



# GUJARAT TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

Syllabus for M. A. in Hindu Studies, 3<sup>rd</sup> Semester

Branch: MH

Branch Code: 01

Subject Name: Major Thinkers of Ancient India and their Contribution

Subject Code: 1430101

With effective  
from academic  
year 2022-23

**Course Description:** This subject will focus upon the contribution of Indian seers and sages. In past India had sound scientific tradition to develop principles and theories in all fields of knowledge. These sciences and technology developed and created strong fundamental for the future. This tradition created the decimal system, the concept of zero, binary numbers, algorithms, measurements, atomic theory etc.

**Relation to**

**Jain Tirthankars, Indian scientist,  
Teachings of Buddha, Pali and Prakrit  
language.**

**Course Objective:** The primary objective of this paper is to understand Traditional and Ancient scientific developments and contribution of Indian Rishies and seers.

This will enhance the understanding and respect for the ancient Indian thinkers whose contributions were noteworthy.

In the context of Indian knowledge system, study of Indian scientists will enhance the trust of young generation in Indian culture and heritage.

### **Learning Outcome**

On completion of the course students will be able to :

LO 1 –Develop a good understanding of great traditions of the past.

LO 2 – Achieve a good understanding of achievements of Indian scientists and will make concepts of Ancient Hindu discourse clear.

LO 3 – Acquire knowledge of various interrelated philosophies of the Indian scientist and achievers.

### **Course Content – Core -IX**

#### **Unit-I Major Thinkers of Ancient India and their Contribution**

1. Brahmagupta,
2. Āryabhaṭṭa,
3. Varāhamihira
4. Bhāskara,
5. Bāṇabhaṭṭa
6. Kanad
7. Nagarjuna

#### **Unit-II (15hrs)**

1. History of **Jain Tirthankars**: Tirthankara tradition
2. Rishabhadeva, Parsvanatha, Mahavira
3. Metaphysics of Jainism Nine tattvas Jain Ethics & Main Principles Asrava (Influx), Stoppage Nirjara (Shedding off), Bondage and Emancipation Anekantavada Syadvada (v)Nayavada

#### **Unit III**

Fundamental Teachings of the **Buddha**: Four Noble Truths:  
Eight-fold Path; Middle Path; the Three Characteristics of Existence: Brahma-viharas:  
Pratityasamutpada



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Nirvana, Momentariness, Sila, Samadhi and Panna,  
Early Buddhist Conceptions of Karma and Rebirth  
Schools of Buddhism  
The Sarvastivada: Vaibhasika and Sautrantika; Madhyamika (Sunyavada); Yogacara  
(Vijnanavada).

**Unit IV** Introduction to Pali and Prakrit Language and Literature

**REFERENCE BOOKS:**

1. Bhagwandas and Annie Besant, *Sanatana Dharma: An Advance Text Book of Hindu Religion and Ethics*, The Theosophical Publishing House, Madras, 1940.
2. Ashok Vohra, Arvind Sharma, Mrinal Miri *Dharma - The Categorical Imperative*, D.K. Printworld, New delhi, 2005.
3. Acharya Hastimala, Gaj Singh Rathore, Premraj Bujawal, *Jain Dharma kā Maulika Itihāsa, Vols. I & II*, Jaina Itihas Samiti, Lal Bhavan, Jaipur, 4th Ed., 1999.
4. Acharya, Narendradeva, *Bauddha Dharma Darśana*, Bihar Rashtrabhasha Parishad, Patna, 1956.
5. Brajakishore Swain *The Dharmasastra : An Introductory analysis* Akshaya Prakashan, Delhi, 2004.
6. Chousalkar Ashok S., *Social & Political Implications of Concepts of Justice and Dharma*, Mittal Publications, Delhi, 1986.
7. Anantanand Rambachan, *The Hindu vision*, Motilal Banaridaas, Delhi, 1999.
8. Vincent Sekhar, *Dharma in Brahmanic, Buddhist and Jain traditions*, Sri Satguru Publication, Delhi, 2003.
9. Adya Prasad Mishra, *The Development and Place of Bhakti in Sankara Vedanta*, Munshiram Manoharlal, Delhi, 1967.
10. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, *Indian Religious Thought*, Orient Publications, Delhi, 2006.