



UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA

Notification No. CSR/72/2025

It is notified for information of all concerned that in terms of the provisions of Section 54 of the Calcutta University Act, 1979, (as amended), and, in the exercise of her powers under 9(6) of the said Act, the Vice-Chancellor has, by an order dated 24.09.2025, approved the new revised course structure for Minor courses of 4-year Honours and Honours with Research & 3-year MDC and Syllabus for semester-5 of 4-year Honours & Honours with Research in Islamic History & Culture under CCF, 2022.

The above shall take effect from the Odd semester examinations, 2025 and onwards.

SENATE HOUSE

Kolkata-700073

13.10.2025

13/10/2025

Prof.(Dr.) Debasis Das

Registrar
REGISTRAR
UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA

Islamic History and Culture

Syllabus for semester-5

of

4-Year Honours & Honours with Research

(Under CCF)

Syllabus of DSCC 9: Bhakti Movements and Sufism in Medieval India

Course Outcome (CO): This course introduces students to the most significant themes and features of Sufi and Bhakti Movement in India. The Sufi and Bhakti movements were both significant religious reform movements that emphasized personal devotion and spiritual experience, fostering inclusively and challenging social hierarchies. The Bhakti movement, rooted in Hindu traditions, focused on love and surrender to a chosen deity. Sufism, an Islamic mystical tradition, emphasized inner purification and divine thought by love and devotion. Both movements contributed to a syncretic culture, promoting harmony and understanding between different religious communities. Above all the course intends to religious traditional and popular ways of thinking of the medieval era.

UNIT I:

ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF SUFISM

- a) Origin Of Sufism: Meaning And Definition
- b) Historical Development
- c) Early Sufis: Hasan Basri, Rabia Basri, Zunnun Misri And Junaid Baghdadi
- d) Al – Ghazali
- e) Abdul Qadir Jilani

UNIT II: MAIN SUFI ORDERS IN INDIA AND BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO SUFI LITERATURE

- a) Chishti Order
- b) Suhrawardi Order
- c) Qadri Order
- d) Naqshbandi Order
- e) Firdausi Order
- f) Sub Orders (Selected)
- g) Akhbarul Akhyar
- h) Fawaidul Fawaid

- i) Kashf –Ul- Mahjub 4. Maktubat – E- Sadi

UNIT III: ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF BHAKTI MOVEMENT

- A. Origin and Growth of Bhakti Cult
- B. Bhakti Movement in South India
- C. Bhakti Movement in North India
- D. Important leaders of Bhakti movement

Unit IV: VAISHNAVISM, GENDER AND IMPACT OF BHAKTI MOVEMENT

- A. Vaishnavism: Bengal and Assam
- B. Bhakti Movement and Sufism: Similarity and Dissimilarity
- C. Role of Women in Bhakti Movement
- D. Bhakti ideology and its impact.

Selected Reading:

1. Hitesranjan Sanyal, Trends of Change in Bhakti movement in Bengal, Oxford University Press, 2018.
2. Krish Sharma, Bhakti and Bhakti movement : A new Prospective, Manohar, 2003.
3. Patton E Burchett, A Genealogy of Devotion : Bhakti, Tantra, Yoga and Sufism in North India, Columbia University Press, 2019.
4. Rekha Pande, Religious Movements in medieval India : Bhakti creation of Alternative Spaces, Gyan Publication, 2005.
5. Narendra Nath Bhattacharyya (ed.), Medieval Bhakti Movement in India, Manohar, 1989.
6. Malik Mohamed, The foundation of the composite Culture in India, Aakar Press, 2023.

Syllabus of DSCC 10: Major Debates in Medieval Indian History

Course Outcome (CO): This course introduces students to the most significant themes and debates of Indian history from early medieval times to the medieval period. It deals with the various aspects and debates of polity, society, economy and culture during Medieval India. It introduces students to ideas of state building, centralization of the state apparatus, and social and economic transition with particular reference to revenue administration. The objective is to familiarise them with the diversity and complexity of discourses in political, social, economic and cultural evolution during early medieval India and medieval India. Above all the course intends to challenge the traditional and popular ways of thinking of the medieval era.

