



UnderStand UPSC
What we UnderStand, We Conquer

UPSC CSE GS MAINS

MICRO-SYLLABUS



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GS Paper 1 : Indian Heritage & Culture, History & Geography of the World & Society

Official UPSC Syllabus (as per notification)

- ▶ Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of Art Forms, Literature and Architecture from ancient to modern times.
- ▶ Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present - significant events, personalities, issues.
- ▶ The Freedom Struggle: its various stages and important contributors/contributions from different parts of the country.
- ▶ Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country.
- ▶ History of the world will include events from 18th century such as industrial revolution, world wars, redrawing of national boundaries, colonization, decolonization, political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism etc. – their forms and effect on the society.
- ▶ Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India.
- ▶ Role of women and women's organisation, population and associated issues, poverty and developmental issues, urbanization, their problems and their remedies.
Effects of globalization on Indian society.
- ▶ Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism.
- ▶ Salient features of the world's physical geography.
- ▶ Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian sub-continent).
- ▶ Important Geophysical phenomena such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclones etc., geographical features and their location - changes in critical geographical features (including water-bodies and ice-caps) and in flora and fauna and the effects of such changes.

Micro-Syllabus

A. Indian Culture

1. Performing Arts

- ▶ Aims & objectives of performing arts, their evolution across ages
- ▶ Classical dances of India: origins, themes, famous exponents
- ▶ Folk dances & music: regional variations, themes, cultural value
- ▶ Drama & theatre: from Natyashastra to modern dramatists
- ▶ Folk theatre traditions: themes, forms, significance
- ▶ Contribution of performing arts to personality development & social harmony

2. Music

- ▶ Evolution of Indian music through ages
- ▶ Hindustani & Carnatic systems: features, similarities & differences
- ▶ Regional music traditions & modern Indian music
- ▶ Contributions of notable personalities (e.g., Amir Khusro, Mohammad Shah Rangile)

3. Dance

- ▶ Origins (Rig Veda, Harappa, Nataraja concept)
- ▶ Classical dance forms: Bharatanatyam, Kathak, Kathakali, Odissi, Manipuri, Kuchipudi, Mohiniyattam, Sattriya
- ▶ Folk dances: themes, cultural expressions

4. Drama & Theatre

- ▶ Ancient texts: Natyashastra, Mrichhakatika, Mahabhashya
- ▶ Medieval & modern dramas, famous dramatists
- ▶ Folk theatre & Sanskrit theatre traditions
- ▶ Modern challenges to theatre in India

5. Literature & Languages

- ▶ Vedic & Sangam literature
- ▶ Classical languages & their societal impact
- ▶ Medieval literature trends (Bhakti, Sufi, regional languages)
- ▶ Modern Indian literature (19th-20th century)

6. Architecture

- ▶ Harappan architecture & town planning
- ▶ Buddhist & Jain architecture (Stupas, Chaityas, Viharas)
- ▶ Mauryan & Post-Mauryan developments (Sanchi, Gandhara, Mathura)
- ▶ Gupta age architecture & cultural efflorescence

- ▶ Temple architecture: Nagara, Dravida, Vesara; rock-cut & monolithic temples
- ▶ Vijayanagara & regional styles (Pallava, Chola)
- ▶ Indo-Islamic architecture (Delhi Sultanate, Mughal, provincial styles)
- ▶ Colonial architecture & Indo-European synthesis
- ▶ Preservation & conservation of monuments
- ▶ Spread of Indian architecture to Southeast Asia

7. Sculpture & Bronze Art

- ▶ Harappan bronze figures (e.g., Dancing Girl)
- ▶ Jain, Buddhist, Hindu bronze sculptures
- ▶ Pallava & Chola bronzes, Nataraja tradition
- ▶ Pala and other schools of art

8. Paintings

- ▶ Prehistoric rock art
- ▶ Ancient & medieval murals (Ajanta, Bagh, Sittanavasal, Armamalai)
- ▶ Miniature schools: Pala, Mughal, Rajput, Pahari, Deccan
- ▶ Modern painting traditions: Bengal School, Raja Ravi Varma, nationalist revivalist art
- ▶ Folk painting traditions: Madhubani, Kalamkari, Kalighat, Warli, Pattachitra

9. Puppetry & Folk Theatre

- ▶ Various forms: string, shadow, rod, glove puppets
- ▶ Themes in puppetry & their cultural value
- ▶ Regional folk theatre (Jatra, Tamasha, Yakshagana, Nautanki, etc.)

