

Third Semester

Paper No HSH. 503

(Hard Core)

THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD

Learning Objectives:

1. To understand the meaning of modern history and contemporary history, and the need for study of the contemporary period.
2. To understand the nature of the world that emerged after the World War II.
3. To know the changes that took place in the progress of human civilization in the contemporary period due to various factors.
4. To know the need for peaceful co-existence in a globalized world.

Learning Outcomes:

After completing the paper, students will come to know the following

1. Understand the nature of contemporary history and the need for its study.
2. Understand lessons that the mankind learnt from the developments that took place in the modern world.
3. Understand the need to preserve peace and cooperation among the nations for facing the current global challenges.

Unit I: Introduction: Modern History and Contemporary history– Repercussions of World War II- Decolonization and the end of imperialism – Emergence of new Nation-States – Triumph of Nationalism in Asia, Africa and South America.

Unit II: Cold War: Origins - Evolution and Implications –Détente and its impact – Arms Control and Disarmament – Towards a nuclear free World - Fall of the Soviet System and its impact – End of the Cold War

Unit III: Afro – Asian Resurgence – South Africa and fight against apartheid - Non-alignment and self assertion of the Third World - West Asian Politics and the Palestine Question.

Unit IV: Problems of ethnic nationalisms – East European Experiences – Terrorism, its various facets and global response – Ecological Movements – International Trade Agreements – Regional associations.

Unit V: U.N. and the World – Question of UN reforms – Human rights in the developing World – Recent developments in World Politics -The Covid-19 and the World.

Reading List:

- C. Claphan, (ed), *Foreign Policy Making in Developing States*.
Charles A. Jones, *The North-South Dialogue: A Brief History*.
K.P. Sanvant, *The Group of 77*.
Thomas C. Shelling, *Arms and Influence*.
Stephen King Hall, *Defence in the Nuclear Age*.
P.K. Ghosh, *Disarmament and Development*.
Adam Roberts & Benedict Kingsbury (ed), *United Nations Divided World: The UN's role in International Relations*.
M.N. Singer, *Weak States in a World of Powers*.
P. Worsley, *The Third World*.
Kanti P. Desai, *The Origins of Association in South Asia: SAARC 1979-1989*.
Urmila Phadnis, *Ethnicity and Nation -building in South Asia*.
L. Acimovic, (ed), *Non-alignment in the World Today*.
Rikhi Jaipal, *Non-alignment; Origins, Growth and Potential for World Peace*.
H. Morgenthau, *Politics among nations ;the Struggle for Power and Peace*.
Raymand Aron, *Peace and War :A Theory of International Relations*.
E.H. Carr, *The Twenty Years Crisis. 1919-1939*.
John H.Herz, *International Politics in the Atomic Age*.
James Mayall , *Nationalism and International Society*.

