

## IDEAS OF HISTORY

What is 'History'?

→ The word 'History' has been derived from the Greek word 'historia' meaning inquiry. Herodotus, 'the father of history' wrote the world's earliest book historical inquiry. The study of history includes road map of major events based on dates and a synoptic view of the progress of society, politics, economics and religion from the prehistoric to the contemporary ~~products~~ period. According to E. H. Carr, history is a continuous process of interaction between the historian and his facts, and unending dialogue between the present and the past.

What is social history or new social history?

→ During the 60's of twentieth century there grew a new outlook in historical studies, which concentrated on the studies of the experiences of the common people. Thus emerged the concept of new social history through the writing of British historians like Edward Thomson, Eric Hobsbawm etc and the new social

history attempted to view the society from the point of view of lower and marginal classes with more emphasis on the contributions of the larger community than that of the upper class.

What was the annales school?

→ In 1929, a group of historians mainly french, like Marc Bloch and Lucien Febvre founded a new trend of historical studies called the 'Annales school' through their writings in the journal, ~~the~~ 'The Annales'.

The 'Annales' emphasized on inquiries on geographical factors, demography, agriculture, trade and commerce, science and technology, transport and communication and focused on the study of a more humane history along with the socio-economic context.

What do you understand by studies in subaltern history?

→ In 1982, Ranajit Guha, the historian, advocated the study of history from below in contrast to the existence practice of narrating history of the people belonging to the higher strata of the society. Subaltern history dealt with the people belonging to the lower rank irrespective of caste, class, gender, <sup>ethnicity</sup> ~~ethnicity~~ and religion. It also deals with

the socio-economic condition of the marginalized or oppressed. Partha Chatterjee, Dipesh Chakrabarty, Gauram Bhadra, Gopendra Pandey are some of the subaltern historians.

What do you understand by the history of food habits and cuisine?

→ The new social historians had worked on people's food habit and cuisine. Food habits of people differ from country to country depending on climate and geographical factors (e.g. rice and fish is the main food of Bengal due to the presence of many water-bodies and availability of rice ~~seed~~ <sup>seed</sup> and fish). An economic strength of people. Historians like Tapen Roy Chowdhury, Utsava Roy, K.T. Acharya have worked on the evolution of food habits and its diversity.

Write a short note on the history of sports in India.

→ The history of sports goes back to the Olympic Games in Greece in 776 BC. Sports and games, being an integral part of our lives, have become a matter of national pride and honour. Since the second half of the 20th century games like football, hockey, cricket, rugby etc. became popular.

Sports and games are not just an important



source of entertainment, they also help in building up the nationalist spirit and enable us to learn about the socio-cultural life of people. Historical geography of sports reveals that there exist a close link between sports with politics and national consciousness. When the Mohan Bagan ~~Athletic~~ Athletic club defeated the British in 1911 in the IFA shield, it provided a great boost to the national feeling. In 1721, the game of cricket was introduced in India by the British and the CCC (Calcutta Cricket Club) was formed in 1792. India had won the Olympic gold medal for 8 times in hockey. (In Europe the study of sports history started in 1970 while in India it began from 1980 with the publication of first research work done by Soumen Mitra on 'A Study of Foot Ball in Bengal: Nationalism, Communalism and Sub-regionalism'. Ramchandra Guha, Boria Majumdar, Kaushik Bandhopadhyay, Ashish Nandi have contributed greatly with their writing on sports history. Ramchandra Guha enriched the domain of sports by suggesting the possibility of opening international and political relations through cricket which has truly earned enormous popularity among the masses.



Write a note on the history of music in India.

→ Music is one of the important elements of performing arts. We find reference of music in the Sama Veda and it's an integral part of our culture. References on music and musical instrument can be traced from the writing of Bharata Muni, a sage of Tamil Nadu (400BC), in his work 'Natyasastra'. In India two distinct style of music existed - Hindustani and Carnatic. Jayadeva's Gitagovinda of 13<sup>th</sup> century was the earliest music found in Bengal and the ballad songs or Panchali gaan of Bengal in 19<sup>th</sup> century also deserve mention. Other music also evolved over the period of time and the Indian music under went some changes during the colonial period.

Discuss in short about the historical importance of dance.

→ The historiography of dance relates to the connection between identity politics and the creation of classical dance forms. Ancient Sanskrit works like 'Natyasastra', 'Abhinaya Darpana', 'Sangeeta Ratnakara', have written on Indian classical dances like Bharatnatyam, Kuchipudi etc. and given description of the different dance forms, their features and variations. Kuchipudi dance supports ~~Kuch~~ hegemonic version of the Telugu history. Modern

Interpretation of Bharatnatyam is based on the treatise Natyasastra. Historian like Tapati Guha Thakurta and others carried on extensive research work on the historiography of dance history and exposed the significant link between identity politics and creation of classical dance. Hip-Hop, waltz, Kathakali etc are certain other forms of dance. The tribal folk dance forms of rural India exhibits intermixing of cultures of adjoining states and territories.

Write <sup>or note on</sup> history of Indian cinema.

