

## **Minutes of the online Eleventh Meeting of the Board of Studies in History held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023.**

### Present:

Swarupa Kamat, Dr. Poncha, Prof. Manjiri Kamat, Manisha Sakure, Dr. Madhumita Bandyopadhyay, Dr. Kurush Dalal, Dr. Jaswandi Wamburkar.

Duration: 5.00 to 5.55 PM

Platform : Zoom

### **Agenda:**

1. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting.
2. To approve the syllabi of FY Semester II courses
3. To approve the assessment pattern of FY courses
4. To approve the certificate courses
5. Anything else with the approval of the Chairperson

### Minutes

S. Kamat welcomed the BoS members to the online meeting.

The minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2023 were shared with the Board members. Dr. Dalal proposed that the minutes be declared as passed and this was seconded by Prof. Manjiri Kamat.

S. Kamat reminded the Board that at the tenth BoS meeting, it had been stated that the FY students would be allowed to change their Major and Minor papers by switching them. This was as per the guidelines of NEP2020. To ensure that this option was possible, the department was presenting the Major syllabus as the Minor one and vice versa for Semester II. Due to administrative and other reasons, minor changes were being made with regard to the titles and some modules.

DSC

Title: Ancient India : Indus Valley Civilisation to Mauryas. AHIS122MJ

S. Kamat shared the syllabus with the Board members. There was a discussion with regard to the title. A query was raised by Dr. Madhumita Bandyopadhyay with regard to the use of the term 'Indus Valley Civilisation' instead of the 'Harappan Civilisation'. Dr. Poncha stated that the former was now being used widely by historians and had been stated in a talk by Peter Frankopan on 28<sup>th</sup> October. It was also in his book. Dr. Kurush Dalal also objected to the term 'Indus Valley' as it belonged to the colonial mindset and so on principle was the incorrect terminology. Secondly, internationally the nomenclature of a culture or civilisation was known by their sites, in this case 'Harappa'. Based on these views, the board accepted the replacement of 'Indus Valley Civilisation' with the term 'Harappan Civilisation'. The title of Module I 'Indus Valley Civilisation' was replaced with the term 'Harappan Civilisation'.

The syllabus with the above revisions was approved by all members.

## DSC

Title : Europe at War (1914-1945 CE) AHIS122MN

S. Kamat shared the syllabus with the Board members. It was explained that as this course was for History Minor, there would be less complexity in the explanations. The minor changes in the titles of Module I to IV and in the sub-topics of Modules II and III were outlined.

There was lengthy discussion about the title. The concerns were : with the implication that only 'Europe' was involved and not the other regions; there was an inter-war period when there was no conflict. During the discussion various suggestions were offered: 'World at War' and 'Glimpses/Milestones of European History' (Dr. Madhumita Bandyopadhyay), 'Europe in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century' (Prof. Manjiri Kamat), 'The Great War and its aftermath', 'Europe (1914-1945 CE), Political Events in Europe (1914-1945 CE) (Dr. Kurush Dalal), 'Landmarks of European History' (Manisha Sakure). The title that was finally approved was 'Milestones in European History (1914-1945).

Module I title 'The Great War' was replaced with 'First World War'. Dr. Madhumita Bandyopadhyay had pointed out that the word 'great' though historically correct, in the current situation, it had other implications, and this needed to be avoided. So, to ensure uniformity, Module IV title was changed from 'World War II' to 'Second World War'.

All Board members approved the syllabus with the revisions.

## History VSC

Title: Introduction to India's Heritage: Rock-cut and Temple Architecture AVSC204

S. Kamat shared the syllabus and informed the Board members that it was based on the syllabus of the earlier course 'Elements of Archaeology'. As it was a two-credit course, only two modules had been taken. The sub-topic 'World Heritage Site: Hampi' had been added to the second module.

The sub-topic in Module II 'Temple Architecture and its five development stages' was replaced with 'Evolution of Temple Architecture', after a brief discussion.

All Board members approved the syllabus with the revisions.

## Assessment Pattern

S. Kamat shared the FYBA Assessment Pattern that had been prepared by the Examination Committee. It comprised of Summative Assessment (SA) and Cumulative Assessment (CA) of 50 marks each for DSC; for VSC it was only CA of 50 marks. The department had decided to continue with questions of 15, 10 and 5 marks in Summative Assessment. This was to help students develop the skill to write answers at length and in brief. With regard to CA, the department had decided to continue to have objective and/or descriptive written activities

and/or group presentations. Having outlined the main points of the new system, the Board members were invited to give suggestions that would be conveyed to the Examination Committee.

