

**B.A. (Liberal Arts)  
GENERIC ELECTIVE**

**SEMSTER-V  
(BLAB33513T) HISTORY OF THE PUNJAB: c.1450 to 1849  
(GE-1) (v)**

**MAX. MARKS:100**

**EXTERNAL:70**

**INTERNAL:30**

**PASS:40%**

**Credits:6**

**Objective:**

The course provides an in depth and critical study of the broad north-western region or the undivided Punjab in the larger context of Indian History. It focuses on political, social, institutional and religious developments over a period of four centuries from the time of Guru Nanak to the fall of the state of Maharaja Ranjit Singh.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PAPER SETTER/EXAMINER:**

1. The syllabus prescribed should be strictly adhered to.
2. The question paper will consist of three sections: A, B, and C. Sections A and B will have four questions each from the respective sections of the syllabus and will carry 10 marks each. The candidates will attempt two questions from each section.
3. Section C will have fifteen short answer questions covering the entire syllabus. Each question will carry 3 marks. Candidates will attempt any 10 questions from this section.
4. The examiner shall give a clear instruction to the candidates to attempt questions only at one place and only once. Second or subsequent attempts, unless the earlier ones have been crossed out, shall not be evaluated.
5. The duration of each paper will be three hours.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE CANDIDATES:**

Candidates are required to attempt any two questions each from the sections A, and B of the question paper, and any ten short answer questions from Section C. They have to attempt questions only at one place and only once. Second or subsequent attempts, unless the earlier ones have been crossed out, shall not be evaluated.

**SECTION- A**

**Module 1:** Politics, Society and Religion in the Punjab (c. 1450 to c.1550 CE): Political Developments and Administration; Social Differentiation; Sectarian Divisions among Hindus: Shaiva, Vaishnava and Shakti; Islam in the Punjab

**Module 2:** Guru Nanak (1469-1539): Guru Nanak's View of Contemporary Politics and Administration; Comment on Contemporary Social Order; Assessment of Contemporary Religious Systems; Foundation of a New Path and a New Panth

**Module 3:** The Sikh Panth (1539-1606): Developments under the Successors; Compilation of the *Granth Sahib*; Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev Ji

**Module 4:** Conflict with the Mughal State (1606-75): The New Measures of Guru Hargobind and their Consequences; Increasing Interference under Aurangzeb; Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur

**Module 5:** Guru Gobind Singh (1666-1708): Martial and Literary Activity (1680-98); Creation of the Khalsa (1699); Battles over Anandpur; Martyrdom of the Sahibzadas; the *Zafarnama*; the Last Phase at Nanded

### SECTION-B

**Module 6:** Rise of the Sikhs into Political Power: Banda Singh (1708-1716); Continuation of Struggle Against the Mughal State (1716-52); Afghan Challenge (1752-65); Declaration of the Sovereignty and Territorial Occupation; Causes of the Success of the Sikhs in Retrospect

**Module 7:** Maharaja Ranjit Singh (1790-1839): Heritage; Towards Occupation of Lahore; Conquests; Territorial Organization; Military Organization, Relations with the British

**Module 8:** Nature of the State: Administration of Justice; State Patronage, the Composite Ruling Class; Social Mobility

**Module 9:** Socio-economic Developments in the early Nineteenth Century Punjab: Agricultural Production; Manufactures; Trade; Urbanization

**Module 10:** The Sudden Fall of the State (1839-49): Political developments (1839-45); Anglo Sikh Wars and its Consequences (1845-46); Revolt in Multan and Hazara; Annexation or Confiscation? Explanation in Retrospect

### Suggested Readings:

Indu Banga, *Agrarian System of the Sikhs*, Manohar, New Delhi, 1978

\_\_\_\_\_, and J.S. Grewal ed. *Maharaja Ranjit Singh and His Times*, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, 1980

J.S. Grewal, *The Sikhs of the Punjab*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2017 (reprint)

\_\_\_\_\_, *Maharaja Ranjit Singh: Polity, Economy and Society*, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, 2001

\_\_\_\_\_, *Guru Gobind Singh (1606-1708): Master of the White Hawk*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2019.

Karamjit K. Malhotra, *The Eighteenth Century in Sikh History: Political Resurgence, Religious and Social Life and Cultural Articulation*, New Delhi, Oxford University Press, 2016