

**Maulana Azad National Urdu University**  
**H.K. Sherwani Centre for Deccan Studies**  
**Ph.D in Deccan Studies**

**Course Work**  
**Paper 3: Historical Geography and Sources for the Study of Deccan**

**Detailed Syllabus**

**Course Title: Historical Geography and Sources for the Study of Deccan**

**Course Code: PHDS101DST**

**Semester: I**

**Scheme of Instruction**

Total Duration: 60 hours

Credits: 4

Pedagogy: Classroom teaching

**Overview:** This course has total 4 units that serve as an introduction to the historical geography of the Deccan and the importance of regional studies in a broader perspective. It also provides a critical survey of the different sources for the study of history and archaeology of the Deccan.

**Course Outcome:** Students are expected to develop an understanding about interdisciplinary approach in area studies which is necessary to understand the finer nuances of the region in question. They will acquaint themselves with different sources – literary, archaeological and architectural, epigraphic and numismatic for the study of Deccan.

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Course Content</b>	<b>Instruction Hours</b>
<b>HGS 01</b>	<b>Historical and Cultural Geography of the Deccan</b> 1. Need for Area Studies on the Region of Deccan 2. Geographical Connotation of the Deccan Region 3. Need for Interdisciplinary Approach 4. Intermingling of cultures in the Deccan 5. Evolution of Dakhni Culture	15 hrs
<b>HGS 02</b>	<b>Literary Sources of the Deccan</b> 1. <b>Religious Literature:</b> Buddhist Canonical Texts 2. <b>Non-Religious Literature:</b> Histories and Eulogies ( <i>Vikramankdeva Charita</i> of Bilhana in praise of Vikramaditya of Chalukya dynasty, <i>Gatha Saptasati</i> of Hala of Satavahana), etc. Persian and Urdu Literary Sources 3. <b>Foreign Accounts:</b> Literary Accounts of Ibn Batuta, Nicolo de Conti, Abdur Razzaq, Athanasius Nikitin, Ludvico de Vortheima, Duarte Barbosa, Dominigo Paes, Fernao Nuniz, Ceaser Fredriseh, John Linscoten, Tavernier, Jean Thevenot, Careri, etc.	15 hrs
<b>HGS 03</b>	<b>Archaeological and Architectural Sources of the Deccan</b> 1. <b>Potteries:</b> Types of Pottery (Black and Red Ware,	15 hrs

	<p>Ochre Coloured Pottery, Painted Grey Ware, Northern Black Polished Ware, Red Polished Ware), Different Styles (glazed pottery, unglazed pottery)</p> <p>2. <b>Megaliths:</b> Megaliths of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana and Andhra</p> <p>3. <b>Monuments:</b> Monuments at Hampi, Monuments at Pattadakal, Forts of Maharashtra, Bahmani Monuments at Gulbarga and Bidar, Barid Shahi Monuments at Bidar, Adil Shahi Monuments at Bijapur, Qutb Shahi Monuments at Hyderabad, Asaf Jahi monuments in the Deccan, etc.</p> <p>4. <b>Caves:</b> Ajanta and Ellora Caves, Karle Caves, Nasik Caves, Mandapesvara Caves, Kanheri Caves, the Elephanta Caves, Rock-Cut Caves of Pitalkhora, Kailash Temple, Badami Cave Temples, etc.</p> <p>5. <b>Sculptures:</b> Buddhist and Hindu Sculptures</p>	
<b>HGS 04</b>	<p><b>Epigraphic and Numismatic Sources</b></p> <p>1. <b>Inscriptions:</b> Satavahana Inscriptions (Naneghat inscription of Naganika, Nasik inscription of Vasisthiputra Pulumavi, etc), Ikshvaku Inscriptions (Pillar Inscription of Virpurushdatta, etc), Chalukya Inscriptions (Aihole inscription of Pulakesin II, etc), Rashtrakuta inscriptions (Bhor Copper plate inscription of Dharavarsh Dhruv), Kakatiya Inscriptions, Vijaynagar Inscriptions, etc.</p> <p>2. <b>Coins:</b> Metals and Types of Coins, Early Punch-Marked Coins, Satavahana Coins, Chalukyan Coins, Yadava Coins, Kakatiya Coins, Vijaynagar Coins Bahmani and Deccani Sultanate Coins, Asaf Jahis Coins and European Coins, etc.</p>	15 hrs

### Suggested Readings

1. K.V. Sundara Rajan, *Cave Temples of the Deccan*, Archaeological Survey of India, New Delhi, 1981.
2. Pia Brancaccio, *Living Rock: Buddhist, Hindu, and Jain Cave Temples in the Western Deccan*, Marg Publications, Delhi, 2013.
3. Syed Ali Asghar Bilgrami, *Landmarks of the Deccan: A Comprehensive Guide to the Archaeological Remains of the City and Suburbs of Hyderabad*, The Government Central Press, Hyderabad-Deccan, 1927
4. Gabriel Jouveau-Dubreuil, *Ancient History of the Deccan*, Asian Educational Services, Madras, 1991.
5. Mirashi V.V., *The History and Inscriptions of the Satavahanas and the Western Kshatrapas*, Maharashtra State Board for Literature and Culture, Bombay, 1981.
6. P.L. Gupta, *Coins*, National Book Trust, New Delhi, 1969.
7. Dewan Bahadur, *South Indian Coins*, St. Joseph's Industrial School Press, Trichinopoly, 1933.
8. K.P. Rao, *Deccan Megaliths*, Sandeep Prakashan, New Delhi, 1996.
9. Richard M. Eaton, *A Social History of the Deccan*, Cambridge University Press, Delhi, 2008.
10. J. D. B. Gribble, *A History of the Deccan*, Rupa Publications, Delhi, 2002.

11. Ghulam Yazdani, *Early History of the Deccan* (2 Vols), Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi, 1982.
12. R. G. Bhandarkar, *Early History of the Deccan*, Asian Educational Services, Madras, 1996.
13. Salma Ahmed Farooqui, *Multicultural Dimensions of Medieval Deccan*, Sundeep Prakashan, New Delhi, 2008.
14. George Michell, *Architecture and Art of the Deccan Sultanates*, Cambridge University Press, London, 1999.

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