→ Following the opinions of A. Rajadhyaksh and Paul Willemen cinema came to India almost at the same time as it did in Europe and it was the only indigenous industry to emerge under colonial rule. The film Pundarik made in 1912 was a joint venture of the British and P.R. Tipnie. So the nationalist historians have bestowed the honour of the first film to Dhundiraj Govind Phalke 'Raja Harishchandra' released in 1913. The film Alam Ara made in 1931 was the first full length Indian movie in India. Hira Lal Sen and Moti Lal Sen introduced short documentary film in Calcutta. 'Bilwamangal' was the first bengali movie and Hira Lal Sen founded the 'Royal Bioscope Company'.

The film industry made great progress in India in places like Mumbai, Kolkata and South India and produced famous film makers like Satyajit Ray, Hrinal Sen, Gautam Ghosh, Ritwik Ghatak etc. The Bengali film industry, also known as Tollywood has earned fame for producing art films.

Give an account of the history of cloths and dresses.

→ The study of history of cloths and dresses reflects the social-cultural-religious, political, geographical and economic state of the lives of people.

Social historians got knowledge of clothing in India by studying the Vedas and the epics - the Ramayan and the Mahabharata. Indian dresses underwent a distinct change during the medieval period. In Europe also changes occurred in clothes and dresses after the Victorian age. People in Europe started wearing loose-fitting dresses for health reasons. During the 1870s, Jnanadanandi Debî introduced the 'Parsee style' of wearing sarees for the Bengali women. Dresses and clothes are largely influenced by Globalisation in today's world. In 1991 the 'Association of Dress Historians' was formed and many books like - 'Clothing Matters - Dress and Identity in India' by Emma Tarlo, 'Clothing, A Global History' by Robert Ross were published.



Give an account on the history of transport and communication.

→ The study of the history of transport and communication began in the years 1960-1970. The three primary ways of transport are air, water and land. Before the advent of modern transportation system boats, bull carts, elephants, horses or Palki were the major means of transport. Telephone, telegraph, letters, radio, television etc are different means of communication. The invention of wheel brought revolution in the history of transport. The invention of steam engine, the electromagnetic induction, telephone paved the path for further advancement. In Calcutta the first electric tram ran in 1902. The railways in India were first introduced in Bombay in 1853. The aeroplane which was invented by the Wright Brothers first flew from Dum Dum airport in 1930.

The advancement in transport and communication helped in developing trade and commerce, shorten distance and made life easier for poor people.

Important books on transport and communication are written by historian J. Armstrong (The transport history), David Brandon (London and the Victorian Railway) etc.

Professor R. Nihar Ranjan Roy in his 'Bangalee Itihas', Rabindranath Tagore and many other writers in ancient and medieval period have the reference of early-transport in their writings.

What is the significance of photographs in historical study? studies?

→ Photography received an impetus in India during the British colonial period. Photographs of archaeological sites, the revolts, the figures of important personalities and other documents are maintained for purpose of studies and reconstruction of history. Photographs helped to learn about the people, their clothes, personalities and cultural aspects.

What is military history?

→ The study of military history has gained importance after the World War II and globalization. This history deals with the wars and battles, methods of war fare, military equipments, strategies, the cavalry, infantry, the naval force - everything. It also puts importance on the study of the armed forces of a nation. By learning from the past,

historians dealing with military history also help to analyse the foreign policy of a country. Since 1970's the study of new military history began and that put greater importance to the soldiers, the effect of war on society and culture, the war tactics etc. Recently in the book 'A military history of India and South Asia from the East India Company to the Nuclear Era (2005)' edited by Daniel Marston and Chandan S. Sundaram, a detail study has been made on the military history of India. Jadunath Sarkar and S.N. Roy wrote books on the military history of India.

Why have the studies in environmental history become so important in recent time?

→ Studies on the history of environment started in USA during the 1940's and 1950's and the World Environment Day was first celebrated on 5th June 1974. Environment affects our life in every way - our survival, development and progress are largely dependent on how we take care of it. Industrialization, rapid urbanization gave rise to various environmental hazards like pollution, global warming, decline in greenery etc all of which combine to create an ecological imbalance. Therefore the New Environmental History tries to make us conscious and aware of the dangers lying before us.



Rachel Carson in the book, 'The Silent Spring', opined that nature will take revenge on us for ignoring its importance. Scholars like Mahesh Rangarajan and Ramchandra Guha's environmental studies are of particular importance. In India Chipko Movement, Narmada Bachao Movement had taken place for the protection of environment.

Write about local history?

→ Local history may be defined as the study of history in a geographically local context. Often such history concentrates on local community. Local history is an important area of socio-historical studies. Modern studies in history pay special attention to place names, and seek to uncover historical episodes behind them. Pioneering efforts in this direction have been undertaken by Satishchandra Mitra in his 'History of Jessore and Khulna', Kumudnath Mallick's 'Nadiya Kahini', Nikhilnath Roy's 'Murshidabad Kahini' Amanatulla Ahmed's 'History of Coochbehar' may be mentioned in this context.

Write about Urban history?

