

**Syllabus of M.Phil. Course in Himalayan Studies  
Centre for Himalayan Studies  
North Bengal University**

**1<sup>st</sup> Semester (Common for M.Phil. and Ph.D. Coursework)**

**Paper I: Area Studies: Perspectives and Approaches** **50 marks**

1. Origin, scope and definition of Area Studies
2. Orientalism and Area Studies
3. Relation of Area Studies with different branches of Social Science
4. Evolution of Area Studies as an academic field
5. Area Studies: Policy and methodology
6. Idea of Social Sciences – Claims of Scientificity in Social Sciences
7. Structuralism, Post-structuralism, and Post-modernism

**Paper II: Research Methodology I** **50 marks**

1. Significance of research methods – Aims, objectives and designs
2. Research methods – Approaches and types
3. Comparison and generalization – Data sources and methods of Content Analysis
4. Collection of secondary data – Private and public sources
5. Collection of primary data – Methods of fieldwork, tools, and techniques of data collection, data analysis and preparation of ethnographic report
6. Reflexive methodology - Research ethics

**Paper III – Research Methodology II** **50 marks**

1. Historiography – The historian and facts in history – Bias and objectivity in history – Approaches to history
2. Cartographic Techniques – Choropleth mapping for socio-economic data – Isotherms, Isohyets and Isobars for interpreting weather and climate
3. Book review
4. Aspects of research proposal
5. Art of report writing

**Paper IV: Quantitative Methods and Computer Applications** **50 marks**

1. Use of statistics for analysis of numerical data – Application of quantitative techniques in Social Sciences: An Introduction – Histogram – Frequency tables – Correlation and Regression
2. Computer applications

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester

### **Paper I: Geography and History of Eastern Himalayas**

**50 marks**

1. Physical landscape of the Eastern Himalayas - Physiography, climate, drainage, flora and fauna
2. Natural resources of the Eastern Himalayas - Regionalisation - Conservation and management of resources – Perspectives of economic development
3. Environment and Sustainable Development in the Himalayas
4. Religion and State formation in Tibet, Bhutan and Sikkim
5. Tibetan Government outside Tibet and the question of Tibetan nationality
6. From monarchy to democracy: Political transformation in Sikkim and Bhutan
7. Constitutional changes and administrative reforms in Arunachal Pradesh and Darjeeling

### **Paper II: Economy and Politics in Eastern Himalayas**

**50 marks**

1. Traditional economy and occupation in the Eastern Himalayas: Class Structure – Relevance and concepts of tribal and peasant society in the Eastern Himalayan region
2. Patterns of urbanization, industrialization and State intervention in the Eastern Himalayas
3. Problems of development and security of small and landlocked countries – Strategic environment of the Himalayan Region
4. The politics of the Himalayan States: Ethnic and sub-national movements – Refugees and Human Rights
5. Culture, identity and politics: Critical perspectives in the study of Himalayan region
6. Community, civil society and State formation in the Eastern Himalayas

### **Paper III: People, Society and Culture in Eastern Himalayas**

**50 marks**

1. Peoples of Eastern Himalayas – Races, tribes, castes and religious communities
2. Social structure and social dynamics of major ethnic, caste and religious communities of Eastern Himalayas
3. Population movement and ethno-political processes – Migration, immigration and ethnicity in Eastern Himalayan region
4. Gender differences and status of women in the Eastern Himalayas
5. Process of assimilation and integration – Great traditions, little traditions and cultural syncretism in Himalayas

### **Paper IV: Tibetan/Nepali language**

#### **Tibetan**

**50 marks**

1. Introduction to the scripts of Tibetan – U Chen and U Med, vowel symbols, the Ing-Yig (reversed) and Thug-Yig (the letter) and the combination letters, Sub-joined letters of Ya, Ra, La and Wa, surmounting letters of Ra, La, Sa, consonantal suffixes and prefixes, methods of combination and formation of words
2. Basic grammatical rules, formations of words, demonstrative and descriptive adjectives, pronouns, particles, verbs, simple forms of tense
3. Composition and translation – Simple phrases and simple sentences, honorific terms
4. Conversation

#### **Nepali**

1. Grammar
2. Composition and translation
3. Conversation

Note: Details of this syllabus to be worked out by the concerned teacher in the model of the syllabus of the Tibetan language.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Semester

**Seminar paper: Content, presentation and participation:** 50 marks

**Term papers (two nos.):** 50X2 = 100 marks

**Synopsis for proposed M.Phil. Dissertation work: (written 40 + viva 10) = 50 marks**

### 4<sup>th</sup> Semester

**Dissertation and Viva Voce:** (150 + 50) = 200 marks

### Selected Readings

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Semester

##### **Paper I**

Cahnman, Warner, J. (1948), "Outline of a Theory of Area Research", *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, Vol. 38, No. 4, pp. 233-243.