Unit I

Early Medieval India: Polity, Society and Economy

- a. The notion of 'Early Medieval' in Indian history,
- b. The Feudalism debate.
- c. Agrarian system and land grants, trade and trade guilds - Monetization debate
- d. Cities in Early Medieval India: De-urbanisation debate, Third Urbanisation, temple cities, port cities
- e. Society and culture: proliferation of castes, status of women, *Bhakti* movements, cult appropriation, educational ideas and institutions.

Unit II

Medieval India: Delhi Sultanate

- a. Historiography of Medieval India: different trends
- b. Origins and nature of the State under Delhi Sultanate-Theory of kingship- Theocracy.
- c. Urbanisation debate during the Delhi Sultanate

Unit III

Medieval India: Mughal India

- a. Polity: Debate on the Nature of the Mughal state: Theory of kingship-Problem of legitimacy,
- b. Evolution of the administrative structure and the system of government: *mansabdari* and *jagirdari* system.

- c. Crisis of Mughal absolutism: the *Jagirdari* crisis - Parties and politics at the Mughal court and the struggle for *Wizarat* - The agrarian crisis and the peasant revolts under the Mughals
- d. Women in medieval India – Religion in medieval India - Evolution of Medieval India through the lens of art and architecture

Unit IV

Rise of Regional Polities

- a. Rise and growth of Maratha power-The political and socio-economic basis of the Maratha state, Maratha Administration.
- b. Mughal-Maratha Conflict and its impact on Mughal Imperial fortunes.
- c. The 18th Century Debate: Dark Age vs. Prosperity, Empire Centric vs. Region Centric view.

Selected Readings

Upinder Singh: *Rethinking Early Medieval India*

S. Bhattacharya and R. Thapar, eds., *Situating Indian History, For Sarvapalli Gopal*

T. J. Byres and H. Mukhia, eds. 'Feudalism and Non- European Societies', Special Issue of *Journal of Peasant Studies*, 12, nos-2-3 (1985)

Brajadulal Chattopadhyaya, *The Making of Early Medieval India*

D.N. Jha, ed. *Feudal Social Formation in Early Indian Society*

R.S. Sharma, *Indian Feudalism c-300- 1200*

_____, *Social Changes in Early Medieval India*

_____, *Urban Decay in India c. 300-1000*

_____, *Perspectives in Social and Economic History of Early India*

John F. Richards, *The Mughal Empire*

_____, ed. *Kingship and Authority in South Asia*

I.H. Qureshi, *The Administration of the Mughal Empire*

Aniruddha Roy, *Some Aspects of Mughal Administration*

H.K. Naqvi, *History of Mughal Government and Administration*

S.N. Sen, *The Military System of the Marathas*

S. Gordon, *The Marathas: 1600-1800*

_____, *Marathas, Marauders and State Formation*

Satish Chandra, *Parties and Politics at the Mughal Court*

_____, *Historiography, Religion and State in Medieval India*

_____, *Medieval Indian Society, the Jagirdari Crisis and the Village*

_____, *The Eighteenth Century in India: Its Economy and the Role of the Marathas, the Jats, the Sikhs and the Afghans*

S.A.A. Rizvi, *The Wonder that was India*, Part – II

M. Athar Ali, *The Mughal Nobility under Aurangzeb*

Seema Alavi, ed. *Eighteenth Century in India*

Jadunath Sarkar, *Fall of the Mughal Empire*

_____, *Shivaji and His Times*

Cathrine P. Ewing, *Sharia't and Ambiguity in South Asian Islam: Comparative Studies on Muslim Societies*

M. Alam and S. Subrahmanyam, eds. *The Mughal State*

Muzaffar Alam, *The Crisis of Empire Mughal North India*

_____, *The Language of Political Islam in India, 1200-1800*

Andre Wink, *Land and Sovereignty in India: Agrarian Society and Politics under the Eighteenth Century Maratha Swarajya*

