

# VIDYASAGAR UNIVERSITY

Midnapore, West Bengal



*PROPOSED CURRICULUM & SYLLABUS (DRAFT) OF*

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**BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONOURS)**

**MAJOR IN HISTORY**

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**4-YEAR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME**

*(w.e.f. Academic Year 2023-2024)*

*Based on*

**Curriculum & Credit Framework for Undergraduate Programmes**

**(CCFUP), 2023 & NEP, 2020**

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VIDYASAGAR UNIVERSITY, PASCHIM MIDNAPORE, WEST BENGAL

**VIDYASAGAR UNIVERSITY**  
**BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONOURS) MAJOR IN HISTORY**  
**(under CCFUP, 2023)**

Level	YR.	SEM	Course Type	Course Code	Course Title	Credit	L-T-P	Marks			
								CA	ESE	TOTAL	
BA (Hons.)	2 <sup>nd</sup>	III	<b>SEMESTER-I</b>								
			Major-3	HISHMJ03	T:Ancient India from 600 BCE to C. 650 CE	4	3-1-0	15	60	75	
			Major-4	HISHMJ04	T: Social Formations and Cultural Patterns of the Medieval World	4	3-1-0	15	60	75	
			SEC	HISSEC01	P: Understanding Heritage (Practical)	3	0-0-3	10	40	50	
			AEC	AEC03	Communicative English -3 ( <i>common for all programmes</i> )	2	2-0-0	10	40	50	
			MDC	MDC03	Multidisciplinary Course -3 ( <i>to be chosen from the list</i> )	3	3-0-0	10	40	50	
			Minor HIS (Disc.-I)	HISMIN03	T:Renaissance and Reformation ( <i>To be taken by students of other Disciplines</i> )	4	3-1-0	15	60	75	
<b>Semester-I Total</b>						<b>20</b>				<b>375</b>	

MJ = Major, MI = Minor Course, SEC = Skill Enhancement Course, AEC = Ability Enhancement Course, MDC = Multidisciplinary Course, CA= Continuous Assessment, ESE= End Semester Examination, T = Theory, P= Practical, L-T-P = Lecture-Tutorial-Practical, MIL = Modern Indian Language

**MAJOR (MJ)**

**MJ-3: Ancient India from 600 BCE to C. 650 CE**

**Credits 04**

**MJ3T: Ancient India from 600 BCE to C. 650 CE**

**Full Marks: 75**

**Learning Objectives:**

This paper focuses on the formation of polity, society, economy culture of Ancient India tracing the growth of empires from the Mauryas to the Kushans, the Satvahanas, the Guptas and also the post-Gupta politics such as the Pallavas, Chalukyas and Vardhans.

**Course contents:**

- 1. Changing political formations (circa 600 BCE to circa 300 CE):**  
(a) Rise and Growth of Magadhan empire (b) The Mauryan Empire (c) Post-Mauryan Polities with special reference to the Kushanas and the Satavahanas **[No. of classes: 12]**
- 2. Economy and Society (circa 600 BCE to circa CE 300):** (a) Expansion of agrarian economy: production relations. (b) Urban growth: north India, central India, and the Deccan; Craft Production: trade and trade routes; coinage. (c) Social stratification: class, varna, jati, untouchability; gender; marriage and property relations **[No. of classes: 14]**
- 3. Towards Early Medieval India (circa CE 300 to CE 650):** (a) Agrarian expansion: land grants, changing production relations; graded Land rights and peasantry (b) The problem of urban decline: trade patterns, currency, and urban Settlements. (c) Varna, the proliferation of jatis: changing norms of marriage and property. (d) The nature of polities: the Gupta empire and its contemporaries: post-Gupta polities - Pallavas, Chalukyas, Maukharis and Pushyabhutis, Shashanka of Gauda **[No. of classes: 16]**
- 4. Religion, philosophy, and culture (circa 300 BCE- CE 650):** (a) Consolidation of the Brahmanical tradition: Dharma, Varnashram, Purusharthas, Samskaras. (b) Theistic cults (from circa second century BC): Mahayana; the Puranic tradition. (c) The beginnings of Tantricism, (d) A brief survey of Sanskrit, Pali, Prakrit and Tamil literature. Scientific and technical treatises. (e) Art and architecture & forms and patronage; Mauryan, post-Mauryan, Gupta, post-Gupta **[No. of classes: 18]**

