

I M.A. HistoryStudy Material - ITitle : World Civilizations

upto 1453 C.E

[Excluding India]

Subject Code : 18KP1H04Unit - II River Valley Civilizations.

1. The Egyptian Civilization.
2. The Mesopotamian Civilizations.
  - i. The Sumerian Civilization.
  - ii The Babylonian Civilization.
  - iii The Assyrian Civilization.
3. The Chinese Civilization.

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## River Valley Civilizations.

Metal Age Revolution led to the emergence of the first civilizations which are known as River Valley Civilizations. Such River Valley Civilizations were noted for effective use of metal implements for cultivation, weapon and domestic use.

The Bronze Age Civilizations which flourished in different parts of the world between 5000 B.C and 500 B.C were

- i. The Indus Valley Civilization.
- ii. The Tigris - Euphrates Civilization of Mesopotamia
- iii. The Nile Valley Civilization of Egypt
- iv. The Huang Ho or the Yellow River

The Egyptian Civilization of China.

Among the four civilizations of the Bronze Age, the civilization of Egypt which flourished in the Valley of Nile is believed to be the oldest of which systematic records are available.

Egypt is known as the "Daughter of Nile".

Herodotus the Greek historian aptly called Egypt "The Gift of Nile". The Egyptian Civilization was at its pinnacle of glory about 5000 years ago.

## ↳ Kingdoms of Egypt :-

### Classification of Early Egyptian History :-

The long history of Ancient Egypt is divided into three main periods.

- i The Old Kingdom [or] The Age of Pyramids. [3400 - 2700 B.C.]
- ii The Middle Kingdom [or] The Age of Feudalism [2500 - 2000 B.C.]
- iii The New Kingdom or The Imperial Age.

#### i The Pyramid Age :-

The outstanding accomplishment of the first period was the construction of Pyramids. which was ~~made~~ done under Govt. supervision.

Well-defined Egyptian history really began with Menes [3400 B.C.] who founded the Empire and united Upper and Lower Egypt into a single Kingdom.

Successors of Menes conquered Syria and invaded the territory as far north as Palestine Phoenicia and Syria.

The Kings of Egypt were called as Pharaohs. He was absolute in power. He posed as Son of God and people accepted him as divine.

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2.

He was the sole master and lord, the leader in war, director of industries, the Supervisor of Public works and Controller of resources. He had a vast corps of assistants to carry out the administration.

Pepi II ruled over Egypt from 2738 to 2644 B.C. It was after his death that the authority of the Pharaohs weakened and that of the feudal lords practically established their power and authority.

## ii The Feudal Age :-

The period of political disorder following the Pyramid Age is known as the Feudal Age. The Feudal lords broke away from the control of central govt and formed petty states.

Rival nobles tried to conquer each other as a result there was almost constant warfare. Material advances were made, in spite of the disunited character of the govt. Dikes, public works, commercial fleets, canals were built.

Because of their disunited states, the Egyptians were unable to keep out the Nubians from the South and the Hyksos from the North who ruled the country.

The Hyksos introduced Egypt the horse and military system, which the Egyptians adopted and ultimately used in reunifying the country under one govt.

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### iii The New Empire / The Imperial Age

The city of Thebes offered the resistance to the invaders and formed the nucleus about which Egypt was reunited. After defeating Hyksos (1600 B.C.) the Egyptian built a powerful fleet and invaded the Near East and island of Cyprus.

#### Important rulers:

Thutmose I [1545 - 1514 B.C.] was a great conqueror. Queen Hatshepsut [1501 - 1479] was the first powerful woman ruler in historic times. She was powerful queen, who ruled Egypt for 20 years and she even wore the Pharaoh's ritual false beard. She beautified the city of Karnak and rebuilt temples which were destroyed by Hyksos. She was also more interested in developing commerce.

Thutmose III [1479 - 1447 B.C.] called Napoleon of Egypt fought 17 campaigns in the East and even crossed Euphrates and beat his Mesopotamian enemies on their own soil. His long reign with glorious exploits accounts of which are preserved on the great temple of Karnak.

Syria, Palestine and Phoenicia were tributary provinces. The Pharaoh who built a fleet to keep in touch with her overseas provinces and to protect the trade.

## Decline of Egyptian Empire

The Hittites a strong and warlike people from the north, invaded the outer provinces.

Assyria became a rival power in the Near East and internal dissension, rise of Feudal lords and added weakness of the Empire.

Rameses II 1300 - 1233 B.C. Succeeded in restoring some of the lost prestige and Rameses III [1198 - 1167 B.C.] withstood numerous invasions but the outward brilliance of his rule did not conceal the inward weakness.

In 525 B.C. the Persians conquered Egypt, an independent and united Egypt ceased to exist.

## II Ancient Egyptian Society :-

i Pharaohs and his Court stood at the top of Social ladder.

ii Next came the feudal lords and priests.

iii The independent middle class consisted of Scribes, merchants, artisans and farmers.

iv. And at the bottom of the list, Serfs and the Slaves.

### Position of Women :-

In the Ancient Egyptian Society, Women were given the high status.

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The position of women was a unique character of Egyptian Society. Queens ruled the country from time to time. The wife was independent in her own right and her property right and inheritance right were fully recognised.

### III Economic Condition:

Agriculture was the most important occupation of Egyptians. The actual work was done by slaves but govt officials and scientists aided in its development. Govt share was 10% to 20% of crop production. Govt Agri Engineers and scientists constructed the irrigation projects. The ox and donkey were the most valuable beasts of burden.

Crops The most important crops were wheat, barley, millet, onion, beans, lettuce and peas. Flax and cotton were grown and cotton fibre being used to make cloth.

### Crafts

The construction of pyramids and palaces necessitated a large group of trained mechanics. Granite quarrying, brick-making, masonry, metal working and wood carving were important occupations. Ship building, pottery and ~~cloth~~ cloth weaving became important occupations.

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Fine products of Egyptian Craftsmen have been found in tombs, beautifully glazed and painted clay jars, furniture, vessels of gold and silver and jewellery show that the artisans attained a high level of technique and an aesthetic appreciation of beauty.

Exchange was carried on by barter and later by established weights of gold and silver.

Spices, ~~iron~~, dyes, cosmetics and perfumes & woods were brought from Arabia and India.

Gold, ivory, and Negro slaves were brought from S Sudan.

Religion :-

Religion dominated the political, economic, social and intellectual life of the Egyptians. Their belief in an afterlife and care that they gave their dead are responsible for the preservation of a considerable part of the knowledge that is available about the ancient Egyptians.

They preserved the bodies of the dead with such success that, after 1000s of years, some of the Pharaohs have been identified from their mummies. Food, clothing, utensils, art and literature found in the tombs furnish excellent clues to the lives of the people.



Egyptians worshipped sacred animals, the Sun, the moon, the Nile River, fertility and magic.

During the reign of Amenhotep IV, Monotheism was generally accepted

Ra the Sun God accepted by the priests of Heliopolis held this august position for a time, but he was superseded by Amon, the Thebes God, with the union of two cities, a combination was made and he was called Amon Ra

Osiris was referred to as a divine Lord of the Nile. Isis and Horus were the other important gods and goddesses.

Learning and Literature:-

The writings of Egyptians known as Hieroglyphics or written language of the priests

The Egyptians were among the earliest people to develop a well-defined system of writing

Napoleon's Egyptian expedition in 1799, found a stone, commonly called the Rosetta Stone upon which were inscriptions in both Egyptian and Greek. Several years later, a French

a French Scholar Champollion succeeded in working out the key to hieroglyphics and unlocked many of the secrets of Egyptian life theretofore concealed

For use in writing they made a kind of paper from the pith of the papyrus plant and ink from vegetable gum and soot.

Literature :-

Egyptian literature ~~is~~ was predominantly religious in nature praises of gods and pharaohs and instructions for the guidance of departed souls.

'The Book of the Dead'

- 'The Coffin Texts' written mainly for Pharaohs were found in Tombs.

The Coffin Texts inscribed on wooden coffin of the nobility, while The Book of the Dead consisted of papyrus rolls found in tombs of ordinary people. Other works were devoted to lengthy accounts of deeds of departed Pharaohs.

'The Song of the Harper' belonging to the Middle Kingdom

'The Dialogue between ~~and~~ a man weary of life and His Soul' is one of the most artistic, emotional and imagination of the Egyptian poems.

"The Hymn to the Sun" written in the reign of  
Amenhotep IV

Architecture :- The Pyramids :

The Egyptians invented square block masonry and the Pyramid design in architecture. These massive constructions were built as burial places for the Pharaohs.

The Great Pyramid of Cheops-Kufu at Gizeh [Giza] is over 450 ft high and 746 ft square at the base. It contains 2,300,000 stones, weighing on the average of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  tonnes each. It was constructed carefully in correct mathematical proportions. Simplicity and massiveness are the chief artistic qualities of the Pyramids. They were built to serve a religious purpose, to symbolize the everlasting life that the Pharaoh sought.

The Egyptians built beautiful temples as well as massive pyramids. The Karnak temple contain the most massive colonnaded hall of all the time. The Greeks borrowed the idea of the column from them.

Careful landscaping, with trees, flowers and artificial lakes added greatly to the impressiveness of these buildings. Beauty was the first consideration. The Egyptians greatly influenced the architecture of later people. The Greeks borrowed the idea of column from them.

### Paintings :-

Much of Egyptian painting appeared as surface decoration on the walls of tombs some of which represent the best produced at that time.

The famous "Geese of Meidum" originally decorated the wall of a tomb. Black and white was the colour combination used.

### Sculpture :-

Next to architecture, Sculpture was the most varied form of artistic expression practiced by the Egyptians.

Permanence and realism were ideals uppermost in the minds of the Sculptors as well as their architects.

Colossal Statute of Pharaohs  
80 to 90 ft high. Each of these cut from a single block of stone and often weighed many tons.

## The Sphinx :-

Some of the interesting works of Sculpture combine animal and human forms.

The Sphinx - a mystical creature with head of woman, body of lion and wings of Eagle.

It is located near the Pyramid of Giza in the midst of the desert sand.

## Estimate :-

Egyptians were pioneers, originator of civilization.

The people of Egypt undoubtedly raised themselves above barbarians and lived gracefully and joyously.

They achieved success in Govt and law, in art and architecture, in religion and literature and in agriculture and industry.

They had a system of writing and a scientific calendar.

The Hebrews, the Phoenicians and the Greeks were all students of Egyptian culture and borrowed much from it.

Writing, science, architecture, literature and religion were all started on the road of progress by the ancient Egyptians, who passed on to successive civilization a priceless heritage.

## 2. Mesopotamian Civilizations.

I The Sumerian Civilization.

II The Babylonian Civilization.

III The Assyrian Civilization.

### Introduction :-

The word Mesopotamia means "Land between Rivers". The Tigris - Euphrates Valley was called Mesopotamia by the ancient Greeks. Prof. Breasted and other historians have called this "the Fertile Crescent". It was here that a great civilization was born around 3500 B.C.

Unlike Egypt, this valley did not have natural barriers, this fertile valley attracted hordes of immigrants and invaders viz the Sumerians, the Akkadians, the Amorites, <sup>(Babylonian)</sup> Kassites, Assyrians and Chaldeans and others.

### I. The Sumerian Civilization.

The Sumerians belonged probably to the Indo-European group. They were the first settlers who occupied the land very near to the Persian Gulf which they called Sumer.

They came and settled there between 4000 B.C and 3000 B.C ruled upto 1900 B.C.

The Sumerians meaning "Black headed people" reclaimed the lands in their region after draining the marshlands and brought under cultivation. They cultivated wheat and barley and reared cattle and donkeys to help them.

The Sumerians were also known for their craftsmanship. The availability of fine clay they made beautiful pots and vessels of alabaster. They excelled in painting and sculpture.

They invented metal plough which helped farmers in ploughing the land easily.

The greatest contribution of the Sumerians was their System of writing, which was in use about 4000 B.C. As their characters were ~~to~~ wedge-shaped, their writing was called Cuneiform.

They wrote on clay tablets with square edged reed. They used about 400 symbols (signs) but no alphabets. Designs or signs, each representing a syllable, were employed into groups representing people, animals, plants, lengths, gods and

cities. Finally graphs were associated with specific words and thousands of these clay tablets <sup>composed syllables.</sup> have been discovered which reveal the history of the people.

The Semites, the Hittites, and the Persians adopted this method of writing. The Phoenicians alphabet <sup>ultimately</sup> superseded it in the 1st century B.C. The Sumerians devised a moon calendar with 12 divisions.

The Sumerian system of numerals had 60 as the unit. They used it for measuring the time [like 60 seconds make a minute and 60 minutes make an hour], a thing which has come down to us.

The weight measure was the Mina which was divided into 60 shekels.

Potters' Wheel and wheeled Vehicle were the other significant contributions other than writing and a calendar.

They maintained a regular account of their transactions of business and kept records of tax receipts.

They made progress in engineering science and architecture.



The Sumerian builders were the first to use the arch in construction.

They worshipped many nature gods  
They built temples which were called Ziggurats  
Each city had a patron god.

The Sumerians developed independent  
City-States which were governed by Patesis  
Patesis means "Tenant Farmer" or priest kings.

The most prominent among these  
City States were Uruk, Lagash, Uruk,  
Umma and Nippur. According to Holy Bible  
Old Testament, Uruk was the native city of the  
Hebrew prophet Abraham.

The Sumerian City-States were  
conquered by <sup>another</sup> powerful Semitic king of  
Akkad Sargon I. The whole Mesopotamia  
was unified around 2600 BC by this  
ruler whose subjects adopted  
Sumerian culture.

## II Babylonians Civilization

Around 2000 B.C. Mesopotamia witnessed the rise of another Semitic tribe called the Amorites which had settled in Babylon, a city on the bank of the Euphrates river.

Babylon became the most famous city under the 6<sup>th</sup> Amorite ruler King Hammurabi. So the Amorites were called as the Babylonians.

Under Hammurabi's leadership, the Babylonians conquered the whole of Mesopotamia and enjoyed long spell of peace and prosperity.

Hammurabi [2123 - 2081] B.C.

The greatest king of Babylonians united Mesopotamia and established centralised govt. He was more famous as ruler and organiser than as warrior.

There are two chief sources of information for the study of Hammurabi's rule:

- i. a collection of 55 of his letters
- ii. a monument bearing the Code of Laws

## The Code of Hammurabi :-

It was the first written law in the world. The Code of Laws is the most famous of all the remains of Hammurabi's rule.

As legend says that he received the Code of Laws from the Sun god Shamash. He tried to make his subjects believe that the laws were divine, thus giving them sanctity and enhancing the position of the king.

It is apparent that Hammurabi did not originate all the laws, for many of them appear in old Sumerian records. What he did do was to codify and enforce them.

The Code, the oldest known in a complete form, is modern in several respects.

Judges were appointed to try cases, a great advancement over the blood feud system practised by most of the people at that time.

The principle of "an eye for an eye" and a tooth for a tooth" continued to be

practised but under the supervision of the state.

If a house fell and killed the son of a householder, the builder must suffer the loss of his own son.

Death penalties were common. Conviction for adultery meant death for both parties concerned and harbouring runaway slaves resulted in capital punishment.

Women occupied a comparatively high position. They could own property, have equal rights in divorce and bring lawsuits. They could engage in business and become professional scribes.

Justice to the widow and orphan was assured. Heavier fines were imposed upon the rich than upon the poor because they could better afford to pay.

The lower classes and even slaves were protected by law. Slaves might own property, marry and will their possessions to their children. Freedom from bondage was obtained easily and only

runaway slaves were branded.

Much has been learned from the Code about Babylonian social and economic conditions. Inequality of social groups and special privileges to the select were recognized.

Society :-

There were three social groups as evidenced in the provisions for penalties and compensations for injuries - viz Rich, middle, and poor. Rich Weavers, dyers, carpenters, brick makers, goldsmiths, sculptors, jewellers, potters, tailors, metal workers and brewers were mentioned and their rights were guaranteed. Slaves were treated as personal property.

Economy :-

Agriculture was highly developed. It was the chief basis of economic life.

Wheat, Barley, fruits, nuts, dates were common in Mesopotamia. The grape and olive were ~~cultivated~~ cultivated and later introduced into Greece and Rome.

Deeds of settlement, lease, land deeds, promissory notes, interest rates were all standardized and ~~defined~~ defined.

Religion: Marduk - God of Babylon was generally recognised as supreme.

Ishtar - Mother of gods, who possessed control over reproduction.

Tammuz - husband of Ishtar. God of vegetation.

Literature:

Babylonians adopted cuneiform writings of Sumerians. Gilgamesh - great epic of Babylonians. "Wisdom Literature" or ~~books~~ hymns and prayers wisdom literature and fables are numerous.

Architecture:

The tower temple known as Ziggurats were built in stages like small artificial mountains. One such pyramidal structure was 650ft high and built in 7 stages. On the top of the tower were a shrine and rooms for the home of God. The Biblical tower of Babel was possibly of this type of construction.

The Babylonians were scientific minded. Science made a real beginning under their critical and analytical observations.

They developed a lunar calendar divided the year into 12 lunar months and invented a seven day a week

They developed units for the measurement of length, weight and time.

They perfected sundial and mapped the movements of the Sun, the moon and the planets.