Durkheim, Emile, *Rules of Sociological Method*.

Duroselle, John B. (1952), "Area Studies: Problems of Method", *International Social Science Bulletin*, Vol. IV, No. IV.

Farmer, B.H. (1973), "Geography, area Studies and the Study of Area", *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, Vol. 60, pp. 1-15.

Foucault, Michel, *The Archaeology of Knowledge*.

Grieb, Kenneth, J. (1974), "Area Studies and the Traditional Disciplines", *The History Teacher*, Vol. 7, No. 2, pp. 228-238.

Hall, Robert B. (1947), *Area Studies with Special Reference to their Implications for Research in the Social Science*, Social Science Research Council, New York.

Hollis, Marton, (1994), *The Philosophy of Social Sciences: An Introduction*, Cambridge University Press.

Ludden, David, (1998) *Area Studies in the Age of Globalization*, University of Pennsylvania.

Mahajan Gurpreet, (1992), *Explanation and Understanding in Human Sciences*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi

Misra, B.P. (1996), "Area Studies: Policy and Methodology", *Occasional Paper No. 10*, Centre for Himalayan Studies, North Bengal University.

Riggs, Fred W. (1998), "Beyond Area Studies" *An Interpretive Paper for the International Sociological Association*, Research Committee #20 on Comparative Sociology, Montreal.

Said, Edward, (1995) *Orientalism: Western Conceptions of the Orient*. Penguin Books, New Delhi.

Whitaker, Urban, (1959), "An Application of Area Studies to the Teaching of General Education Courses in International Relations", *International Review of Education*, Vol. 5, No. 4, pp. 425-440.

Winch, Peter, (1990), *The Idea of Social Sciences and its Relation to Philosophy*, Routledge, Kegan and Paul, London.

## **Paper II**

- Alvesson, M. and K. Skoldberg, (2000), *Reflexive Methodology*, Sage Publications, New Delhi.  
Bernard H. Russell, (1988), *Research Methods in Cultural Anthropology*, Sage Publications New Delhi.  
Danda, A.K., *Research Methodology in Anthropology*, Inter India Publications New Delhi.  
Srivastava, V.K., (2004), *Methodology and Fieldwork*, Oxford University Press New Delhi.  
Weller, C. Susan and A.K. Romney, (1988), *Systematic Data Collection*, Sage Publications New Delhi.

## **Paper III**

- Anon., (2005), *Historiography: A History of Historical Writing*, Concept Publishing Company, New Delhi  
Bajaj, S.K. (1998), *Research Methodology in History*, Anmol Publishers, New Delhi.  
Collinwood, R.G. (1973), *The Idea of History* (Reprint), Oxford University Press, New Delhi.  
Curr, E.H. (1961), *What is History?* Penguin Books, New Delhi.  
Landes, S. David and Telly, Charles, ed, (1974), *History as Social Science*, Prentice Hall.  
Sarkar, Sumit, (1998), *Writing Social History*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi.  
Sharma, T.R. (1987), *The Concept of History*.  
Singh, Lekhraj, *Cartographic Methods*.  
Young, Pauline, V. (1996), *Scientific Social Surveys and Research*, Prentice hall of India Private Limited, New Delhi.

## **Paper IV**

- Khan, Najma, (2002), *Quantitative Methods in Geographical Research*, Concept Publishing Company, New Delhi.  
Mehmud, Aslam, *Quantitative Methods for Geographers*.

