

## **WEST ASIAN STUDIES**

1. Geographical Features - West Asia as a Contiguous Geographical Unit – Physical Features of West Asia  
Mineral Wealth – Oil, copper, Manganese, Bauxite Sulfur – A Survey of human settlements – Major countries of West Asia.
2. Pre-Islamic History  
Indus Valley and Mesopotamia Pre-Aryan and Aryan Cultural Contacts Sassanid Empire and the Eastern Roman Empire.  
Pre-Islamic religions – Judaism, Christianity and Zoroastrianism in West Asia.
3. Islamic Period  
Rise of Islam – Teachings of Prophet Mohammad creation of the Caliphate Ummayyad Khalifs Arab Conquest of Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Palestine , Iran and the Byzantine Empire.
4. Abbasid Caliphate– Taxation – Judicial system -Military Organization – Trade and Commerce – Crusades
5. Ottoman Empire – The Rise of Ottoman Empire – Muhammad II and Sulaiman - Political Expansion – Military - Civil Administration
6. Intellectual and Cultural Life – Translation of Greek, Persian and Indian Classics into Arabic - Growth and spread of medicine, Philosophy, Mathematics Astronomy and Geography, Art, Architecture, Painting, Calligraphy and Music.
7. Agrarian Economy  
Economic Profile of West Asia – Development of Agriculture in Turkey, Iran, Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia.
8. Industrial Development – Oil Resources, Oil Industry – Pricing; export – OPEC -Foreign aid and Development.
9. West Asia and the World:  
Young Turks Revolution – Kemal Pasha, Eastern Question – Western Powers and West Asia -World War situation – formation of Israel, Palestine and Refugees Problems – Non-Alignment Movement and West Asia – Arab – Israeli Conflict – Peace Initiatives.
10. India and West Asia – Political, Diplomatic and Economic relations since independence.