Herbs were used to combat diseases  
Sunflower seed was recommended for toothache,  
milk for stomach troubles and an oil ~~shampoo~~

Shampoo and beer were prescribed for baldness.

The foundations of mathematics, astronomy, archaeology, history, medicine, grammar, lexicography and philosophy were established.

~~Indeed~~ Indeed the Babylonians charted previously unknown routes on the sea of learning. Their intellectual ~~learning~~ signposts guided many a scholar in centuries that followed

### III Assyrian Civilization.

The Assyrians borrowed much of their culture from the Babylonians.

The Assyrians were cruel conquerors and for nearly 300 years their mighty armies moved from one victorious battle to another.

Assur, the Assyrian capital was located on the Tigris River and 200 miles north of Babylon.

Sargon II [722 - 705 B.C.] and his son Sennacherib [705 - 681 B.C.] conquered the whole of the Fertile Crescent and extended Assyrian domain from the Taurus to the borderlands of Egypt.

The empire was destroyed by the Medes and the Persians about 606 B.C.

Nineveh the later capital of the Assyrians and the most magnificent of all ancient cities was completely destroyed.



Babylon was rebuilt by the Chaldeans & the last of the great Semitic empires of Mesopotamia.

Military and political organisations were the chief contributions of the Assyrians.

Their soldiers were among the first to be equipped with iron weapons, battering rams and war chariots.

The army was divided into corps of infantry, charioteers and engineers.

The army was the state, everything centred in it. The govt was highly centralized. The king was really a general directing the affairs of his state both civil and military.

The first public postal system was developed by the Assyrians, later to be adopted by the Persians.

Assyrian Sculpture was more realistic and lifelike than that of Babylonians.

Much of the subject matter was taken from military life which was glorified not only in art but in political and social circles as well.

Bas-relief was developed to great perfection by the Assyrians.

Animals were portrayed more successfully than men. Horses and lions seem to have been favourite subjects.

The horse of Sargon II on the relief of Khorsabad, the wounded lioness from Sennacherib's palace, the dying lion from Ashurbanipal's palace and the resting lioness are still recognised as masterpiece in bas relief.

The Assyrians added some practical knowledge in chemistry in the making of glass and in the preparation of ores.

A great library at Nineveh that became a leading cultural city, established by Ashurbanipal contained 30000 clay tablets. However the greatest achievement of this people was in military and political organization.

### Eclipse and Restoration:-

There was a brief but brilliant revival of Babylonian civilization under Chaldean famous king Nebuchadnezzar II (604-562), the greatest warrior, statesman and builder of all the rulers after Hammurabi.

His most last work was the rebuilding of the city of Babylon. The famous Hanging Garden of which the Greeks included among the Seven Wonders of the world were on a sort of artificial mountain constructed under his direction for the pleasure of his wife a native of mountainous country.

Within the century they fell to Cyrus of Persia. This ended the individuality of Mesopotamian civilization and its history.

### 3 The Chinese Civilization.

China has vast territory and most populous and important country in the world. It has contrasting topographical features like barren deserts, rugged mountains, broad upland plateau, and wide fertile valley.

Chinese civilization was one of the well advanced civilization of the world.

Chinese civilization developed on the Si Chiang valley in the South, the Yangtze Chiang valley in the Centre and Huang Ho valley in the north.

People: Because of the difficulty of reaching Chinese territory, there has been less racial mixing.

The Chinese belong to Mongolian race.

Political Institution :- China has been called as 'Paradise of <sup>historians</sup> <sup>2900 years</sup> <sup>of continuous</sup> <sup>records</sup> have an abundance of historical records.

Each of the most important rulers appointed a board of historians to record the important events of his reign - more than political annals contain accounts of agriculture, social, economic condition, plague and wars.

## Mythological Rulers

Chinese mythology records names of rulers as far back as 3000 B.C.

Fu Hsi [2852 B.C according to legend - 2737 B.C] was the first civilized ruler and taught his people marriage, writing, fishing, music, painting, domestication of animals and feeding of silkworms.

His successor Shen Nung [2737 - 2695 B.C] introduced agriculture, commerce and science of medicine. Later rulers contributed the compass and wheel.

## Shang and Chou dynasties

There was a Shang dynasty [1766 - 1122 B.C] in the Kwang Ho Valley.

The Shang dynasty was superseded by the Chou dynasty [1122 - 225 B.C] under which Chinese culture made notable progress.

The Chou ruler was both king and priest, functioning equally as priest and as secular ruler. The emperor was expected to be an example to his people, prospering and suffering with them. With the decline of the Chou dynasty, the empire was disintegrated into a number of small feudal states.

## The Feudal Age

Powerful nobles formed a number of independent states. Confucius gives an excellent description of the state of "Lu", one of the many feudal organizations in his "Spring and Autumn Annals". Countless petty wars, treacheries, intrigues, deeds of heroism and adventure were the characteristics of this Feudal Age.

Finally there arose in the province of Chin under the leadership of Shih Huang-Ti [246 - 210 B.C.], a power strong enough to enforce its claim to the entire inheritance of the Chou kings.

## Han Dynasty :-

Shi Huang Ti [246 - 210 B.C.] sometimes called the first emperor, was one of China's greatest rulers.

The name China comes from Chin the province over which he ruled.

Shi Huang Ti defeated many feudal lords and brought them under his control.

He was a very ambitious ruler. He

conquered 6 powerful states namely Han in 230 B.C., Chou in 228 B.C., Chu in 223, Yan in 222 B.C. and Qin in 221 B.C.

It was during his reign that Huns began to invade China. He badly defeated them. But in order to check their menace he constructed the famous wall of China which is 2800 miles long and 20 ft wide. It took 10 years to complete the work. He expanded his empire and made China a great country.

He appointed Lie San who was a great legalist for codification of laws.

The whole country was divided into 36 districts. Each district was headed by a governor only enjoyed civil powers.

He loved reforms and introduced many reforms and consolidated the authority of central govt by crushing feudal lords. He died in 210 B.C.

His successors ~~were~~ <sup>was</sup> very weak and feudal lords took advantage of it. They drove out the successor of emperor Shih Huang Ti, in 207 B.C.

Taxation was made uniform. Public improvements started during the period wars. They patronised literature and architecture and established the Imperial library. There was 3123 volumes of classic

2705 on philosophy, 1318 - poetry 2568 Mathematics 868 - medicine and 790 on war. For 4 centuries this dynasty maintained peace and prosperity in China. Wen Ti (179 - 157 B.C.) one of the greatest ruler of this period

3. He was fondly referred to as the Peace Emperor. He encouraged learning and reformed the penal code. Wu Ti (40-87 BC) finished the task of suppressing the rebels and began the task of centralization of the Chinese <sup>accepted</sup> this period as their <sup>Golden Age of</sup> <sup>vast territory</sup> <sup>China</sup>. They called themselves as sons of Hans.

Yang Dynasty: Tai Tsang [627 - 649 A.D.] reunited the empire and added territory.

Sung Dynasty: Tai Su [960 - 976 A.D.]

Wang An Shih [1021 - 1086 A.D.]. Wang was dismissed and the Chinese govt fell back into disorder and corruption.

The last Sung prince was murdered ~~and~~ in 1279 A.D., the whole of China passed under the Mongols.

Economic Condition:-

The great floods and extreme draughts in China necessitated centralized supervision of economic activity. Irrigation was developed, supervised and financed by the rulers. Great canals were constructed for irrigation and drainage purposes.

The Han emperors undertook 56 water control projects. A large water control project in the Yangtze Valley was completed in the 6th century A.D.

Millet was the original Chinese cereal, rice and wheat were introduced early. Soyabean, buckwheat and tea were common in the 2nd century A.D. The pig and sheep were the chief domestic animals.



## Crafts

Carpentry was the chief building craft, as the Chinese preferred wood to brick and stone. Bamboo introduced from India was used in combination with wood.

Porcelain was the greatest Chinese ceramic achievement, reached its height under Sung dynasty: <sup>Ching to Chien</sup> ~~where~~ most famous factories were located - innumerable articles were made.

Glass was produced as early as 200 B.C. Iron was used. Smelting of ores was introduced from west.

Silk was one of China's greatest contributions in Textiles. For a long time silk was considered a luxury that only the nobility could afford. Rich merchants, however were able to purchase silk and by the 2nd century it was widely used.

Cotton ~~was~~ <sup>became</sup> the principal material for clothing of common people, was introduced from India about 200 B.C.

Paper was produced about the same time. Tree bark, hemp, rags and small pieces of silk being used to make various grades and designs of papers.

Trade & commerce :- Silk, salt and iron were the earliest commodities in Chinese trade.

Silk Route :- From China to west through Tibet Nathalla passage.

A

encouraged Internal trade was encouraged  
During Zhou dynasty a metal medium of exchange appeared and in the 5th century B.C. a money economy developed along with increased trade.

In 221 B.C. barter system was prohibited a round coin with square perforation became the official currency.

Money lending and banking were practiced extensively in the 5th century B.C.

### Social groups:-

In the early period, the nobility and priests enjoyed most of the social privilege in China.

By the time Wu Ti [140-87 B.C.] the old nobility ceased to be important and its place was taken by favourites of the ruling family - princes, female favourites and eunuchs.

But soon merchantile and industrial magnats soon won favour among the rulers.

The lots of peasants were generally miserable. Slaves and forced labours were common.

## Chinese Art

### Sculpture :-

There were several bronze works of the Shang and Chou dynasties, decorated with figures of animals and monsters. The best example of Sculpture are the figures of a female deity Bodhisatta Avalokiteshvara which were produced in the Tang period.

### Paintings :-

Chinese art reached a much higher place in painting. To the Chinese, painting was a branch of calligraphy or beautiful penmanship. They painted their pictures for their own enjoyment. One of the prerequisites of belonging to Chinese society was the ability to paint and to write poetry.

Wang Wei was a great landscape painter and teacher of art. He was a poet as well as painter. Many of his poems were inscribed upon pictures.

Porcelain :- The porcelain of the Chinese, one of the greatest of their arts, reached its height in the Sung dynasty. Excellent materials were available near Ching-te-chen, where the most famous factories were located.

Innumerable articles like plates, cups, bowls, beakers, vases, bottles, jars, chess boards, boxes and candlesticks.

Architecture:

The Great Wall of China is one of the most impressive of Chinese architectural ~~accomplishments~~ accomplishments. It was built for a purely utilitarian purpose, but its grandeur, simplicity and homogenous beauty command attention.

Shih Huang Ti (246-210 B.C.) the builder of the great wall, which was ~~described~~ described as a world wonder. It was built under the supervision of Meng Tien, his Commander-in-chief.

The Mings added about 200 miles to it. The Wall stretches from Shanhaikuan into Kansu about 1250 miles in a straight line or over 1500 miles with all its curve.

Religious Practices:

Early Chinese religion was essentially a worship of spirits. Heaven was the chief nature spirit, the forefather of the Emperor and chief of the ancestor spirits.

The people could not easily worship heaven and earth so they worshipped their own ancestors.

Philosophy :-

Philosophy is a second nature of the Chinese.

Their religions are philosophies.

Confucius :-

Confucius was not the founder of a Religion. He was not even a religious reformer. Like Socrates, Confucius was a great teacher. He established a school, in which he taught history, poetry and rules of propriety.

He said, "A man's character is formed by odes, developed by Rites [Ceremony & Courtesy] and perfected by music.

He spoke very little of gods and religious rituals.

Confucius was a strict disciplinarian. Everything had to be done in accordance with prescribed orders.

Confucius placed great emphasis on morality, much of his philosophy is devoted to it.

## Important works of Confucius :

1. The Book of History .
2. The Book of Poetry
3. Record of Rights
4. Spring and Autumn Annals.

After his death, his followers worshipped as god. Most of the Chinese scholars took pride on being his disciples.

For more than 2000 yrs, the philosophy of Confucius moulded and dominated the Chinese mind.

## Lao Tse :-

As a philosopher, Lao Tse was much more mystical in his beliefs than was his contemporary Confucius. Abandon wisdom, and discard knowledge and the people will be benefited a hundred fold. The perfect man must have humility. Next to humility, frugality is insisted is more important.

Taoism :- The most radical and fanatical of the Chinese beliefs is Taoism. It was based upon some interpretation of the teachings of Lao Tse.

Taoism is dominated by a priestly class called "Professors of Taoism" who claimed to have supernatural power.

For centuries Taoist faith had millions of adherents in China. It was broken down or at least submerged by Buddhism which was introduced to China from India in the ~~1st~~ 1st century A.D.

Important <sup>inventions and</sup> Contributions of Chinese Civilization.

1. Coal. (Morsepolo Accounts)
2. Porcelain
3. Silk
4. Sericulture
5. Paper & paper money.
6. Mariner's Compass.
7. Tea
8. Glass.
9. Printing Press
10. Gun powder.

World Civilizations upto 1453 C.E. [Excluding India]

Unit II

Sub code: 18KPI11#04

## Greek Civilization.

1. Land | Topography
2. The People - The Greeks
3. Settlement and Political Organisations.
  - i City - States
  - ii Sparta
  - iii Political Experiments
  - iv Athenian Democracy.
4. Persian Wars
5. The Age of Pericles. [The Golden Age]
6. Decline of the Greek City - States
  - i. War between Sparta and Athens [The Peloponnesian Wars]
7. Greek Literature
8. Greek Philosophy
9. Greek Science
10. Greek Art.

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## Greek Civilization.

Land :- [Topography]  
Greece is situated in the Balkan peninsula on the south-eastern part of Europe.

Greece or Hellas as the early Greeks called it, a peninsula of about 25000 square miles, extending from mainland of Europe into Mediterranean Sea. The Pindus Mountain forms the backbone of the peninsula. The Aegean Sea which separates Greece from Asia Minor is dotted with numerable islands.

The sea penetrates the coast line of Greece in many places forming excellent ports. This make Greece an ideal place for the navigation of small ships.

The climate of Greece is desirable and pleasant. Due to these favourable conditions a great civilization flourished in Greece.

The People :- [The Greeks]

The Greeks called themselves as Hellenes after their great ancestor Hellen.

The Greeks as children learnt from much from the adults like Egyptians, Babylonians, Phoenicians, Cretans and Indians

It is believed that the Greeks evolved their culture and civilization around 1200 B.C.

About 2300 yrs earlier, that is about 3500 B.C. a people known as Aegeans had begun building a culture with Crete in the Aegean islands as the centre. This culture which was known as Cretan, Minoan, Aegean, Mycenaean etc, had spread far into the mainland of Greece and even Asia Minor. One of the cities of Troy in Asia Minor was built by the Cretans.

This civilization was destroyed by the Greeks. Homer's epics Iliad and Odyssey throw light on the Greeks overthrowing Aegean cities and trying to wipe out their culture.

2.  
People who we call Greeks came to Greece from Central Asia, the Original home of Indo-European <sup>-ns</sup>. It was from this land that Indo-Aryans, Medes and Persians came.

The new comers who were cousins of Indo-Aryans, perhaps reached Greece around 2000 B.C. The new comers did not occupy Greece all at the <sup>Same</sup> ~~same~~ time. They came in several batches [groups or tribes] known as Achaeans, <sup>Dorians</sup> Aeolians, Ionians, Illyrians & Boeotians ~~and Dorians~~.

By the beginning of the 8<sup>th</sup> Century B.C. there were three divisions of Greeks.

- i. The Dorians
- ii The Aeolians
- iii The Ionians.

Sparta, Corinth, Athens, Thebes, Ephesus and Miletus had become flourishing cities and centres of Greek culture.

The date of the 1<sup>st</sup> Olympiad 776 B.C. is popularly given as the beginning date of Greek history.

## Settlement and Political Organisations:-

The Achaeans were among the earliest Greek tribes to enter the Peloponnesus [Greece]. They were followed by Dorians, then Aeolians and then Ionians.

The Greeks accepted the culture of the Aegeans [Cretan or Minoan] and acquired iron from the Hittites, they were schooled in trade by the Phoenicians who taught the Greeks the alphabet, gave writing equipments like Papyrus, ink, pen etc and made them conversant with styles of dress, decorative art and the practical methods of Craftsmen.

But Greeks developed their own individual system of political administration.

## Political Contributions

### City - States:-

The Greeks contributed much in the political field. Polis or City State was the outstanding political achievement of the Classical ~~Greece~~ <sup>Greeks</sup>.

The word "Politics" is derived from this Greek word "Polis".

The Polis originated as a fortified state but later was interpreted as a sovereign state.

Geographical factors and the tribal character of the people were important factors in the development of City-States.

Each tribe occupied a valley which was separated from the other by mountains <sup>or</sup> ~~and~~ rivers.

In addition to this, tribal loyalty was strong enough to keep them separate.

Each city-state had its own govt, its own deity, its own religious ceremonies and its own individuality.

Many of them had representative govts, a form of council and a public meeting place.

The most prominent among several City-states were Athens, Sparta, Corinth and Thebes.

Though the Greek City-States were jealous, independent and quarrelsome, all the Greeks were strongly believed they were all Hellenes [descendants of common ancestor Hellen].

Another bond which united them was the common language and literature. Every Greek citizen read Homer's poem Iliad and Odyssey and considered these as a part of their heritage.