10. Religious & Philosophical Traditions

- ▶ Buddhism, Jainism & their cultural impact
- ▶ Vedanta philosophy & Bhakti traditions
- ▶ Sufism & its role in Indian society
- ▶ Bhakti-Sufi synthesis and influence on art & society

B. MODERN HISTORY OF INDIA

1. India in the 18th Century

- Later Mughals and decline of the empire
- Rise of regional powers (Bengal, Awadh, Hyderabad, Mysore, Kerala, Sikhs, Rajputs, Jats, Marathas)
- Society, economy, and culture in the 18th century
- Scientific outlook and intellectual trends

2. Early European Entry

- Portuguese, Dutch, French, and British trading activities
- Anglo-French rivalry in India
- Expansion of British trade and political influence (1600-1744)

3. British Expansion (1757-1818)

- Battle of Plassey and its impact
- Dual system in Bengal, wars under Hastings, Cornwallis, Wellesley
- Subsidiary Alliance and Maratha defeat

4. Consolidation of British Rule (1818-1857)

- Conquest of Sind and Punjab
- Dalhousie's annexation policy
- Administrative structure and relations with princely states
- Regulating Acts, Charter Acts, and British Parliament's role

5. British Economic Policies

- Commercial and trade policies (1757-1857)
- Impact of Industrial Revolution on India
- Land revenue systems: Permanent, Ryotwari, Mahalwari
- Consequences for agriculture and peasants
- "Drain of Wealth" theory

6. Administrative Policies

- Civil services, army, police, judiciary
- Introduction of Rule of Law and equality before law

7. Social and Cultural Impact

- Spread of modern education
- Social reforms and western influence
- Role of reformers: Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Vidyasagar, Dayanand Saraswati, Vivekananda, etc.
- Caste reforms, women's reforms, education reforms

8. The Revolt of 1857

- Causes, spread, participation, British response
- Failure and consequences
- Administrative changes after 1858

9. Economic Impact of Colonial Rule

- Decline of traditional economy
- Agriculture deterioration, rise of landlordism
- Growth of new industries, social classes
- Poverty and famines

10. Rise of Nationalism (1858-1905)

- Causes for nationalism
- Early organizations and Indian National Congress (INC)
- Role of Moderates: demands, methods, achievements, and limitations

11. Religious and Social Reform Movements (19th-20th Century)

- Reformist movements: Arya Samaj, Brahma Samaj, Theosophical Society, Aligarh movement
- Women's upliftment, caste struggles, education initiatives

12. National Movement (1905-1918)

- Extremists vs Moderates
- Swadeshi & Boycott, Revolutionary terrorism
- Home Rule League
- Lucknow Pact (1916)

13. Gandhian Phase (1919-1939)

- Gandhiji's arrival, Champaran & Ahmedabad struggles
- Non-Cooperation, Khilafat, Civil Disobedience, Round Table Conferences
- Women's participation, Dalit issues, Ambedkar-Gandhi debate
- Socialist and revolutionary trends within Congress

14. Towards Independence (1939-1947)

- Impact of WWII, August Offer, Cripps Mission, Quit India Movement
- INA & Subhas Bose
- RIN Mutiny, Cabinet Mission, Partition debates
- Role of communalism, British policy, Indian leaders

15. Partition and Independence

- Causes and acceptance of Partition
- Independence Act, 1947
- Independence Act, 1947

C. POST-INDEPENDENCE CONSOLIDATION

1. Partition & Immediate Challenges (1947-1950)

- Communal riots: Punjab, Bengal, Assam, Sindh
- Radcliffe Commission: composition, drawbacks, outcomes
- Refugee rehabilitation & resettlement
- Division of finances, defence, civil services
- Assassination of Gandhi
- Shift from colonial rule to constitutional democracy

2. Integration of Indian States

- Policy of equal federation (1935-1947)
- Role of Sardar Patel & VP Menon in integration
- Accession & challenges: Junagadh, Kashmir, Hyderabad
- Later accessions: Goa, Pondicherry, tribal regions
- Issues in tribal integration & policies

3. Framing the Constitution

- Evolution of Constitution & Constituent Assembly debates
- Key provisions and vision of founding fathers
- Compulsions in drafting (federalism, rights, minorities)

