

India - West Asia Relations: History, Politics and Culture

Optional course

For

M.A. (International Relations- West Asian Studies)

Course No: MWAS-404

Semester IV

Centre for West Asian Studies

Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

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Course Description

India, like West Asia, had been a cradle of ancient civilization. Moreover, past linkages are traceable from a long time. Hence, it is necessary to understand historical relationship between India and the West Asian region. Besides, in this course, an effort has been made to probe in detail India's relationship with Contemporary Arab world. Keeping in view the certain major players in the regions, an effort has also been made to explore bilateral relations with these states in recent times. A unit has been devoted to Indo- Palestinian relationship to probed deep into continuity and changes in India's policies towards Palestinian cause as the later has been and is the single most important factor in the West Asia.

Course Content:

Unit I: Past Linkages

- Historical and Cultural Background
- Political Contacts
- Economic Contacts
- Cultural Contacts

Unit II: India and the Contemporary Arab World

- Indian National Congress and the Wafdist
- Nasser, Nehru and NAM
- India and GCC
- The Era of Globalization

Unit III: Bilateral Relations

- Iran
- Turkey
- Israel
- Saudi Arabia

Unit IV: India and Palestine

- Indian National Congress and Zionist Congress
- Gandhi and Palestine Question
- Since Nehru till 1990
- Since 1991 -Till Date

Reading List

- Abhyankar, Rajendra M. (ed.) *West Asia and Region: Defining India's Role*, New Delhi, Academic Foundation, 2008.
- Ahmad, S. Maqbul, *Indo-Arab Relations: an account of India's Relations with the Arab World from Ancient up to Modern Times*, New Delhi, Indian Council for Cultural Relations, 1969.
- Ashwarya, Sujata, *India-Iran Relations*, New Delhi, K W Publishers Pvt Ltd, 2016.
- Dietl , Gulshan, et al (eds.) *Contemporary Saudi Arabia and the Emerging Indo-Saudi Relations*, Delhi, Shipra Publications, 2007.
- Malakar, Dr. S.N. (ed.) *India's Energy Security and the Gulf*, Delhi, Academic Excellence 2006.
- Pasha, A.K. *India, Iran and the GCC States: Political Strategy and Foreign policy*, New Delhi. Manas Publications, 2000.
- Vohra, N.N. (eds.) *History, Culture and Society in India and West Asia*, Shipra Publications, 2003.

Method of Instruction:

Lectures and tutorial will be held on a weekly basis. Questions, discussion and debate during classes will be strongly encouraged. Students are expected to keep informed of the current events in the West Asian region.

Method of Assessment:

A mid-term exam would consist of essay questions based upon the topics covered up to that point. It will be of 25 marks and student must answer two questions out of 4 of 12.5 marks each. The final exam conducted according to a schedule at the end of the semester will be of 75 marks. In the final exam, students must answer 5 out of 10 questions.