into different categories based on their causes and symptoms. His understanding of disease has been valuable in the field of diagnosis and treatment.

Influence and legacy of Sushruta:

Sushruta's work remains one of the most significant texts in the history of surgery and medicine. His work has a lasting impact on surgical practices in ancient India.

Q.17: Maharshi Patanjali (Imp)

Write a short note on yogic scholars of Ancient India. (2024)

Maharshi Patanjali was an ancient Indian sage who is revered as the compiler of Yoga sutras. He is considered one of the most important figures in the history of yoga and also known as "Father of yoga".

Life and times of Patanjali:

According to tradition, Patanjali is believed to have lived during 2nd century BCE. He is associated with Mathura.

Contributions of Patanjali: (2026)

1) Yoga sutras

Patanjali's most significant contribution is the "Yoga sutras". This text provides a systematic guide to path to yoga covering aspects of ethics and meditation.

2) Eight Anga of Yoga

Patanjali's yoga sutra describes Eight Anga of Yoga known as Ashtanga yoga. The Eight Anga is: yama, Niyama, Asana, Pranayama, Pratyahara, Dharana, Dhyana, Dharana and Samadhi.

3) Classical yoga philosophy

Yoga sutras explained classical yoga philosophy also known as Raja yoga. He discusses the nature of mind and way to achieve spiritual realization.

4) Yoga tradition

Patanjali's yoga sutras became the foundation of yoga tradition. He provided guidance of yoga.

Influence and legacy of Patanjali:

Patanjali known as "Father of yoga". His text is one of the most important text of yoga. His text continues to be studied by scholars.

Q.18: Dhanvantari (2025)

Dhanvantari is ancient figure in Hindu mythology and Ayurveda, the traditional system of medicine in India. He is revered as the physician of the gods and considered the divine incarnation of lord Vishnu. Dhanvantari is regarded as the founder of Ayurveda.

In Hindu mythology, Dhanvantari emerged during the samudra manthan by the gods and demons. Dhanvantari emerged carrying a pot of amrita in his hands. Dhanvantari's association with Ayurveda is recorded in the ancient texts, including "Charak samhita" and "Sushruta samhita".

As the God of medicine and Ayurveda, Dhanvantari continues to be revered by medicine and considered a divine guide of health and wellness. He remains important figure in Hindu culture.

Q.19: Nyaya shastra in ancient India

The Nyaya shastra is an ancient Indian Sanskrit text composed by Gautam. The text was composed estimated 2nd century BCE. The Nyaya sutra is a Hindu text, notable for focusing on knowledge and logic.

This text consists of 5 books with 2 chapters in each book. First book is structured as a general introduction, second book is about pramana, and third book is about object of knowledge, fourth and fifth books discuss the nature of knowledge.

The Nyaya sutras cover a wide range of topics. These texts form of hymns. Nyaya sutras are very useful text from the ancient India.

Q.20: Vyakaran shastra

Vyakaran shastra is the ancient Indian science of grammar and linguistic analysis. It played a vital role in shaping Sanskrit language and other classical Indian language. The field of Vyakarana was developed by scholars and grammarians who made significant contribution to the understanding of language.

Main proponents and thinker:

One of the earliest proponents of Vyakarana was Panini. Panini's work "Ashtadhyayi" is considered one of the most profound on Sanskrit grammar. Another Vyakarana was Patanjali, who authored "Mahabhashya". His text is notable text for Vyakarana.

Ancient texts and Manuscripts:

Panini's "Ashtadhyayi" composed 4000 rules organized into 8 chapters, covering various aspects of grammar such as phonetics and syntax. Patanjali's "Mahabharata" consist of detailed explanations and discussion of Panini's rules.

Development of Vyakarana shastra:

Before Panini's time, various linguistic theories but Panini who brought systematic. His work marked a turning point in development of Vyakarana as a discipline. Over time, notable text was

“kashika” authored by Jayaditya and Vamana, which provided detailed explanations of Panini’s sutras.

Relevance in today’s modern world:

The ancient Vyakarana shastra continues to be relevant in the modern world. The principles and methods of linguistic analysis developed by grammarians. The precise and systematic approaches of Vyakarana have influenced development of other fields.