→ History of cities is an engaging discipline. In 1976 Ashish Bose, a leading demographer asserted that "in India, urban history is non-existent"

In a similar vein S.N. Mukherjee, distinguished social historian, added that urban history was a neglected subject in India. The recent study made by Professor Narayani Gupta is a milestone in the urban history of India. Professor Aniruddha Roy made a detailed study about medieval cities of India. A city usually has a story about its origin, development and importance in the life of the people. Delhi, for example, incarnated many times in different regimes. From Hastinapur and Indraprastha to Shahjahanbad to Delhi and then to New Delhi is a fascinating narrative by itself.

Trace the growth of science, technology, medicine in Bengal in the nineteenth century?

→ Science, technology and medicine had an uneventful beginning in Bengal but they progressed gradually in steady manner and flourished in 1804, John Mack's book on Chemistry was published in Bengali language from the Serampore Press and in 1817 the School Book Society published a mathematical treatise called 'Ganit'. From 1824, the Hindu College started teaching science and in 1843, the Civil Engineering Department was started in Hindu College. The Calcutta Medical

College was founded in 1835 and Madhusudan Gupta was the first Indian to dissect the corpse. From 1852, the study of medical science in Bengali language was started.

Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay's 'Bigyan Rahasya', Jagadish Chandra Bose's 'Response in Living and Non Living' and Acharya Profulla Chandra Roy's 'History of Hindu Chemistry' were published. Akshay Kumar Dutt's, ~~Phyces~~ work on Physics, Chemistry; astronomy, geology also deserve mention. The Botanical Garden Shibpur, the geological survey of India, Indian institute of science etc were founded for the advancement of studies in science and technology. Deepak Kumar's 'Science and the Raj' is an important book on the study of history of science.

Write a short note on Women's History?

→ Women's history is the study of the role played by women in history and highlighted on the rise of feminism, women's resistance movements, her political, economic and social empowerment, her right to education and health etc. It also put importance on individual ~~or group~~ <sup>or group</sup> of women of historical importance and the effect that historical events had on them.



Traditional recordings of history have ignored the contribution of women in different fields and from this point of view women's history can be regarded as historical revisionism. The studies in women's history reveals the oppression and inequalities experienced by women. Roles of women are often undermined in history and women's history reveals the differences in woman's lives caused by race, economic status etc. The study on women's history started in America but it attracted academic attention of the Indian scholars also. Sukumari Bhattacharya, Geraldine Forbes, Samita Sen have done commendable works on women's history.

Discuss the importance of government documents in writing the history of modern Ind.

→ The source material for the reconstruction of modern Indian history can be divided into two groups, primary source and the secondary source. Government document, such as reports, narratives, diary-entries of police, intelligence report etc. are regarded as primary source materials. To ensure smooth running of administration, the British recorded every aspect of their administration in India. Every executive, legislative and

Judicial body had record rooms in which even the smallest records were kept well catalogued. Many of these documents are now preserved in National Archives.

Government documents are based on opinions and are subject to further verification and analysis. So, caution must be exercised while constructing history by such information. Newspaper, contemporary literature, autobiography and memoir must be consulted before arriving at any conclusion.

What are the major sources for writing modern Indian history?

→ The source materials for the reconstruction of modern Indian history can be divided into two groups, the primary source and secondary source.

Government document such as reports, narratives, diary entries of police, intelligence reports etc are regarded as primary source materials. Government records may be biased. In order to verify and analyse this, the other sources, the secondary sources which are in the forms of autobiography, memoirs must be consulted. Periodicals, newspaper and



Contemporary literature and correspondence are also good sources to cross-check the information gathered from governmental documents.

Write a short note on Rabindranath's autobiography.

→ Rabindranath Tagore's autobiography, 'Jibansmriti' helped us to know the contemporary society, his childhood days, his education and schooling, his upbringing and reflected the environment in which he was raised. He mentioned the Jorasanko house and his memories attached to the roof of that house. He described the Brahma movement, the involvement of Tagore family in the freedom struggle and also about his visits to foreign countries and their socio economic condition he also spoke of his house, customs and tradition of his family. He discussed on the discipline imposed on the children and how they were taken care by the servants of the house. In 'Jibansmriti', Rabindranath also mentioned about the role played by the Tagore family in the growth of India's nationalism in spite of the influences



of western culture in their life style.

Why is the autobiography of Sarala Devi Chaudhurani important?

→ The autobiography of Sarala Devi Chaudhurani described her life and how she was raised, her country and the social norms and structure. She clearly explained how she defied the social dictums and came out in the open and set up women's organisations. Like Bharat Stree Mahamandal (1910). She asked the Bengalee youths to build up their physical strength and introduced 'Brishti' 'Birshtami Utsab' and to encourage them. She set up the Laxmi Bhandar during the Swadesi movement. In her book we also find mention of women's education, the influence of western culture and the role of Brahma Samaj. Her autobiography 'Jiboner Jharapata' drew attention of the intellectual and political politicians of her time.

Why are the letters written by Jawaharlal Nehru to his daughter important?

→ Correspondences are considered to be an important element for reconstruction of history and Jawaharlal Nehru's letters to his daughter Indira may be the accurate reference with regard to this.

In 1928, Jawaharlal wrote 30 letters to his daughter, Priyadarshini, which is compiled in a ~~book~~ book called 'letters from a father to his daughter'.