I. A. Khan, *Gunpowder and Firearms: Warfare in Medieval India*

C.A. Bayly, Ed. *The Eighteenth Century in Indian History*

K.M. Ashraf, *Life and Conditions of the People of Hindustan*

C. Talbot, *Pre-Colonial India in Practice: Society, Religion and Identity*

H. Kulke ed., *The State in India 1000-1700*

T. Raychaudhuri and I. Habib, ed., *The Cambridge Economic History of India vol. I, 1200-1757*

D. E. Streusand, *The Formation of the Mughal Empire*

Peter Hardy, *Historians of Medieval India: Studies in Indo-Muslim Historical Writing*

Irfan Habib, Ed., *Akbar and His India*

_____, *Agrarian System of Mughal India, 1556-1707*

_____, *Essays in Indian History: Towards a Marxist Perception*

R. M. Eaton, *A Social History of the Deccan, 1300-1761*

P. J. Marshall, ed., *The Eighteenth Century in Indian History*

Harbans Mukhia, *The Mughals of India*

Ebba Koch, *Mughal Art and Imperial Ideology*

Syllabus of CC 11: HISTORY OF BENGAL (1204-1576AD)

Course Outcome (CO): This course introduces students to the most significant themes and topics of the “History of Sultanate Bengal, 1205-1576”. It deals with the various aspects of political evolution, administrative structure, society, economy and culture during Sultanate Bengal. It enables the students to understand the struggle for autonomy from Delhi and the establishment of a distinct political identity in Bengal, focusing on various ruling dynasties. The objective of the course is to familiarize them with the administrative structure and the patterns of trade and commerce. Students will be able to analyze the interaction between Islamic and Hindu cultures and the resulting cultural synthesis leading to emergence of a unique Bengali identity, and the influence of Sufi saints and *Khanqas* in promoting social harmony. Students will also grasp the factors contributing to urbanization of Bengal during the period. Above all the course intends to provide insights into the ‘History of Sultanate Bengal’ which would enable the students to analyze and understand developments during the period.

Unit 1: Bengal before Muslim Conquest

- 1.1 Geographical setting
- 1.2 Political Condition in pre-Islamic Bengal
- 1.3 Socio-economic and cultural condition

Unit2: Muslim Conquest in Bengal–Period of the Delhi Governors (1205-1338 AD)

- 1.1 The Khaljis
- 1.2 The Turks
- 1.3 The Balbans and Tughlaqs
- 1.4 Expansion of the territory

Unit3: Consolidation of Sultanate: Period of Independent Sultans (1338-1576AD)

- 3.1 Independent kingdom in Sonargaon and Ilyas Shahi Period
- 3.3 Raja Ganesh and his dynasty
- 3.4 Restored Ilyas Shahi Rule and Habshi Interregnum
- 3.5 Hussain Shahi Dynasty
- 3.6 Afghans and the Karranis

Unit 4: Administration and Economy

4.1 Administrative System during Independent Sultans of Bengal

4.2 Agricultural Economy and Revenue System

4.3 Trade and Industry

4.4 Urbanisation and Riverine changes

Unit 5: Society and Religion

5.1 Sources of writing History–Literature, coins and Inscriptions

5.2 Social Structure and Cultural Interaction-Hindu Muslim relation, Education System and Literature

5.3 Sufism in Bengal

5.4 Development of Art and Architecture

Suggested Readings:

Ali, M. M. (1985), *History of the Muslims in Bengal, 1st ed.* Riyadh, Two volumes

Chowdhury, A.M. (1967) . *Dynastic History of Bengal*. Dacca: Asiatic Society of Pakistan.

Chowdhury, Abdul Momin (2020), *History of Bangladesh Sultanate and Mughal Period (c. 1200 to 1800 C.E.)* Volume 1 and Volume 2

Haque, E. (1975). *A History of Sufism in Bengal*. Dacca: Asiatic Society of Pakistan.

Karim, A. (1960). *Corpus of the Muslim Coins of Bengal*. Dacca: Asiatic Society of Pakistan.

Karim, A. (1992) *Corpus of Arabic and Persian Inscriptions of Bengal, Dhaka*.