Q.21: Krishi shastra in ancient India (Imp)

Krishi shastra also known as Agriculture science. Agriculture was the backbone of the economy. This field of knowledge encompassed various aspects of farming, irrigation and agriculture practices.

Main proponents and thinker:

Among the main proponents of krishi shastra, the renowned ancient Indian text “Krishi Parasara”. It is attributed to the sage Parasara. Krishi Parasara provides various agriculture techniques, crop cultivation, and soil fertility.

Ancient texts and Manuscripts:

“Krishi Parasara” is one of the prominent texts on agriculture science in ancient India. It remains crucial source of information for understanding the agriculture practices during that era.

Development of Krishi Shastra:

Krishi shastra developed over centuries through practical experiences and experiments. Ancient Indian farmers observed the effect of various agriculture methods, such as crop rotation and soil fertility.

Relevance in today’s modern world:

The ancient knowledge of Krishi shastra remains relevant and valuable in the modern world. The emphasis on organic farming, crop rotation and eco-friendly pest control align with promote sustainable agriculture.

Moreover, the principles of soil fertility, water management and seasonal planning discussed in ancient texts are crucial for ensuring food security in today’s world.

Q.22: Shilp shastra in ancient India

Shilp shastra is the ancient Indian science of arts and crafts. It encompasses a wide range of architecture, sculpture, and painting. The shilp shastra played a vital role in shaping the artistic and cultural heritage on ancient India.

Main proponents and thinker:

The field of shilp shastra saw contribution from numerous skilled architects and scholars. While specific names might not be documented as in fields.

Ancient texts and Manuscripts:

1) Vishwakarma Vastushastra

This text discusses the principles of architecture and temple construction.

2) Shilpratna

An ancient treatise on the art of sculpture providing guidance on various techniques.

3) Chitrasutra

An ancient text on painting offering insights into techniques and materials.

4) Manasara

A significant text on architecture such as temple construction and building materials.

Example of Shilp Shastra in ancient India:

1) Stone temples of Khujuraho (Exa. Chhatarpur – MP)

2) The Ajanta and Ellora cave paintings (Exa. Aurangabad – MH)

Relevance in today's modern world:

The ancient wisdom of Shilp shastra continues to inspire and influence modern art. Designers take inspiration from the principles of temple architecture. By preserving the wisdom of Shilp shastra, we can ensure that the artistic traditions of ancient India enduring legacy for generation to generation.

Q.23: Vastu shastra in ancient India (2025)

Vastu shastra is the ancient Indian science of architecture. It lays down guidelines for designing building. Vastu shastra played a vital role in shaping the architect of ancient India and continues to influence modern architect.

Main proponents and thinker:

The principles of Vastu shastra were traditionally passed down through generations. While specific names of proponents might not be as well-documented.

Ancient texts and Manuscripts:

1) Vishwakarma Vastu Shastra

This text discusses the principles of architecture and temple construction.

2) BrihatSamhita

Authored by Varahamihira, this ancient text covers various subjects, including Vastu shastra.

Example of Vastu Shastra in ancient India:

- 1) Konark sun temple - odisha
- 2) Mohen jo-Daro

Relevance in today's modern world:

In the present era, Vastu shastra continues to influence architect practices. Many designers take inspiration from Vastu principles to create buildings.

Q.24: Natya shastra in ancient India

Natya shastra is an ancient Indian text that covers performing arts, dance, music and drama. Natya shastra composed by Bharata Muni. It is one of the earliest and most significant texts on the arts.

Main proponents and Artist:

Bharat muni is considered the main arts of the Natya shastra. While other specific names of ancient artists might not be widely known. Natya shastra teachings generation by scholars.

Various forms of Natya shastra:

Nritya and Natya is main arts of the Natya shastra. Natya shastra is originated in Bharata Muni's Ashram. This Ashram located in near Himalayas.

Natya shastra promoted by various kings in Ancient India. King Shiladitya and king Harsha were notable personality of the arts. They supporting and promoting performing arts and cultural activities in their kingdoms.

