

MAH

M.A. HISTORY

Assignments For July 2026 and January 2027 Sessions

MHI-06: Evolution of Social Structures in India
Through the Ages



**Faculty of History
School of Social Sciences
Indira Gandhi National Open University
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110 068**

Dear Student,

You have to do one assignment in each course of 8 and 4 credits. The assignments are compulsory. The assignment will cover the whole course.

It is important that you write the answers to all the assignment questions in your own words. Your answers should be within the approximate range of the word-limit set for a particular question.

The assignments should be submitted to the Coordinator of your Study Centre. You must obtain a receipt from the Study Centre for the assignments submitted and retain it. If possible, keep a photocopy of the submitted assignment with you.

The Study Centre will have to return the assignments to you after they are evaluated. Please insist on this. The Study Centre in turn will send the marks to the Student Evaluation Division at IGNOU, New Delhi. These will be entered in your grade card.

Submission of Assignments

You should note that the submission of assignments is compulsory before taking up Term-end Examination. It is therefore suggested that you do them within time. In M.A. second year you will have to do a total of 4 assignments. However, in case you have opted for MPSE-003 and MPSE-004 then you will have to do 5 assignments. We have given you a lot of time to do the assignments but we advise you to do them one by one along with your study of the particular course and submit them so that you may get back the marks and comments of the Counsellor with evaluated assignment. With a proper planning you will be able to do them within the stipulated period. Please do not wait for the last date to submit all the assignments because it would be difficult to do all of them in one go.

Last Date of Submission of Assignment

July 2023 Session Students

31st March, 2027

January 2024 Session Students

30th September 2027

Where to submit the assignments

**The Coordinator of your Study
Centre**

Before attempting the assignments please read the detailed instructions provided in the Programme Guide sent to you separately

Now read the following guidelines carefully before answering the questions:

GUIDELINES FOR ASSIGNMENTS

The assignments have two types of questions:

- 1) Essay Type Questions which you have to answer in about 500 words each carry 20 marks each.
- 2) Short notes which you have to answer in about 250 words each carry 10 marks each.

You will find it useful to keep the following points in mind:

- a) **Planning:** Read the assignments carefully. Go through the units on which they are based. Make some points regarding each question and then re-arrange these in a logical order.
- b) **Organisation:** Be a little more selective and analytical before drawing up a rough outline of your answer. In an essay-type question, give adequate attention to your introduction and conclusion. The introduction must offer your brief interpretation of the question and how you propose to develop it. The conclusion must summarize your response to the question.

Make sure that your answer:

- is logical and coherent;
 - has clear connections between sentences and paragraphs;
 - is written correctly giving adequate consideration to your expression, style and presentation;
 - does not exceed the number of words indicated in your question.
- c) **Presentation:** Once you are satisfied with your answers, you can write down the final version for submission, writing each answer neatly and underlining the points you wish to emphasize.
 - d) **Interpretation:** Interpretation is a constant process in history writing. It is already reflected in your planning and selection. Explanatory comments with phrases like may be, because, could be, etc., immediately introduce an element of interpretation in writing itself. Here you have to be careful that these comments can be supported by the material you have in the answer.

Wishing you all the best,

Faculty of History

**MHI-06: EVOLUTION OF SOCIAL STRUCTURES
IN INDIA THROUGH THE AGES**

Course Code: MHI-06
Assignment Code: MHI-06/AST/TMA/2026-2027
Total Marks: 100

**Note: Attempt any five questions. The assignment is divided into two Sections 'A' and 'B'.
You have to attempt at least two questions from each section in about 500 words each.
All questions carry equal marks.**

SECTION- A

1. What are the historical tools used for writing the history of ancient India? Discuss. 20
2. Comment on the nature of the society in the paleolithic period. 20
3. What do rituals reveal about the nature of society in the Vedic period? Elaborate. 20
4. Comment on the socio-religious and intellectual ferment that marked the rise of Buddhism and Jainism. 20
5. Discuss what is meant by the early medieval society? 20

SECTION- B

6. Comment on the nature of rural society in the peninsular India? 20
7. Discuss the origin and rise of the Rajputs with reference to the researches of B.D. Chattopadhyay and N. Zeigler? 20
8. Comment on the nature of social discrimination during the colonial period. 20
9. Did colonialism shape the perceptions of caste? Discuss. 20
10. Comment on the participation of women in the national movement. 20