Karim,A.(1959). *Social History of Muslims in Bengal (Down to 1538)*. Dacca: Asiatic Society of Pakistan.

Majumder, R.C. (1948). *History of Bengal, Vol.1. Dacca*.

Rahim, A.M. (1967). *Social and Cultural History of Bengal*.Vol. 1, 1201-1576.Karachi

_____ (1961), *History of the Afghans in India, A.D. 1545 - 1631*, Karachi.

Sarkar, J.N. Ed.(1948).*The History of Bengal*,Vol.2.Dacca:University of Dacca.

Ahmed, Samsuddin (ed.) (1960): *Inscriptions of Bengal, Vol. IV*, Rajshahi, VRM

Morrison, B.M. (1970): *Political Centers and Cultural Regions in Early Bengal, Tucson*.

Nath, R (1978): *History of Sultanate Architecture*, New Delhi

Sarkar, Jagadish Narayan (1972): *Islam in Bengal (13th to 19th Century)*, Calcutta

Stewart, Charles (1971): *History of Bengal: From the First Muhammadan Invasion until the Virtual Conquest of Bengal by the English in 1857*, Delhi

Sur, A.K. (1963): *History of Culture of Bengal*, Calcutta

Tarafdar, M.R. (1965): *Hussain Shahi Bengal*, Dacca, Asiatic Society of Pakistan

Syllabus of DSCC 12: HISTORY OF BENGAL (1576–1765AD)

Course Outcome (CO): This course introduces students to the significant themes and topics of the “History of Mughal Bengal, 1576-1765”. It deals with the various aspects of political development, administrative structure, society, economy and culture during Mughal Bengal. It enables the students to understand how Bengal became a *Subah* within the larger Mughal Empire. The objective of the course is to familiarize them with the administrative structure, the economic foundations of Mughal Bengal, the rise of urban centers and the patterns of trade and commerce with particular reference to the role of European trading companies. The paper will analyze the interaction between Mughal and indigenous cultures and its influence on local literature, art, and architecture and demographics of the region. Students will also comprehend the gradual emergence and assertion of power by the local *Nawabs* before the British takeover. Finally, the course intends to provide insights into the increasing commercial and political involvement of European trading companies, particularly the British East India Company which ultimately led to the Battle of Plassey marking the effective end of independent Nawabs and ushering in Company rule.

Unit1: Bengal under Subahdars of Akbar (1576-1605)

- 1.1 Mughal Invasion in Bengal and rule of Subahdar
- 1.2 Bara-Bhuiyas of Bhati (Coastal Bengal) and their role
- 1.3 Revolts of the Mughal Generals against Akbar

Unit 2: Bengal under Jahangir (upto1627AD)

- 2.1 Control of the Bara Bhuiyas
- 2.2 Consolidation of Mughal Rule and Rule of Islam Khan Chishti
- 2.3 Subahdars of Bengal

Unit 3: Bengal under Shah Jahan (up to 1660AD)

- 3.1 Portuguese evacuation from Hugli by Subahdar Kasim Khan Juyuni
- 3.2 Shah Shuja and his rule over Bengal and Orissa

Unit 4: Bengal under Aurangzeb (upto1712)

- 4.1. Subahdars of Bengal
- 4.1 MirJumla and his expeditions to Koch Behar, Kamrup and Assam
- 4.2 Chittagong conquest of Shayesta Khan
- 4.3 Relation with English East India Company

Unit5: Bengal under the Nawabs (1723 to 1765 AD)

- 5.1 Murshid Quli Khan and his Revenue System

- 5.2 Expansion of European Trade
- 5.3 Alivardi Khan and his conquest of Subah Bangla
- 5.4 Sirajuddaula and Battle of Plassey
- 5.5 Mir Zafar, Mir Kasim and Battle of Plassey

Unit 6: Socio-Political, Economic and Cultural History

- 6.1 Administrative System of the Mughals and the Nawabs
- 6.1 Society and Social Life
- 6.2 Economy, Trade and Industry
- 6.3 Literature, Art and Architecture.