**Suggested Readings:**

1. Agarwal, Asvini, The Rise and Fall of the Imperial Guptas, New Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal, 1988.
2. Altekar, A.S, The Coinage of the Gupta Empire and its Limitations, Numismatic Society of India, Varanasi: Banaras Hindu University, 1957.
3. \_\_\_\_\_, The Position of Women in Hindu Civilization from Prehistoric times to the Present Day, [First Published 1938], New Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, 1962.
4. Basham A. L, The Wonder That Was India, London: Sidgwick and Jackson, 1954.
5. \_\_\_\_\_(ed.), A Cultural History of India, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1975.
6. Bhattacharya, Sukumari, Women and Society in Ancient India, Kolkata: Basumati Publication, 1989.

7. Chattopadhyay, Brajadulal, A Survey of Historical Geography of Ancient India, Calcutta: Manisha Granthalaya, 1984.
8. \_\_\_\_\_, The Making of Early Medieval India, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1997.
9. Chattopadhyaya, Debiprasad (ed.), Studies in the History of Indian Philosophy: An Anthology of Articles by Scholars Eastern and Western. Vol.1 and Vol.2, Calcutta: K.P Bagchi and Company, 1978.
10. \_\_\_\_\_, Science and Society in Ancient India, Calcutta: Research India Publication, 1977.
11. Chakravarti, Ranabir, Exploring Early India Upto c. AD 1300, New Delhi: Macmillan, 2010.
12. Champakalakshmi, R., Trade, Ideology and Urbanization, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1996.
13. Davids, Rhys, Buddhist India, [First Edition, London, 1903], New Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, 1971.
14. Ghosh, Amalananda, The City in Early Historical India, Shimla: Indian Institute of Advanced Study, 1973.
15. Ghose, DilipCoomer and Sen, Ranjit (ed.), Indian Historiography an Analysis (Vol.II), Kolkata: Institute of Historical Studies, 2013.
16. Gurukkal, Rajan, Social Formations of Early South India, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2010.
17. Habib, Irfan, People's History of India- Part 6, Post-Mauryan India, 200 BC – AD 300., New Delhi: Aligarh Historians Society and Tulika Books, 2013.
18. \_\_\_\_\_, Medieval India: The Study of a Civilization, New Delhi: National Book Trust, 2008.
19. Jha, D.N, Ancient India: In Historical Outline, New Delhi: Manohar, 1998.
20. Kosambi, D.D, An Introduction to the Study of Indian History, Bombay: Peoples Publishing House, 1956.
21. Majumdar, R.C. (ed.), The History and Culture of the Indian People, Vol. II, The Age of Imperial Unity, [First Edition 1951], 7th Edition, Mumbai: Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, 2001.
22. \_\_\_\_\_ (ed.), The History and Culture of the Indian People, Vol. III, THE CLASSIC AGE, [First Edition 1954], Third Edition, Bombay: Bharatiya VidyaBhavan, 1970.
23. \_\_\_\_\_, The Classical Accounts of India, Calcutta: Firma K.L. Mukhopadhyay, 1960.
24. Ray, Niharranjan, Maurya and Post-Maurya Art, New Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal, 2nd Edition.1975.
25. Raychaudhuri, Hemachandra, Political History of Ancient India, with a Commentary by B.N. Mukherjee, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1996.
26. Mukherjee, B.N, Rise and Fall of the Kushana Empire, Kolkata: Firma KLM Private Limited, 1989.
27. \_\_\_\_\_, Kushana Studies: New Perspectives, Kolkata: Firma KLM Private Limited, 2004.
28. Sircar, D.C, Indian Epigraphy, New Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal, 1965.
29. \_\_\_\_\_, Select Inscriptions Bearing on Indian History and Civilization, Vol. I, Calcutta: University of Calcutta, 1942.
30. \_\_\_\_\_, Inscriptions of Asoka, New Delhi: Publication Division, 1969.
31. Roy, Kumkum (ed.), Women in Early Indian Societies, New Delhi: Manohar, 1999.
32. \_\_\_\_\_, The Emergence of Monarchy in North India: Eighth to Fourth Centuries BC, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1994.
33. Sastri, K.A. Nilakanta, The Illustrated History of South India, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2009.
34. \_\_\_\_\_(ed.), Age of the Nandas and Mauryas, Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, 1967.
35. Sharma, R.S, Aspects of Political Ideas and Institutions in Ancient India, [First Edition 1959], Fifth Revised Edition, New Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, 2005.

