

M.A. (CBCS) DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2024.

Second Semester

History

Skill Enhancement Course — INTRODUCTION TO  
EPIGRAPHY

(For those who joined in July 2023 onwards)

Time : Three hours

Maximum : 75 marks

PART A — (15 × 1 = 15 marks)

Answer ALL questions.

Choose the correct answer.

1. The term epigraphy has been coined from \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) Latin (b) Greek  
(c) Hebrew (d) English
2. Epigraphy is a study of \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) Archaeology (b) Numismatics  
(c) Temples (d) Inscriptions

3. The following was used to write Sanskrit in Tamil Country  
(a) Granatham (b) Brahmi  
(c) Kharogti (d) Vatteluttu
4. The Brahmin script of Asoka was deciphered by \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) William Jones (b) Wheeler  
(c) James Pincep (d) Curningherm
5. \_\_\_\_\_ came first in the inscription.  
(a) Meykkirti (b) Ausptcious symbol  
(c) Prassti (d) Contents
6. In 1833, the British-India Govt. Epigraphist was \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) Fleet (b) Venkiah  
(c) Hultzch (d) James Burgers
7. Uthramerur inscriptions have been written in the \_\_\_\_\_ script.  
(a) Vatteluttu (b) Graffiti  
(c) Granthā (d) Cunneiform

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8. What is meant by Prasasti?  
(a) Chronology (b) Kings  
(c) Geneology (d) Rulers
9. Decipherment means \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) Scripts and Languages  
(b) Rosetta Stone  
(c) Egypts  
(d) All above
10. A archieval inscription is issued in \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) Palm leaf (b) Clay tables  
(c) Manuscripts (d) Egyptian papyrous
11. What is Terra-cota?  
(a) Red-clay (b) Architectural  
(c) Pots (d) Baked earth
12. Give an example for Incidental inscription  
(a) Literary Inscription  
(b) Political Inscription  
(c) Religious Record  
(d) None of these

13. Which script is mostly used by the Second Pandyas?  
(a) Brahmi (b) Vatteluttu  
(c) Sanskrit (d) Tamil
14. Mangulam sittanna vassal is noted for \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) Cave (b) Painting  
(c) Script (d) Inspirations
15. Who is the father of Indian epigraphy?  
(a) Adam Smith  
(b) Aristotle  
(c) Sir Alexander Cunningham  
(d) James Prinsap

PART B — (5 × 4 = 20 marks)

Answer ALL questions, choosing either (a) or (b).

Each answer should not exceed 250 words.

16. (a) Purpose of Epigraphy.  
Or  
(b) Meaning of Epigraphy.

17. (a) The Evolution of Vatteluttu Script.  
Or  
(b) The variety of Archaic Grantha.
18. (a) The decipherment of Brahmi Script.  
Or  
(b) Write a short note on Terra-Cotta.
19. (a) Write about the Kharosthi script.  
Or  
(b) Value of Inscription.
20. (a) Write a brief note on Editors of Ashoka.  
Or  
(b) What do you know about "Sittannavasal"?

PART C — (5 × 8 = 40 marks)

Answer ALL questions, choosing either (a) or (b).

Each answer should not exceed 600 words.

21. (a) Explain the nature and importance of inscription in history.  
Or  
(b) Trace out the various kinds of Inscriptions.

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22. (a) Write an essay about Tamil Brahmi Script.  
Or  
(b) Describe the importance of Epigraphy.
23. (a) Define the importance of dating system in the inscriptions.  
Or  
(b) Describe the importance of Archival and Incidental in History.
24. (a) Mention the various eras used in the Indian inscriptions.  
Or  
(b) Assess the contributions of James Prinsep in Epigraphy.
25. (a) Describe the Pandyan genealogy as known through inscription.  
Or  
(b) What types of Historical information found in Uttramerur inscription?

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