One more factor which united all the Greeks was religion. Besides worshipping the patron gods or goddesses, they worshipped common and popular gods like,

Zeus [<sup>sky</sup> ~~sky~~ god] the father ~~of~~ or king of gods, his son Apollo [the Sun god], wife Hera, Poseidon (Sea god) Athena goddess and protectress of ~~earth~~ the cities etc.

All the Greeks consulted the oracles to know about their future after visited famous shrines such as the Shrine of Apollo at Delphi.

4  
Last but not the least, was the conducting of Olympic games once in four years held at Olympia in honour of the god Zeus. Participants from almost all the states come to compete ~~it~~ in athletic events and poetry and music composition. The winners were given garlands of Saced Olive leaves.

The date of 1st Olympiad 776 <sup>B.C</sup> is popularly given as the beginning of Greek history.

Form of govt :-

To begin with all the city states had monarchy. Each monarch began to govern his city-states with the assistance of a council consisting of nobles.

But due to several reasons monarchy didnot remain as a popular ~~govt~~ form of govt.

There were changes and particularly with regard to Sparta and Athens.

Sparta :-

It was the largest city-state. There were three classes in Society namely peers, freeman and helots. [Having status between slaves and citizens]. Only the peers got full citizenship and the rest ~~were~~ remained without privileges.

The helots were <sup>always</sup> revolting and therefore the peers received military training and kept themselves in readiness to suppress the revolt.

Thus Sparta turned into a military state. The able bodied citizens were all soldiers and devoted their time to military training.

The State furnished meals. The slaves cultivated the land and did all the manual labour.

A. Citizen was one who fought and if need be, died for his state. Military training and drill and exercise were all that a self-respecting citizen needed to do.



The Govt was in the hands of a few retired soldiers. The Council of Oldmen [Gerousia] was made up of two kings and 28 elders.

Five overseers or ephors performed most of the administrative duties with almost unlimited power. They were the guardians of the state and the citizen body.

There was a little family life in Sparta. The male spend his life in fighting or living in a military camp. A boy was permitted to live with his mother until he was 7 yrs of age. After which he spent 12 years in military training. At 19, he became a part of the army.

The ideals of the Spartans were based upon militarism, and they lacked the imagination and initiative of Athenians.

Sparta was admired for her efficiency and military discipline but her cultural contributions compared with those of Athens were insignificant.

Sparta did not make much progress in fields other than military training.

## Political Experiments

In the political field, Greeks were not satisfied with one particular form of govt. for all time.

In their city states, the Greeks conducted several political experiments like monarchy, aristocracy, oligarchy, tyranny and democracy.

In the beginning, they tried monarchy but when it degenerated, they conducted a new political experiment in aristocracy.

Later they turned tyranny and finally to democracy.

The greatest gift of the Greeks in the political field is democracy. Every citizen should active part in governing himself. As a member of the General Assembly, he got the opportunity to discuss state matters and he could actually serve the state in various capacities. Greek philosophers created a political theory. Socrates, Plato and Aristotle contributed much in political theory.

## Athenian Democracy :-

In contrast to Sparta, Athens registered remarkable progress in politics, laws, literature, arts, science and philosophy.

Athenians were fond of trying political experiments. They conducted several political experiments and gave new ideas and principles.

As they conducted political experiments, they coined words like monarchy, aristocracy, oligarchy, tyranny and democracy. It is from the Greeks that the modern world has learnt these words.

The greatest gift of the Greeks in the political field is democracy.

Athenians were fond of trying political experiments. Monarchy and oligarchy were not suited to their temperament, so they discarded them.

Finally Democracy was ushered in. It was the product of the labours of three wise law givers viz Draco, Solon and Cleisthenes.

Draco was elected archon in 624 B.C.

He gave Athenians the first written law in 621 B.C. It was a severe code but an improvement over the old and unwritten laws.

Solon elected archon in Athens in 594 B.C. was also a great legal reformer. All the citizens were given the right of trial before a jury of citizens - selected by lot.

Solon wrote a constitution that gave to all a voice in the political control of the state govt.

Cleisthenes another famous tyrant in Athens came to power in 508 B.C. He instituted some fundamental changes in the Athenian constitution.

He instituted a custom called Ostracism ~~which~~ whereby the voters wrote the name of man whom they considered dangerous to the state and the individual against whom a plurality of vote, was cast, was sent into exile for 10 years.

Cleisthenes desired to prevent the rise of any person's tyranny or dictatorship, so he established a system of writing a person who proved to be dangerous to democracy. Cleisthenes, a member of the influential

family of Alameonidae, broke the power of the ruling clans belong to the four old tribes by granting citizenship rights to male adults on the basis of residence in a particular locality.

In other words the power of 4 old tribes was equally distributed among the newly organised 10 tribes, and each tribe sending 50 members to the Council of 500. Thus poor people also got the right to vote.

Again no member could continue <sup>be</sup> in office for more than 2 terms and therefore large number of citizens got the chance to work in the Council of 500 - a body which administered laws and controlled the magistrate.

In this way the early Athenians came to have a democracy. Women and slaves could not exercise voting rights.

So after a century of hard struggle the common people of Athens got a democratic govt worth the name.

## Persian Threat :

Under the leadership of Emperor Cyrus, the Persians built a large empire whose borders stretched from the Aegean Seashore in the west to the borders of Afghanistan in the east.

Croesus, the world's richest king of Lydia was defeated in 546 B.C by the Persians under Cyrus thus paving way for further expansion. The Greek cities of Asia Minor came under the rule of the rule of the Persian emperors.

## Revolt of Ionian Greeks :

The Ionian Greeks of the cities of Asia Minor resented the loss of their freedom and so revolted against the Persian masters. from 499 to 494 B.C. and sought assistance from the Greek cities of the mainland.

Athens and few other states sent aid. But the Persian emperor Darius the Great crushed these revolts and turned his attention to Greece. He desired to teach a lesson to Athens for sending help to his rebellious Greek subjects.

## Persian Wars :-

The Persian Emperor Darius the Great sent a large army <sup>under Mardonius</sup> to attack Athens. The valiant Athenians engaged the Persians under Miltiades and defeated them in a battle at Marathon in 490 BC.

Soon after the victory of joyous Athenian leaders sent a runner Phippides to inform the people at home about the glorious victory. The runner covered the distance of 26 miles 385 yards at a stretch, relayed the happy news and fell dead. In modern Olympics this sport item is included as the last event - Darius died in 485 B.C.

The years later, Xerxes the successor of Darius decided to avenge the Persian defeat. He encouraged the Phoenicians to attack Greek colonies in Italy and Sicily.

## Battle of Thermopylae and other 480 B.C :-

The Spartans realized the danger threatening their existence. Her king Leonidas with 300 brave soldiers held the narrow pass at Thermopylae for nearly 3 days till he was betrayed. They fell to the last man fighting heroically.

8.

After overcoming this obstacle, the Persian army entered the Athenian plains. They marched towards Athens and burnt the city.

But the Athenians had their revenge soon when they defeated and destroyed the Persian fleet in the naval battle of Salamis

in 480 B.C. The architect of their glorious victory was the shrewd Athenian Statesman Themistocles.

The Persian emperor suddenly made a hasty retreat to Asia-Minor leaving his army on the Greek soil.

The Athenian fleet gains another victory over the Persians at Mylae on the Ionian sea coast.

The Persian army led by Mardonius<sup>-8</sup> suffered a defeat at Plataea in 479 B.C. at the hands of the combined Athenian and Spartan forces. Mardonius was killed.

The Phoenicians attacking the Greek colonies also could not make much progress.

The Persian emperor gave up all hopes of conquering Greek city-states. Even the Greek cities of Asia Minor gained freedom.



By Championing the Cause of Greek freedom,  
Athens stood foremost among the Greek city-states.  
They had overcome the greatest military power in the world.  
Free from fear, the Greek city-states  
grew prosperous. Their success in the naval  
battles paved the way for prosperous sea trade  
with neighbouring countries.

The Delian League was formed  
478-477 B.C. by many Greek city states  
under in alliance under Athenian leader for  
self-protection.

The Age of Pericles : / The Golden Age :

Pericles One of the greatest leaders of  
the Greeks and foremost among patrons of art,  
came to power in 460 B.C. In his time, Athens  
reached the zenith of her power and glory.  
Democracy functioned well. There was social  
harmony and the people were prosperous. Art  
and architecture, learning and literature flourished.  
It was a golden age in the true sense  
of term.

9 .  
Pericles was the great grandson of Cleisthenes.  
He led his soldiers to victory at the battles of  
Salamis and Mycale.

Being a nobleman by birth, he was  
taught by the best teachers of his time.

The Athenians had so much trust  
and confidence in him that they elected him  
to the highest office - Strategos for the next  
30 consecutive years. It was he who  
completed the work of laying foundation for  
democracy.

Being a radical politician, he  
believed in reforms.

He deprived the political powers  
of Areopagus [Council of Elders] and  
transferred the same to the Council of 500.

This body [Council of 500] suggested measures  
to the Assembly - Ecclesia where it was  
freely discussed by all the citizens of Athens  
and passed into laws.

Pericles introduced the method of election  
to the Council of Five Hundred by lots instead of by  
voters.

The govt was efficient and reflected many of the most outstanding of Greek political ideals.

The citizen body was the govt, the administrative, the legislative and <sup>the</sup> judicial functions were in its hands.

In the Popular assembly, the citizens as a group, chose and removed the administrative officials and controlled judiciary.

Another important feature of the Periclean Age was the Jury System. Every year 5000 citizens were elected as jurors who voted by secret ballots, for a term of one year to act as judges. There were no judges and lawyers. Cases were decided by this citizen jury.

He introduced the system of payment to jurors so that they might take adequate interest in public service and discharge their duties honestly.

The Assembly consisting of all the Athenian citizens elected 10 Executive Officers [Strategoi] to command the army, the navy and conduct foreign policy. Pericles was one among those ten but he dominated the rest.

Being a great lover of democracy he wanted even the poorest citizens ~~take~~ to take interest in public affairs. For this purpose he introduced the system of payment of salary to the archons (magistrates), members of the Council of Five Hundred and the jurors in his state.

He knew the great value of education in a democratic state and wished that all citizens should be educated to the worthy of citizenship. Every child which was to be a future citizen, was to be taught reading, writing and music.

During the Persian wars, Athens had been destroyed. Pericles undertook the task of rebuilding the city. Hundreds of artists and architects worked to construct large public buildings.

The most attractive feature of the new city was the Parthenon temple on the Acropolis.

The Parthenon was the most beautiful temple ever built out of coloured marble stones.

Inside the temple stood the tall marble statue of the patron goddess of the city Athena.

Besides this marble statue, Phidias the close friend of Pericles and the most famous sculptor of his time, also made the statues of goddess of Athena in ivory and gold.

Ictinus, the famous architect of this temple, blended the three styles - Doric, Ionic and Corinthian - to make this temple a wonder of the world.

The Acropolis (a small hill in the centre of the city of Athens) with a collection of temples including the famous Parthenon, became the <sup>main</sup> religious centre of Athens.

Polygnotus was employed by Pericles to decorate the temple and buildings with his beautiful paintings. Pericles patronised music also.

To protect the beautiful city from foreign invaders, Pericles got the long wall built which ran for nearly 5 miles connecting the city with the port Piraeus. A big gymnasium was also built for the youth of Athens.

Another important place in Athens was the market place - the Agora.

Thus Pericles made Athens - The School of Hellenes.

## Decline of the Greek City-States:

Athens which was the architect of the Delian League. Athens tried to convert the Delian League into an Athenian Empire - built an empire at the expense of the other members.

When the Persian threat seemed to be over, a few members of the Delian League desired to ~~withdraw~~ ~~withdraw~~ and were asked by Athens to withdraw. But they were not permitted to withdraw and were asked by Athens to continue to pay tribute to her. This caused great resentment.

Even Pericles transferred the treasury of the Delian League from the island of Delos to Athens and used its ~~Spacela~~ ~~became~~ ~~extremely~~ ~~jealous~~ money for beautifying Athens contrary

to the principles of the League.

War between Sparta and Athens - Sparta became extremely jealous of the growing power of Athens and so the war between them called the Peloponnesian War became inevitable.

i The First Peloponnesian War ~~431-404 BC~~ <sup>459-446 BC</sup> ended with complete exhaustion of both sides but the peace that followed was only a breaking spell.

## ii The Second Pelopponnesian War <sup>431</sup>/<sub>405</sub> B.C

started with Athens fighting alone against Sparta. She had lost her allies. Further harassed by a plague, she was forced to sue for peace.

## iii In the Third Pelopponnesian War 405 B.C

The Persians ~~which~~ who were always eager to divide the Greek city-states, joined Sparta and defeated the Athenians fleet at the battle of Aegospotami in 405 B.C. The Athens surrendered the following year.

Sparta reigned supreme for some time but by the middle of the 4<sup>th</sup> century B.C all the Greek city states remained hopelessly divided.

The Supremacy of Sparta was short lived as she was no way fitted to rule Greece.

Thebes finally won in the Battle of Leuctra in 371 B.C. Then Greek city states vanquished one another.

Macedonian Emperor Alexander the Great conquered the whole of Greece.

## Greek literature

The Greeks borrowed their alphabet from Phoenicians. The Greeks had an excellent background for their literature; a keen appreciation for quality and beauty, a heritage rich in tradition and folklore and a group of capable men to develop and encourage forms of expressions

### The Epic :-

The epic was the earliest forms of Greek literature. <sup>Homer stands as a symbol of epic poetry.</sup> Homer's epic poems Illiad and Odyssey are the outstanding examples of epic literature.

Another famous epic poet is Hesiod (750 B.C.) the reputed author of "Works and Days" and "Descent of the Gods"

Lyric Poetry :- to be recited to the accompaniment of the lyre, the flute like musical instrument. Great lyric poets - Archilochus, Sappho and Anacreon. Pindar and Bacchylides wrote Choral poetry - wrote Olympiads.

Hellenistic period :- Theocritus of Sicily, whose writings are about Shepherds, their surroundings and their superstitions.



Drama :- The Periclean Age was the Golden Age of Greek plays. Drama is the most familiar of Greek forms of literature. Plays are still considered standard of perfection. The Plays were closely associated with religion and public life; almost everyone was interested.

Tragic Tragedy ~~poets~~ Dramatists  
1. Aeschylus [525-456 B.C.] was the greatest of the tragic poets. His subjects are mostly religious and Mythological.

His two most famous plays are

i. Prometheus Bound and ii Agamemnon.

2. Sophocles [496-406 B.C.] wrote more than 100 plays of which 7 have survived. His Antigone and Electra are well-known.

3. Euripides [480-406 B.C.] the third of the great tragic poets made more of life and love in his plays than Aeschylus and Sophocles. — — Aeschylus and Sophocles believing that in life people were more important than gods. Most of his plays were written during the Peloponnesian War and clearly reflected the stress of war as felt by the people.

2

He was a spokesman for the poor and oppressed.  
His best known work 'The Trojan Women' pictures  
the sufferings of women during a war.

Comedy  
Comedy  
Dramatists :-

Aristophanes was the greatest comic  
dramatist. Political satire reached a high level  
in his writings in which such figures as stupid general and  
inefficient politicians were ridiculed. Besides making his audience laugh,  
he hoped to teach them a lesson through laughter.

In 'The Frogs' he ridiculed Aeschylus and  
Euripides - the two tragedy dramatists.

In 'The Clouds' he ridiculed the philosopher  
Socrates.

In 'Lysistrata (for women rights) the  
women denied themselves to their husbands until men  
made peace.

In 'The Birds' he denounced city life.

Hellenistic period :-

In the Hellenistic period, drama  
developed along the romantic lines started by  
Euripides.

Menander wrote about the common folk  
In his plays love affairs, family difficulties  
and everyday life were discussed in exquisite  
language.

History :-

The penetrating minds of the Greeks enabled them to produce history that was literature.

Herodotus has been given the title of "Father of History". Travelling extensively he kept records of what he saw and heard.

He glorified the history of Greece especially the victory over Persia, to such an extent much of his materials is untrustworthy.

Thucydides wrote about his own times the Peloponnesian War.

Xenophon continued the work of Thucydides writing Anabasis, a history of Greek expedition into Persia. This work is supposed to have encouraged Alexander the Great, to undertake the conquest of Persia.

Hellenistic Period :- Polybius wrote about the rise of Roman State in which he praised the Roman political system.

Oratory :- was considered by the Greeks to be indispensable. The most prominent orator of Periclean age was Demosthenes. The greatest of the Greek orators used his talents in defence of Greek democracy, which in his time was rapidly losing ground.

## Greek Philosophy

Philosophy in Greek means love of wisdom.

The love of learning, independent thinking, the spirit of investigation and passion to discuss in Greece led to the emerge of great philosophers belonging to different schools.

Sophists or teacher of wisdom contributed much to the development of philosophy. The Sophists rendered useful at a time when there were no organised ~~schools~~ schools, colleges and universities to impart education.

The Sophists did much to free the Greek mind from the tight hold of religion.

The Sophists were humanists and taught that man is the measure of all things.

Socrates :-

In the 4<sup>th</sup> century B.C, Greek philosophy reached its peak with the arrival of intellectuals like Socrates, Plato and Aristotle.

Athens was the centre of the golden Age of philosophy.

The philosopher Socrates [470 - 399 B.C.] was the creator of a method of inquiry and dialectics. It came very close to the heart of scientific methods. His teachings took the form of relentless questioning.