Impact on today's modern world:

Indian classical dance forms such as Bharata natyam, Odissi and Kathak. Dancer's movement, expression and storytelling keeping alive the tradition of ancient times. The influence of Natya shastra extends beyond India's borders. The principles of Natya shastra to create innovative with modern time.

Q.25: Sangeet shastra in ancient India

Sangeet shastra, the ancient Indian science of music. Sangeet shastra has a rich history that influenced the cultural of ancient India and continues to inspire musicians in the modern world.

Main proponents and Artist:

The main proponents of Sangeet shastra were the ancient musicians who contributed to its development. Bharat muni, the author of “Natya shastra” played a crucial role in integrating music, dance and drama. Bharat Muni’s text foundation for the music.

Matanga, Narada and Yashatilaka wrote significant text on music. This text explored various aspects of musical theory Raga and Tala.

Various Forms:

Classical music and regional folk music are types of music. King Ashoka, Harsha and Akabar were known for their love of music and their support for musicians. They established music academics where talented musicians invited to perform of music.

Impact on Today’s modern world:

The impact of ancient Sangeet shastra on today’s modern world is profound. The foundational principles of musical theory Raga and Tala. India’s Sangeet shastra famous across the world.

UNIT-3

Indian economy thoughts and model

Q.1: History of Indian economy

In the olden days, India was a great country known for its wealth, smart ideas and amazing culture. The proof for this comes from a famous economist Angus Maddison, who studied history. He found that India was the top economy in the world in the ancient times.

India was really good at farming. They knew how to grow lots of crops like rice, wheat and cotton. India had so much food that they didn't need to depend on others.

Indians were also very clever in science and math. They came up with the idea of Zero, which we still use today in numbers. India was a special place for trade because it was at the centre of trade routes. This meant people from other places came to India to buy and sell things.

India was not just rich in money; it was rich in ideas and culture too. They had great universities like Nalanda and Takhashila. Students in these universities studied many things like math, medicine and philosophy.

Q.2: Economic thoughts from the Dharma shastras

Meaning of Dharma shastra:

Indian Dharma shastra refers to a collection of ancient text that lay down principles and rules of Dharma. Term "Dharma shastra" is derived from the Sanskrit words "Dharma" meaning duty and "shastra" meaning text.

The most well-known Dharma shastra text is "Manusmriti". Other important text includes "Narada smriti" and "Parasara smriti".

1) Ethical economic conduct

Dharma shastras emphasize ethical behavior in economic activities. They promote honesty, fairness in business dealings.

2) Importance of Dharma

Economic decisions should align with the broader concept of Dharma, which includes fulfillment of duties and responsibilities towards society.

3) Sustainable development

Ancient text recognizes the importance of sustainable resource management and responsible utilization of natural resources.

4) Wealth distribution

The concept of equitable wealth distribution is prominent in Dharma shastras. It encourages the practice of charity and sharing of wealth to support poor people.

5) Support for agriculture

Agriculture is considered a noble occupation in Dharma shastras. Importance of supporting and uplifting the agricultural sector, which remains crucial for many economies even today.

Q.3: Economic thoughts from the Shukraniti

(Or)

What is Shukraniti? Explain the economic learning from Shukrtaniti. (2024)

Shukraniti is an ancient Sanskrit text attributed to the sage Shukracharya. He was considered the guru of the demons. Shukraniti text covers various topics such as politics, economics, ethics and governance.

Economic and business learning from the Shukraniti's text:

1) Care for people

The text highlights the importance of rulers looking after people's well being. Today, governments must focus on policies and their fair wealth distribution for a stable society.

2) Trade is important

Shukraniti recognize the value of trade. Today, good trade relations and open markets can boost economic growth.

3) Balance matters

Shukraniti advises balanced economic management that means finding ways to grow the economy while protecting environment and supporting society.

4) Justice and legal system

The text provides principles for establishing effective legal system for the justice.

5) Encourage entrepreneurship

Shukraniti supports self-employment and entrepreneurship. Today, we must create a culture of innovation and provide opportunities for new businesses.

Q.4: Economic thoughts from the Mahabharata

(Or)

The epic Mahabharata is not just a story, but also a great treasure house of economic learning. (Imp)

The Mahabharata, an ancient Indian epic, is not only story of war but tells us wisdom, truth and duty. Through its characters and their decisions, Mahabharata imparts valuable economic lessons that can guide us.