4. Building Democracy

- First general elections & challenges before Election Commission
- Rise and dominance of Congress system
- Elections of 1967 & split in Congress
- Role of opposition parties in shaping democracy

5. Economic Consolidation

- Ideas of development & formation of Planning Commission
- Five-Year Plans (1st-5th) → achievements & criticisms
- Green Revolution: conditions, policies, impacts (positive & negative)
- Operation Flood & dairy cooperatives (Amul model)
- Land reforms: abolition of zamindari, tenancy reforms, ceiling on landholdings

- Bhoodan movement – aims & results

6. India's Foreign Policy (1947-1970s)

- Evolution & strategic issues
- Features of Nehruvian foreign policy
- Emergence of NAM (Non-Aligned Movement)
- Relations with neighbours:
 - » India-China (1962 war)
 - » India-Pakistan (wars of 1948, 1965, 1971; Shimla Agreement; Kargil background)
 - » India-Bangladesh (1971 liberation)
 - » India-Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan
- India-US & USSR relations during Cold War

7. Democratic Crisis & Reforms

- JP movement & Emergency (1975-77): causes, declaration, controversies
- Features of Nehruvian foreign policy
- Emergence of NAM (Non-Aligned Movement)
- Relations with neighbours:

8. Regionalism & Internal Challenges

- Regional movements: Dravidian, Andhra, Assam, West Bengal, Punjab, J&K, Northeast secessionism
- Operation Blue Star, Khalistan demand
- Regionalism vs national integration
- Accommodation strategies by Indian state

9. Popular Movements (1970s-1990s)

- Environmental movements: Chipko, Narmada Bachao Andolan
- Caste & anti-caste struggles (Dalit Panthers, Mandal agitation)
- Agrarian struggles: BKU & farmer protests
- Anti-arrack movement, fishworkers' movements
- Women's movements in post-independence India

10. Communalism & Secularism

- Growth of communal politics after independence
- Ayodhya dispute & demolition of Babri Masjid
- Gujarat riots & communal mobilisation
- Challenges to secularism in state policy

15. Recent Developments in Indian Politics (1990s–present)

- Decline of Congress dominance, rise of coalition politics
- Mandal Commission & OBC assertion
- NEP-1991 reforms (LPG – Liberalisation, Privatisation, Globalisation)
- ICT revolution & changing economy
- Rise of new consensus in politics (2000s onwards)
- Nuclear policy, Kargil conflict, terrorism & Pakistan relations
- 2004 elections & beyond – coalition era, changing party dynamics

D. WORLD HISTORY

1. Industrial Revolution (18th–19th Century)

- Decline of feudalism & rise of capitalism
- Renaissance & pre-industrial Europe
- Causes of Industrial Revolution in Britain
- Spread to Europe & USA
- Social, economic & political impacts (urbanisation, class struggle, imperialism)

2. French Revolution & Aftermath

- Causes of French Revolution (social, political, economic, intellectual)
- Main events & role of leaders
- Napoleon Bonaparte: rise, reforms, downfall
- Impact on France, Europe & the world

3. Nationalism in Europe

- Rise of nation-states in 19th century
- Unification of Italy (Mazzini, Garibaldi, Cavour)
- Unification of Germany (Bismarck, wars of unification)
- Rise of modern nationalism

4. Colonialism & Imperialism

- Colonial expansion in Asia & Africa (1870–1914)
- Economic & political motives of imperialism
- Impact on colonies (economic drain, cultural assimilation, resistance movements)
- Theories of imperialism (Lenin, Hobson)

5. American Revolution & Rise of USA

- Foundation of American colonies
- Causes & course of American War of Independence
- Declaration of Independence (1776) & US Constitution
- Impact on Europe (French Revolution influence)
- Emergence of USA as a global power

6. World War I (1914–1918)

- Causes: alliances, militarism, nationalism, Balkan crises
- Course of the war & major battles
- Aftermath: Treaty of Versailles, League of Nations
- Consequences for Europe, Middle East, colonies
- Impact on India & nationalist movements

7. Russian Revolution (1917)

- Conditions in Tsarist Russia before 1917
- Role of Lenin, Bolsheviks & October Revolution
- Civil war & creation of USSR
- Global influence of Marxism-Leninism