He was keen to have true knowledge and therefore he went on asking questions after another to those with whom he wished to discuss.

Know Thyself :-

His mind was seriously provoked, when he saw the two words "Know Thyself" at the temple of Apollo at Delphi, and he set himself seriously to this task of knowing himself and making others know themselves.

At the age of 70, one segment of the Athenians felt that his teachings were dangerous. In 399 B.C. he was officially accused of introducing strange gods and was brought to trial. Athens condemned him to death. He was ordered to drink hemlock a dangerous poison.

Plato :-

a disciple of Socrates was one of the greatest thinkers of all times. After the execution of Socrates, Plato decided to shun politics and pursue, like his teacher, philosophy.

2

Plato left Athens for a prolonged period of travel in Greece, Egypt, Italy & Sicily.

At the age of 40 he returned to Athens with the inspired idea of establishing a school of learning and explored the systematic interpretation of various branches of knowledge.

As a result, his famous "Academy" was established in 387 B.C., the 1st university in the world. The systematic pursuit of philosophical and scientific research was carried out in this academy.

Plato's Important works:-

His "Dialogue" contain the teachings of his master Socrates.

Plato's greatest work is the "Republic" where he described an ideal state governed by a philosophical king.

"The Timaeus" is regarded as Plato's work dealing with his view on Science.

Other works of Plato, Symposium, Apology, Crito, Phaedo, Statesman and Laws.

Aristotle :-

Student of Plato, tutor of Alexander the Great, a great philosopher.

More than 400 books are ascribed to him. But only 50 have survived under his name.

Aristotle was the first great one in biology and remained the greatest in that field for 2000 yrs.

Aristotle's classification of animals species contributed to the development of the biological sciences. Within the field of biology, his greatest contribution was the Observation and Classification of Animals, their compound parts and their behaviour.

He wrote many books on the Physics, On the Heaven, Meteorologies and Mechanics.

For almost 2000 years after his death Aristotle reigned as the supreme authority in scientific matters.

Epicureanism :-

Epicurus gave philosophy of pleasure. The highest end of life is pleasure or happiness which means absence of pain, worry and anxiety.

## Stoicism:-

The Stoic School exerted a profound influence for 500 years [300 B.C to 200 A.D]

The founder of this school was Zeno. Nature occupies a central place in Stoic philosophy. Human beings should be according to the law of nature.

Zeno emphasised duty, simplicity and excellence of character. Man must regulate his conduct in the light of natural law.

## School of Cynics:-

The Cynics formed the another school of philosophy. Antisthenes the founder of the school. His greatest pupil Diogenes, a strong advocate of the principle of returning to nature.



## Greek Science

Greek Science was the mother of European Science.

Greek philosophers furnished the impetus for the beginning of the study of science.

Possessed of inquiry, speculative minds, Greeks showed a deep interest in Science.

Aristotle laid the foundation for the study of natural Science. His valuable contribution was the classification of animals on scientific basis.

Theophrastus, a pupil of Aristotle, established botany as a recognised Science.

Aristarchus [310 - 280 B.C.] advanced the heliocentric theory of the Solar System and made a computation of the size of the earth.

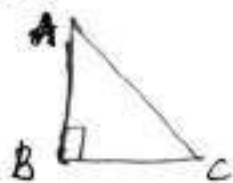
~~Erat~~ Eratosthenes (276 - 196 B.C.) computed the circumference of the earth, wrote a geography, drew a map of the world, and suggested that it would be possible to reach India by sailing westwards.

## Mathematics :-

Geometry was the first science that the Greeks pursued independent of philosophy.

Thales of Miletus borrowed what the Egyptians knew about the subject and added such concepts as "point" and "line". He developed the bisection of the circle by its diameter.

Pythagoras [570 - 500 B.C.] made a practical use of number. He discovered the numerical relations of musical tones, proved mathematically that earth was round and demonstrated that the square of the hypotenuse of a right triangle is equal to the sum of the squares of the other two sides.



$$AC^2 = AB^2 + BC^2$$

Pythagoras Theorem.

Pythagoras is said to have been the first use of the word Cosmos the harmonious and beautiful order for the universe.

Euclid [300 B.C.] of Alexandria wrote Elements of Geometry, that is still accepted as authoritative. He has been called a Father of Geometry.

Archimedes [287-212 B.C.] discovered that body immersed in a fluid loses weight equal to the amount of fluid displaced, was called as Archimedes Principle. He also invented Pulley and Screw. He constructed many war machines.

Hipparchus [160-125 B.C.] was a great astronomer of the 2nd century B.C. He believed that the earth revolved around the sun and predicted Solar and Lunar Eclipses accurately. He also invented Spherical Trigonometry.

Democritus (460 B.C.) set forth the theory of atoms. He decided that all matter consisted of minute and invisible atoms.

Zoology:

Anaximander of Miletus was the first Greek to speculate in biological Science. He believed that the earliest organisms lived in water and later passed to dry land.

Democritus classified animals according to blood quality, a classification further developed by Aristotle.

Medicine:- One of the most significant contributions made by the Greeks was in the field of Medicine. There were three schools of Medicine.

i. The School of Cnidus - investigated particular diseases and sought a specific cure for each.

ii. The School of Croton - of which Pythagoras was a participant, studied the phases of the causes of a disease correlated with numbers and arrived at the idea of 'Crisis' in the development.

iii. The School of Cos which claimed association with Hippocrates.

Hippocrates (460-377 B.C) - The Father of Medicine

According to him, proper understanding of the human body was the basis of the Medical treatment. Diagnosis was the central point of Hippocratic Doctrine. He stated that there is no place for Superstitions and Speculation in Medicine. He set forth the Code of Conduct for the medical practitioners. Now the Medical graduates take oath on the graduation day is called as Hippocratic oath.

Herophilus [3rd Cent B.C] is known as Father of Anatomy. He dissected the human body observing the functions of nerves and muscles. He studied arteries, veins, liver, digestive tract, the Salivary glands and the genital organs. He noted the pulse and devised an instrument for measuring it.

His contemporary, Erasistratus was called Father of Physiology. He believed that blood flows through veins nourish the body. He gave names to valves of the heart that are still used.

## Greek Art

Greek Art was built upon the firm foundation of the accomplishments of Egyptians and the Aegeans.

Religion was a great source of inspiration to artists and architects.

Art passed through 3 phases.

- i. Archaic    ii Hellenic and    iii Hellenistic.

Archaic art was crude and inferior to Aegean art.

Hellenic art began around 5th Century B.C. art became delicate, refined and entered its classical phase.

In the 3rd phase Hellenistic art - the elements of art were blended with non-Greek elements - elements of Asian countries.

Temples :- Greeks built many temples for their gods. They were rectangular in shape.

The Greek temple architecture bore influence of Egypt and Babylonia.

The earliest temples were built in Corinth around 581 B.C.

One of the earliest well built temple was of Delphi.

## Columns :-

The features of the columns showed the style of architecture

Three types of columns were built -

i. Doric ii Ionian and iii Corinthian.

(i) The Doric Columns which was in vogue before the 4<sup>th</sup> century B.C. - is plain, simple and heavy.

The Parthenon at Athens <sup>built</sup> by Ictinus in the Doric style. The temple of Parthenon ~~occupies~~ built [447-438] marked the zenith of <sup>Style</sup> Greek architecture.

(ii) The Ionian Columns is slender and ornamental capital and base. One of the best known examples of the building of the Ionic style is Erechtheum which stands near <sup>Parthenon</sup>.

(iii) The Corinthian Columns developed on later days - has a very beautiful capital, having designs like acanthus leaves.

An admirable example of Corinthian style, is the Choragic monument of Lysicrates at Athens erected in 330 B.C.

Hellenist art and architecture flourished almost all the cities founded by Alexander the Great.

The most prominent structure of the time was the Pharos or Light House of Alexandria rising to the height of 400 ft.

Other public buildings included libraries, theatres, palaces and baths.

The Greeks built up a classical culture. They had great ideals and sense of perfection. They developed curiosity and made a rational and scientific approach. They loved beauty and took great interest in developing fine arts. They developed their intellect and did much for learning philosophy. They loved sports and games. They believed in the principle of beauty is truth.

## Unit III

### Roman Civilization.

#### Introduction.

The Land. [Topography]

The People [Ethnic background]

The Govt.

#### Roman Republic.

i. Early Republic

ii. Struggle between Patricians and the Plebeians

iii. Expansion of Roman Republic.

iv. Three Punic Wars.

v. Fall of Roman Republic

#### Rise of Political Generals

\* Julius Caesar.

\* Golden Age of Augustus marked by Reforms

\* Successors of Augustus.

\* Chief Causes for the downfall of Roman Empire

#### Legacy of Rome.

\* Pax Romana

\* Roman Law

\* Importance of Latin and literature.

\* Julian Calendar.

\* Roman Number System

\* Engineering i. Road ii Bridges iii Aqueducts

\* Roman Architecture

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## Roman Civilization.

In many respects Roman Civilization belongs to the Hellenistic Civilization, a continuation of Greek culture with modifications typical of the Romans.

One of the most striking example of this was the organization of a great Empire built on a precedent established by Macedonians.

The Romans lacked the imagination of the Greeks but were blessed with practical common sense enlightened by experiences.

Roman genius and industry were directed toward agriculture, law, govt and war.

### The Land

At its greatest extent, the Roman Empire included the whole of Mediterranean basin, the southern part of Europe, the northern fringe of Africa and a considerable part of the Near-East. Italy became the heart of Roman Empire. The Po Valley in the northern part of is one of the most fertile regions in the world.

## The Climate :-

The climate of the country is ideal, mild temperature, abundant rainfall in most places and plentiful sunshine make it a desirable place to live.

## The People :- The Ethnic background

There were traces of Palaeolithic, Neolithic, Bronze and Iron Age of culture in Italy

Italy was occupied by various people in the ancient time. These included the lake dwellers of Switzerland, the Indo-Europeans, the Etruscans, the Greeks, the Gauls and Carthaginians.

i. The Swiss lake dwellers occupied the Po Valley around 2000 B.C.

ii. The Indo-European group [Aryans] from Central Asia spread themselves throughout the Italian Peninsula around 2000 B.C. They organised themselves into tribes which came to be called Latins.

The Latins came to Italy through the passes of the Alps and settled to the south of the river Tiber on a plain. This plain was known as Latium.

2

The Italians who racially much closely related to the Greeks invaded Italy about 1500 B.C. They were divided into four major groups

- i. The Samnites
- ii The Latins
- iii The Umbrians
- iv. The Sabines.

The Latins ultimately conquered the whole of peninsula and dominated the civilized Western world.

iii The Etruscans settled in Etruria [present Tuscany] about 1000 B.C. Skilled architects and engineers they taught the Romans how to drain swamps, to build sewage system and to construct roads.

iv The Greeks began to colonize to the southern part of Italy and Sicily about 800 B.C. The cultural influence of the Greeks on the Romans is inestimable.

v. The Gauls who settled in the Po valley about 400 B.C. helped in the conquest of the Etruscans.

vi. The Carthaginians also had colonies in Italy and Sicily.

Roman Civilization and the Roman people as well as a mixture of all these cultural and racial elements.

The Govt :-

According to tradition, Rome was founded by Romulus and Remus the twin brothers in 753 B.C. on Tiber bank on 7 hills Rome became a city kingdom under an Etruscan king about 750 B.C.

So the city Rome has been called as the City of Seven Hills and Eternal city

About 500 B.C. the Romans successful in driving out the Etruscans, the first of a long list of military achievements.

The Age of Kings :-

Before the establishment of the Republic, Rome was under the rule of a king. He was elected by the people.

3

Although the power was absolute, he consulted the heads of the clans, who formed a Council of Elders or Senate, when an important issue was to be decided.

There was a popular assembly known as Comitia Curiata. Members voted by groups [each Curia group not an individual having one vote] on questions submitted to them, but they could not initiate legislation.

The Kings lost their power to the nobles about the time that the Etruscans were driven out of Rome.

## Roman Republic

The Early Republic :-

Rome was under a Republican form of govt almost 500 years of its political existence.

The Republican govt was the result of slow development marked chiefly by a struggle between Plebeians and Patricians. These two classes were developed while Rome was still under Etruscan influence.

The most important office was Consul. There were two Consuls in Rome. The Consuls were elected ~~by~~ annually by weapon bearing man or soldiers but they represented the interests of the patricians.

The Consuls had equal power and each enjoyed the rights to veto or reject the decision of the other and in case of deadlock, the question was referred to the Senate, which was patrician dominated. Soon the Senate became a powerful advisory body.

Other Officers like

- i. Questors were put in charge of treasury
- ii Praetor in charge of judiciary <sup>administration</sup>
- iii Censors to take charge of collecting taxes and to supervise the public works.

In a crisis, a dictator was appointed a practice which led to the establishment of a military man in power and ultimately to a monarchy.

## Struggle between Patricians and Plebians (Crowd)

Livy says that Romulus the founder of Rome selected a 100 clans to assist him to his great task of administration. They formed the Council of advisers [Senate]. These prominent men were known as Patres or Fathers [Patricians]. They enjoyed the political power and privileges for over 500 years. Their class was able to provide Rome with capable administrators, statesmen and generals.

Though Plebs were citizens, they had no political power and rights.

The Plebians [Crowd] naturally resented their exclusion from political authority.

As early as in 490's they threatened to withdraw from Rome and to found a new city-state of their own and when the tactic won them a concession, they continued to use it with great effect on and off during the next 200 years.

- i. The first important victory for the Plebians was the establishment of the Tribunes . 471 B.C .  
The Tribunes had the right to veto the action of any officer even the Consul and they could stop the enforcement of any law if they saw fit to do so.  
So. By 457 B.C there were ten such Tribunes.
- ii They won another important victory in 450 B.C with the codification of Laws. The Code or the Laws of the Twelve Tables was engraved on copper ~~pla~~ tablets and set up in the forum, so that thenceforth the people knew for certain ~~what~~ what was law and what was the punishment for various offences.
- iii Then the Plebians demanded the right to participate in the making laws. The Comitia Centuriata was made a political body and turned into assembly of Centuries.  
There followed a long period of ~~bitter~~ bitter rivalry between the two classes for political supremacy.
- iv The Licinian Laws of 367 B.C limited the amount of land and livestock that one man hold. Introduced land ceiling upto 175 Acres.



v. In 313 B.C. <sup>Debt</sup> ~~Debt~~ Slavery Act was passed.   
 ~~by~~ which the right of a creditor to seize a debtor was abolished and prisoners ~~for~~ held for debts were released.

vi. Gradually the plebians gained the right to hold important offices such as Consul, Quaestor, ensor and praetor. Plebian became <sup>consul</sup> in 366 <sup>BC</sup>

vii. The admission of Plebians to the Senate, one of the most important steps in their political advancement came in 304 B.C.

viii. Law Cannuba Law of 313 B.C. recognized the intermarriage between patricians and Plebians.

The fusion between the two classes the Patricians and Plebians made the Roman Republic truly democratic in character.

Expansion of Roman Republic :-

There is in history no more impressive story of imperialistic expansion than that of Rome from a small city state in Latium to the mightiest of all empires.

All the Latins got united and formed a political League under the leadership of Rome - Latium League and the attacks of their enemies were effectively repulsed.

i. The Etruscan cities fell one by one to the invading Romans. About 500 B.C. the Romans were successful in driving out the Etruscans, the first of the long list of military achievements.

ii. The Gauls, a war like Germanic people from the north captured Rome 382 B.C. and threatened her with complete destruction, but the Romans finally won.

iii. During the last quarter of the 3rd Century, Romans had to face formidable Greeks of the South, with the help of Carthaginians, Romans won 276 B.C.

Thus Rome became the mistress of Italy in 270 B.C.

But then a new and even more formidable struggle for supremacy in the west loomed between Rome and Carthage.

iv. Punic Wars [264-146 B.C.]  
Carthage [modern Tunis] was originally a Phoenician Colony on the northern coast of Africa ~~established about 800 B.C.~~ but had long since

6.  
liberated itself from its motherland and expanded along the African and Spanish shores of the Mediterranean and into the western part of Sicily.

Carthage held a virtual monopoly of Western Mediterranean trade.

When the Carthaginians began to seize the Greek cities in eastern Sicily also, the Sicilian Greeks appealed to Rome. So the Romans launched the 1st Punic War. [Punic - the Latin word for Phoenicians]

First Punic War :- 264 - 241 B.C

The Romans built a fleet after many unfortunate experiences with storms, defeated the enemy at Mylae in 260 B.C and at Ecnomus in 256 and finally at Aegadian isles in 241 B.C.

The war ended after 23 years. Carthage suing for peace and ceding the island of Sicily. Sicily became the first province of Rome and ceding Sardinia and Corsica followed 237 B.C.

Second Punic War 218 - 201 B.C

First Punic War was not satisfied both parties.

After another 23 years 218 B.C the Second Punic War began when Hannibal (247 - 182 B.C) famous Carthaginian general led the Carthaginian

army of 80000 soldiers and 300 elephants,  
attacked Saguntum (east coast of Spain)  
an ally of Rome. His army marched through  
Spain and France and crossed Alps into Italy.

The Carthaginians won many victories  
the most famous of which was that at  
Cannae in 216 BC but Hannibal never captured  
Rome.