The letters not just tried to develop a father-daughter bonding it went ahead to enlighten the mind of a little girl with glimpses of history. In a very simple language Nehru explained the differences between man and other animals, civilization, agriculture, trade and commerce, religion, importance of handloom clothes, the Egyptian mummies etc. The letters not only help to generate awareness of the world around it also exposed the contemporary period to his child.

What is the importance of Somprakash?

→ 'Somprakash' was published under the guidance of Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar and editorship of Dwarkanath Tagore

Bidkya bhusan in 1858. Here political news got importance over literary articles and the paper fearlessly protested against british operation, the torture of the indigo planters, the Vernacular Press Act etc. 'Somprakash' tried to make its readers aware of their conditions and it developed a new style of journalism like child marriage, ~~colonism~~ kulinism, women's education and widow remarriage. For publication of anti-british report, Lord Lytton banned the newspaper temporarily. Historians find the writing of this paper as an important source of information.



# MCQ

1) Who is known as father of history?

- a) Ranke      b) Mailland      c) Herodotus      d) A.L. Roosa

2) The word 'history' is derived from the word 'Historia' which is a.

- a) Latin word      b) German word      c) French word  
d) Greek word.

3) Who said 'History is a Science'?

- a) Herodotus      b) Marc Bloch      c) Gautam Bhadra.

d) Bury

4) The first Indian historian who exclusively worked on Subaltern history of India was -

- a) Irfan Habib      b) R.E. Majumdar      c) Ranjit Guha

d) Romila Thapar.

5) 'Social history' caught the imagination of the young historians during the period.

- a) 1960s to 1970s      b) 2001 to 2010  
c) 1910 to 1920      d) 1890 to 1900

6) Who remarked that the Bengali youth could go nearer to heaven by playing football?

a) Raja Ram Mohan Ray

b) Vivekananda

c) Ashish Nandy

d) Boria Majumdar.

7) Who wrote the book 'Twenty years of Freedom'

- a) Ram Chandra Guha
- b) Kaushik Bandyopadhyay
- c) ~~Boria Majumdar~~
- d) Ashis Nandy

8) 'A corner of a foreign field' is written by

- a) ~~Ram Chandra Guha~~
- b) Boria Majumdar
- c) Edward Thomson
- d) Ashis Nandy

9) 'Khela Jakhon Tithe' is a wonderful study of the playing of football by -

- a) Gautam Bhattacharyya
- b) Gautam Bhadra
- c) ~~Kaushik Bandyopadhyay~~
- d) Ashis Nandy

10) 'A Historical Comparison' written by K.T. Acharya

a book written on -

- a) dance
- b) music
- c) ~~food~~
- d) Drama

11) Name the earliest text on the Bengali food habits.

- a) ~~Charyapada~~
- b) Samaveda
- c) Rig Veda
- d) Gita Govinda

12) Which book has influenced the Bengali music at the earliest?

- a) Panchali gan
- b) ~~Gita Govinda~~
- c) Samagan

12) Who was associated with the historical writing on the Annals?

- ~~a) Ranajit Guha~~    b) Gautam Bhadra  
c) Jadunath Sarkar    ~~d) Lucien Deburc.~~

14) The compiler of Natyashastra was -

- a) Manu    b) Vatsyana    c) Samudra    ~~d) Bharat Muni~~

15) Two oldest preserved examples of Indian music can be found in,

- ~~a) Tajar Veda~~    b) Sama Veda    c) Rig Veda  
d) Puranas.

16) 'Sangita Ratnakar' was a treatise on music and dance written by -

- ~~a) Sharangadeva~~    b) Jayadeva    c) Bharata    d) Samudra.

17) In which year was the Calcutta Cricket Club formed?

- ~~a) 1780~~    ~~b) 1792~~    c) 1799    ~~d) 1800~~

18) Where in India was the first hockey club (1885-86) established?

- ~~a) Madras~~    b) Pune    ~~c) Kolkata~~    d) Mumbai

19) When did India first take part in the hockey tournament of Olympic games?

- a) 1926    b) 1927    ~~c) 1928~~    d) 1929



20) Who amongst the following wrote on 'Military History of India'?

a) R.C Majumdar      b) D.N Jha      c) Kankar Roy  
d) Jadunath Sarkar

21) Kutiyattam emerged in -

a) West Bengal      b) Maharashtra      c) Kerala  
d) Assam

22) Which branch of history studies the experiences of ordinary people?

a) New Social History      b) Military History  
c) Economic History      d) Political History

23) The new social history emerged through the writings of historians like -

a) Partha Chatterjee      b) Gauram Bhadra  
c) Eric Hobsbawm      d) Kankar Bandyopadhyay

24) Which period marked the study of sports history in Europe?

a) 1910      b) 1950      c) 1970      d) 1990

25) The game of cricket was started in which country?

a) France      b) West Indies      c) Australia  
d) England.

26) From which year the game of cricket was introduced in India?

a) 1911      b) 1917      c) 1921      d) 1992

27) Who was the first internationally acclaimed cricketer of India?

