

Minutes of the Fourth Meeting of the Board of Studies in History held on 29th February 2020

Agenda:

1. Welcome from the Chair
2. Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd August 2019
3. Revision of FYBA syllabus for Paper I Semester I
4. Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

Present:

Swarupa Kamat, Dr. Poncha, Dr. Manjiri Kamat, Dr. M. Mistry, Dr. M. Bandhopadhyay.

Minutes:

1. The Chairperson and HOD, Ms Swarupa Kamat, welcomed everyone. Leave of absence was granted to Dr. Kurush Dalal and to Dr. Jaswandi Wamburkar.
2. Minutes of the meeting of 23rd August 2019 were passed.
3. Changes in the syllabus for FYBA Sem I - Dr. Poncha explained the reasons for and the changes being made in the FYBA Semester I syllabus:
4. The proposal put forward is that FYBA would be studying 'Ancient India' instead of 'History of Modern India'. This is because there are a large number of students failing in Sem I and Sem II, after two years of the new syllabus. The Principal had expressed concern and so the faculty had decided to bring the SYBA Paper on 'Ancient India' to the FY.
5. This would lead to further revision of the syllabus of SYBA and TYBA thus:

	Semester I	Semester II	Semester III	Semester IV	Semester V	Semester VI
FYBA	Proposed Paper I Ancient India	Proposed Paper I Ancient India				
SYBA			Proposed Paper III History of Modern India (1757-1857)	Proposed Paper III History of Maharashtra with special reference to Mumbai (c. 17 th century to 1960)		
TYBA					Proposed Paper V History of Modern India	Remains the same Paper V History of Independent India

					(1857-1947)	(1947-2000)
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Secondly, instead of the earlier system of sub-topics in a module, there would now be no subtopics. This would ensure that students studied the entire topic, and the greater choice in the paper pattern would enable examinations to be an easier process for the students. Dr. Poncha through a power point presentation showed the Board the old syllabus, a revised syllabus with sub-topics and a revised syllabus without sub-topics. The last was taken up for discussion.

The Board members agreed with the need to revise the syllabus of FYBA and suggested the following changes in FYBA Semester I syllabus modules and the wording of topics:

- i. Module I to be replaced by Module II and a new module to be created from Module III viz. a separate module for Buddhism and Jainism; the module on 'Prehistoric Period in India' was completely deleted.
- ii. Module I – delete the words: 'extent'; 'chronology'; 'civic life'; 'life' from social, religious and economic; 'architecture'. 'Architecture' was part of 'Town Planning' and therefore did not need to be mentioned separately. The revised version: Town Planning, Society, Economy, Religion, Script, Arts and Crafts, Decline.
- iii. Module III to be Module II - delete 'life' and 'education'. 'Education' would be part of the topic 'Society' and did not need to be mentioned separately. Revised version: Polity, Economy, Society, Religion.
- iv. Module III- delete 'Buddhism and Jainism'
- v. Module IV- new module on 'Buddhism and Jainism'
- vi. Module V- no changes

The modified Syllabus was approved by the Board.

1. Dr. Poncha then explained the revised Paper Pattern. There would be 9 questions (15 marks each) and students would need to attempt any 5. Questions 1 to 8 would be essay type – one from each module and two random. Question 9 would be 5 short notes with one short note from each module and students would attempt any 3 (5 marks each). Dr. Manjiri Kamat asked if this paper pattern had been approved by the Principal and if other subjects were also following it. Ms. Kamat stated that the Principal had been sounded out about the changes and had given her permission to try out the new system. Also, each department had the freedom to determine its own paper pattern. Dr. Meher Mistry stated that she is a Moderator at Somaiya College, where they have a similar pattern and that their students were doing well in the exams. The revised Paper Pattern was approved by the Board.
2. The question papers of the 2019-20 regular exams were shown to the Board members.
3. Dr. Madhumita Bandopadhyay said that there were good serials like 'Bharat ek Khoj' that could be shown to the students to increase their interest and understanding of the subject.
4. It was stated that at the next meeting, the syllabus for FYBA Semester II would be discussed and a draft of the proposed changes in SYBA Semester III would be shown to the Board Members. Dr. Manjiri Kamat suggested that in SYBA instead of the paper on Maharashtra and Bombay History, 'History of Modern India' 1857-1947 should be taught. She felt this was an essential paper as not all SY students would continue with the subject. The meeting ended with the Chair thanking all for their help.



Swarupa Kamat
Chairperson and Head of the Dept. of History
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