

History Books for UPSC

History Books for UPSC Prelims

The UPSC Prelims Syllabus for history covers modern history, ancient history, and medieval history, Below we have listed some of the Best History Books for UPSC that cover these topics.

- Ancient History Book for UPSC Prelims- India's Ancient Past by R. S. Sharma
- Ancient History Book for UPSC Prelims- History of Medieval India by Satish Chandra
- Modern History Book for UPSC Prelims- A Brief History of Modern India, NCERT Class XI Modern India- Bipan Chandra

History Books for UPSC Mains

NCERT History Books for UPSC are good enough for UPSC prelims, but when it comes to the UPSC Mains Syllabus for History, candidates need to jump into some advanced history books as the questions in the Mains round require in-depth knowledge of the subject. The history syllabus for Mains comprises modern history, modern world history, modern Indian history, medieval history and ancient Indian history.

Here are some of the best History Books for UPSC that you can cover for the Mains exam.

UPSC History Books Category	Best History Books for UPSC
Modern History Book for UPSC	History of Modern World – Jain and Mathur
Modern Indian History Books	India After Gandhi – Ramchandra Guha History Of Modern India – Bipan Chandra Indian Art and Culture – Nitin Singhania From Plassey to Partition
World History Book for UPSC	Mastering Modern World History-Norman Lowe
Ancient Indian History Books	India's Ancient Past- RS Sharma The Wonder That Was India – A.L. Basham

Best Indian History Books for UPSC Optional

Those candidates who have opted for history optional have to pick the best History Books for UPSC. As per UPSC Previous Year Question Paper analysis, questions from the history optional were found have a difficulty level of moderate to difficult. That is why it is crucial for the candidates to have an in-depth study of history from these following UPSC History Books for Optional.

- A New Look at Modern Indian History From 1707 to the Modern Times- Alka Mehta and B L Grover S
- Mastering Modern World History- Norman Lowe (Best book for World History UPSC)

- The Penguin History Of Early India: From The Origins To AD 1300- Romila Thapar
- History of Medieval India- Satish Chandra (Medieval history book for UPSC exam)
- History Of Modern India- Bipan Chandra
- India's Ancient Past- Ram Sharan Sharma
- Age of Revolution 1789-1848- Eric Hobsbawm
- Age Of Capital: 1848-1875 (History of Civilization)- Eric Hobsbawm
- Age of Capital -E.J. Hobsbawm
- Age of Empires -E.J. Hobsbawm
- Age of Revolution- E.J. Hobsbawm
- Contemporary World History (NCERT) -Arjun Dev
- Modern Indian History- Bipan Chandra
- The social basis of Democracy & Dictatorship -B.J. Moore
- The Mainstream of Civilization -Strayer, Gatzke & Harbison
- The story of Civilization, Vol. 2 (NCERT) -Arjun Dev
- Europe Since 1815 -W.C. Craig
- Europe Since 1870 -James Joll.
- Europe Since Napoleon -David Thompson
- Industry & Empire -E.J. Hobsbawm

Ancient History Book for UPSC

Ancient history deals with the past event from the beginning of writing and recorded human history until the early middle ages. Here are some of the best History Books for UPSC to cover this section. Starting from some basic reads to standard reads, this list covers all of them.

- NCERT Class XI Ancient India
- NCERT Class XII Theme in Indian History- I
- The Wonder That Was India – A.L. Basham
- India's Ancient Past- Ram Sharan Sharma

World History Book for UPSC

World History Books for UPSC contain topics from world history events such as Europe Unification, World War, Liberation from Colonial Rule, and more. Here is a list of history books that would help you cover all the topics from world history.

- Europe Since 1815 -W.C. Craig
- Europe Since 1870 -James Joll.
- Europe Since Napoleon -David Thompson
- The Story of Civilization, Part 2 by Arjun Dev, NCERT
- Contemporary World History for class XII (Old NCERT Book) (Amazon Link)
- Mastering Modern World History by Norman Lowe
- Mastering Modern World History-Norman Lowe

Modern History Book for UPSC

Modern history elaborates the history of the world beginning after the middle ages. It mainly focuses on the concepts and notions of political history and cultural and social development in

the world. Below we have mentioned some of the best History Books for UPSC that cover this section.

- A Brief History of Modern India
- NCERT Class XI Modern India- Bipan Chandra
- India After Gandhi – Ramchandra Guha
- History Of Modern India – Bipan Chandra
- Indian Art and Culture – Nitin Singhania
- From Plassey to Partition
- History of Modern World – Jain and Mathu
- Mastering Modern World History-Norman Lowe

Indian History Book for UPSC

Indian history covers a big portion of the History Syllabus for UPSC and that's why you need to prepare properly for this sections. Here are the best History Books for UPSC that will help you in the preparation of Indian history.

- India's Ancient Past by RS Sharma
- History of Medieval India by Satish Chandra
- History of Modern India by Bipan Chandra
- India's Struggle For Independence by Bipan Chandra
- Indian Art and Culture by Nitin Singhania
- India After Independence: Bipan Chandra
- The Wonder That Was India: AL Basham
- India After Gandhi: Ramachandra Guha
- Ancient and Medieval India: Poonam Dalal Dahiya