- a) Saradar Ranjan Roy      b) Nagendra Prasad  
 c) Ranjit Singhji      d) Lata Amarnath
- 28) The national game of England is -  
 a) Rugby      b) football      c) Cricket      d) Archery
- \* 29) Name the Indian football team who won the  
 I.F.A shield against the British in 1911  
 a) East Bengal Club      b) Mohan Bagan Club  
 c) Tollygunj Agragami      d) George Telegraph
- 30) Name the earliest available work on drama  
 in Tamil  
 a) Tolkaappiyam      b) Natyacharya      c) Pundarik  
 d) Katiyarttam
- 31) Who wrote the plays Anande Raho and  
 Griha Laxmi?  
 a) Kalidas      b) Jogendra Gupta      c) Girish Chandra  
 Ghosh      d) Hari Madhava Chakyan
- 32) Which was the first <sup>Indian</sup> feature film?  
 a) Raja Harisichandra      b) Pundarik  
 c) Pather Panchali      d) Devdas
- 33) Who is regarded as 'father of Indian  
 Cinemas' ?  
 a) P.R. Tipnis      b) Ritwik Ghatak  
 c) Prithviraj Kapoor      d) Dadasaheb Phalke

- 34) Who made the film 'Pather Panchali'?
- a) Rituparno Ghosh    b) Ritwik Ghatak  
 c) Prithviraj Kapoor    d) Dadasahab Phalke
- 35) Evidence of India's history of clothing goes back to the period of.
- a) The Ramayana    b) The Mahabharata  
 c) Rig Veda    d) Indus Valley Civilization.
- 36) Where can we find the mention of the word 'Paridhan'?
- a) Rig Veda    b) Sama Veda    c) Yajur Veda  
 d) Puranas.
- 37) Who worked with the designs for a national dress for women of our country?
- a) Sarala Devi    b) Sarojin Naidu  
 c) Jnanadanandini Devi    d) Kadambini Ganguly
- 38) Gaudiya Nitya is a dance form from -
- a) Bihar    b) Assam    c) Kerala    d) Bengal
- 39) The drama 'Madhyama Vyayoga' was written by -
- a) Bharat Muni    b) Bhasa    c) Jaydeva    d) Kalidas.
- 40) Which style of wearing the sari was adopted by Jnanadanandini Devi?
- a) Parsee    b) Tamil    c) Medieval    d) European
- 41) Which was the most common means of transport in early Bengal?
- a) Palanquin    b) Carriage    c) elephant  
 d) boat



- 42) Who introduced a postal system by horse-men?
- a) Babar b) Sher-Shah c) Akbar d) Aurangzeb
- 43) 'Soptdingo Madhukan' belonged to rich merchant
- a) Satyendranath Tagore b) Digambar Biswas  
c) Chand Sadagar d) Dhanapati Sadagar
- 44) Who wrote 'Bangales Itihās'?
- a) Nihar Ranjan Roy b) Ramesh Chandra Majumdar  
c) Gautam Bhadra d) Sumit Sarkar
- 45) Which mode of transport was described in a poem written by Sarojini Naidu?
- a) boat b) horse-driven carriages of Paliki or Palanquin  
c) bullock-carts
- 46) In which year was the electric tram introduced in Calcutta?
- a) 1902 b) 1905 c) 1911 d) 1914
- 47) Who invented steam engine?
- a) James Watt b) George Stephenson c) Graham Bell  
d) Marconi
- 48) Who used the metaphor of bullock in Dhama Paḍa?
- a) Mahavira b) Kalidas c) Bharat Muni d) Buddha
- 49) Who first used the commercial steam boat?
- a) Robert Fulton b) William Symington c) James Watt  
d) Oliver Evans
- 50) The railway service from Howrah to Hooghly started in the year -
- a) 1857 b) 1859 c) 1854 d) 1851

- 51) Which dynasty illuminated Buddhist manuscripts Astasahasika Poojanaparamita or Pancarakshe or Dharani texts?
- a) Pala      b) Sena      c) Kushans      d) Gupta
- 52) Who brought to notice the famous Kalighat paintings?
- a) Sarasikumar Saraswati      b) Jamini Roy  
 c) William Archer      d) Nandalal Bose
- 53) Who wrote 'A Handbook of Indian Art'?
- a) Saroshi Kumar      b) Ernest Benfield Havel  
 c) William Archer      d) Jamini Roy
- 54) Who come to be noted for paintings as well as open-air monumental sculptures?
- a) Jamini Roy      b) Nandalal Bose      c) Rankin  
 d) Abanindranath Tagore

## CH. 1 Ideas of History

### MCQ

55. Who was the teacher at the Kalabhavan of Santiniketan among the following?
- a) Rabi Verma                      b) Sashi Kumar  
c) M.F. Husain                    d) Nandalal Bose.
56. Who is regarded as the 'father of Indian painting'?
- a) Abanindranath Tagore        b) Jyotirindranath Tagore  
c) Rabindranath Tagore        d) Kaganendranath Tagore.
57. Which place in India was the centre of the Renaissance of modern painting?
- a) Mumbai        b) Madras        c) Calcutta        d) Delhi
58. In which year was the Calcutta Art School established?
- a) 1861        b) 1862        c) 1863        d) 1864
59. In which year camera arrived in Calcutta?
- a) 1840        b) 1841        c) 1842        d) 1843
60. In which year Messers Bourne and Shepherd opened its studio in Calcutta?
- a) 1862        b) 1863        c) 1864        d) 1865
61. When was the Calcutta School of Industrial Arts established?
- a) 1854        b) 1855        c) 1856        d) 1857
62. When was the Photographic Society of Bengal established?
- a) 1855        b) 1856        c) 1857        d) 1858
63. When did the Indian Academy of Fine Arts come into existence?
- a) 1917        b) 1918        c) 1919        d) 1921



64) Name the woman photographer who opened a studio at Maniktala, in north Calcutta?

