

## BBA General English

### Semester I: The Idea of India

This paper introduces the students to the debates surrounding the idea of India. The objective of the course is to familiarize the students to the social reality of contemporary India and to develop an understanding of the pluralism that exists within it. The subtle ways of oppression and the ability of caste system to cause problems in the society through its new and innovative ways, are exposed to the students through this syllabus. This helps them understand the different realities of people that live in the same society. By including certain historical texts, we also introduce them to the idea of conflicting ideologies and the significance of such debates and discussions. Therefore, this syllabus aids their understanding of India-as a nation, a country, a diverse society and a democracy. The different writers also present different worldviews and thus, this helps foster critical-thinking abilities and argumentative skills in the students.

1. Extracts from *Annihilation of Caste* - B R Ambedkar
2. Extracts from *Hind Swaraj* - M K Gandhi
3. Fandry (movie) - Nagaraj Manjule
4. Tip - Du Saraswati
5. Tabarana Kathe - Poornachandra Tejaswi
6. The state is lawless - Soni Sori
7. Dissent and freedom in India - Amartya Sen

## Semester II: Literary and Cultural Traditions

### Objectives:

This paper introduces the students to a selection of literary and cultural traditions of the world. It explores the literary and cultural dimensions of the many 'wisdom traditions' that flourished in the past and the ones that are taking shape in the present times. It complements the syllabus of the previous semester, as it offers an understanding of the ways in which some issues of religion and caste violence in today's world have been addressed through literature, in the earlier times. The syllabus also seeks to provide an understanding of the idea of resistance and rebellion that is integral to every society. It helps root resistance in the need for identity and touches upon the different facets of identity politics that are played out in the modern world.

1. Traditions of storytelling through 'The Flowering Tree and other stories'
2. Introduction to the Vacana Movement through 'Speaking of Siva'
3. Introduction to Sufi mystic traditions through 'Stain your prayer rug with wine'
4. Hindu-Muslim Syncretism in India through Kabir's poetry and 'Had-Anhad'
5. Introduction to Protest Music through 'The history of American protest music, from "Yankee Doodle" to Kendrick Lamar