36. \_\_\_\_\_, Perspectives in Social and Economic History of Early India, paperback edn, New Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal, 2003.
37. \_\_\_\_\_, India's Ancient Past, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2005.
38. \_\_\_\_\_, Rethinking India's Past, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2009.
39. \_\_\_\_\_, Material Culture and Social Formations in Ancient India, New Delhi: Macmillan Publishers, 1983.
40. \_\_\_\_\_, Perspectives in Social and Economic History of Early India, New Delhi: MunshiramManoharlal, 1983.
41. \_\_\_\_\_, Sudras in Ancient India: A Social History of the Lower Order Down to c. AD 600, [First Published 1958], 2nd rev. edn. New Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, 1980.
42. \_\_\_\_\_, Indian Feudalism, Macmillan Publishers India Ltd., New Delhi, 3rd Revised Edition, 2005.
43. \_\_\_\_\_, Urban Decay in India c. 300- c. 1000, New Delhi, Munshiram Manoharlal, 1987.
44. \_\_\_\_\_, Early Medieval Indian Society: A Study in Feudalisation, New Delhi, Orient Longman Publishers Pvt. Ltd., 2003.
45. Singh, Upinder, A History of Ancient and Early Medieval India From the Stone Age to the 12th Century, New Delhi: Pearson Education India, 2008.
46. Thapar, Romila, The Penguin History of Early India From the Origins to AD 1300, New Delhi: Penguin Books India, 2003.
47. \_\_\_\_\_, A History of India: Volume 1, [First Published by Pelican Books 1966], London: Penguin Books, 1990.
48. \_\_\_\_\_, Ancient Indian Social History: Some Interpretations, New Delhi: Orient Longman, 1978.
49. \_\_\_\_\_, From Lineage to State, Bombay: Oxford University Press, 1981.
50. \_\_\_\_\_, Asoka and the Decline of the Mauryas, [First Published in 1961], New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1996.
51. \_\_\_\_\_, TheMauryas Revisited, Sakharam Ganesh Deuskar lectures on Indian history, Kolkata: K.P. Bagchi & Co., 1987.
52. কোসাম্বি, দামোদরধর্মানন্দ, ভারত-ইতিহাসচর্চারভূমিকা, (An Introduction to the Study of Indian History গ্রন্থেরবঙ্গানুবাদ : গৌতমমিত্র), কলকাতা: কেপিবাগচীঅ্যান্ডকোম্পানী, ২০০২।
53. গঙ্গোপাধ্যায়, দিলীপকুমার, ভারত-ইতিহাসেরসঙ্কানে (আদিপর্ব-প্রথমখণ্ড), সাহিত্যলোক, কলকাতা, ২০০০।
54. চক্রবর্তী, রণবীর, প্রাচীনভারতেরঅর্থনৈতিকইতিহাসেরসঙ্কানে, [প্রথমসংস্করণ১৩৯৮বঙ্গাব্দ], কলকাতা: আনন্দ, চতুর্থমুদ্রণ১৪১৫বঙ্গাব্দ।
55. \_\_\_\_\_, ভারত-ইতিহাসেরআদিপর্ব, প্রথমখণ্ড, [প্রথমপ্রকাশ২০০৭], কলকাতা: ওরিয়েন্টব্ল্যাকসোয়ান, ২০০৯।
56. চট্টোপাধ্যায়, দেবীপ্রসাদ, প্রাচীনভারতেচিকিৎসাবিজ্ঞান, পশ্চিমবঙ্গবাংলাআকাদেমি, ১৯৯২।
57. চট্টোপাধ্যায়, সুনীল, প্রাচীনভারতেরইতিহাস (১মখণ্ড), [প্রথমপ্রকাশ১৯৮৩], কলিকাতা: পশ্চিমবঙ্গরাজ্যপুস্তকপর্ষৎ, কলিকাতা, একাদশমুদ্রণ, এপ্রিল ২০০৪।
58. \_\_\_\_\_, প্রাচীনভারতেরইতিহাস (২য়খণ্ড), [প্রথমপ্রকাশ১৯৮৫], কলিকাতা: পশ্চিমবঙ্গরাজ্যপুস্তকপর্ষৎ, অষ্টমমুদ্রণ, ফেব্রুয়ারি ২০০৪।
59. থাপার, রোমিলা, ভারতবর্ষেরইতিহাস ১০০০ খ্রীস্টপূর্বাব্দ-১৫২৬ খ্রীস্টাব্দ, (বঙ্গানুবাদকৃষ্ণাণ্ডো), [প্রথমপ্রকাশ১৯৮০], কলকাতা: ওরিয়েন্টব্ল্যাকসোয়ান, ২০১০।
60. \_\_\_\_\_, সময়:ইতিহাসেররূপক-প্রাচীনভারত (Time as a Metaphor of History: Early India গ্রন্থেরবঙ্গানুবাদ: শাস্বতীরায়), নয়াদিল্লি: অক্সফোর্ডইউনিভার্সিটিপ্রেস, প্রথমবাংলাসংস্করণ, ২০১৮।