- a) Jnanadanandini Debi    b) Sarala Devi  
c) Miss Wince    d) Annapurna Dutta

65) Colonel Mahim Chandra Thakur published his paper in -

- a) Bhandar    b) Janmabhumi    c) Shilpapushpanjali  
d) Prabashi

66) Who was the pioneer of X-ray photography in India?

- a) Dr. Nilratan Sarker    b) Jagadish Chandra Bose  
c) Annapurna Dutta    d) Colonel Mahim Chandra Thakur.

67) 'History of Indian and Eastern Architecture' (1876) was written by -

- a) H.H. Cole    b) Thomas Metcalf    c) James Fergusson  
d) E.B. Havell.

68) Who contributed much to the urban history of India?

- a) Sumit Sarker    b) Narayani Gupta    c) Gautam Bhadra  
d) Gyan Pandey

69) Hastinapur is the ancient name of -

- a) Benaras    b) Allahabad    c) Oudh    d) Delhi

70) The first X-ray unit for diagnosing diseases initiated by -

- a) Dr. Nilratan Sarker    b) Meghnad Saha  
c) Satyen Bose    d) Acharya Prafulla Chandra Ray

- 71) In which year was the modern 'city' of Calcutta founded?  
a) 1660 b) 1680 c) 1690 d) 1682
- 72) 'Babasaheb Phalke Award' is provided in the field of -  
a) Dance b) Cinema c) Drama d) Music
- 73) 'Ekei Bole shooting' was written by -  
a) Ritwik Kumar Ghatak b) Tapan Sinha.  
c) Satyajit Ray d) Mrinal Sen
- 74) The study of military history first began in -  
a) France b) Roman Empire c) England d) Germany
- 75) What was the Punjab's camel riders song called?  
a) Tappa b) Thumri c) Bhatiyali d) Gazal.
- 76) Give one example of Bhanja style of architecture in Bengal -  
a) Dakshineswar Kali Temple b) Kali Temple of Kalighat  
c) Belur Math d) Indian Museum.
- 77) Who wrote the book, 'The Making of a New Indian Art' ?  
a) Partha Chatterjee b) Tapati Guha Thakurta.  
c) Ranajit Guha d) Sumit Sarkar.
- 78) Name the historian who made a detailed study of the medieval cities in India.  
a) Barun Dey b) Aniruddha Roy c) Irfan Habib  
d) Romila Thapar.

79) Who wrote 'History of Jessore and Khulna'?

- a) Amanatulla Ahmed    b) Nikhilnath Roy  
c) Aniruddha Roy    d) Satish Chandra Mitra.

80) Who composed 'Nadiya Kahini' in Bengali?

- a) Gauram Bhadra    b) Sumit Sarkar  
c) Kumudnath Mallick    d) Partha Chatterjee

81) Amiya Kumar Bandopadhyay, Tarapada Santra, Hitesh Ranjan Sanyal and Ratanlal Chakrabarti wrote on the designs and architecture of the temples of -

- a) Bengal    b) Bihar    c) Orissa    d) Varanasi

82) Ziggurats were the features of the temples of the

- a) Indus valley    b) Egyptians    c) Sumerians    d) Greeks

83) 'Parthenon' is found in -

- a) Rome    b) Egypt    c) Greece    d) Persia

84) 'Colosseum' is found in -

- a) Rome    b) Egypt    c) Greece    d) Persia.

85) The history of the Calcutta Science College is the part of the history of -

- a) photography    b) sports    c) science and technology  
d) environmental history

86) Who wrote the 'History of Science' or 'Bigyaner Itihas'?

- a) P. C Ghosh    b) Manabendra Bandopadhyay  
c) Meghnad Saha    d) Samar Sen.



87) Who composed the book 'Technology in Medieval India'?

- a) P. C Roy      b) J. C Bose      c)  Isfah Habib.  
d) ~~Romita Thapar.~~

88) Who propagated the modern concept of the solar system?

- a) Kepler      b)  Copernicus      c) Magellan      d)  Galileo.

89) John Mack's book on Chemistry in Bengali was published from

- a) ~~Hindu College~~      b) School Book Society  
c)  Serampore Press      d) Calcutta Science College.

90) In which year was the Civil Engineering Department opened in Hindu College?

- a)  1843      b) 1844      c) ~~1845~~      d) 1846

91) Who published his first book 'Response in Living and Non-Living' from London?

- a) Meghnad Saha      b)  Jagadish Chandra Bose.  
c) Ramendra Sundar Tribedi      d) Profulla Chandra Ray

92) Name the Bengali personality who authored a number of books on Geography, Physics, Astronomy, Mathematics and Geography.

