

## POLITICAL SCIENCE

Core V

Semester-III

### Colonialism and Nationalism in India

#### Course Objectives:

The purpose of this course is to help the students understand India's colonial past, the shaping of the nationalist ideology and the unfolding of the national movement. Integral to the course is understanding the ideas of democracy and freedom along with corresponding social relations as well as political and institutional practices that took shape in the context of the anti-colonial struggles. The institutions of the state, its policies, and the social and economic structures that exist today, reflect the imprint of the colonial experience and the manner in which they have been transformed in the course of social struggles and the national movement.

#### Expected Learning Outcomes:

This course will enable the learners to understand India's colonial history and shaping of its identity as a nation. The students would be well versed with the major streams of socio-political thought as well as socio-political and religious reform movements which contributed to our nation building. The unit-wise outcomes are given below.

**Unit-I:** This unit will give the students a conceptual understanding of colonialism from different perspectives as well as an analysis of Indian nationalism through various approaches.

**Unit-II:** This unit help the students to develop a critical understanding of colonial ideology and its civilizing mission based on an assertion of cultural superiority. It will also help the students to assess the various impacts of colonialism on society, economy, polity and agrarian structure.

**Unit-III:** This unit will give an understanding about various reform movements as well as various types of resistance during the first century of British rule in India.

**Unit-IV:** This unit will help the students will learn about the historical context in which the nationalist movement emerged in India and took different forms in subsequent periods. It will also provide a broad understanding about the role, ideologies and contributions of great

nationalist leaders and organisations in nationalist struggle till the achievement of independence.

**Course Content:**

**Unit-I: Colonialism and Nationalism**

- a) Main Perspectives on Colonialism: Liberalism, Marxism, Post-colonialism
- b) Approaches to the study of Nationalism in India: Liberal Nationalist, Religious Nationalist, Marxist and Subaltern

**Unit-II: Colonial Rule in India and Impact**

- a) Colonial Ideology and Civilizing Mission: Assertion of Cultural and Racial Superiority
- b) Impact on Forest, Agriculture, Land relations, Industry and Ecology
- c) Constitutional Development and the Colonial State

**Unit-III: Reform and Resistance**

- a) Religious Reform Movements
- b) Other Social Reform Movements: Anti-Caste Movements and Women Emancipation Initiatives
- c) Tribal, Peasants and Working-Class Resistance
- d) Education and the rise of the New-middle Class

**Unit-IV: Nationalist Politics and Expansion of its Social Base**

- a) Nationalist Movement: Formation of Indian National Congress, Liberal Constitutionalist, Swadeshi and the Radicals, Muslim League and Hindu Mahasabha
- b) M.K. Gandhi and Mass Mobilisation, Non-cooperation, Civil Disobedience and Quit India Movement
- c) Revolutionaries: Communists, Socialists and INA
- d) Two-Nation Theory, Partitions and India's Independence

**Essential Readings:**

1. Treanor, P. (1997). Structures of Nationalism. *Sociological Research Online*, 2(1), 60–72. <https://doi.org/10.5153/sro.70>
2. Alter, P. (1994). *Nationalism* (2nd ed.). Edward Arnold.

3. Chakrabarty, D. (2002). A small history of subaltern studies. In D. Chakrabarty, *Habitations of modernity: Essays in the wake of subaltern studies* (pp. 3-19). Permanent Black.
4. Chandra, B. (1999). *Essays on colonialism*. Orient Longman Ltd. [Chapter 1: Colonialism: Some basic aspects, pp. 1-22].
5. Islam, S. (2006). The origins of Indian nationalism. In *Religious dimensions of Indian nationalism* (pp. 71-103). Media House.
6. Thapar, R. (2000). Interpretations of colonial history: Colonial, nationalist, post-colonial. In P. R. de Souza (Ed.), *Contemporary India: Transitions* (pp. 25-36). Sage Publications.

### **Additional Readings:**

- ✓ *Bandyopadhyay, S. (2016). From Plassey to Partition and after: A history of modern India. Orient Blackswan Private Limited.*
- ✓ *Bose, S., & Jalal, A. (2011). Modern South Asia: History, culture, political economy. Routledge.*
- ✓ *Chandra, B. (2019). History of modern India. Orient Blackswan.*
- ✓ *Chandra, B., Mukherjee, M., Mukherjee, A., Panikkar, K. N., & Mahajan, S. (1989). India's struggle for independence. Penguin Books India.*
- ✓ *Desai, A. R. (1959). Social background of Indian nationalism (3rd ed.). Popular Book Depot.*
- ✓ *Sarkar, S. (2014). Modern India. Pearson Education India.*
- ✓ *Sharma, S. L., & Oommen, T. K. (Eds.). (2001). Nation and national identity in South Asia. Orient Longman.*

### **Internet Sources:**

1. Thapar, Romila. *Shaping Identity: Nationalism, Secularism and Democracy*. Ajim Premji University lecture. <https://youtu.be/-LxPzkeLBOo?si=QjLM7DHUiILCexGN>
2. eGyanKosh. *Imperialism, Colonialism and Nationalism*. IGNOU. <https://egyankosh.ac.in/handle/123456789/17829>
3. OSOU. *Social and political thought in modern India*. OSOU <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1c9yHWd2SXFmqV3TwqB2wS7v1nllFqB3e/view>

4. BBC. *India's partition: The Forgotten History*. BBC.

<https://www.bbcselect.com/watch/indias-partition-the-forgotten-story/>

**Activities to do:**

1. Organize Special Talks/Lectures on the occasions of birth anniversary of great Leaders of Indian National Movement.
2. Visit to the nearby places related to Indian National Movement or read about these places and submit a report about the significance of the place.
3. Write a short report on the life and contribution of the Nationalist Leaders of your District/Region/nearby locality and submit to the course instructor.