61. দাশগুপ্ত, অংশুপতি, অতীতের উজ্জ্বল ভারত (A. L. Basham লিখিত 'The Wonder That Was India' গ্রন্থের বাংলা অনুবাদ), কলকাতা: প্রেন্সিভ পাবলিশার্স, ২০০৫।
62. বন্দ্যোপাধ্যায়, সৌভিক (ভাষান্তর, গ্রন্থনা ও সম্পাদনা), সাম্প্রদায়িকতা ও ইতিহাস রচনা, কলকাতা: সেতু প্রকাশনী, ২০১৬।

**MJ-4: Social Formations and Cultural Patterns of the Medieval World**

**Credits 04**

**MJ4T: Social Formations and Cultural Patterns of the Medieval World**

**Full Marks: 75**

**Learning Objectives:**

This course seeks to understand the transition from the ancient age into the medieval one. The entry point is the decline of the Roman Empire. Then, it covers the rise of religious organisations such as the Church and Monastery, the Carolingian and 12th-century Renaissance, and the rise of Universities and Towns. It addresses the ushering of Feudalism and its breakdown. Finally, it deals with the advent of Islam and its aftermath. The course engages one to understand the changing political, economic, social and cultural landscape of the medieval world..

**Course contents:**

**I. Crises of the Roman Empire.** Western Successors of the Roman Empire, Carolingian Empire

[No of classes: 08]

**II. Economy and society in Europe from the 7th to the 14th centuries:**

- Organization of production, towns and trade, and technological developments.
- Origins of feudal society, Manorialism.
- Crisis of feudalism.

[No. of classes: 18]

**III. Religion and culture in medieval Europe:**

- Religious organisations (Church and Monastery), Struggle between the Empire and Papacy, Crusades.
- Medieval art and architecture, the Carolingian Renaissance, 12th-century Renaissance, Rise of University

[No. of classes: 18]

**IV. Polity, Society and Economy in Islamic land:**

- The tribal background, ummah, Caliphal state; the rise of Sultanates
- Religious developments: the origins of shariah, Mihna, Sufism
- (a) (c) Urbanization and trade

[No. of classes: 16]

**Suggested Readings:**

- Anderson, Perry, *Passages from Antiquity to Feudalism*, Verso World History, 2013.
- Baker, Simon, *Ancient Rome: The Rise and Fall of an Empire*, Ebury Publishing, 2006.

