

The Deccan in the Eighteenth Century

Overview

One of the critical social issues of our time is the abrupt, even cataclysmic, decline in empathy between individuals and groups. Researchers have found this worrying problem on every continent and among every class. This empathy among college students and in society has dropped more and more in the last two decades. Researchers have advanced a number of hypotheses, such as computer use and electronic games and intense competition for positions and jobs, though none of these hypotheses is conclusively proven. One of the few effective methods of increasing empathy is the teaching of history – as shared human experience.

The eighteenth century was a bridge between two eras of Indian history, i.e. the decline of the highly centralized Mughal Empire and the beginning of the British period of Indian history. With reference to the above model “Deccan in Eighteenth Century” is particularly chosen as the subject of the course because it was the century preceding colonization of India. There has been much debate about the eighteenth century, especially the development and functioning of regional kingdoms e.g. Awadh, the Sikhs and the Marathas. The empirical view defines it as a ‘Dark Age’, characterized by chaos and anarchy. Recent regional studies by historians like Andre Wink, P. J Marshal, Frank Perlin etc., however, have shown existence of vibrant regional economies based on highly organized but decentralized regional administration. It is in this context that the course “Deccan in Eighteenth Century” will be useful for students and researchers in understanding the importance of regional studies.



**Shivaji University,
Kolhapur- 416004
India**

4th -12th August, 2016

Course Details

“Deccan in the Eighteenth Century” focuses on seven key themes, none routinely taught in the standard political history of the region. Instead, these seven themes focus on shared human experience, both within the Deccan and far beyond it to other cultures and civilizations. Each two-hour session will consist of a lecture of more than one hour, leaving time for questions and answers and some student workshop-type in class exercises.

Objectives

To understand the Deccan as a complicated place with competing and co-operating social, cultural and political systems

To understand that many features of Deccan history are, in fact, typical of human history

To question the focus of Deccan history on the political at the expense of more empathy-promoting history of the environment, gender, family, and technology in the Deccan.

Module A: 4th August 2016, Time 3.00 pm to 5.00 pm

Lecture One and Two: Blood, Salt and Robes.

Module B: 5th August 2016, Time 3.00 pm to 5.00 pm

Lecture Three and Four: From the land

Module C: 6th August 2016, Time 3.00 pm to 5.00 pm

Lecture Five and Six : The view from the “Middle”

Module D: 7th August 2016, Time 3.00 pm to 4.00 pm

Lecture Seven: Slavery and Bondage

Time: : 8th August 2016 4.00pm to 5.00pm

Lecture Eight: Medicine in the Deccan

Module E: 9th August 2016, Time 3.00 pm to 5.00 pm

Lecture Nine and Ten : The Human Side of Trade

Module F: 10th August 2016, Time 3.00 pm to 5.00 pm

Lecture Eleven and Twelve: Technology

Module G: 11th August 2016, Time 3.00 pm to 5.00 pm

Lecture Thirteen And Fourteen : Gender in the Deccan

Module H: 12th August 2016 , Time 3.00 pm to 5.00 pm

Evaluation and Valedictory

You Should attend if...

You are enrolled for undergraduate and post graduate degrees (B.A. and M.A.)

You are a Research Student enrolled for research degrees (M.Phil/ Ph.D.)

You are a Faculty from reputed academic institutions and technical institutions.

You are a person interested in History.

So, why undertake this sort of exploration of new themes in the history of the eighteenth century Deccan?

Firstly, such reconsideration can make us both humble and hopeful. For example, if the question is “How long did empires generally last?” And the answer is “Two to three generations”. We might, from this pattern, be more humble about wanting to form an empire. And we might be hopeful because human groups somehow survive empire.

Secondly, the right question makes us aware of our responsibilities to the future. Just as choices made in the past affect us now, choices we make now will impact generations to come.

Thirdly, such questions make us aware of the commonality of human experience, as well as differences between ourselves and groups from the past. At best, seeing others struggle with problems, whether they succeeded or failed, promotes empathy and understanding.

Fees

Students

Rs. 1,200

Research Students

Rs. 1500

Employed Faculty/ General People

Rs. 2,000

Foreign Student

\$ 300/-

*Out-station
participants will be
provided with single
bed accommodation.*

*Food Charges are
not included in the
Registration Fees.*

Note: Number of participants for the course will be limited to fifty.

4-12 August 2016

Shivaji University,
Kolhapur

MHRD Scheme on Global Initiative on Academic Network (GIAN)

The Deccan in the Eighteenth Century

The Faculty



Professor Stewart Gordon is currently Senior Research Scholar, Center for South Asian Studies, University of Michigan, USA. His books like *The Marathas: 1600-1818*, volume II-4 of the *New Cambridge History of India* (Cambridge, 1993), *Marathas, Marauders, and State-Formation in Eighteenth Century India* (Oxford, 1994), *Robes and Honor: The Medieval World of Investiture* (Palgrave Press, 2001), *Robes of Honour: Khil'at in Pre-Colonial and Colonial India* (Oxford University Press 2002) are worldwide acknowledged. Other related subjects that he specializes are Social disruption and Social order, Kingly Strategies, Military History, Construction of castes, tribe, and communities, Economic history, Ecological History of Deccan and Maratha region.



Dr. Avanish Patil is Assistant Professor in the Department of History, Shivaji University, Kolhapur. His research interests center on the role of rural change in driving urbanization in modern India. His doctoral dissertation (2007) entitled *Urbanization in Kolhapur District during 1950-2000: A Historical Perspective* takes a regional approach to the process of urbanization and emphasizes the importance of rural commercialization, role of cooperative societies and the sugar industry in stimulating the urbanization of small towns. He has written a number of research articles which throw light on the history of Western India in general and the Kolhapur region in particular. He has worked on a research project entitled *Revolt of 1857 in the Southern Maratha Country*. He has recently completed a research project on *British Authority and Traditional Rulership in the Princely State of Kolhapur, 1800-1940*.



Ms. Neelambari Jagtap, is Assistant Director of Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj Center for Studies of Maratha History in Department of History, Shivaji University, Kolhapur. Her research interests are on trade and urbanization during Maratha period on Konkan Coast. Her M. Phil Dissertation (2005) entitled *Trade and Politics on Western Coast of Maharashtra in 17th Century with Special Reference to Rajapur Factory* studies the intransitives of European Trade on west of India and hinterland politics. Other than Maratha History her other related interest are Indian Miniature Paintings and Museum Studies.