

## **Minutes of the online Tenth Meeting of the Board of Studies in History held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

### Present:

Swarupa Kamat, Dr. Poncha, Prof. Manjiri Kamat, Manisha Saindane, Dr. Kurush Dalal,

Duration: 11.00 am till 12.10 PM.

Platform : Zoom

### **Agenda**

1. To pass the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 22nd September 2022.
2. To approve the syllabus of FY Semester I as per NEP 2020.
3. To authorize the Chairperson, BOS to modify/tweak the syllabus (if needed) as per the revised(if at all) NEP norms as adapted by the college.
4. Anything else with the permission of the Chair.

### Minutes

S. Kamat welcomed the BoS members to the online meeting. She informed the Board that Dr. Jaswandi Wamburkar had been excused from attending the meeting due to prior commitments.

The minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022 were passed. It was proposed by Dr.Dalal and seconded by Ms M. Sakure

Dr. Poncha was invited to present the new FYBA Semester I syllabus, which was based on NEP 2020.

### DSC History

Dr. Poncha stated that the content was the same as the previous FYBA Semester I syllabus. It had been edited to ensure four units and three sub-topics per unit, as per the guidelines of the college. The title of the course was retained as 'History I: Ancient India from Earliest Times to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Century BCE'.

Dr. Dalal suggested the inclusion of developments in south India. Dr. Poncha said that the same would be covered in the syllabus of another semester. At present, this was level 4.5 i.e.basic level and from past experience, students had been more comfortable with this syllabus than with that of its predecessor course viz. Modern India.

Dr. Dalal asked if field trips were being organised, and Dr. Poncha said that at this point the focus was on the number of students opting for it. The discipline was facing a huge crisis as the most popular option was 'Psychology'.

S. Kamat said that the department was facing its biggest crisis yet as it had to wait to see how many opted for history. Hence no radical changes were being made in the syllabus. In response to a query posed by Ms. M.Sakure, S. Kamat said that the same syllabus would be offered to both Major and Minor. Dr. Poncha clarified that the college was following the curriculum model adopted by the autonomous colleges; this would allow students to change their Major and Minor at the end of FYBA. Ms. Manisha Sakure stated that Khalsa College had also adopted it.

The syllabus was unanimously passed by all Board members present at the meeting.

### VSC

S. Kamat explained that the workload was still being determined. Hence the department had drafted two different syllabi for the VSC course. If Dr. Poncha taught VSC it would be about 'Introduction to Museology and Library Science'; if Dr. Lata Pujari taught it, it would be on 'Introduction to Archaeology'.

M.Sakure and Dr. Dalal pointed out that the syllabus of Introduction to Museology and Library Science and Introduction to Archaeology respectively was vast. Dr. Poncha said that it would be very basic and that the same would be done in greater detail, perhaps in Semester V or VI.

Prof. Manjiri Kamat said that if any visits to CSMVS were planned, she would be happy to assist. Dr. Poncha thanked her for the offer.

The two proposed syllabi of VSC were unanimously passed by all Board members present at the meeting.

### OE

S. Kamat and Dr. Poncha explained to the board that this elective, 'Mumbai: History and Culture' was to be one of 4 options being offered by the college. It would be an option for students who had not chosen History as their Major or Minor subject. It was therefore decided to introduce the city to non-History taking students; the content was the edited version of the course offered in TYBA Semester VI. It was hoped that it would appeal to students and get a good response. Walks were likely to be organised to acquaint them with what had been included in the syllabus. As it was an Open Elective Course, the content while appearing to be vast would again be done at the basic introductory level. As History students would not be studying it, it would be introduced for them in the TYBA.

Following a discussion, and based on the suggestions made by board members, the following changes were made in the draft of the syllabus:

The Title of the course was expanded to include the time period: 'Mumbai: History and Culture' became 'Mumbai: History and Culture (from earliest times to c.1960)'.

Unit 1: the title was revised from 'Birth and Evolution of Bombay' to Birth and Evolution of the City'

Unit I (a) was revised from 'From Seven Islands to a Presidency (1818)' to 'From Seven Islands to Urbs Prima in Indis'.

Unit I ( c ) was revised from 'Early settlers and Communities' to 'Early settlers, Migrations and Communities'

Unit II: the title was changed from 'Growth of the City' to 'Economic and Cultural Growth of the City'

Unit II (a) was expanded from 'Economic Growth' to include a sub-topic from Unit II (b) viz. 'Urban Expansion'. It was now 'Economic Growth; Urban Expansion'. Unit II (b) was 'Architecture' only.

Prof. Manjiri Kamat said that she appreciated that the department had decided to introduce this course to students who had not opted for History, given the challenges the city was facing. S. Kamat thanked her for her support.

The syllabus of OE, with the above listed changes, was unanimously passed by all Board members present at the meeting.

#### Authorization to make minor changes

S.Kamat requested the board to permit her to make minor changes, should these be needed in view of the fact that meetings were ongoing. The same would be communicated on email to all board members and presented at the next meeting.

The board members unanimously authorized the Chairperson to make minor revisions.

#### Assessment

S. Kamat explained to the board that the assessment pattern would be presented at the next board meeting, as meetings were still taking place. While a 60:40 pattern had been proposed for the SYBA and TYBA, the same would be presented at the next board meeting, based on decisions taken by the college.

During the meeting, at various times, board members said that they shared the department faculty's concerns regarding the challenges ahead and extended their support and assistance. The meeting concluded with S. Kamat and Dr. Poncha thanking the board members

Image taken from recording.



Percentage of Revision

**DSC** 'History I: Ancient India from Earliest Times to the 3rd Century BCE' – 5%

**VSC** 'Introduction to Museology and Library Science' - 100%

**OR VSC** 'Introduction to Archaeology' – 5%

**OE** 'Mumbai: History and Culture' – 100%



Swarupa Kamat

Chairperson and Head of the Dept. of History, Sophia College (Autonomous)