3. Barraclough Geoffrey, The Crucible of Europe: The Ninth and Tenth Centuries in European History, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS, Berkeley and Los Angeles, 1976
4. Collins Roger, Early Medieval Europe 300 – 1000, Macmillan, London, 1991
5. Bloch, Marc, Feudal Society (2 Vols), Aakar Books, Revised Edition, July, 2017.
6. Brundage (ed.), The Crusades, Marquette University Press, 1962.
7. Burke, Edmund, III & Ira M. Lapidus, Islam, Politics and Social Movements, University of California Press, 1988.
8. Chris Wickham, Medieval Europe, Yale University, 2016
9. Cohen, Mark, Under Crescent and Cross: The Jews in the Middle Ages, Princeton University Press, 2008.
10. Deansley, Margaret, A History of Early Medieval Europe, 476 to 911, Methuen, 1956.
11. Dobb, Maurice, Studies in the Development of Capitalism, Routledge, First Edition, March, 1965.
12. Lewis, Bernard, The Arabs in History, Oxford University Press, 6th Edition, May 2002.
13. Man, John, The Mongol Empire, Penguin Random House, May 2015.
14. Maurice Keen, The Penguin History of Medieval Europe, 1991
15. Pirenne, Henri, Medieval Cities, Princeton University Press, 1969.
16. Smith, Leslie and Leyser, Conrad; Motherhood, Women and Society in Medieval Europe (400-1400), Ashgate Publishing Ltd, 2011.
17. Stuard, Susan Mosher (Ed.), Women in Medieval History and Historiography, University of Pennsylvania Press; New edition, December, 1988.
18. The New Cambridge Medieval History, Vol 1-6, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2000-2006
19. চক্রবর্তী, রাজকুমার, ইসলামঃ সপ্তমশতক উদ্ভব, বিস্তার রূপান্তর, কে পি বাগচী অ্যান্ড কোম্পানী, কলকাতা, ২০২৩

## MINOR (MI)

**MI – 3: Renaissance and Reformation**

**Credits 04**

**MI – 3T: Renaissance and Reformation**

**Full Marks: 75**

### **Course contents:**

1. Renaissance Outlook: Humanism-Rediscovery of the Classes -the Impact of Humanism on Art, Education and Political Thought – Discovering the Impact of Renaissance philosophy on contemporary women- A Revolution in Political Thought and the Idea of a Modern State. **[No. of classes: 15]**
  
2. Italy: the Birthplace of Renaissance-Political and Social background -Political System in Early Modern Europe - Collapse of Feudalism and the Changing Economic Life in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Century - Commerce and Navigation – Monarchies and City States- Features of the Early Modern State – the Printing Revolution- Military Revolution. **[No. of classes: 15]**
  
3. Background of the Reformation – Martin Luther and the Reformation –The spread of Reformation-Calvinism- France, Switzerland and England- Radical Reformation – the Anabaptists –Counter Reformation. **[No. of classes: 20]**
  
4. The Birth of Modern Science **[No. of classes: 10]**

### **Suggested Readings:**

1. Cipolla Carlo M., *Fontana Economic History of Europe*, Vols. II and III, Collins/Fontana Books; 1978.
2. Cipolla Carlo M., *Before the Industrial Revolution, European Society and Economy, 1000-1700*, W.W. Norton & Company, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, 1994.
3. *The Cambridge Economic History of Europe*, Vol IV, Cambridge University Press, 1944.
4. Anderson Perry, *The Lineages of the Absolutist States*, Verso, 1979.
5. Aston T.H and Philipin C.H.E. (eds.), *The Brenner Debate: Agrarian Class Structure and Economic Development in Pre- Industrial Europe*, Cambridge University Press, 2005.
6. Dobb Maurice, *Studies in the Development of Capitalism*, International Publishers, 1947.
7. Hilton Rodney, *Transition from Feudalism to Capitalism*, Aakar Books, 2006.
8. Cameron Euan (ed.), *Early Modern Europe: An Oxford History*, Oxford University Press, 2001.
9. Burke Peter, *The Renaissance*. Humanities Press International, 1987.
10. Elton, G.R., *Reformation Europe, 1517-1559*, Wiley, 1999.
11. Elton, G.R., *Reform and Reformation – England, 1509-1558*, Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press, 1977.
12. Hill, Christopher, *A Century of Revolutions*, Psychology Press, 2002.
13. Koenigberger, H.G. and Mosse, G.L., *Europe in the Sixteenth Century*, Longmans, 1961.
14. Rice, Eugene F. and Grafton Anthony, *The Foundations of Early Modern Europe, 1460-1559*, W.W. Norton & Company, 2004.