- a)  N Brahmachari      b) Madhusudan Gupta  
c) Ramendra Sundar Tribedi

d)  Akshay Kumar Dutta.

93) Who wrote 'Kala-azar: Its Treatment'?

- a) Madhusudan Gupta      b) Dr P C Ghosh  
c) Dr P C Roy      d)  Dr. UN Brahmachari

94) Who <sup>is</sup> her work, Women in India, considered women's recent history from the 19<sup>th</sup> century under colonial rule, to the 20<sup>th</sup> century after India's independence?

- a) N. Desai   b) Sukumari Bhattacharya    c) Geraldine Forbes  
d) Tanika Sarkar

95) Who edited 'From Parda to Modernity' a significant work on women history?

- a) B.R. Nanda   b) Meera Desai   c) Tanika Sarkar  
d) Sukumari Bhattacharya.

96) Which among the following is considered as the primary source material for the reconstruction or study of modern Indian history?

- a) Autobiography and memoirs    b) Government documents  
c) Coins   d) Accounts of foreign travellers.

97) Where are the governmental records of Indian administration preserved?

- a) State and National Archives   b) Library  
c) Book stores.   d) Police head quarters.

98) Police diary and intelligence report form a part of -

- a) secondary source   b) oral source    c) primary source  
d) historical narrative

99) Autobiography and memoirs are considered as -

- a) primary sources    b) secondary sources.  
c) complete sources   d) incomplete sources.

100) Who is known as 'father of revolutionary thought'?

- a) Derozio      b) Raja Ram Mohan Roy  
c) Bipin Chandra Pal      d) Khudiram Bose.

101) 'Sattan Bathan' is the autobiography of -

- a) C.R. Das      b) B.C. Roy      c) Madhusudan Roy  
d) Bipin Chandra Pal.

102) The author of 'Jibansmriti' is -

- a) Paray Chand Mitra      b) Swarnakumari Debi  
c) Rabindranath Tagore      d) Vidyasagar

103) Who wrote 'Jiboner Jharapat'?

- a) Swarna Kumari Debi      b) Sarala Devi Chaudhurani  
c) Kumari Ushaprabha Dutta      d) Bhuvan Mohini Basu

104) Who was the first feminist of modern Bengal?

- a) Jnanadanandini Debi      b) Mrinalini Debi  
c) Sarala Devi Chaudhurani      d) Swarna Kumari Debi

105) In which year was the 'Birshtami Utsab' introduced?

- a) 1901      b) 1902      c) 1908      d) 1906.

106) 'Jibansmriti' was first published in -

- a) Bhairabi      b) Prabasi      c) Barnobadhini Patrika.  
d) Bangadeshan.

107) We find the mention of Nabagopal Mitra's Hindu Mel in -

- a) Anandamath      b) Sishu      c) Jibansmriti  
d) Debi Chaudhurani



108) Jawaharlal Nehru's letters to Indira Gandhi were translated into Hindi by -

- a) Khushwant Singh    b) ~~Munshi Premchand~~  
c) Saadat Hasan Manto    d) Ram Chandra Guha

109) Who wrote the book 'Letters from a Father to his Daughter'?

- a) Jawaharlal Nehru    b) Rabindranath Tagore  
c) Saadat Hasan Manto    d) Khushwant Singh

110) How many letters were written to Indira by her father in 'Letters from a father to his Daughter'?

- a) 35    b) ~~30~~    c) 38    d) 27

111) 'Jibaner Jhasapata' by Sarala Devi Chaudhurani was published in the magazine -

- a) Bhasati    b) Prabasi    c) ~~Desh~~    d) The Bengalee

112) Name the first Bengali periodical -

- a) ~~Bangadarshan~~    b) ~~Digdarshan~~    c) Sambad Kaumudi  
d) Samprakash

113) Who edited 'Digdarshan'?

- a) W. Carey    b) ~~J. Marshman~~    c) Saunders  
d) David Hare

114) In which year was the first Bengali newspaper published?

- a) ~~1818~~    b) 1819    c) 1815    d) 1816

115) When was 'Bangadarshan' first published?

- a) 1878    b) 1876    c) ~~1872~~    d) 1888

116) Who was the first editor of 'Bangadarshan'?

- a) Akshay Kumar Dutta    b) Sarajib Chandra Chattopadhyay  
c) Ramesh Chandra Majumdar    d) Bankim " "

117) 'Bangadarshan' was published -

- a) monthly    b) weekly    c) daily    d) fortnightly.

118) The collection of reports and comments about current events published on a daily basis is a -

- a) journal    b) newspaper    c) periodical    d) magazine.

119) Which of the following according to Dr. Ramesh Chandra Majumdar was the first literary journal of its kind in Bengal?

- a) Somprakash    b) Digdarshan    c) Bangadarshan  
d) Samachar Darpan

120) Who later became the editor of 'Bangadarshan'?

- a) Satyendranath Tagore    b) Gaganendranath Tagore  
c) Jyotirindranath Tagore    d) Rabindranath Tagore

121) When was 'Somprakash' first published?

- a) 1856    b) 1858    c) 1872    d) 1878.