In response to a query from Dr. Madhumita Bandyopadhyay, Dr. Poncha said that the format of the 100 marks had to be finalised. Dr. Madhumita Bandyopadhyay said that they had a similar system, but that lesser choice was given to students appearing for the 100 marks paper. S. Kamat said that the suggestion would be forwarded to the Examination Committee. Dr. Jaswandi Wamburkar said that the reduction of choice may backfire in that students may not be able to clear the course. S. Kamat noted this concern and that this suggestion would also be conveyed. S.Kamat with Dr. Poncha reiterated that decisions regarding the Assessment Pattern would need to be taken at a higher level, as it would involve the other programmes, like Science.

### Certificate Courses

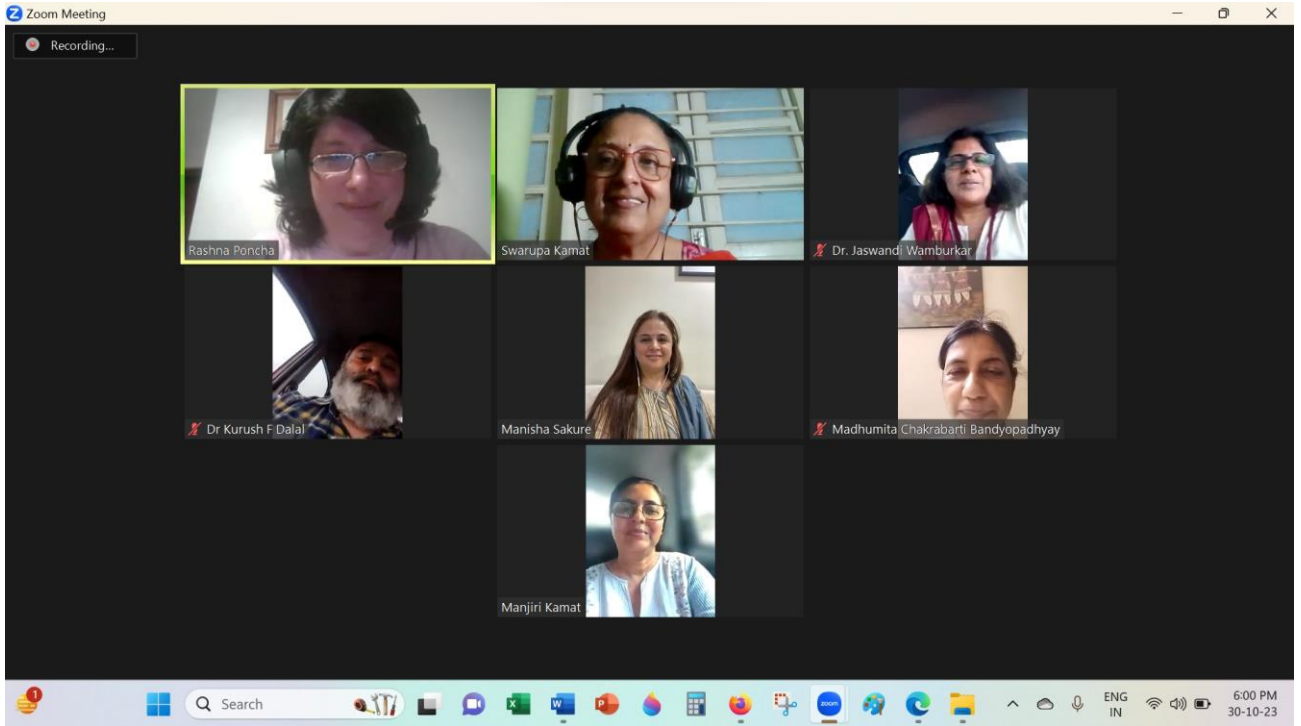
S. Kamat said that three courses were planned: 'Humari Mumbai' which had been conducted successfully for two years; a Conservation course in collaboration with Asiatic Society, Mumbai; a course on Food in collaboration with the Sophia Women's Centre.

The Board members approved of and appreciated the collaborations and congratulated the department.

Dr. Madhumita stated that their college was offering vocational courses to students and the general public. It was like Swayam and called 'CHETNA'. She requested that it be communicated to the students. S.Kamat stated that she would do so.

Board members were asked to switch on their videos for the screenshot and the same was taken. Resolutions were shared with the Board members, and they were informed that the same would be signed during the next meeting which would be held in the college. These resolutions were the Board's approval for the new syllabi of FYBA and the Assessment pattern. The resolutions were approved and seconded by Manisha Sakure and Dr. Madhumita Bandyopadhyay.

The meeting concluded with the Chair thanking all the members for attending the meeting at the end of a long working day and their suggestions.



ssk

**Swarupa Kamat**  
Chairperson and Head of the Dept. of History,  
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