1) Importance of Dharma

Dharma, the right path is a central theme in the Mahabharata. This concept extends to economic activities, ethics in business.

2) Managing resource efficiently

The Mahabharata emphasizes resource management and its impact on the economy. The Kauravas' excessive greed and misuse of resource lead to conflict.

3) Supporting local industries

The epic encourages support for local industries. Example Pandavas' promotes economic growth and cultural preservation in their kingdom.

4) Role of education and skills

Mahabharata gives us knowledge of value education and skill development. Example Eklavya, exhibits the importance of talent development and benefits of a skilled workforce in driving economic progress.

5) Inclusive Governance

The epic emphasizes the importance of inclusive governance and public welfare. The principles of "Rajdharma" guide the kings well being of all citizens.

Q.5: Who was Chankaya? Explain the economic lessons from Kautilya's Chanakyaniti. (2024)

(Or)

Write a note on economic lessons from Chankyaniti. (2025) (2026)

(Or)

Short note: Kautilya's Aarthashastra (Imp)

Chankaya also known as Vishnugupta, was a brilliant and clever person. He lived in 4th century BCE. He was smart and learned many things such as, economics, politics and philosophy.

Born in a small village, he displayed brilliant from an early age. Chanakya's intellect titled of "Kautilya" which means "clever". Chanakya became Chandragupta's advisor and helped him defeat

the Nanda dynasty with a clever plan. Together, they created the Maurya Empire, which became a powerful kingdom.

Chanakya's most important work was Chanakyaniti or Aarthashastra where he shared his knowledge about how to govern a state, manage economy and take decisions in politics and war.

1) Economic philosophy and objectives

Chanakya's economic thought is deeply rooted in the Dharmic principles of welfare. He believed that primary purpose of the state to well being people. According to Chanakya, economic policies should be designed to create wealth and remove poverty.

2) Principles of Taxation

Taxation as a vital source of revenue for the state. Chanakya classified taxes into various categories, income tax, land tax, customs duties and sales tax.

3) Trade and commerce

Chanakya recognized the crucial role of trade and commerce in economic development. Chanakya's thoughts on trade, benefits of globalization in today's interconnected world.

4) Infrastructure development

Chanakya believed the significance of infrastructure development for economic progress. He encouraged the construction of roads, irrigation systems and enhance connectivity economic activities.

5) Public expenditure and investment

Chanakya believed that public expenditure and wise investment are critical for a strong economy. He advised to invest in sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing and trade to economic growth.

6) Wealth creation and entrepreneurship

Chanakya's economic thought supported wealth creation through entrepreneurship. He believed the role of skilled and innovative entrepreneur in driving economic growth.

Q: 6 Explain ancient India's place in global GDP. (2026)

Global GDP and Ancient India: In the olden days, India was a great country known for its wealth, smart ideas, and amazing culture. The proof for this comes from a famous economist named Angus Maddison, who studied history. He found that India was the top economy in the world even in those ancient times.

1) Agricultural Success and Independence

Long ago, India was really good at farming. They knew how to grow lots of crops like rice, wheat, cotton, and spices. They also had smart ways to water their fields, which helped them grow even more food.

India has so much food that they didn't need to depend on others for help. It shows how India's farming success helped its economy to be super strong.

2) Smart Discoveries in Science and Math

Indians were also very clever in science and math. They came up with the idea of zero, which we still use today in numbers. This idea changed everything in math! They also figured out the value of pi and used a special way of writing numbers called the decimal system.

3) Trade and influence all around

India was a special place for trade because it was at the centre of many trade routes. This meant that people from other places came to India to buy and sell things. The Indus Valley Civilization, which was very old, traded with places like Egypt and Mesopotamia.

4) Sharing Knowledge and Culture

India was not just rich in money; it was rich in ideas and culture too. They had great universities like Nalanda and Takshshila, where people from different countries came to learn. Nalanda, in particular, was famous and had thousands of students from far-off lands like china, Korea, Japan, and Southeast Asia.

Students in these universities studied many things like math, medicine, and philosophy. This helped spread Indian culture and ideas to other parts of the world.

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