## **Selected Readings**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Semester**

#### **Paper I**

- Aris, M. (1980), *The Early History of a Himalayan Kingdom*. Vikas, New Delhi.  
Basnet L.B. (1984), *Sikkim: A Short Political History*. S. Chand, New Delhi.  
Bose, M. L. (1987), *History of Arunachal Pradesh*. Concept, New Delhi.  
Collister, Peter, (1987), *Bhutan and the British*. Serindia, New Delhi.  
Dhamala R.R. (1993), *Problems and Strategies of Development in Eastern Himalays*. Gian, New Delhi.  
Dorji, C. T. (1995), *A Political and Religious History of Bhutan*. Prominent Publishers.  
Goodman. M. H. (1986), *The Last Dalai Lama: A Biography*. Sedgwick and Jackson.  
Ives, Jack and Messerly B. (1989) *The Himalayan Dilemma*. UNU, Routledge, London  
Jha, Rajkumar, (1986), *The Himalayan Kingdoms in Indian Foreign Policy*. Maitreyee Publications.  
Kohli, Manorama, (1993), *From Dependency to Interdependency: A Study of Indo-Bhutan Relations*. Vikas, New Delhi.  
Majumdar, A. B. (1984), *Britain and the Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan*. Bharati Bhawan.  
Michael, F. (1982), *Rule by Incarnation: Tibetan Buddhism and its Role in Society and State*. Boulder Westview Press.  
Parmanand, (1992), *Politics of Bhutan: Retrospect and Prospect*. Pragati.  
Rahul, Ram, (1970), *Himalayan Boderland*, Vikas Publications, New Delhi.  
Richardson, H. E. (1984), *Tibet and its History*. Shambhala.

Rose, L. (1977), *The Politics of Bhutan*. Cornell University Press.  
 Shakabpa, T. W. D. (1888), *Tibet: A Political History*. Yale University Press.  
 Sharma, S.K. and Sharma Usha (1997), *History and Geography of Tibet*. Anmol, New Delhi.  
 Singh, Nagendra, (1988), *Bhutan: A Kingdom in the Himalayas*. S. Chand and Co.  
 Singh, R. (1971), *India: A Regional Geography*. BHU, Varanasi.  
 Sinha, A. C. (1975), *Politics in Sikkim: A Sociological Study*. Thomas Press.  
 Spate, O. H. K. and Learmonth, A. T. A. *India and Pakistan*  
 Subba, T. B. and Datta, K. (1991), *Religion and Society in the Himalayas*. Gian.  
 Tshering, Sakya, (1988), *The Dragon in the Land of Snow*. Pimlico.  
 Van Walt Van Praag, M. C. (1987), *The History of Tibet: History, Rights and Prospects in International Laws*. Wisdom Publications.  
 Zurick and Karan, P. P. (1999), *Himalaya: Life on the Edge of the World*. The Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, London.

## **Paper II**

Ahmad, A. (1992), *In Theory: Classes, Nation, Literature*. Oxford University Press, New Delhi.  
 Anderson, Benedict, (1991), *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*. Verso, London.  
 Chatterjee, Partha, (1993), *The Nation and its Fragments: Colonial and Postcolonial Histories*. Oxford University Press, New Delhi.  
 Chaube S.K. (1985), *The Himalayas: Profiles of Modernization and Adaptation*. Sterling. New Delhi.  
 Chaudhuri, Buddhadeb (1985), "Agrarian Relations in a Hill Region", in Chaube S.K., (ed.) *The Himalayas: Profiles of Modernization and Adaptation*. Sterling. New Delhi.  
 Choudhury, Maitreyee (2006), *Sikkim: Geographical Perspectives*, Mittal, New Delhi.  
 Dhamala Ranju Rani and D.J. Bhowmick, (1985), "Land Reforms in Sikkim" in Chaube, S.K., (ed.) *The Himalayas: Profiles of Modernization and Adaptation*. Sterling. New Delhi.  
 Dhamala, Ranju R. (1993), *Problems and Strategies of Development in the Eastern Himalaya*. Gyan. New Delhi.  
 Dorji, K.D. (2004), *Gross National Happiness: Concepts, Status and Prospects*, Thimphu, The Centre for Bhutan Studies.  
 Hutt, Michael, (1997), "Being Nepali without Nepal: Reflections on a South Asian Diaspora", in David N. Gellner et. al. (ed.) *Nationalism and Ethnicity in a Hindu Kingdom: the Politics of Culture in Contemporary Nepal*. Netherlands: Harwood Academic Publishers.  
 Karan, P.P. (1990), *Bhutan: Environment, Culture and Development Strategy*, New Delhi, Intellectual Publishing House.  
 Kinga, Sonam (2009), *Polity, Kingship and Democracy: A Biography of the Bhutanese State*, Thimphu, Ministry of Education, Royal Government of Bhutan.  
 Phadnis, Urmila, (1990), *Ethnicity and Nation-Building in South Asia*. New Delhi: Sage Publications.  
 Ramphel, Norbu (2000) *Bhutan: Emergence of a Nation State*, New Delhi, Anmol Publications.  
 Samaddar, Ranabir. ed. (2003), *Refugees and the State: Practices of Asylum and Care in India, 1947-2000*. Sage Publications, New Delhi.  
 Subba, Tanka B. (1989), *Dynamics of a Hill Society*, Mittal Publications, New Delhi.  
 Subba, Tanka B. (1990), *Flight and Adaptation: Tibetan Refugees in the Darjeeling-Sikkim Himalaya*. Library of Tibetan Works and Archives, Dharamsala.  
 Ura, Karma and Sonam Kinga (2004) *Bhutan: Sustainable Development through Good Governance*, Thimphu, The Centre for Bhutan Studies.