8. Inter-War Period (1919–1939)

- Rise of Fascism in Italy (Mussolini)
- Rise of Nazism in Germany (Hitler, ideology, expansionism)
- Great Depression (1929): causes & global effects
- Spanish Civil War & ideological conflicts

9. World War II (1939–1945)

- Causes: failure of League, appeasement, aggression of Axis powers
- Major campaigns & turning points
- Holocaust & war crimes
- End of war: Yalta & Potsdam conferences, atomic bombs
- Consequences: UN formation, Cold War beginnings

10. Decolonisation (1945–1970s)

- End of colonial empires in Asia & Africa
- Role of nationalist movements & leaders
- Case studies: India, Indonesia, Vietnam, Ghana, Kenya
- Impact of decolonisation on Cold War politics

11. Cold War Era (1945–1991)

- Division of world into US & USSR blocs
- NATO vs Warsaw Pact
- Proxy wars: Korea, Vietnam, Afghanistan
- Cuban Missile Crisis
- Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) & India's role
- Collapse of USSR (1991)

12. Post-Cold War World (1991–Present)

- Rise of US as sole superpower
- EU integration & Eurozone
- Rise of China as global power
- Islamic terrorism & "War on Terror" (Al Qaeda, ISIS)
- Globalisation & new world order

13. Political Ideologies & Philosophies

- Capitalism: forms, examples, modern relevance
- Socialism & Communism: Soviet model, Chinese model
- Fascism & Nazism: ideology, practices, impact
- Liberal democracy & human rights movements

E. INDIAN SOCIETY

1. Unity in Diversity

- Forms of diversity in India (regional, linguistic, religious, caste, cultural)
- Bonds of unity (pilgrimage, accommodation, interdependence, leadership)
- Constitutional safeguards for unity

2. Challenges to National Integration

- Regionalism, casteism, linguism, communalism
- Social inequalities and disparities
- Ethnic conflicts and tribal identity issues

3. Secularism in India

- Western vs Indian concept of secularism
- Process of secularization in India
- Issues like forced conversions, communal tensions

4. Regionalism, Communalism & Fundamentalism

- Types and effects of regionalism
- Sons of Soil movements and demands for smaller states
- Rise of fundamentalism (religious, cultural)
- Communal violence and its social impact

5. Social Empowerment

- Constitutional provisions for SCs, STs, OBCs and minorities
- State policies and welfare measures for social justice

6. Caste and Social Justice

- Caste and politics
- From untouchables to Dalits: identity formation
- Reservation debate and its implications
- Caste-based violence and state measures

7. Tribal Issues

- Indebtedness, displacement, forest problems
- Analysis of Forest Rights Act
- Development vs displacement dilemma

8. Women and Society

- Women's movements (19th century, Gandhian era, post-independence)
- Violence against women and state responses
- Uniform Civil Code debate
- Feminism and post-feminism in India

9. Social Justice and Security

- Concept of social security
- Organised vs unorganised sector
- Public assistance programmes
- Social security code initiatives

10. Poverty and Inequality

- ▶ Dimensions of poverty in India
- ▶ Linkage between poverty and development
- ▶ Poverty alleviation strategies since independence
- ▶ Inequality debates (income, caste, gender, region)

11. Globalisation and Indian Society

- ▶ Dimensions of poverty in India
- ▶ Linkage between poverty and development
- ▶ Poverty alleviation strategies since independence
- ▶ Inequality debates (income, caste, gender, region)

12. Urbanisation and Demography

- Patterns and trends of urbanisation in India
- Urban governance and smart city initiatives
- Problems of urbanisation (slums, infrastructure, service delivery)
- Census 2011 highlights (sex ratio, literacy, population trends)

13. Family, Kinship & Patriarchy

- Changing family and kinship systems in India
- Concept and impact of patriarchy
- Women in family structures

14. Issues of Vulnerable Sections

- SCs, STs, OBCs, minorities, elderly, children, disabled, LGBTQ+
- Laws, schemes, and institutions for their welfare
- Effectiveness and gaps in implementation

15. Contemporary Social Issues

- Secularism, communalism, caste conflicts
- Gender discrimination in workplaces
- Child trafficking, child labour, juvenile justice
- Surrogacy, same-sex marriage, manual scavenging
- Mob lynching, undertrials, right to privacy, death penalty debates

