University B.T. & Evening College
Cooch Behar
(Recognized by UGC under 2(f) & 12(B) & NCTE Also Accredited by NAAC)

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Estd: 1968

Ref. No.

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Add-on Course
On
Indian Knowledge System (IKS)

1. Introduction:

University B.T. & Evening College, Cooch Behar is pleased to introduce an Add-on Course on Indian Knowledge System (IKS), organized by the Department of Sanskrit, with the objective of promoting value-based and skill-oriented education among students. The course is offered with the approval of the Principal and the recommendation of the IQAC.

The programme aims to provide learners with a systematic understanding of India's rich intellectual, philosophical, and cultural traditions. Designed within an interdisciplinary framework, the course is open to students of all disciplines and seeks to enhance academic enrichment, critical thinking, and awareness of indigenous knowledge systems.

The Indian Knowledge System (IKS) represents a vast and continuous intellectual tradition that developed in the Indian subcontinent over millennia. Rooted in foundational texts such as the Vedas and Upanishads, and enriched by treatises like the Arthashastra and Charaka Samhita, it encompasses philosophy, science, mathematics, polity, medicine, linguistics, aesthetics, and ecology.

In alignment with the vision of the National Education Policy 2020, this Add-on Course aims to introduce students to the depth, diversity, and contemporary relevance of Indian knowledge traditions. The course is interdisciplinary in nature and is open to students from all academic backgrounds.

2. Course Details:

- Duration: 7 Days
- Mode: Blended
- Level: Undergraduate

3. Teaching Methodology:

- Lectures and interactive discussions
- Textual analysis
- Audio-visual presentations

4. Eligibility:

Open to all Undergraduate students irrespective of discipline.

5. Course Objectives:

- To provide a foundational understanding of Indian Knowledge Systems.
- To familiarize students with major classical texts and intellectual traditions.
- To highlight India's contributions to philosophy, science, governance, and arts.
- To encourage critical and comparative thinking about indigenous knowledge.
- To explore the contemporary relevance of traditional Indian knowledge.

6. Course Outcomes:

After completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Explain the basic concepts and sources of Indian Knowledge Systems.
- Identify key thinkers and classical texts in different domains.
- Analyze the interdisciplinary nature of Indian intellectual traditions.
- Evaluate the relevance of IKS in modern education and society.
- Develop interest in research related to Indian knowledge traditions.

7. Unit-wise Syllabus:

Unit I: Introduction to Indian Knowledge System (One day):

This unit introduces the meaning and scope of Indian Knowledge System. Students will learn about the main sources of Indian knowledge such as the Vedas and Upanishads. Basic ideas like Dharma, Karma, and holistic living will be explained in simple terms. The traditional Gurukula system of education will also be discussed. The aim is to give students a basic understanding of India's intellectual heritage.

Unit II: Indian Philosophy and Values (Two Days):

This unit explains the simple ideas of Indian philosophy such as truth, duty, self-discipline, and harmony. An overview of major schools of thought like Yoga and Vedānta will be given. The teachings of great thinkers like Adi Shankaracharya will be briefly introduced. The concept of "unity in diversity" will be discussed. Students will understand how Indian philosophy promotes ethical and moral values in daily life.

Unit III: Indian Contributions to Science and Mathematics (One Day):

This unit highlights India's contribution to science and mathematics. Students will learn about the concept of zero and the decimal system developed by scholars like Aryabhata. Basic ideas about ancient astronomy, medicine (Ayurveda), and architecture will be discussed. The practical and logical thinking in ancient Indian science will be explained in simple language. The relevance of these contributions in today's world will also be shown.

Unit IV: Indian Society, Culture, and Governance (One Day):

This unit focuses on Indian social and cultural traditions. It introduces basic ideas of governance from the Arthashastra in a simple way. Concepts like social responsibility, family values, and community life will be discussed. Students will also learn about India's festivals, traditions, and cultural diversity. The aim is to help students appreciate India's rich cultural heritage.

Unit V: Health, Environment, and Sustainable Living (Two Days):

This unit explains traditional Indian ideas about health and nature. Basic principles of Ayurveda from texts like the Charaka Samhita will be introduced. The importance of yoga, balanced diet, and daily discipline will be discussed. Students will learn how Indian tradition respects nature and promotes sustainable living. The unit connects traditional wisdom with modern environmental awareness.

8. Suggested Reference Books:

Basham, A. L. *The Wonder That Was India*. Rupa Publications, 2004

Chattopadhyaya, Debiprasad. *Science and Society in Ancient India*. Research India Publications, 1977

Radhakrishnan, S. *Indian Philosophy*. 2 vols., Oxford University Press, 2008

Sharma, R. S. *India's Ancient Past*. Oxford University Press, 2005

Subbarayappa, B. V. *The Roots of Ancient Indian Science*. National Institute of Advanced Studies, 2001

Tapas Pal

(Dr. Tapas Pal)
HOD & Co-ordinator
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