In 202 BC, exhausted, short of  
supplies and opposed by the brilliant Roman  
general Publius Scipio, Hannibal was forced  
to retire.

Romans sent a brilliant commander  
Publius Scipio who won a victory against  
the Carthaginians in Spain.

From there he proceeded to and  
attacked Carthage 202 B.C itself. Hannibal  
had to return home to save his people  
but he was defeated in the battle of Zama  
near ~~Car~~. Carthage sued for peace and  
paid a heavy penalty. She ~~lost~~ lost  
Spain, paid heavy war indemnity and  
agreed not to wage any war without the  
permission of Rome.  
Hannibal fled to the court of Seleucid king

Hannibal fled to the Court of Seleucid Seleucid being Antiochus III. Seleucids also were defeated and their powers were crippled by the Romans. Hannibal took poison and died in 183 B.C.

Third Punic War 149 - 146 B.C

Carthage power had been broken but the city quickly recovered prosperity.

In spite of its defeats Carthage economically prospered which was not tolerated by the Romans.

They instigated Numidians to attack Carthage. So Carthage invaded Numidia without the consent of Rome. So Romans led by Cato desired nothing short of destruction of Carthage itself. They cried *Delenda est Carthago*.

[Carthage must be destroyed]

Carthage was captured in 146 B.C after a 3 year of fierce siege.

In the 3rd Punic War, Carthage was destroyed 4,50,000 Carthaginians were killed 50,000 were enslaved and burnt down and Carthage became a Roman province.

and Rome became Supreme in the West and also Rome became Mistress of the Mediterranean World.

Conquest of East Mediterranean World ∴

After the overthrow of Carthage, Rome continued her march eastward.

The mainland Greece was invaded. Macedonia fell and Corinth the most powerful of the remaining city-state was subjected. Rome became a predominant power in the Greek world.

The Romans crossed the Aegean and destroyed the Seleucid dynasty of Asia Minor. Antiochus III surrendered his holdings in Asia Minor. Asia Minor became a new province of Rome.

In 168 B.C. Egypt acknowledged herself to be vassal of Rome.

Julius Caesar continued the extension of the Roman territory. Following his success in Gaul and Britain, he advanced into the Near East 48-45 B.C. and overthrew his opponents in Asia-Minor.

This was the occasion for his famous message to the Roman Senate,

"I came I saw and I conquered".

The Roman Empire attained its greatest extent about 113 A.D. but soon after that it began to decline.

## Fall of the Roman Republic

① The greatest ~~extent~~ expansion of the territorial limit of Rome proved disastrous for its Republican form of Govt. It was impossible for people in distant provinces to attend the popular assemblies held in Rome and no successful form of Representative Govt was devised.

② Dissension and Corruptions arose in the Senate and in the administration of the provinces.

③ The Roman Senate became an oligarchy of selfish aristocrats without the ability to meet the problems that confronted the Govt. The Senate was never popular with the people. Thus Outbreaks against the Senan began.

④ The decisive attack was to come from a military man - Gracchus brothers. Tiberius Gracchus and Gaius Gracchus became popular by their <sup>land</sup> reforms which favoured the poor and cut the privileges of a rich but both of them were murdered. On the other hand leaders like Gaius Marius, Sulla, Pompey and Julius Caesar were successful.

## Rise of Political Generals Marius, Sulla, Pompey and Julius Caesar :-

Marius :- The first of the generals to reach power was Marius, who had won victories against the Numidians [Algeria] in North Africa.

Marius had himself elected Consul five times from ~~108 B.C.~~ <sup>108 B.C.</sup> to 103 B.C. He made a number of much needed reforms. However he was not successful as a statesman and unable to cope with the well organised political system of the Senators, he was forced to resign. Marius died in 86 B.C.

Sulla :- Civil war at home and at outbreak against Roman rule in the Near East led to the appointment of Sulla, a lieutenant of Marius to establish order at home and put down rebellions abroad. Sulla was made dictator in 82 B.C. He returned authority to the Senate and thinking his task completed retired 3 years later.

## One Man Power :- End of the Republic

Sulla's reforms proved inadequate. People found a military leader to support their cause, just as effectively as Sulla had supported the cause of the Senate.



9  
Pompey trained as a soldier under Sulla, was elected Consul in 70 B.C. He cleared the Mediterranean Pirates and defeated Mithridates in the East.

Julius Caesar:-

When Pompey was in the East, another General - one of the most famous of all the Roman Commanders - Julius Caesar came to power (Consul) in Rome in 59 B.C.

When Pompey returned, he joined with Julius Caesar and a wealthy nobleman named Crassus to form the First Triumvirate.

When Julius Caesar left Rome, to complete his conquest to Gaul [France & Belgium] and Britain and sent frequent reports to Rome about his great victories.

Crassus died fighting the Parthians.

Pompey was known for the conquest of Syria and the Near East and controlled the Roman Senate.

The Victories of Julius Caesar made Pompey not only feel jealous but nervous, sided with Senate against him. And Julius Caesar was ordered to return to Rome without his army.

But Julius Caesar with his loyal army crossed the river Rubicon in 49 B.C and marched towards Rome.

Being extremely popular with the Romans, Julius Caesar made a triumphant entry into Rome while Pompey and Senate members fled.

But Caesar chased Pompey right upto Egypt where he was killed. Egypt under Queen Cleopatra became an ally of Rome.

Although he ruled the Roman Empire like virtual dictator, Julius Caesar showed respect to the Republican traditions and form of govt.

After putting down the revolts in Spain and Africa, he inaugurated his rule with a series of reforms. His reforms included

- i. improvement in agriculture.
- ii. reduction of taxes
- iii. removal of corrupt and oppressive governors
- iv. granting of citizenship to the people of Gaul and Sicily
- v. distribution of public lands
- vi. inauguration of public works programmes

- vii improving of coinage system and [ He issued  
viii reformed the Calendar System [ Julian Calendar ]  
1st gold coins ] and

He had many plans such as to bring about a legal code and construction of library but he did not live to complete them.

It will never be known whether or not Caesar intended to put a definite end to the Republic and establish an empire. He was assassinated by his enemies led by Brutus on March 44 B.C.

This incident plunged Rome into a civil war. Julius Caesar made a profound impression. His name became synonymous with Emperor and as such was adopted by his successors and by modern Czars and Kaisers.

General confusion followed the assassination of Julius Caesar.

Mark Antony a friend of Caesar and Lepidus agreed to support Caesar's nephew Octavian and with him, they formed the Second Triumvirate in 42 B.C. They defeated Brutus and Cassius who were the chief conspirators at the battle of Phillippi in 42 B.C.

Brutus and Cassius took their own lives and the Roman Empire was divided into three parts -

- 1) the eastern provinces including Egypt came under Mark Antony
- 2) the western provinces were ruled by Octavian
- 3) Sicily and Africa came under Lepidus.

Lepidus was dropped by the other two Triumvirs.

Mark Antony fell madly in love with the Egyptian Queen Cleopatra and neglected state affairs.

Octavian asked the Senate to ~~depose~~ depose him and proceeded with his army to defeat Antony. Antony was defeated in the naval battle of Actium in 31 B.C. He committed suicide.

Queen Cleopatra also committed suicide by taking the poison of an asp. †

After her death the rule of Ptolemies ended and Egypt became a Roman province. After completing the conquest of East, Octavian returned to Rome where he was given the title of Augustus and the office of Princeps.

11  
He was called Imperator.

Augustus signified dignity [Revered one]

Princeps meant first ruler and  
[1<sup>st</sup> among the Senators]

Imperator indicated Victorious  
generals.

Golden Age of Augustus marked by Reforms

The Augustan Age is sometimes described as the "Golden Age" in the history of Rome. It was known for peace and prosperity. This was ensured by Augustus since he introduced several administrative and economic reforms.

1. Honest and sincere governors and other officials were appointed in the provinces to improve conditions. They were all paid by the central govt and held them responsible for the safety and prosperity of the territory.

2. The governors took census of the population in their respective provinces and also maintained records regarding the wealth of the citizens. The latter was carried out in order to bring about a fair distribution of taxes.

3. The Emperor kept the poor people happy by supplying food grains free during difficult times and provided for their free entertainment.

They were encouraged to worship him as god. He undertook public work schemes to bring about the employment of the poor.

4. Augustus spent money lavishly on such public works like construction of public buildings, roads, bridges, amphitheatres [which accommodated 50000 spectators] and fountains.

5. The most prominent among them were 'Colosseum' the large amphitheatres and baths of Caracalla.

6. Construction of highways from the provincial cities to the capital [Rome] served the dual purpose i.e. facilitating trade and commerce on the one hand and exercising political control on the other.

There is no doubt in the saying  
"All roads lead to Rome".

7. Augustus put his close associate Marcus Agrippa in charge for the reconstruction of Rome. He dug 700 wells, 500 fountains and 130 reservoirs to improve water supply of Rome.

8. Rome became the nerve centre of all trade and commerce in the Mediterranean world. Rome rose as a small village on the bank of the river Tiber and after a few centuries became the world capital.

9. It is no surprise that Augustus could say with pride that he found "Rome a city of brick and turned into a city of marble".

10. The Finance of the State was reformed and competent men were put in charge of treasury. He created two new taxes

1. Sales tax [ $\frac{1}{100}$ ]

2. Estate tax [ $\frac{1}{20}$ ]

He appointed men of able regardless of birth.

11. He also introduced 'Imperial Civil Service' which careers were open to talent. All officers were paid and thus he got a class of loyal and faithful officers. In order to enable the State officials to gain experience, they were sent to provinces.

He reduced the number of Senators from 1000 to 800 in 298 B.C and in 188 B.C from 800 to 600. He gave a small steering committee on which he sat.

12. Provincial Governors were also paid their Salaries and they worked under the direct supervision of Augustus.

13. The Roman Empire under Augustus maintained diplomatic and Commercial Contact with number of countries including China and India.

14. He encouraged arts and literature.

Livy a Roman historian wrote the 'Annals' [History of Rome]

Virgil - poet laureate of the empire wrote an epic poem 'Aeneid'

Plutarch wrote Biographies, classical philosophical treatises, Meditation.

Pliny wrote Natural History

Other famous writers who enriched the Latin literature with their important contributions were Ovid, Horace, Pliny, Juvenal and Tacitus

15. Augustus takes the credit for the establishment of Pax Romana [Roman Peace] which lasted for nearly 200 years. [27 B.C - 180 A.D]

One of the most important events which took place in his glorious reign was the birth of Jesus Christ in 4 B.C at Bethlehem near Jerusalem

Rome extended the citizenship rights to his provincial subjects.



16 His social laws made adultery a crime and encouraged large families

17. He also gave it its first police and fire departments and he improved the roads throughout Italy.

18. The army now numbering about 300,000 men was stationed in permanent garrison camps on the frontiers, when the troops in peacetime worked on public projects such as aqueducts or roads.

19. Roman citizens who volunteered to serve, and who retired after 26 years service with a bonus equal to about 14 years salary made up the legion.

20. Regular census taking permitted a fair assessment of taxes.

21. Under Augustus most of Spain and Portugal were permanently pacified and the Romans successfully administered Gaul. Switzerland, Austria and eastward along the Danube, Augustus campaigned, extending Roman power into present day Hungary, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria all the way to Black Sea. Roman provinces were ~~success~~ now probably better governed than under the Republic.

The Augustus was clever in not openly antagonising the supporters of the Republic by its destruction.

He always showed the Senate the greatest respect, but in practice his powers were readily upheld by the Senate until he became an absolute emperor.

Another great achievement was construction of huge harbours and ship building centres in Rome.

Augustus had done his work so well that the celebrated Pax Romana - the Roman peace lasted from his assumption of the title Augustus in 27 BC until 180 AD more than 200 years. It was an economic boon.

As a second century writer put it "Through the Romans, the world has peace, and we go wherever we like without fear, walking along the roads or sailing the sea"

Augustus has maintained the Roman State firmly and had laid long lasting constitutional foundations for its future.

When he died in 14 AD the only possible surviving heir was his step son Tiberius son of his wife Livia by her first husband.

## Successors of Augustus

Tiberius reigned until 37 A.D. His successor (Grand Nephew)

Caligula 37 - 41 A.D. His uncle Claudius 41 - 54 A.D. the best of the first four emperors to succeed Augustus.

Claudius 4<sup>th</sup> wife Agrippina to obtain the succession for her son by an earlier marriage. Nero culminated in ~~his~~<sup>her</sup> poisoning Claudius himself in 54.

Nero 54 - 68 murdered her in 59 A.D. Nero murdered his wife and mother. He blamed the Christians for setting fire to Rome.

For almost 2 centuries Rome lived in complete under the monarchy.

Diocletian 284 - 305 A.D. made a valiant successful effort to restore the Roman Empire to its former glory. Diocletian posing as an Oriental Sun God. He spent most of his times in Nicomedia in Asia Minor. A co-ruler was appointed to rule in the west with Rome as the center but his orders came direct from Nicomedia.

Constantine - Completed the work of Diocletian and developed a full fledged Oriental Monarchy. He accepted Christianity. By Milan Decree of 313 A.D., granted religious freedom to Christians.

The new Capital of the Empire was transferred to Constantinople in 330 A.D. built on the ancient site of Byzantium on the river Bosphorus in Asia Minor as his capital got the name Constantinople in 337 A.D.

## The Chief Causes for the downfall of Roman Empire

Even at the height of her glory, in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century A.D., there were evident signs of decay.

Rome had outgrown herself, her territorial expanse was too great to permit unity.

The populace had lost its patriotism and pride of the state.

This was greatly accentuated by the prevalence of graft and corruption.

A state controlled economy led to gross inefficiency.

Comparatively small group was overtaxed in order to feed the masses. Economic activity was stifled, individual initiative was destroyed.

Apathy on the part of the rich and discontent on the part of the poor undermined the security of the state.

Constant barbarous invasions of Germanic, Hun, Visigoths, Ostrogoths, Burgundis, Gauls, Angles, Saxons and others marked the

end of the tottering structure of the State

- \* Wide gulf between the rich and the poor
- \* a succession of weak and incompetent emperors.
- \* Slavery
- \* lack of leadership and discipline in the Roman army

So in 476 AD West Roman Empire was disappeared which marked the end of Ancient period and beginning of Medieval period in Europe

The East Roman Empire continued to exist till 1453 AD when Ottoman Turks captured Constantinople, the capital of East Roman Empire.

\* →

## The legacy of Rome.

Directly or indirectly the Romans acted as agents to spread and preserve much of what the Ancient Greeks had left behind as their legacy.

It was from the Greeks that the Romans imbibed ideas on religion, philosophy, art and architecture, learning and ~~literature~~ Science.

Romans showed the way to important fields such as organisation of central and provincial govts; laws, principles of taxation, citizenship rights, hospital and sanitation systems and construction of public works like foundations, theatres, baths, bridges, aqueducts, and arterial roads.

### Pax Romana [Roman Peace]

The Romans were great builders of an Empire, whose borders touched all the peripheral countries of the Mediterranean Sea [Britain and Mesopotamia to be included]

They organised the local and provincial govts in such a way as to ensure peace and harmony among the local populace.

Romans did not interfere in their internal affairs of the conquered lands. They granted citizenship rights to provincial subjects thereby granting them ~~equal~~ status of equality with the Romans.

Border provinces were protected from the invading hordes by constructing a wall and stationing of Roman legions. Able governors were sent to maintain law and order, a fair system of taxation, and administer justice.

Piracy and banditry were put down so that merchants travelled freely without fear. A uniform system of currency came into vogue to facilitate trade.

In the course of time all the provinces sent their representatives to the Assembly.

↓ Roman Law :-

The most outstanding contribution of the Romans was made in the field of Law.

It is no exaggeration to say that their laws had made profound impact on almost all the civilized nations of world today.

Roman jurists such as Paetus, Paulus, Ulpian and Papinian contributed much to the development of Roman law. They modernized old laws, emphasised the importance of high ethical standards in legal procedure. Under this procedure Roman law was permitted to develop and to improve.

In the Roman Republic Praetor was appointed in charge of Judiciary.

There were two praetors - one to take charge of suits between Roman citizens - the Praetor Urbanus and

one to take charge of suits between aliens - the Praetor Peregrinus.

Justice was rendered in accordance with the customs of the people who were parties to the suit.



The Law of Things classified into i. Sacred Property  
ii Common property and iii Private Property.

The Law of Contract was one of the most distinctive elements of Roman law. The contract was defined as a legal form that made enforceable the promises of individuals. Three acts were involved in a contract relationship

i. the offer ii the acceptance and <sup>iii</sup> the performance

Roman Civil Law [Jus Civile] dealing with persons, things and actions.

By 176 AD a new praetorian law called the jus gentium or law for non-citizens was evolved.

Jus naturale [natural law]  
The Theodosian Code 438 AD was an attempt to incorporate into Roman law the ideas of Christianity and some of the German concepts.

The development of Roman law culminated in the Corpus Juris Civilis of Justinian [529].

The great Eastern Roman Emperor Justinian saw the need for reform in Roman law. He appointed a commission composed of 10 men under the direction of Tribonian, a learned lawyer and statesman to complete the task.

2  
a learned lawyer and statesman, he completed the task.

This compilation was divided into 4 parts

i. The Code contained the Imperial Ordinances or Statute law then in force.

ii. The Digest or Pandects contained the opinions of the great Roman jurists - the quintessence of Roman legal opinion.

iii. The Institute included a critical analysis of Roman law and was intended as a Text book for law students.

iv. The Novels provided for modifications and additions to the Code.