16. Health, Education and Development

- State of health sector, reforms and Ayushman Bharat
- Nutrition challenges (malnutrition, food fortification)
- Status of education, literacy challenges
- Policies like RTE Act, National Education Policy, No Detention Policy

F. GEOGRAPHY

Physical Geography (World & India)

1. Universe & Earth

- Origin of universe (Big Bang, star & planet formation)
- Evolution of Earth, atmosphere, hydrosphere, life
- Geological time scale

2. Geomorphology

- Earth's interior: structure & sources of info (seismic waves, volcanoes)
- ERocks: types (igneous, sedimentary, metamorphic), landforms & soils
- Geomorphic processes:
 - » Endogenic (diastrophism, earthquakes, volcanism, plate tectonics, isostasy)
 - » Exogenic (weathering, erosion, mass wasting, deposition)
- Landform development: rivers, glaciers, winds, waves, karst

3. Contemporary Social Issues

- Relief of ocean floor: ridges, trenches, seamounts, continental shelves
- Temperature, salinity & density of oceans
- Movements: tides, waves, currents (causes & impacts)
- Marine resources, ocean deposits, corals & bleaching issues
- Water cycle & management (surface, ground, inland waters)

4. Contemporary Social Issues

- Atmosphere: composition, structure
- Solar radiation, heat balance, temperature distribution
- Pressure belts, winds (planetary, monsoon, local winds)
- Jet streams, cyclones, thunderstorms, tornadoes
- Humidity, condensation, clouds, precipitation, types of rainfall
- World climate zones (Köppen classification)

5. Biogeography

- Soils: formation, types, degradation & conservation
- Natural vegetation: forests, grasslands, deserts, tundra
- Conservation & reforestation

6. Physical Geography of India

- Physiography: Himalayas, Peninsular block, Indo-Gangetic plain
- Drainage systems: Himalayan & Peninsular rivers
- Indian climate & monsoon theories (classical, modern, air mass, jet stream)
- Climatic regions of India
- Soils & vegetation in India; conservation issues
- Environmental issues: floods, droughts, desertification, forest fires, pollution, climate change

Economic & Human Geography

1. Basics of Economic Geography

- Nature & scope of economic geography
- Economic activities: primary, secondary, tertiary, quaternary, quinary
- Agglomeration economies, digital divide, neoliberalism

2. Resources

- Land use, land degradation, planning
- Water resources & disputes, management policies
- Minerals: types, distribution (world & India), conservation, mining issues
- Energy resources: coal, oil, gas, nuclear, renewable (solar, wind, hydro, geothermal, bio)
- Energy security debates & policies

3. Agriculture

- Cropping patterns, productivity, intensity
- Factors influencing agriculture (geographical, institutional, technological)
- Major crops & conditions for growth
- Agricultural revolutions (Green, White, Blue, Evergreen, Rainbow)
- GM crops, climate-smart agriculture, diversification
- Agricultural policies: MSP, NAM, APMC reforms, Rashtriya Gokul Mission
- Food security, famines, PDS, nutrition challenges

4. Industry

- Factors affecting industrial location (Weber, Losch theories)
- Major industries (iron & steel, textiles, automobiles, fertilizers, pharmaceuticals, food processing)
- Industrial regions (world & India)
- Industrial policies, SEZs, MSME sector, 4th Industrial Revolution
- Regional inequalities & industrial sickness

5. Transport & Communication

- Road, rail, pipeline, water & air transport (issues & policies: Bharatmala, Sagarmala, UDAN)
- Ports & shipping challenges
- Communication: telecom, digital infrastructure, National Telecom Policy
- Role of transport & communication in development

6. Trade

- World trade patterns & routes
- India's foreign trade: composition, direction, trends, WTO issues
- Regional trade blocs & bilateral agreements

7. Population & Human Geography

- Population growth & distribution (world & India)
- Theories: Malthus, Marx, Demographic Transition, Optimum Population
- Demographic dividend & window of opportunity
- Migration: causes, types, patterns (India & global)
- Sex ratio, fertility, literacy, ageing, health
- Census highlights, National Population Policy
- Hunger & nutrition reports (Global Hunger Index, Nutrition Report)

8. Settlements & Urbanisation

- Rural settlement types & patterns
- Urbanisation trends, primate cities, conurbations, slums, rural-urban fringe
- Issues of urbanisation in India
- Government schemes: Smart Cities, AMRUT, PM Awas Yojana, HRIDAY
- Urban planning, sustainable development

