

## **SYLLIBUS FOR PGQP52 ENTRANCE EXAMINATION M.A COMPARATIVE RELIGION-2017**

Nature and Scope of Religion

Definitions and concept of Religion

Historical development of Religion and Religious Institutions

Introduction to World Religions (Aryan/Indian and the Semitic)

The Nature of Religious Experience – Traditional and Modern Theories, Indian and Semitic Religions (William James, Vivekananda, Aurobindo Gosh and S. Radhakrishnan)

The Importance of Understanding the World Views (The World Religions And Ideologies)

The Sacred and the Profane

The Two Aspects of Religious Life: Individual and Collective

Reason, Intuition and Revelation

Scriptures and Symbols

Ritual in Religion

The Inter-faith Dialogue

Unity in Diversity in Religious Traditions

Reconciliatory Approaches

Hinduism

“Hinduism” Definition

The Vedas

Vedic Texts (Shruti and Smriti)

Vedic Religion and Rituals; an introduction to later Vedic Scriptures( Brahmins and Aranyakas)

The Emergence and Development of the Upanishads

Fundamental Concepts of Classical Hinduism: Brahman-atman, Karma, Mokhsa.

The ontology of Upanishads and their influence.

. Epic Literature: Mahabharata and Ramayana.

The Bhagavad-Gita

Hindu life – cycle rituals (samaskaras)

## Major Schools of Traditional Hindu Thought

Samkhya: Origin and Development

Vedanta: Its basic Texts and Early Developments

Nyaya

Islam—

Islamic system of beliefs,

worships and values as derived from the Quran and Sunnah.

The Quran and Tafsir,

Nature of revelation, compilation and preservation of the Quran.

Quran; its structure, content and major themes.

Sunnah and Hadith

Transmission of Hadith and its methodology

Principles of authenticity and credibility

The place and role of Hadith to determine Islamic injunctions.

Fiqh and Shariah: The Islamic law and jurisprudence.

Legislative dimensions of the Quran and Sunnah

Sikhism

Religious and cultural background of Sikhism.

Life and Teachings of Guru Nanak Sahib.

Historical development of Sikh Panth and Culture.

Contribution of Sikh Gurus from Guru Arjun Dev to Guru Tegh Bahadur to the growth of Sikh religious tradition.

Basic Concepts in Sikh religious philosophy: God, Man and the World.

The Concept of Guru – Guru Granth Sahib: its compilation, basic doctrines and place in Sikh religion

The salient philosophical and theological teachings of Jap Ji Saheb.

The World and Humans: the human problems and their Solution.

Contribution of Guru Gobind Singh to Sikh religion and culture.

Dasam Granth – Creation of Khalsa.

The distinguishing features of Sikh religio-cultural tradition

Christianity

Origin and Development of Christianity

Scriptures

. Jesus of Nazareth

Apostles and early Followers of Jesus

Trinity, Original Sin and Salvation

Church: Its Origin and Growth

Christian-Jew interaction

Rise of Canon, Doctrine and Practices

Development of Nicene Creed

Apocrypha and the Gospel of Barnabas

Research Methodology in Comparative Religion

Various Approaches to the Study of Religions Indian Approach:

Theory of Unity of Religions.

Gandhian Theory: All Religions are True

. Western Approaches to Religion: Anthropological and Sociological Theories

Man-Centric Approaches to Religions

Society-Centric Approaches: Durkheim, Max Muller and Max Weber

Modern Oriental responses to Study of Religions

Dayanand Saraswati and Swami Vivekananda: Unity of Religions or Unity of Religion

Isma‘il Raji al-Faruqi, Husain Nasr and Ali Shariati

Evolutionary theory of Religion

Islam : Islamic Thought, Revivalist & Reformist Movements

Muhammad ibn Abd al- Wahhab: Thought and his Movement

Muhammad Ali Sanusi: Life and his Movement

Shah Wali Allah al-Dihlawi: Reconciliatory Approach

Sayyid Ahmad Beralwi and his Movement.

Sayyid Jamal al-Din al-Afghani: Thought and Impact

Shaikh Muhammad Abduh: Reformation 3. Rashid Rida and his thought

Shaikh Hasan al-Banna: Thought and Impact

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan: Educational Contribution and Rational Trends in Religious Thought

Shibli Naumani: Introduction of Scholastic trend

Sir Muhammad Iqbal: His concept of Movement and Ijtihad

Abul Kalam Azad: Concept of Wahdat-e Din and Pluralism

Salafi Movement and its impact on Muslim World

. Deoband Movement: Background and Contribution

Tablighi Movement: Impact and Achievements

Jama,,at-i-Islami : Thought & Impact

Judaism

God, Torah, and Israel: Hebrew beginning

. Origin & Growth of Scriptures

Prophets: Abraham, Moses, Saul, David and Solomon . Mosaic Covenant

Growth of the Rabbinic Tradition and Talmud

Judaism"s interaction with Islam

Religious Reforms in Judaism

Zoroastrianism

Beginnings of the academics study of Zoroastrianism

Pre-Zoroastrian and the Vedic religion

Zoroastrian religion: monotheistic, dualistic, or polytheistic

Avesta: exploring its nature and character.

Advent and spread of the Parsi community in India.

Parsis' religious and social reforms in the 19th and 20th centuries.