The Corpus Juris Civilis furnished a fine source for the study of Roman law and served as a model for later Civil and Canon law.

Roman law provided the basic principle for the law in all Roman countries during the Middle Ages.

Canon law, the law of the Roman Catholic Church can be traced to Roman law.

a.

Its influence is apparent in the legal framework of modern European countries.

As the Roman law proved to be just and humane in character, it was adopted by many civilized nations.

In Roman law, there is even a conception of popular sovereignty that served as a powerful impulse to a subsequent development of representative govt.

Equity [Equal All are equal before law] and humanity were important characteristics.

One of most distinctive achievements was the most complete elaboration of the rights of private property found in any legal system before modern times.

41) Language and Literature :-

The importance of Latin! The people of Latium evolved a language of their own. This has been called Latin. It was based on equal language. The Latin language stands high in the

long list of Roman Contribution to Civilization. Before the fall of Rome, Latin became the accepted language of much of the civilized world.

It was the medium of expression of the Roman Catholic Church and was used in the writings of Churchmen such as Augustine, Bede, Abelard and Erasmus.

For centuries after the fall of Rome, Latin was the official language of the most of the Western countries and it was also accepted medium of expression used by scholars such as Francis Bacon, William Harvey and Isaac Newton.

Latin was the medium of Instruction in the European Universities till 19th century and more than half of the common words in English are of Latin Origin.

The Languages of Italy, Rumania, French, Spain, Portugal and Latin American States are corruption of Latin.

# Roman Literature

## History

- Polybius - History of Rome.
- Julius Caesar - Gallic Wars  
Civil Wars.
- Livy - History of Rome.
- Tacitus - Germania.  
Annals.
- Juvenal - Satires of Saturn.
- Plutarch - Biographies of prominent  
Greeks and Romans.
- Suetonius - History of 12 Caesars  
From Julius Caesar to Domitian.

## Poetry

- Virgil (friend of Augustus) [selection] I. Elegies (collection of  
pastoral poetry (37 B.C.))
  - Bucolics (collection of  
pastoral poetry)
  - Georgics [dealing with  
labors of the peasant life]
  - Aeneid - of legendary Rome.
- Horace also friend of Augustus  
1. Satires dealt with follies and  
vices of people in Rome  
called Sermones.
- Odes - 71 was immortal  
said by Augustus
- Ovid's greatest work  
1. Metamorphoses  
2. Art of Love

## Drama

- Plautus I
- Terrence II
- Seneca III  
wrote Tragedies.

## Prose

- Cicero great Orator  
wrote 56 Orations  
1000s of letters
- Quintilian II  
was a teacher and wrote
- 1. Petroneus
- 2. Apuleius
- 3. The Golden Ass.

## Roman Science:-

1. Pliny the Elder - "Natural History"  
described the systematic view of Nature.

2. Ptolemy - Almagest - contained  
geocentric theory.

developed Spherical Trigonometry  
Compute the value of  $\pi$  as  
3.1416.

3. Galen - 500 works on human  
Physiology, anatomy, the respiratory system,  
the spinal cord, heart and muscles were studied  
and scientifically explained by him.

## Philosophy:-

Stoic philosophy was beautifully expounded  
by Cicero, Epictetus and Emperor Marcus Aurelius.

III Julian Calendar :-

The introduction of the Calendar System was the greatest legacy of the Roman Civilization to the World. Julius Caesar (102-44 B.C) one of the famous general and statesman, had a truly scientific mind. He brought about reforms in the Calendar System.

Julius Caesar took the 1st step to reform the Roman Calendar the Egyptian Calendar. He called upon a famous Greek astronomer Sosigenes of Alexandria and assigned the task of devising a new Calendar.

Sosigenes gave a Calendar of 365 days plus quarter day of 6 hours. In his Calendar quarter days were withheld from the year until a full day had accumulated.

The day was then added to a common year as leap year. This happened once in every four years. This Calendar was popularly called Julian Calendar and was adopted for the official use of Roman Empire in 44 B.C.

The Julian Calendar was followed in the west till 1582 A.D.

#### IV. Roman Numbers

The number system that was invented in ancient Rome is called Roman Number System.

The Romans used 7 letters of the alphabet as basic symbols to write any number.

I V X L D C M

1 5 10 50 500 100 1000

The symbol V for 5 was derived from the open hand, and the thumb being held apart from the open hand represented 1.

Two V is placed apex to apex would be given X for 10.

There is no symbol for zero in the Roman Number System.

40	50	60	70	80	90
XL	L	LX	LXX	LXXX	XC
				100	
				C	



## V. Engineering

Another rich legacy of the Roman to world Civilization is Engineering.

Roman Emperors employed Roman, Greek and Syrian engineers to construct roads, bridges and aqueducts.

Roads :- Romans built cities in Italy, Spain, Gaul, Asia Minor, North Africa and England. They constructed highways from these provincial cities to the Capital Rome. These roads covered in a distance estimated at 90,000 kms.

Besides the highways [the main roads] they built 20,000 kms of Secondary roads passing through mountains, marshes, tunnels and rivers. They were from 16 to 24 ft wide.

They were the most durable roads in

History  
Bridges :-

The Romans inherited the principle of hydraulic engineering from Ptolemaic Egypt.

They laid strong foundations and constructed piers under water

Eight bridges were constructed across the river Tiber in Rome is the best example.

They built bridges in hundred thousand streams across the empire.

The tunnels were cut through mountains were sometimes  $2\frac{1}{2}$  kms in length. The method of technology, they transmitted remained unchanged in modern times.

### Aqueducts!

The construction of aqueducts were the greatest achievement of Romans.

The Roman engineers skillfully brought abundance of water into the city Rome for many public and private uses.

They marvellously pierced the mountain to construct aqueducts. From distant springs 14 aqueducts totalling 1300 miles brought through tunnels and over majestic arches into Rome some 300,000,000 gallon of water daily.

## VI. Roman Architecture

Romans excelled in the construction of public buildings for the utilitarian purposes. Roads, bridges, aqueducts, public baths houses, palaces figured much prominently than temples.

Roman architecture is characterized by massiveness, strength, boldness and grandeur.

Marcus Vitruvius Pollio a leading Roman architect wrote on Architecture which is ranked among world classics on the subject belonged to Julius Caesar's time.

Romans copied the Greek style <sup>on</sup> in the construction of columns (pillars) but arches and domes was their inventions.

Many temples were built in Rome for Jupiter, Juno, Saturn, Mars and other gods.

Augustus built many temples. One of them was the grand temple to Apollo built completely of marble on Palatine Hill.

The greatest construction was Pantheon temple built in the 1st century A.D.

Victorious generals raised triumphal arches with superb relief.

One of the greatest surviving arches is the Arch of Titus commenced by Vespasian and finished by Domitian to commemorate the capture of Jerusalem in 70 AD.

Public Baths: built by State (Nero, Titus, Didelian) accommodated between 1500 to 3000 people at a time. They were called Thermae. Where warm, cold, hot water were supplied. The bath of Caracalla is the best <sup>exam</sup> <sub>ple</sub>.

1. Pompey's Theatre [55 B.C.] magnificent structure  
1<sup>st</sup> floor was decorated <sup>in</sup> with Etruscan style with half columns  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor was of Ionic style  
3<sup>rd</sup> floor was adorned with Corinthian columns.

2. Julius Caesar built The Imperial Forum a complete marble structure in Greek style with temple of Venus in the centre.

3. Augustus erected the 1<sup>st</sup> Imperial Palace of the Palatine.

4. Vespasian built Colosseum or Flavian Amphitheatre completed around 80 A.D. accommodated about 50000 spectators who assembled there to enjoy gladiatorial fights or slaying of the Christians by the hungry lion.

Christianity gave impetus to Roman architecture. St. Peter's Church in Rome, St. Sophia in Constantinople and similar structures in Jerusalem.

Sculpture: Roman artists produced reliefs, busts of kings, generals, poets and gods and goddesses. The relief of Augustus masterpiece (Altar of Augustus) provides synthesis of beauty, dignity and virtue. Possesses great Greek Sculpture ideal in it.

Rome produced excellent carvings in gold, ivory and silver.  
But Examples: The Unknown Roman (Republican Period), The head of Roman Youth, Bust of Julius Caesar in Brindisi, Naples and 50 Statues of Augustus.

Unit IV

Rise and growth of Major Religions

1. Confucianism .
2. Zoroastrianism .
3. Christianity
4. Islam .
5. Arabs Contributions to World Civilization .

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KNGAC[W]

## Confucianism

Confucius (551-479 B.C.) was not the founder of a religion nor ~~was~~ was he even a religious reformer.

In his own words, he was not a maker but a transmitter believing in and loving the ancients.

Like Socrates, Confucius was a great teacher. He established a school in which he taught history, poetry, and rules of propriety.

He stressed particularly "A man's character" is formed by odes

developed by Rites and perfected by music.

He spoke very little of gods and religious rituals.

Confucius was a strict disciplinarian. Everything had to be done in accordance with prescribed orders.

Confucius placed great emphasis on morality, much of his philosophy is devoted to it.

Confucius <sup>was</sup> a moral philosopher:-

As a teacher of morals, he aimed at achieving a good society and good govt. He hated force or wars. He said perfect ruler can produce a perfect society.

In his Annals of Spring and Autumn, wrote in the history of the state "Lu". In his work, he expressed his idea of a good ruler.

His country was in deep trouble and he felt it was due to lack of moral principles and social ethics on the part of the individuals in the society.

Therefore he started building a society by reviving the old norms like ancestor worship and filial piety and respect to authority.

He tried to bring about harmonious human relations between the rulers and the ruled, between parents and children, elder and younger brothers, husband and wife and among friends.

2

He prescribed a code of conduct for almost every class of human beings. He taught good manners, humility, devotion to duty and trust and faith in others.

His golden rule on etiquette was what you do not like when done to yourself, do not do to others.

His teachings had great effect on moulding the character of the Chinese for many centuries.

Most of Chinese scholars took pride in being his disciples.

Schools for the teaching of the master's philosophy sprang up here and there becoming intellectual centres that kept Chinese civilization alive during the centuries of political collapse.

For more than 2000 yrs the philosophy of Confucius moulded and dominated the Chinese mind.

After his death, his followers worshipped him as god.



Confucius is also given credit for having written or edited 5 works [classics]

1. The Book of History
2. The Book of Poetry
3. Book of Odes.
4. Book of Rites and
5. Book of Changes
5. Spring and Autumn Annals.

Confucianism, Christianity, and Buddhism furnish the most conspicuous examples in the history of civilization of efforts to convert into idealism the natural brutality of mankind.

## Zoroastrianism.

Zoroaster was the founder of the religion.

According to tradition, he was born about 600 B.C. in North western Persia [Iran].

The people regarded his birth as a Victory for righteousness and his whole life was a succession of struggle and victories over evil forces.

The divine revelation came to Zoroaster while he was wandering in the desert searching for light.

The Gospel:-

Zoroastrianism is based upon the belief that there is a constant struggle between the forces of right and wrong for the mastery of the world [Ahura Mazda vs Ahrimann]

Mazda the wise spirit - God of light represented good thought, right law, noble god and immortality.

Opposed to him was the Lie Demon the ~~evil~~ spirit of evil, filth and darkness who was supported by all the evil spirits

This struggle applied not only to the life of man but to everything. Constructive forces are constantly opposed by destructive forces.

Man must choose between these two forces. If he chose to enlist on the side of Mazda, he was expected to work and fight for the cause of Mazda, Justice and mercy was the standard.

Fire was held in high veneration as a symbol of Mazda and its cleansing qualities were supposed to be unexcelled.

The struggle between the two opposing forces of right and wrong was supposed to continue even after death.

A continuous battle raged between the forces of heaven and the forces of hell.

Ultimately Mazda would win. When Mazda had completed his victory evil would be no more and everything would be peaceful and quiet.

Importance of Zoroastrianism:

This religion served as a high standard of conduct for the Persians for centuries and it left its mark upon later religions.

The Jews borrowed their ideas of hell and Satan from the Persians and these features were passed on to Christianity and Mithraism. Mohammedanism was also influenced by Zoroastrianism.

## Christianity

Christianity, a religion established by Jesus Christ, is professed today by  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the <sup>world</sup> population. It can boast of a largest membership than any other faith.

Christianity laid stress on fatherhood of God and brotherhood of mankind. Further it taught about human virtues like love, piety, kindness, truth, charity and honour.

### Life of Jesus

The first book of New Testament and of the Bible <sup>contains</sup> life and teachings of Jesus (gave a vague and brief sketch of the life of Jesus).

He was born a Jew at Bethlehem near Jerusalem in 4 B.C., when Herod the Great was ruling Judea.

His father was Joseph of Nazareth (a descendant of King David) and his mother was Virgin Mary.

Jesus was baptised by John in AD. After his baptism, Jesus started a new life. He became a wandering preacher. He spent the rest of his life in teaching about the fatherhood of God.

Jesus talked about the Kingdom of God  
where there would be justice, love and kindness.  
As he was preaching to the people of the villages,  
he conveyed his messages in the form of parables.

True to his teaching to lead a  
very simple life and mixed freely with the  
poor. He always went to help those who  
were ~~born~~ sick and oppressed.

All of his disciples especially Peter  
recognised him as the Messiah and Jesus  
acknowledged this title.

The popularity of Jesus caused  
alarm and suspicion. King Herod condemned  
him as a false prophet.

Jesus visited Jerusalem on the  
occasion of Jewish Passover.

The priests at the Temple  
refused to recognise him as the Messiah  
and <sup>Sanhedrin</sup> (Temple guard) ordered his arrest.

It was Judas who betrayed the identity of his master by kissing him on his cheek. thereby giving hint to the guard who Jesus was. His Crucifixion:-

The Jews handed over him to Roman Governor Pontius Pilate. He was put to death. He was executed by Crucifixion at Golgotha but he died only to come life again. put to death on the cross

His followers called themselves as Christians. apply oil or ointment means anointed smear  
The followers of Jesus established Christianity based upon his teachings.

### Teachings of Jesus:

Bible of Jews contains Old Testament while the Old Testament <sup>or</sup> the New Testament includes the life and teachings of Jesus.

① Jesus taught that God is the Creator of the universe and manhood. He is all merciful and kind to one and all.

② He further said that men should live like brothers and be devoted to God.

③ Sinners should repent and beg God's mercy. Men should develop noble character by doing good deeds.

5 Jesus insisted that people should do good to those who did bad things to them.

He said forgiveness is a great virtue  
6 while being nailed to the cross, he said "Father forgive them for they know not what they do."

He asked his followers to despise wealth  
7 and other comforts of life.

To the poor and suffering, he promised the  
8 Kingdom of God where there would be justice, love and  
plenty.

He asked his followers to develop Christian virtues  
9 like brotherly love, compassion, righteous living, humility, humbleness, meekness  
and humility.

The spiritual message of Jesus to his followers  
is given in the form of a Sermon - The Sermon on the Mount.  
It runs as follows.

"Blessed are you who are poor, for the  
Kingdom of God is yours.

Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you  
will be satisfied.

Blessed are <sup>you</sup> who weep, for they will laugh.  
Blessed are you who have plenty to eat now, for you will be hungry.

His program is simple, he did not subscribe  
to elaborate ritual. He

He taught that men should serve  
10 one another and that by doing, they would  
serve God.

Spread of Christianity

Christianity, a religion established by Jesus Christ, is projected today by 1000 million people or about 1/3 of the world population. It has the largest membership than any other faith.

When Jesus was crucified, nobody imagined that his religion would spread in course of time in all the continents of the world and be the most popular religion of Europe and the America.

To begin with, only a few people followed Christ's principles.

But the zeal of Peter, Paul and other Apostles and of the Father of Church pushed the faith to every nook and corner of the world.

In the beginning, Christianity was preached only to the Jews, but Paul was responsible for spreading it in Asia not only among the Jews but also among the Gentiles. (Other than Jews)

The greatest triumph of Christianity was in the Roman Empire. When Christianity became the state religion in Rome and Byzantium it secured thereby a great prospect.



The excellent church organization and the monastic movement spread Christianity all over the world.

3. Spread of Christianity in Europe.

Christianity and the Roman Empire

Several Roman emperors like Nero and Marcus Aurelius tried to wipe out Christianity.

The Roman Govt for a long time was a great hindrance to Christianity.

Christians hated Rome, refused to accept public office and condemned the idol worship.

Under Nero Christians were tied to wooden posts and burnt alive. He thought that they were responsible for setting fire to Rome. Many Christians were thrown to wild animals to be killed and eaten.

Emperor Trajan declared that the refusal to pay homage to him was a capital offence.

Even the philosopher king Marcus Aurelius persecuted Christians as a part of his duty.

In 248 many Christians were persecuted or executed as they failed to take part in the celebration of the anniversary of the establishment of Rome.

Even the most ruthless type of persecutions could not suppress Christianity. On the contrary

it made them stubborn and determined in defending their faith. They didn't mind suffering as Jesus himself had suffered, and died on the cross.

Gradually the emperors became relatively soft to Christianity.