6. Regional Development & Human Development

- Concept & types of regions, regional imbalance issues
- Strategies for balanced development
- Human Development Index & reports (World Bank, UNDP)
- Growth vs development debates



GS Paper-2 : Governance, Constitution, Polity,

Social Justice & International Relations

Official UPSC Syllabus (as per notification)

- ▶ Indian Constitution—historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure.
- ▶ Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein.
- ▶ Separation of powers between various organs, dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions.
- ▶ Comparison of the Indian constitutional scheme with that of other countries.
- ▶ Parliament and State Legislatures—structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges and issues arising out of these.
- ▶ Structure, organization and functioning of the Executive and the Judiciary—Ministries and Departments of the Government; pressure groups and formal/informal associations and their role in the polity.
- ▶ Salient features of the Representation of People's Act.
- ▶ Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional Bodies.
- ▶ Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies.
- ▶ Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.
- ▶ Development processes and the development industry—the role of NGOs, SHGs, various groups and associations, donors, charities, institutional and other stakeholders.
- ▶ Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes; mechanisms, laws, institutions and bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections.
- ▶ Issues relating to development and management of Social Sector/Services relating to Health, Education, Human Resources.
- ▶ Issues relating to poverty and hunger.
- ▶ Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance—applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential; citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures.
- ▶ Role of civil services in a democracy.
- ▶ India and its neighborhood relations.
- ▶ Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests.
- ▶ Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests, Indian diaspora.
- ▶ Important International institutions, agencies and fora—their structure, mandate.

Micro-Syllabus

A. Indian Polity & Constitution

1. Historical Underpinnings & Evolution

- ▶ Making of the Constitution: Constituent Assembly, debates, vision
- ▶ Historical background & influences (Government of India Acts, British legacy)
- ▶ Constitution as a living document

2. Features of the Constitution

- Sources & salient features (federalism, parliamentary system, independence of judiciary, etc.)
- Preamble – philosophy & debates (is it amendable?)
- Comparison with constitutions of USA, UK, France, etc.

3. Fundamental Rights, DPSPs & Duties

- Fundamental Rights – scope, restrictions, key debates (sedition, free speech, RTI, privacy)
- Directive Principles – significance, economic & social democracy, conflicts with FRs
- Fundamental Duties – relevance & enforcement

4. Amendments & Doctrines

- Important amendments (42nd, 44th, 73rd, 74th, 103rd, etc.)
- Judicial doctrines: basic structure, harmonious construction, eclipse, pith & substance, severability, territorial nexus

5. Representation & Elections

- Salient features of Representation of People Act
- Electoral reforms: NOTA, Right to Recall, Simultaneous elections, electoral bonds, state funding debates
- Voting behaviour, absentee ballots, role of EVMs & VVPATs
- Criminalisation of politics, freebies culture, inner-party democracy

6. Political Parties & Pressure Groups

- Nature, functions & challenges of political parties in India
- Role of opposition & coalition politics
- Pressure groups, civil society, NGOs, SHGs Role in democracy

B. Executive, Legislature & Judiciary

7. Union & State Executive

- President: powers, discretionary role, ordinances
- Prime Minister & Council of Ministers: powers & responsibilities
- Governor: discretionary powers, controversies, Centre-State frictions
- Cabinet committees & decision-making

8. Parliament & State Legislatures

- Structure & functioning (sessions, dissolution, adjournment)
- Law-making process, money bills, budget process
- Committees of Parliament: role, effectiveness
- Privileges & issues (breach of privilege, office of profit)
- Lapses of bills & ordinance-making power

9. Judiciary

- Structure & independence of judiciary
- Appointment & removal of judges (collegium vs NJAC debate)
- Judicial review, activism, accountability
- PILs & judicial overreach debates
- Pendency, reforms, All India Judicial Service proposals
- Tribunals, alternate dispute resolution (ADR)
- Major SC judgments (privacy, Aadhaar, Sabarimala, NJAC, decriminalisation of adultery, etc.)