### **Paper III**

- Bista, Nar Bahadur, (1967), *People of Nepal*, Ratna Pustak Bhandar, Kathmandu.
- Bhasin, Veena, (1989), *Ecology, Culture and Change: Tribals of Sikkim Himalayas*, Inter-India Publications, New Delhi
- Bhasin, Veena, (1996), *Transhumants of Himalayas*, Kamala Raaj Enterprises.
- Bose, S.C. *Land and People of the Himalayas*, Indian Publications, Calcutta.
- Furer-Haimendorf, (1992), *Highlanders of Arunachal Pradesh*, Vikas Publishing House, Delhi.
- Furer-Haimendorf, *The Sherpas Transformed: Social Changes in a Buddhist Society of Nepal*, Sterling Publications, New Delhi.
- Gautam, R, and A. Thapa-Magar (1994), *Tribal Ethnography of Nepal*, Vol. I, Delhi.
- Joshi, R.D. (1984), *Tribal People of the Himalayas*.
- Ramakant and R.C. Misrha, ed (1996) *Bhutan: Society and Polity*, New Delhi, Indus Publishing Company.
- Sinha, A.C. (1991) *Bhutan: Ethnic Identity and National Dilemma*, New Delhi, Reliance Publishing House.
- Sinha, A.C. (2001) *Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan: Tradition, Transition and Transformation*, New Delhi, Indus Publishing Publication.
- Thakur, R.N. (1988), *Himalayas Lepchas*, Archive Publishers, New Delhi.

### **Paper IV**

#### **Tibetan Language**

- Anon. *A Workbook of Tibetan Pronunciation*, Library of Tibetan Works and Archives, Dharamsala.
- *Tibetan Reader*, Tibetan Cultural Printing Press, Ganpolen Kyishang, Dharamsala
- Das, Sarat Chandra (1983, reprinted), *A Tibetan English Dictionary*, Motilal Banarasidas.
- Dorjee, L.M. (1969), *First Tibetan Reader*, Calcutta University.
- Goldstein Melvyn, C. (1986, reprinted), *English Tibetan Dictionary of Modern Tibetan*, Library of Tibetan Works and Archives, Dharamsala.
- Goldstein Melvyn, C. and Nawang N. (1984), *Modern Spoken Tibetan (Lhasa Dialect)*, Bibliotheca Himalayeca Series 11, Vol. 14, Ratna Pustak Bhandar, Kathmandu.
- Hannah, H.B. (1985, reprinted), *A Grammar of Tibetan Language*, Motilal Banarasidas.
- Koros, Alexander Csoma de, (1991, reprinted), *Tibetan English Dictionary*, Gaurav Publishing House.
- Losang, Thoden, *Modern Tibetan Language (2 Vols)*, Library of Tibetan Works and Archives, Dharamsala.
- Ngyen, doi Lok-dep. *Tibetan Primer Reader*, Library of Tibetan Works and Archives, Dharamsala.
- Norbu, Chopel (1989), *Say it in Tibetan*, Library of Tibetan Works and Archives, Dharamsala.

#### **Nepali Language**

- Clark, T.W. (1977), *An Introduction to Nepali*, SOAS.
- Sharma, T. (1993), *Beginning Nepali*, Sajha Prakashan.

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