



॥ वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम् ॥

**SYMBIOSIS**

# Symbiosis College of Arts and Commerce

(An Autonomous College Affiliated to University of Pune)

Interdisciplinary paper for Honour's Programme.

Total Credits = 4

Teaching =3 Credits

Self-learning= 1 Credit

**Title of the Course: The Living Past: Comprehending India**

**Objectives and Learning Outcome**

The course seeks to look at the present modern day India from the perspective of India of the yesteryears. It aims to acquaint the learner with the various interactions between the past and the present in the Indian context as also with the reasons and methods employed by academics in dealing with the same. It seeks to focus on aspects of the Indian past that aren't dead but continue to persist in the present, shape and influence it.

1. The course seeks to enable the student understand the humungous Indian present.
2. To help the students understand the Indian present with all its complexities in the context of the past.
3. To enable the student to meaningfully analyze the relationship between the above two and their interrelation

### Teaching Methodology:

1. Classroom teaching
2. Use of audio-visual aids
3. Discussions in class regarding terms and concepts
4. Paper presentation and analysis of the same.

Unit	Contents of the syllabus	Number of Lectures
1.	<b>What is history?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Time, space and society</li> <li>• Historical method, historical sense</li> <li>• Why did the British feel that India had no history?</li> </ul>	

2.	<b>India</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Span and expanse</li> <li>• Unity in diversity : celebration of unity or negation of diversity</li> <li>• Illustrations from the diversity of Indian religions and languages.</li> </ul>	
3.	<b>India influences : Buddhism</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buddhism : World religion</li> <li>• Buddhism in India : From 6th century B.C. to 20th century A.D.</li> <li>• Prevailing in India, prospering abroad</li> </ul>	
4.	<b>India influenced : Sufism</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sufism : faith or an offshoot of a faith</li> <li>• Syncretic practices and plurality in ideas</li> <li>• Sufism in the Indian context</li> </ul>	
5.	<b>Indian Tribes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Caught up in a time warp</li> <li>• Victims of development</li> <li>• Unique cultures and assimilation</li> </ul>	
6.	<b>Caste</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How was caste cast?</li> <li>• Caste and gender</li> <li>• Colonialism and caste : A case for hard wiring.</li> </ul>	
		45

**Self-learning Component (15 Hours / 1 Credit)**

1 Research Papers

**Evaluation Methodology:**

1. Class Tests
2. Assignments
3. Presentations

**Suggested Reference Books**

1. Cultural history of India – (ed. by) A. L. Basham
2. Wonder that was India – Volume 1 – By A. L. Basham
3. Wonder that was India – Volume 2 – By S. A. A. Rizvi
4. Caste – By Ursula Sharma