10. Federalism & Local Government

- Federal structure: features, challenges, debates on special status
- Centre-State relations: legislative, administrative, financial
- Inter-state disputes (water sharing, boundaries, etc.)
- 73rd & 74th Amendments: Panchayati Raj & municipalities
- Role of Finance Commission, devolution of funds
- Urban governance & reforms

C. Governance

11. Good Governance

- Meaning & elements of good governance
- Transparency, accountability, citizens' charters, Sevottam model
- Administrative Reforms Commissions (ARC) recommendations
- Role of media & social media in governance

12. E-Governance

- Models, applications, challenges & successes
- Digital India, BharatNet, DBT, Aadhaar & privacy debates
- Use of technology in service delivery

13. Civil Services & Administration

- Role of civil services in democracy
- Reforms needed in bureaucracy (performance appraisal, lateral entry)
- Civil service-political executive relationship
- Ethics & codes of conduct

14. Welfare & Development Mechanisms

- Laws, schemes & institutions for vulnerable sections (SCs, STs, minorities, women, children, elderly, disabled)
- Reforms needed in bureaucracy (performance appraisal, lateral entry)
- Civil service-political executive relationship
- Ethics & codes of conduct

D. International Relations

15. India's Foreign Policy

- Evolution: Nehruvian policy, NAM, Gujral Doctrine
- Recent doctrines: Neighbourhood First, Act East, Look West, Indian Ocean outreach, diaspora diplomacy, space & nuclear diplomacy
- Soft power & hard power elements

16. India & Neighbourhood

- India-China: border issues, BRI, trade deficit, Doklam
- India-Pakistan: terrorism, Indus Waters Treaty, CPEC, Kashmir issue
- India-Bangladesh: Teesta water issue, migration, connectivity
- India-Nepal: fluctuating ties, tilt towards China, constitutional disputes
- India-Sri Lanka: Tamil issue, fishermen disputes
- India-Bhutan: strategic relations, China factor
- India-Myanmar: Rohingya issue, connectivity (Kaladan, IMT highway)
- India-Maldives: political shifts, Chinese presence

17. India & the World

- India-US: defence, nuclear, trade, diaspora issues
- India-Russia: defence ties, stagnation, new equations with US
- India-Japan: strategic cooperation, nuclear pact, infrastructure projects
- India-Europe: Brexit implications, GDPR, EU-India FTA hurdles
- India-Africa: trade, diaspora, energy security, AAGC initiative
- India-West Asia: Iran (Chabahar, nuclear deal), Israel, Saudi Arabia, UAE relations

18. Global Issues & Institutions

- UN & UNSC reforms, peacekeeping challenges
- Bretton Woods institutions (IMF, World Bank) reforms
- WTO: Doha round, India's stance, protectionism
- BRICS, SCO, G20, ASEAN, BIMSTEC, SAARC
- Climate change diplomacy (Paris Agreement, COPs)
- Migration crisis, terrorism, cyber security, energy geopolitics



GS Paper-3 : Technology, Economic

Development, Biodiversity, Environment,

Security & Disaster Management

Official UPSC Syllabus (as per notification)

- ▶ Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment.
- ▶ Inclusive growth and issues arising from it.
- ▶ Government Budgeting.
- ▶ Major crops, cropping patterns in various parts of the country, different types of irrigation and irrigation systems storage, transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints; e-technology in the aid of farmers.
- ▶ Issues related to direct and indirect farm subsidies and minimum support prices; Public Distribution System - objectives, functioning, limitations, revamping; issues of buffer stocks and food security; Technology missions; Economics of animal rearing.
- ▶ Land reforms in India.
- ▶ Effects of liberalization on the economy, changes in industrial policy and their effects on industrial growth.
- ▶ Infrastructure: Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc
- ▶ Investment models.
- ▶ Science and Technology—developments and their applications and effects in everyday life.
- ▶ Achievements of Indians in science & technology; indigenization of technology and developing new technology.
- ▶ Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology and issues relating to intellectual property rights.
- ▶ Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment.
- ▶ Disaster and disaster management.
- ▶ Linkages between development and spread of extremism.
- ▶ Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security.
- ▶ Challenges to internal security through communication networks, role of media and social networking sites in internal security challenges, basics of cyber security; money-laundering and its prevention.
- ▶ Security challenges and their management in border areas; linkages of organized crime with terrorism.
- ▶ Various Security forces and agencies and their mandate.

Micro-Syllabus

A. Indian Economy & Planning

1. Economic Development

- Growth vs development debates
- NITI Aayog: role, cooperative federalism
- Planning – legacy of 5 Year Plans to post-1991 LPG reforms
- