

SPECTRUM'S
A Brief History of
Modern India
For UPSC/PCS & SSC exams
Sources for the
History of Modern
India
Short Notes

mentored by:



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Faculty of History, OOkul

- 1600-1857- East India Company's administration
- After revolt of 1857- takeover by British crown

Central Govt. Archives

- National Archives of India, New Delhi
- First Surveyor General of Bengal- James Rennell in 1767
- Formation of Home Political dept.in 1907, exclusively for Political-Communal issues

State Govt. Archives

- Material comprises sources of:
 - British Indian Sources
 - Princely states
 - Foreign administration (apart from British)
- Kingdom of Lahore= Khalsa Darbar
- Peshwa Daftar (Pune) deals with Maratha History before the fall of Peshwas.
- Rajasthan state archive at Bikaner
- Dogra rule in Jammu & Kashmir began in the year 1846 sources housed in Jammu

Three Presidencies

- Bengal- Madras- Bombay
- Fort William- Bengal
- Sack of Calcutta in the year 1756
- Archives of Bengal presidency partly at
 - State archives of West Bengal
 - National archives of India
- Fort St. George- Madras
- Archives of Bombay presidency housed at Maharashtra Secretariat Record office- Mumbai

Other European powers

- Portuguese archives at Goa
- Dutch records of Cochin –Malabar are in Madras. Chinsura at West Bengal
- French archives of Chandernagore and Puducherry taken to Paris
- Danes also transferred to Copenhagen, some records of Tranquebar at Madras Record office

Judicial Records

- Records of Mayor's court of St. George housed at Madras record office
- Pre Plassey records of Fort Williams have been lost
- Records of Mayor's court Bombay is at Maharashtra Secretariat Record office-Mumbai

Published and Private Archives

- Most significant is Parliamentary papers
- Records of INC housed at Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi

Biographies, Memoir and Travel account

- Missionaries writings
 - 'Hindu Manners and Customs' by Abbe Duboi
 - Journal written by Bishop Heber
- British Travellers
 - 'Travels into Bokhara' by James Burnes
 - 'Diary of Travels and Adventures in Upper India' by C.J.C. Davidson
 - 'Travels and Adventures in the province of Assam' by John Butler
- Non- British Travellers
 - 'Letters from India describing a journey in the Dominions of India, Tibet, Lahore and Cashmere during the years 1828-1829--1831' by Victor Jacquemont
 - 'Travels in Kashmir and Punjab' by Baron Charles

Newspapers and Journals

- 'The Bengal Gazette or Calcutta General Advertiser' first published Newspaper in India by James Augustus Hickey
- Also called as Hickey's Gazette
- The Calcutta gazette -1784
- The Bombay Herald by William Ash Burner in 1789
- Hindu and Swadesmitran by G. Subramaniya Iyer
- Kesari and Maharatta by B.G. Tilak
- Bengalee by Surendranath Banerjee
- Amrit Bazar Patrika by Sisir Kumar Ghosh & Motilal Ghosh

- Sudharak by G.K. Gokhale
- Voice of India by Dada Bhai Naoroji
- Indu Prakash by Vishnu Ram Pandit
- Som Prakash Banganivasi by Dwarkanath Vidhya Bhushan
- Indian sociologist By Shyamji Krishna Verma, he also ran a London House facility
- Bande Matram by Madam Bhikaji Cama
- Ghadar by Lala Hardyal, he had a revolutionary political party with the same name in San Francisco

Oral Evidences - Some historians are skeptical

Creative literature

- Novel in India a result of Indo-European contact
- Bankim Chandra Chatterji
 - Anand Math (1882)- lyric of “Vandemataram”
 - Rajasimha
- Hind anne Britanica by Icharam Surya Ram Desai
- Mohanra rajani by Girija Devi and Ramatirtha Thammal in 1931
- Balyakala Sakhi by Vaikom Mohammed Bashir




Paintings

- Rise of Patna Kalam and patronized by East India Company
- Introduction of photography in India late 1840s
- Relief of Lucknow by Thomas Jones Barker
- In Memoriam by Joseph Noel Paton (about revolt of 1857)
- Bengal School of Painting led by Abanindranath Tagore
- Bengal School dealt with mythology and cultural heritage of India, depicted Bharat Mata as well

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