In 311 Emperor Galerius (305-311) harassed by misfortune and sufferings from a malignant illness, issued an edict of toleration

Emperor Constantine (306-337) thinking that a great victory he had won over the earlier Roman Emperor at the Milvian Bridge in 312 was the result of Christian support, issued in gratitude the Edict of Milan (313) granting liberty of worship to Christians, restoring them property and removing all their legal disabilities.

Constantine's pro-Christian policy gave a tremendous impetus to Christianity

The city of Constantinople was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The success of Constantine encouraged Christianity

Theodosius (379-395) declared in 392 that Christianity was the only recognized religion of the state.

By the end of the 5th Century, the Roman empire collapsed, but the church continued in all its power and glory. Within a few centuries, every nation in Europe embraced Christianity.

In Roman Empire itself, Ignatius, the Bishop of Antioch ~~is~~ established the powerful line of post-apostolic Fathers

# Islam.

## Introduction

At the beginning of the 7<sup>th</sup> century, the Arabian Peninsula became the <sup>n</sup>cradle of new religious movement called Islam. The new religion completely changed the social, the economical and political character of the Peninsula and within two centuries spread to the non-Arabian world as well as including the countries like Syria, Egypt, Persia and India.

## Arab before Prophet Muhammad.

### Bedouin

For centuries the inhabitants of the central, northern and western Arabia had led a nomadic life based on camel rearing. Dates, fruits and camel's milk were the staple diet of the region. The camel pastoralists known as Bedouin moved from one oasis to another with their animals ~~and~~ seeking water and pasture for their flocks. Gradually bedouins organised themselves into different tribes.

During the 6<sup>th</sup> century A.D. Some of the tribes took to trade <sup>(caravan)</sup> and gave up nomadic pastoralism. At the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> century and the beginning of the 7<sup>th</sup> century there was intense conflicts among several Arabian tribes for gaining a large share of the trade of Mecca.

## The Shrine of at Mecca:

The main shrine at Mecca was a rectangular black stone called Kaaba. Every year there was a specific sacred period, when the pilgrims visited the shrine. During this sacred period, which took the shape of a fair, no violent acts were permissible and hostilities among the conflicting tribes were suspended.

It was in this historical situation, that Prophet Muhammad began preaching his religious message in the 7th century.

## Prophet Muhammad 570-632

was born in Mecca in 570 A.D. He belonged to the Quraysh tribes. His father died before he was born and his mother died when he was 6 years old.

Muhammad joined the caravan company of a rich widow Khadija whom he later married.

## Revelation:-

In 610 A.D. Muhammad had an intense spiritual experience which marked the beginning of his journey as the Prophet.

A series of revelation, divinely inspired were made to him by the angel Gabriel. Through these revelations, he saw himself as the messenger or the Prophet of the Supreme and Sole deity Allah. It was through Prophet Muhammad that Allah's message was being communicated to the human beings.

2

The revelations from the angel Gabriel to Muhammad over a period of 23 years formed the Qur'an or Koran [recitation] - the book of divine guidance and direction for mankind and the very word of Allah, the absolute God of the Islamic faith.

### First Followers:-

Khadija was among the 1st to believe in Prophet Muhammad. Within a few years, Muhammad had a small group of followers in Mecca, who had accepted his religious ideas. They came to be known as Muslims - those who had submitted to Allah. Some of the early followers of Muhammad included Ali, Abu Bakr and others. The

The religion came to be known as 'Islam', which meant 'Surrender'.

### Teachings and Principles:-

The Paramount principle of Prophet Muhammad's preaching was devotion to only one God, Allah. All the other deities were rejected.

The idol worship was firmly prohibited. Prophet Muhammad sought to replace the diverse religious practices of the Arabian tribes with a single belief making it the ideological basis of the tribal unity.

He also taught his followers to lead a simple life and care for the weaker sections of the Society such as the orphans, the widows and the poor.

## Five Pillars of Islam:

The word Islam means surrender or submission

- submission to the will of the God

Mohammed laid down the ~~five~~ Five Pillars of the Islam which included

- 1) Shahada [Profession of faith] is the basic tenet of Islam. It refers to recitation that states There is no God but Allah and Prophet Muhammad is His messenger.
- 2) Salat [ritual prayer] the requirement to pray 5 times a day at fixed times. The prayers or Namaaz should be offered at dawn, noon, mid afternoon, sunset, and nightfall in the direction of Kaaba.
- 3) Zakat [almsgiving] to give alms to the poor as a way of serving God.
- 4) Sawm [fasting during the month of Ramadan].
- 5) Hajj [pilgrimage to Mecca] every muslim if possible should go to Mecca once in his lifetime.

### Sunna and Hadith:

Besides the Quran, people also tried to resolve doubts by finding out how the Prophet Muhammad acted in similar situations. The sayings and practices of Muhammad were called Sunna. It became a supplementary source of tenets for the guidance of the Muslim community.

During the Caliphate the words and the sayings of the Prophet began to be formally recorded which became known as the Hadiths.

Prophet Muhammad wanted to replace the diverse beliefs of the Arabs with a single belief.

He was met with an opposition in Mecca and so migrated with some of his followers to Madinah, this migration is known as the Hijra. In 630 AD Meccans <sup>subdued</sup> to Muhammad.

Muhammad became not only the religious but also the political head of the new state formed at Madinah. Laws were framed and taxes were collected.

Kaaba in Mecca became the site of Hajj for Muslims.

### Spread of Islam

Muhammad passed away in 632 AD. He himself had not appointed any successor.

But eventually those who succeeded him were called the Caliphs or Khalifs. They were the religious leaders of Muslims and the head of the state founded by Prophet Muhammad.

### Caliphs :-

Abu Bakr: Despite of several aspirants, Abu Bakr was chosen the 1st successor or Caliph. He died within 2 years of becoming the Caliph and was succeeded by Umar.



Umar is considered to be the real builder of the Arab Empire. The unification of Arabia was completed under him and large scale territorial expansion outside Arabia commenced. The Arabs conquered Iraq, Syria, Palestine and Egypt. The Arab conquest of West Asia were at the expense of Sassanid and the Byzantine Empires. Umar is also credited with organising the growing Muslim Empire.

Uthman and Ali

Umar was succeeded by Uthman.

Uthman is best remembered for standardising the text of Quran. However he was accused of favouring his own clan and was eventually killed by some of the rebels.

Uthman was succeeded by Ali. Ali moved the capital of the Arab Empire ~~At~~ to Al Kufah.

During his Caliphate, Ali had to face severe resistance from Muawiyah, who was one of the companions of Prophet Muhammad. He wanted to seek justice for the assassination of the previous Caliph Uthman.

At the Battle of Siffin in 657 A.D., both sides entered into temporary negotiations.

Some of Ali's supporters, later known as Kharijites, opposed the arbitration and rebelled against Caliph. Ali was assassinated by one of the Kharijites.

Ali's son Hussain was also killed by the army of Muawiyah in the Battle of Karbala in 680 A.D. The anniversary of his death is mourned in the month of the Moharram by the Shia Muslims.

## Umayyads

After the death of Ali, Muawiyah became the Caliph and moved his capital to Damascus in Syria. This led to the beginning of the Umayyad Dynasty, which ruled till 750 AD.

The expansion of the Islamic Empire continued during the period of the Umayyads. It reached upto Afghanistan, Central Asia, Northern Africa and Spain. The Muslim army had already reached Sind and Indus River delta in 712 AD.

## Abbasids

The Umayyads were succeeded by the Abbasids. They shifted their capital to Baghdad in Iraq. Baghdad soon became the centre of learning and excellence.

Harun - al Rashid [786-809] was the most famous of the Abbasid Caliphs. His reign was marked by scientific, cultural and religious prosperity.

The Abbasids ruled for almost 500 years. By the 11th century the Abbasid Empire was taken over by the people from Central Asia the Turks.

The Turks played an important role in the expansion of the Islamic Empire.

During the Abbasids, the Caliphate faced several challenges. Said Hussain Wusayn declared himself the Caliph in 909 AD creating a separate line of Caliphs in North Africa, which ruled for ~~the~~ next 150 years even taking Egypt and Palestine from Abbasid dynasty.

## Muslim traders:-

The Spread of Islam to different parts of the world was also done by the Arab merchants who visited new lands for trading purposes.

They played an important role in spreading Islam to the African and Asian countries.

The traders established settlements in Africa, India, Indonesia and China. In these areas the Muslim traders were followed by Muslim teachers and missionaries, who began preaching their religion.

These people had tremendous success in converting the nomadic people of Central Asia to Islam.

These people were Turks, who played an important role in spreading Islam to other parts of Asia especially India. These missionaries were successful in taking Islam to countries like Indonesia and Philippines.

## Arabs or Islam's Contribution to World Civilization.

The Islamic Empire founded on the basis of religion. Wherever the Islam's Cavalry marched the Koran followed. The Koran was not allowed to be translated into any other language, all those who accepted Islam were forced to learn Arabic.

Thus the religion and language became the binding element of Islamic unity.

It established a link between continents through the Muslims, west came much closer to the East.

Like the Roman Empire, which was known for the vast size and variety of people, the Arabic or Islamic Empire included in Spain, North Africa, the Middle East and South Asia.

The Muslims produced enlightened rulers. The most distinguished Muslim rulers of the time was Harun - al - Rashid and his son Al - Mansur. They encouraged learning, art and literature, science, trade and commerce.

Learning: Arabs were preservers and carriers of Greek learning. Arab Empire built great centers of learning Baghdad, Cairo, Damascus, Cordova, Seville and Barcelona - all became centers of advanced

learning with the establishment of Universities.

One notable feature of this empire was the establishment of number of cities. The greatest of them were Baghdad, Damascus, Cairo and Cordova.

Baghdad founded in 750 AD was a great cultural and commercial centre and the capital of Abbasid Caliphate. There were separate markets for perfumes, Carpets, horses, Silk, Cotton, books, Slaves etc. Here was the seat of learning called 'House of Wisdom' where Greek works were studied.

Cordova contained 2,50,000 houses and 700 mosques and baths. Abdul Rahman built a city near Cordova for his favourite wife. 10000 of men worked for 40 years to complete the new city.

The University of Salerno in Italy was one of the 1st to scientific medicine.

- Love of Luxury - The Muslims lived in luxury.

Literature - The Contribution of Arabs to literature was prolific. They produced Koran which is ranked as one of the world's greatest classics.

They also produced number of biographies, histories, the most famous being the Annals of the Apostles and the Kings written by Al Tabari. 1001 Nights or Arabian Nights which has remained ever green and ever popular. It has been translated into many languages.

2  
In poetry Omar Khayyam's Rubaiyat [in Persian] found its place of honour.

Saadi wrote Gulistan and Burstan. In writings on Epics, Al Firdausi became quite famous with his Shahnama [Book of Kings] which was dedicated to Sultan Mohammad Ghazni.

Another historian Ibn Khaldun wrote his masterpiece Muqaddimah where he outlined the philosophy of history.

The Islamic <sup>scientists</sup> ~~scientists~~ of the Middle Ages contributed a lot to modern Science.

The world owes a great debt of gratitude to the Muslim Caliphs for their support of learning.

Between 9<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries, Muslim Chemists, physicians, astronomers, mathematicians and geographers kept alive the discipline of ~~Science~~ Greek Sciences. Moreover they extended their range by enriching themselves with new ideas of ~~Science~~ Science. Thus they laid the foundation on which modern Science is built.

In agriculture they introduced crop rotation system, use of fertilizers, etc. Lime, Dales, Cotton Rice, etc were introduced to Europe. They borrowed Numerals from India and paper, ink, printing from China and introduced to Europe.

Muslim scientists discovered alcohol, potash nitrate, Silver nitrate, Nitric Acid and Sulphuric Sulphuric acid, secrets of dyeing and new process for making paper.

The Europeans learnt from the Arabs [who were much indebted to India] the mathematical terms like zero, cipher, and algebra. They made improvements in Trigonometry by introducing tangents and cotangents. In physics they discovered the principle of pendulum.

### Travels and Trades

Some of the most famous travellers were Albaruni, Ibn Batuta, Ibn Hakaul and host of others.

Their ~~travels~~ travels followed by extensive trade with the countries of India, China, and Coastal Africa.

Arabs can be called the Phoenicians of the Middle Ages. So they carried on a brisk intercontinental trade.

Art and Architecture - Most of their cities adorned with great palaces and mosques. Al Hambra palace at Granada [Spain] Alcazar at Seville and great mosque of Baghdad.

Evaluation - Muslim Civilization was a composite. It gathered ideas from the civilization of India, Byzantium, Persia and Egypt.

The Muslims continued the work began in these earlier cultures and passed it on to western people it served as a part of Renaissance the foundation of Renaissance.

## Unit. V

### Middle Ages in Europe

- i. The Church
- ii. The Monastic Orders.
- iii. The Crusades.
- iv. Feudalism.
- v. Guild System

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# The Church

Organisation of the Christian Church.

The Christian Church was organised along the line of the Jewish Synagogue.

Apostles :- The Apostles regarded themselves as the successors of Jesus

A Christian congregation was called Ecclesia [that is popular assembly in Greek]

Presbyters :- Congregation chose elders or Presbyters

to carry on the functions of the church and to perform the sacrament of the Last Supper

Deacons were appointed to supervise congregation and do charitable work

Church officials were appointed with the approval of congregation.

Bishops :- Officers who presided over the presbyters

later came to be called Bishops. Bishops ruled their dioceses like political princes. They were the most important officers

of the congregation and they were regarded as the successors of Apostles. They were supposed to have divine authority. They had heavy duties and responsibilities.

They performed rituals, guided the worldly lives of people and interpreted doctrines

In a province several bishops formed a group called Synod.

The Council of all the Bishops of the Church was called Ecumenical Council

The office of the bishop served as the cornerstone of the ecclesiastical [derived from Ecclesia] system.

Pope :- All Bishops were supposed to be equal. But in course of time, some became more important than others owing to the great importance of the Dioceses (that is the areas under the control of Bishops) ultimately the Bishop of Rome became the Pope meaning Father.

The Roman Bishop enjoyed certain advantages. Rome being the capital of the empire, the Bishop of Rome enjoyed the greatest prestige.

In Rome, was situated St. Peter's Church which was regarded as the chief church or <sup>the</sup> mother church.

Moreover Rome had an added importance owing to the Martyrdom of Peter and Paul.

According to Matthew, Jesus gave <sup>Peter</sup> the key of the ~~heaven~~ Kingdom of heaven. On the mortal remains of Peter in Rome a great Cathedral was built.

The interval of chaos that followed the fall of Rome, the Church emerged as the most powerful single institution and it held that position throughout the Middle Ages.

The Roman Catholic Church was the successor of Roman Empire and the Pope became the overlord of Western Europe in the place of the emperor. Catholic means for all or of all.

At the time when the people were troubled by constant invasion of the barbarians, the Christian Church gave shelter and catered to the spiritual needs.

Pope Leo I went to persuade the great Hun leader Attila to withdraw his forces from Italy.

The Catholic Church assumed the important role in the lives of the people for its many services rendered. <sup>In Christianity</sup> ~~ad such times like~~ grace is conveyed through Seven Sacraments which are

1. Baptism.
2. Confirmation.
3. Holy Eucharist
4. Penance
5. Extreme Unction.
6. Ordination.
7. Marriage.

The Church had the authority and responsibility of administering the Sacraments.

Other factors which increased the influence of the Church were the wealth it possessed in the form of lands and buildings, the services of the educated clergy and its alliance with the State.

The Authority of the Church remained unchallenged for a couple of centuries.

The Church had its own law Canon Law and its own courts

By the commencement of the 7th century certain Christian dogmas had clearly emerged. These were the following:-

1. Trinity: The Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost are the three persons but are held to be God in one substance.
2. Incarnation: Jesus Christ as man is the incarnation of God.
3. Fall :- By committing sin Adam and Eve fell from grace and lost fellowship with God.
4. Virgin Birth :- Christ was miraculously born to the Bless of Virgin Mary.
5. Christ's Dual Nature :- Christ was God and a complete man at the same time.
6. Atonement God as Christ died to save mankind.
7. Grace: By God's grace and spiritual help man can escape ~~str.~~ from sin.
8. Resurrection ! Christ rising from death promised immortality to believers.
9. Divine Establishment: God <sup>established Church</sup> ~~restoring~~ through Christ for restoring fellowship between God and man.
10. Second Coming :- Christ will come back to the earth.

2

The Church fathers not only organised Church but also provided a theological basis of Christianity and interpreted authoritatively the principles of Christianity.

Athanasius [298-373] Bishop of Alexandria was the most prominent among the Fathers of Greek Church and is best known for his defense of the doctrine of Trinity.

The Fathers of Latin Church were also active in sponsoring Christianity and in interpreting its doctrine.

i Ambrose [340-397] Bishop of Milan trained for administrative career in law, advocated orthodoxy in theology and ecclesiastical supremacy over Secularism.

ii Jerome 340-420 great scholar among the early church fathers made a translation of Bible into Latin.

iii Augustine Bishop of Hippo in North Africa was the most famous of a distinguished group of Latin theologians. Aside from being a great organizer and preacher, he wrote 2 famous books

- i The City of God. and
- ii The Confessions.

## Monastic Order or Monasticism.

**Introduction :** In the early days of Roman Catholic Church, the most important work was to spread the teachings of <sup>Jesus</sup> Christ. The barbarians had to become civilized and Christians. In this mission, the Christian monks played a notable part. The monks lived in Monasteries.