122) Who was the editor of 'Somprakash'?

- a) Akshay Kumar Dutta    b) Dwarkanath Bidyadatta  
c) Dwarkanath Vidyabhusan    d) Bhanu Chandra Vidyaasagar

123) In which year 'Somprakash' published the wrongs done by the British administrators in India?

- a) 1862    b) 1872    c) 1882    d) 1892.

124) 'Bangadarshan' was published by -  
a) Rabindranath Tagore      b) Bipin Chandra Pal  
c) Sarala Devi Chaudhurani      d) Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay

125) In 'Stri Lokar Prakrita Swadhinata', \_\_\_\_\_ stated that 'As freedom is for men in our country for the women there is bondage'.

a) Kumari Ushaprabha Devi      b) Bhuvanmohini Basu  
c) Prasannatarca Gupta      d) Nistarini Debi

126) The editor of 'Bengal Gazette' was

a) James Augustus Hicky      b) D. C. Banerjee  
c) Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay      d) Swan Chandra Vidyalaya

127) The writer of 'Anandamath' was -

a) Kaliprasanna Sinha      b) Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay  
c) Sarala Devi      d) Rabindranath Tagore

128) The editor of 'The Bengalee' was -

a) Dadabhai Naoroji      b) R. P. Dutta

c) Surendranath Banerjee (Vasitra guru)      d) Rammohan Roy

129) What was the first newspaper published in Bengal?

a) Digdarshan      b) Bangadarshan      c) Bengal Gazette  
d) Somprakash.

130) Who established 'Hindu Mela'?

a) Raja Rammohan Roy      b) Radhakanta Deb  
c) Nabagopal Mitra      d) Satyendra Nath Tagore



131) The song 'Amar Sonar Bangla' was composed by -  
a) Rabindranath Tagore      b) Rajanikanta Sen  
c) Atul Prasad Sen      ~~d) Kazi Nazrul Islam.~~

132) The Odissi dance maestro is -

a) Uday Shankar      ~~b) Birju Maharaj~~  
c) ~~Kelu Charan Mahapatra~~      d) Habib Tanvir

133) In which state was 'Kathakali' dance form born?

a) Tamil Nadu      b) Andhra Pradesh      ~~c) Kerala.~~  
d) Madhya Pradesh

134) Who contributed to the Indianisation of Indian art during the British period?

~~a) Abanindranath Tagore~~      b) Nandalal Bose  
c) Ramkrishna Beji      d) Jamini Roy

135) Why is Rabi Verma famous for?

a) dance      b) music      ~~c) painting~~      d) architecture.

136) The editor of 'Sandhya' was

a) Krishna Kumar Mitra      ~~b) Brahmabandhab Upadhyay~~  
c) Iswar Chandra Gupta      d) Debendranath Tagore.

137) The first photographer of India was -

a) Michael Mann      ~~b) Lal Bahadur Shastri~~      c) Deben.  
\*      d) Michael Bruce.

138) Who was the pioneer of scientific studies in India?

a) Radhagobinda Kar      b) Benod Bihari Das  
~~c) Prafulla Chandra Ray~~      d) Asutosh Mukherjee

139) First Forest Act of India was passed in -  
a) 1865 b) 1866 c) 1864 d) 1867

140) Who wrote the book 'Ecological Imperialism'?

a) Subhendu Gupta b) M. Rangarajan  
c) A. W. Crosby d) Ramchandra Guha

141) Who wrote 'The silent Spring'?

a) Rachel Carson b) A. W. Crosby  
c) M. Rangarajan d) Ramchandra Guha

142) Books like 'Hunting and Shooting', 'Paving the Forest' are written by -

a) Irfan Habib b) R. Carson c) M. Rangarajan  
d) Subhendu Gupta

143) On which date do we celebrate the 'World Environment Day' -

a) 5<sup>th</sup> May b) 5<sup>th</sup> June c) 5<sup>th</sup> March  
d) 5<sup>th</sup> December

144) The 'Chipko Movement' in India was carried on for -

a) agriculture b) labour c) woman d) environment

145) Who amongst the following took a leading role in 'Narmada Bachao' movement?

a) Sarala Devi b) Ashapura Devi  
c) Medha Patkar d) Arundhati Ray

- 146) In which year was the Indian Museum founded?  
a) 1800 b) 1812 c) 1814 d) 1819
- 147) When was the Victoria Memorial Hall founded?  
a) 1914 b) 1919 c) 1921 d) 1926
- 148) Belur Math was founded in -  
a) 1935 b) 1936 c) 1937 d) 1938
- 149) Which tool can link up all people around the world in a twinkling of an eye?  
a) television b) computer c) internet d) mobile phone
- 150) The concept of Internet (www) came into being in -  
a) 1940 b) 1960 c) 1970 d) 1990.
- 151) Where in the world is a control on the use of Internet?  
a) India b) USA c) No where in the world d) France.
- 152) 'Jibaner Jhasapata' is -  
a) a novel b) a book of poems c) a biography  
d) an autobiography
- 153) 'Sompokesh' was -  
a) a daily newspaper b) a weekly paper.  
c) a fortnightly paper d) a monthly paper.