Selected Reading

- Blochmann, H(1927), *Ain-i-Akbari*, Vol.I (tr.), Calcutta.
- Raychaudhuri, Tapan(1953), *Bengal Under Akbar and Jahangir*, Munshiram Manoharlal, Delhi
- Sarkar, Jadunath Sir (ed.) (1948), *History of Bengal*, Vol.II, University of Dacca, Dacca.
- Moreland, W.H. (1923) *From Akbar to Aurangzeb*, London.
- Bhattacharyya, S.N. (1929), *Mughal North-East Frontier Policy*, Calcutta.
- Campos, J. J. A. (1919), *History of Portuguese in Bengal*, Calcutta.
- Chatterjee, Anjali (1967), *Bengal in the Reign of Aurangzeb, 1658-1707*, Calcutta.
- Chaudhuri, Sushil (1975), *Trade and Commercial Organization in Bengal, 1650–1720*, Calcutta
- Chaudhuri, Sushil (2000), *The Prelude to Empire, Plassey Revolution of 1757*, Delhi.
- Chowdury, Abdul Momin (1967), *Dynastic History of Bengal, c.750- 1200 A.D.*, Dacca
- Chowdhury, Abdul Momin (2020), *History of Bangladesh Sultanate and Mughal Period (c. 1200 to 1800 C.E.) Volume 1 and Volume 2*
- Habib, Irfan (1963), *Agrarian System of Mughal India*, London.
- Hasan, Syed Mahmudul (1980), *Muslim Monuments of Bangladesh*, 2nd ed.Dacca.
- Karim, Abdul (1964), *Dacca the Mughal Capital*, Dacca.
- _____ (1985), *Social History of the Muslims in Bengal*, Dhaka.
- _____ (1963), *Murshid Quli Khan and hisTimes*, Dhaka.
- Rahman, Md. Shah Noorur (2001), *Hindu-Muslim Relations in Mughal Bengal*, Calcutta.

Sarkar, Jagadish Narayan(1985), *Hindu-Muslim Relations in Bengal (Medieval Period)* Delhi.

Majumder R.C. (1963) (Ed.) *History of Bengal*, 2nd Ed. Dacca.

Dutta,Kali Kinkar (1936),*Studies in the History of the Bengal Subah,1740-1770*,Calcutta.

_____ (1939), *Alivardi and His Times*, Calcutta.

_____ (1948), *The Dutch in Bengal and Bihar, 1740-1825*, Patna.

Sinha, N. K. (1956), *Economic History of Bengal from Plassey to Permanent Settlement*, Vol.1, Calcutta.

Islamic History and Culture Minor Papers for Four Year Major (Under CCF)**(Both m1 & m2)**

SEM	PAPER	COURSE
SEM I	MN1 (m1)	History of Pre-Islamic Arabia to Prophet Muhammad (SAW) (570-632 A.D.)
SEM II	MN 2	History of Pious Caliphate (632-661 A.D.)
SEM III	MN1 (m 2)	History of Pre-Islamic Arabia to Prophet Muhammad (SAW) (632 A.D.)
SEM IV	MN 2	History of Pious Caliphate (632-661 A.D.)
SEM V (either m1 or m2)	MN 3 MN 4	History of Umayyad Dynasties (661-1025 A.D.) History of India (600-1526 A.D.)
SEM VI (either m1 or m2)	MN 3 MN 4	History of Umayyad Dynasties (661-1025 A.D.) History of India (600-1526 A.D.)

Islamic History and Culture Minor Papers for Three Year MDC (Under CCF).

SEM	PAPER	COURSE
SEM III	MN1	History of Pre-Islamic Arabia to Prophet Muhammad (SAW) (570-632 A.D.)
SEM IV	MN 2	History of Pious Caliphate (632-661 A.D.)
SEM V	MN 3 MN 4	History of Umayyad Dynasties (661-1025 A.D.) History of India (600-1526 A.D.)
SEM VI	MN 5 MN 6	History of India (1526-1707 A.D.) History of Abbasid Dynasty (756-1258 A.D.)