**Origin of Monasticism:**

Asceticism as expressed in the monastic Order like Christianity - has its origin in the East where was a prevalent idea in most of the Oriental religions Buddhism, Zoroastrianism, the Gnostics and the patriarch of Judaism taught that it was the duty of man to withdraw from worldly life to protect his soul.

St. Paul and St. Augustine looked upon sex as an evil and upon women as potentially dangerous.

St. Jerome warned his followers of the dangers of earthly life.

Organized monastic life offered inducement to people for other than spiritual reasons.

Monks were excused from military service, debts, family obligations, personal bondage and punishment for crimes.

The Monastery offered protection against the invaders even the barbarians hesitated to enter the sanctuary.

Some of the monks went to great extremes in punishing themselves.

- \* St. Pachomius slept only in an erect position.
- \* Macarius lived in a swamp so that mosquitoes could feed on his blood.
- \* St. Simeon lived on top of a column in the desert of Arabia for 40 years.
- \* St. Antony sold all his property gave the money for charity and went to live in the desert of Egypt.

## The Monasticism in the West

### The Benedictine Order:

St. Benedict [born about 480 A.D.]

Established famous monastery of Monte Cassino in Italy.

He also framed the Benedictine Rule, which was adopted by numerous monasteries all over Europe.



2

The rule provided for the election of an abbot, who had almost absolute power, it stipulated rules, types of clothes to be worn and the property that a member might possess.

It provided a carefully worked out program of work, 6 or 7 hours of manual labor per day for those who were physically fit, work was considered a great virtue. Idleness is the enemy of the soul.

The Cistercian Order:-  
founded near Dijon in France.  
in 1098 A.D. St. Bernard <sup>The most</sup> ~~was~~ famous monk ~~leader~~.  
Cistercian Order was St. Bernard.

The Cluniac Movement  
There was Cluniac Movement<sup>2</sup>  
with its headquarters at Cluny in Burgundy.  
Its leading monk Hildebrand became Pope  
Pope Gregory VII. The Cluniac Movement monks  
advocated the abolition of Simony, the enforcement  
of celibacy.

Wandering Friars / Monks : During 13<sup>th</sup> Century, two  
kinds of wandering friars or monks Franciscan  
and Dominican began to travel all over Europe

## Franciscan Order and Dominican Order

St. Francis - of Assisi founder of Franciscan order. St. Dominic founder of Dominican Order.

Both urged their followers not to possess any property. Their main mission was social work. They must wander, preach people in their native tongue and uplift the poor.

### Crusades:-

During the time of crusades, a few military orders of the knights such as

The Knights Templars

The Knights of Hospitallers and

The Knights of Teutons

attached themselves to the cause of the church and tried to liberate the holy places from Muslim control.

### Missionaries:

Some of the monks took up missionary work at the instances of Popes.

Work of St. Augustine undertook the missionary work of converting the Anglo-Saxons to in England.

St. Patrick had gone to Ireland to convert Irish people to Christianity in 444 AD.

Pope Gregory II sent St. Boniface to Germany to carry on his missionary work.

2  
He founded the Carolingian Church and became a martyr at Friesland in 754 A.D.

### Importance of Monasticism

The establishment of the College of Cardinals in 1059, but the selection of popes in the hands of churchmen instead of laymen.

Marriage of the clergy was declared illegal in the same year 1059.

In 1075 Simony was condemned and lay investiture was prohibited.

Much of the missionary work of the Middle Ages was carried on by the monks.

The establishment of Christianity in England to Germany, and among the states of Central Europe was largely their work.

They were efficient workmen and craftsmen.

Some of the missionaries had model farms. The monks drained the swamps, cleared forest and experimented in seed selection, animal breeding and the crop rotation.

The monastery was about the only bright spot of cultural activity in the Middle Ages.

The monks copied and preserved old manuscripts of Greek and other literature and ~~kept~~ kept records which furnish a valuable source of information of the period.

In the monasteries scholars found refuge and a quiet place in which to pursue their works.

Albertus Magnus and Thomas Aquinas two of the most famous teachers theologians of the 13th century were monks.

## Crusades

Crusades means only <sup>European</sup> wars waged by the Christians from the end of the 11th century to the close of 13th century with the purpose of liberating the Holy Land from Muslim domination.

These lands considered holy on account of its association with the life of Jesus Christ, had fallen into the hands of the Arabs in the 7th century but the Christian pilgrims were permitted to visit. Condition changed in the middle of the 11th century when Seljuk Turks overthrew the Arabs.

From the end of 11th century to the close of the 13th century, great number of Crusaders left their homes in Western Europe travelling east and to rescue the Holy Land from the infidel Turks.

The significance of the word Crusade is derived from the example of Christ in 'taking the Cross' a practice started by members of the

First Crusader.

Latin word 'Cruz' means 'Cross'.

The occasion for the Crusades was the advance of the Seljuk Turks, recent converts to Mohammedanism in the Near East. They adopted hostile towards Christian pilgrims visiting the holy places under their control.

The East Roman Emperor was defeated at the battle of ~~Manz~~ Manzikert and Constantinople was threatened. The Byzantine Emperor Alexius I appealed to Pope Urban II for assistance.

At the Council of Clermont 1095 AD Pope Urban II called for a great crusade of Christians to rescue the Holy Lands.

In 1096 he appealed to the Franks, "Enter upon the road to the Holy Sepulchre, wrest the Land from the wicked race and subject it to yourself."

Many of his listeners took up the Cross and the movement was called "the Wars of the Cross" - "Crusades".

There was tremendous zeal and enthusiasm on the part of the Christians to join the Wars of the Cross.

There were many others who accepted the invitation for selfish reason.

While <sup>①</sup> the great numbers believed that they were serving Christ in the most sacred cause, some went for the

- ② sake of adventure and plunder and other
- ③ in order to escape punishment and bondage
- ④ Nobles had their eyes on valuable lands in Syria,
- ⑤ Merchants saw the opportunity for trade
- ⑥ Thieves sought escape from justice and
- ⑦ debtors believed that they could evade their obligations through the participation in the holy enterprise.
- ⑧ The church offered every inducement  
 forgiveness of sin,  
 protection of property and  
 spiritual blessings.

Prompted by a variety of impulses, good and evil, spiritual and materialistic, economic and social - all classes participated in the Crusades.

Kings, princes, bishops, noblemen, the wealthy, beggar, old men, children, women knights joined in the holy war.

## The First Crusade [1096-1099]

First Crusade was the only one to fulfill its main objective.

In response to the Pope call, a mob of 10000 men, women and children led by Peter the Hermit [a monk] and Walter the Penniless [a knight] marched towards Jerusalem.

As they were ill-equipped and without money, they suffered untold miseries. Many of them perished on their way and the rest were slaughtered by the Turks.

However the First Crusade was the only one to fulfill its major objective.

Three groups of enthusiasts - one led by the Count of Toulouse, a second by Godfrey and Baldwin and a third composed of Franks and Normans captured Jerusalem in 1099.

They established Feudal Latin Kingdom under the leadership of Godfrey ~~and~~ of Boudillon which lasted until 1187 when Saladin one of the most capable Muslim leaders reconquered the holy city. This prompted the Second Crusade.



## The Second Crusade [1147-49]

Turkey captured Edessa, a key outpost of the Christians in 1144 A.D., the Christians were shocked and Pope Eugenius III called on Christians for a Second Crusade.

The Holy Roman Emperor Conrad III and the French King Louis VII led the Second Crusade but failed to recapture Edessa.

The Turks slowly advanced further and the Christian strongholds fell ~~only~~ by one. Their great Emperor Saladin finally succeeded in capturing Jerusalem in 1187 A.D. Saladin was a brilliant Kurdish Emperor of Egypt who united all the Muslims of the Near East and West Asia.

## The Third Crusades [1189-1191]

The loss of Jerusalem was a terrible blow to the Christians Western Christendom. Prompted 3<sup>rd</sup> crusade.

The Third Crusades is considered famous since it included mighty rulers of Europe and their common enemy, Saladin the Great.

Although three kings participated - Frederick Barbarossa<sup>as</sup> of Germany, Richard the Lion hearted of England and Philip Augustus of France - due to lack of cooperation led to failure.

The ill-fated Frederick Barbarossa got drowned while crossing a river in the Asia Minor.

The French king Philip Augustus quarrelled with King Richard and returned home with his troops.

So King Richard the Lion heart - with his knights had to fight with Muslims. He was able to recover a part of the coastal regions but could not capture.

Jerusalem which was ably defended by Emperor Saladin. Emperor Saladin admired the great qualities of Richard and signed a treaty for permitting Christian pilgrims to visit the holy places.

The Fourth Crusade [1202<sup>-04</sup> A.D.]

Pope Innocent III appealed to the Christians to undertake another crusade for the recovery of Holy Land 1202 A.D. Unfortunately the crusade turned out to be most disgraceful for the Christians since they fought not with the enemy but among themselves.

owing largely to the influence of Venetian merchants the Crusaders attacked Constantinople and captured the city (1204). The Sacred Altar of St. Sophia was smashed and looted.

### Children's Crusade 1217

The Fifth Crusade was called the Children's Crusade. It was one of the most unfortunate episodes in their entire period.

Pious individuals who were disgusted with the efforts of warriors and statesmen in the various attempts to regain the Holy Lands and decided to ~~send~~ send children, with the hope that they might accomplish what adults had failed to do.

No doubt they relied for divine inspiration on the Biblical passage "A little child shall lead them."

A French Shepherd boy named Stephen rallied 30000 children to follow him with the promise that God would lead them.

Another company of 20000 children was led by a youngster called Nicholas. Both attempts resulted in complete failure. 1000s of children died of exposure or in shipwreck and others captured and sold into slaves.

### Importance of Crusades

It is ~~certainly~~ certain that the religious results of the Crusades were insignificant compared to with intellectual, the economic and social outcome.

1. Certainly the effort to keep the infidel Turks out of the Holy Land ended in a failure. Islam continued to spread.
2. The Crusades helped significantly in bringing to an end the long period of isolation and stagnation in the West.
3. The Medieval Solitude was broken up when those who went on Crusades acquired new ideas and met strange people. Those who returned had a broader intellectual horizon.
4. Commerce flourished. Silk, Sugar, Spice, new plants, new fruits, Cotton, muslin, drugs, precious stones and glass were brought back and sold in the ready markets of France, Germany and England.
5. The Scientific works of Aristotle, Arabic Numerals, algebra, the mariner's Compass and paper were introduced in the West as a result of discoveries made by the Crusaders.
6. New point of view, gained from contacts with other people, tended to weaken the hold of the Church on the minds of men.
7. The lessening of the autocratic power of the Church over the intellectual life of the people was a necessary prerequisite to the revival of learning in the West.
8. Finally it can be said that the Crusades contributed extensively to the introduction of new ideas and to the tearing down of old orders which made the Renaissance possible.

## Feudalism in Europe

One of the most important developments of the Middle Ages in Europe was the advent of Feudalism. It began in France following the death of Emperor Charlemagne [814 A.D.] and spread to many parts of disturbed Europe.

Evolution:

Feudalism developed in Egypt when the old kingdom was destroyed [2500 B.C.]

During the Homeric Age in Greece, a form of feudalism existed in the city-states and

Japanese Society was predominantly feudal until middle of 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Medieval feudalism was but another manifestation of the same general condition.

But during the middle of 10<sup>th</sup> century it assumed a definite shape.

Feudalism a system of land tenure:

In theory the king owned all the lands in his kingdom. and the nobles considered him as their overlord. He divided the land of kingdom into many regions. Keeping the main region under his control. He gave away the rest of to his noble on condition that they took oath of loyalty and agreed to render military service.

Thus the noble became her vassals and the king overlord.

The land given to the nobles was called 'fief' or 'feudum'.

The vassal became the virtual owner of the fief and governed it effectively.

The vassal himself could not look after the whole fief himself and so gave away parts of it to his friends who agreed to become his vassals.

These lesser vassals were either barons or knights. The lesser vassals had to pay homage and render service to his lord that is noble.

At the lowest rung of the ladder remained Serf (agricultural labourer) who owned the smallest bit of land and cultivated it.

His life and property came to be protected as long as he pleased his master by rendering personal service.

The church also owned lands and in the place of a noble, there was the bishop.

## Manorial System :-

The lord's estate, castle and that of his subordinates formed the Manor. Sometimes the lord of the Manor was a bishop.

The Castle offered necessary protection to people in times of danger.

Outside the castle lay the village where the peasants lived in small huts.

Every village had a mill, a blacksmith's shop, a church and a small house of the priest.

Beyond the village boundary lay the cultivated fields, meadows and woods.  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the cultivated land belonged to the lord, the rest of the land belonged to the peasants.

The meadows, woods and common land belonged to the lord and his peasants. They were used for grazing of animals, and collection of firewoods.

Three field system was in vogue. In the three field system, a peasant divided his land into three parts. The first part was kept fallow and cultivated barley, rye and wheat in two parts, the second part was kept fallow. Next year, he cultivated in the first and the second parts and the third remained fallow. In this manner each part lay

fallow once in three years. This was done to restore fertility.

### Duties of Serf :-

Each peasant or serf received protection from the ~~lord~~ lord and for this he had to

- a] work at least 3 days freely on the lord's land
- b] give the lord a part of revenue of his own land and
- c] make payment for getting the corn ground and baking it for bread for the lord's mill and oven respectively.

### Conditions of Serf :-

The Serf position was pitiable as he was neither a freeman nor a slave. He was bound to serve his lord throughout his life despite his miserable condition.

They attended the church on all Sundays where the parish priest looked after their spiritual needs.

Thus a manor remained a self-sufficient economic unit by itself with a barter system.



## Merits of Feudalism

1. Feudalism proved to be a useful institution to prohibit the people from chaos and anarchy.
2. It brought order and security and orderliness to the medieval society.
3. The decentralization of political authority and distribution of power made the way to a new political development namely Parliamentary democracy in the later centuries.
4. The linking of military and agricultural services with well graded social hierarchy fixed specific rights and duties upon the rulers and the ruled.
5. The manorial system an integral economic part of the feudal system, saved Europe from utter confusion in the farm front.

6 The exhibition of skill and Valour by the knights encouraged a spirit of sacrifice and devotion to general cause among all people.

Demerits:

1. Feudalism brought the growth of baronial power, jealous among the barons and suspicion between the king and the lords encouraged local feuds.

2. The king had to rely upon the military services provided by his vassals.

3. The extensive holdings of the Church gradually created the conflict between the Popes and the kings.

4. The feudal system was opposed to the emergence of a strong national govt.

5. The feudal lords ruled over their people in a tyrannical manner. They were either at war with the king or with their fellow lords.

6. The army was not given uniform training in the kingdom.

7. Different systems of justice was practised from fief to fief.

4

The Society was divided between rich and the poor. As a result the peasant suffered many hardships.

The Church became a very big feudal organisation.

Thus feudal system became largely responsible for the conflict between the lords and the church.

Decline:-

The rise of strong monarchs along with the rise of bourgeoisie or middle class as a major class completely changed the political values.

The growth of representative institutions in different parts of Europe undermined the feudal set up.

The Crusades and the invention of gun powder sounded the death knell of feudalism.

The 'Age of Faith' gradually gave place to 'the Age of Reason'.

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## Guild System

With the growth of the population of cities and towns, there arose a demand for products and their proper distributions.

Merchants and craftsmen formed associations called 'guilds' to control the business of a particular town or a city.

Guilds came to be formed from the 12<sup>th</sup> century.

The purpose of the merchant guild was to protect and promote the interests of their members.

For example the merchant guild of a city regulated the quality of goods, prices, weights and measures, working conditions, wages and to supervise business ethics.

Each member who joined the guild was bound by an oath taken at the time of his admission.

The merchant guilds in the town monopolised<sup>d</sup> trade for themselves, excluded middlemen, prevented unhealthy competition and provided escorts for their travelling merchant members.

The Hanseatic League controlled 70 German cities provided armed-convoy<sup>ers</sup> to its travelling members.

### Activities of Craft-guilds:

The Craft guilds were well organised. The assembly of masters elected 2 to 4 Wardens to serve as executives. These supervised the work of the guild, enforced the statutes, settled disputes between masters and workmen, passed upon the admission of new candidates and imposed fines upon the negligent.

The wardens examined finished articles before they were put on the market. Imperfect articles were seized and either burned or given away. Town officials were cooperated with guild authorities in enforcing regulations.

2

It provided entertainments, Cared for the sick and the needy, established schools and hospitals it undertook public projects, such as hospice buildings, sewage systems and street improvements.

### Guild and Trade Unions

The medieval guilds should not be confused with a modern trade union. The guild was neither an employers nor an employees Organisation but a combination of both.

It aimed not only at the furtherance of the interests of its members, but also at the maintenance of the quality of articles produced.

The nearest approach to a modern trade union came in the late Middle Ages. It was the Association of Journeymen which was organised for the purpose of securing higher wages from the master craftsman.

Journeyman instituted the idea of strikes. The use of term probably originated from the Place de greve [greve is the French word for strike] where the journeymen congregated in ~~parcs~~ parks to await hire.

As the power of the state increased it saw fit to deprive the guilds much of their power.

Industrial<sup>ial</sup>~~ial~~ Revolution swept away the last vestiges of the guild system.

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