15. PhukanMeenaxi, *Rise of the Modern West: Social and Economic History of Early Modern Europe*, Laxmi Publications, 2013.
16. Perry, Marvin et al., *Western Civilization: Ideas, Politics & Society*, Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1989.
17. ত্রিপাঠী অমলেশ, ইতালির রেনেসাঁস বাঙালির সংস্কৃতি, আনন্দপাবলিশার্স, কলকাতা, ১৯৯৪।
18. বার্নাল জে ডি, ইতিহাসে বিজ্ঞান, আনন্দ পাবলিশার্স, কলকাতা, ২০০৫।
19. চক্রবর্তী ভাস্কর, চক্রবর্তী সুভাষ রঞ্জন এবং চট্টোপাধ্যায়কিংশুক, ইউরোপে যুগান্তর, নবভারতী প্রকাশনী, কলকাতা, ২০০৫।
20. মুখার্জী রীলা, রূপান্তরিত ইউরোপ (১০০-১৮০০), প্রগ্রেসিভপাবলিশার্স, ২০০৪।

**SKILL ENHANCEMENT COURSE (SEC)**

**SEC 3: Understanding Heritage**

**Credits 03**

**SEC3P: Understanding Heritage**

**Marks: 50**

**Learning Objectives:**

This course will enable students to explore the various aspects of cultural heritage and cultural diversity in historical perspective that discusses numerous cultural practices that have evolved over centuries. Another objective is to enable learners to understand crucial legal and institutional frameworks for the protection of heritage in India. Learners are also expected to understand the problems and challenges often faced in the protection of heritage sites in India. Further, they are expected to have a good understanding of how heritage sites in the recent period have emerged as major tourist attraction sites.

**Course Outline:**

**Unit I: Heritage: An Introduction**

- a. Meaning, Definition and Characteristics of ‘antiquity’, ‘archaeological site’, ‘tangible heritage’, ‘intangible heritage’ and ‘art treasure’
- b. Challenges facing Tangible and Intangible Heritage Development, antiquity smuggling, conflict (to be examined through specific case studies)

**Unit II: Evolution of Heritage Legislation and the Institutional Framework:**

Conventions and Acts— national and International Heritage-related government departments, museums, regulatory bodies etc. - Conservation Initiatives

**Unit III: Ethnic Indian Cultural Construct:**

- a. Significance, concepts & historical background of fairs, festivals and rituals – their importance in human life
- b. Some Major Regional, Folk, Tribal & National festivals of India

**Unit IV: Heritage and Travel:**

Viewing Heritage Sites - The relationship between cultural heritage, landscape and travel - recent trends

**Suggested Readings:**

1. David Lowenthal, *Possessed By The Past: The Heritage Crusade and The Spoils of History*, Cambridge, 2010
2. Layton, R. P. Stone and J. Thomas. *Destruction and Conservation of Cultural Property*. London: Rutledge, 2001
3. Lahiri, N. *Marshaling the Past - Ancient India and its Modern Histories*. Ranikhet: Permanent Black.2012, Chapters 4 and 5.
4. S.S. Biswas, *Protecting the Cultural Heritage (National Legislations and International Conventions)*. New Delhi: INTACH, 1999.
5. Acts, Charters and Conventions are available on the UNESCO and ASI websites ([www.unesco.org](http://www.unesco.org); [www.asi.nic.in](http://www.asi.nic.in))

6. Agrawal, O.P., Essentials of Conservation and Museology, Delhi,2006
7. Chainani, S. 2007. Heritage and Environment. Mumbai: Urban Design Research Institute, 2007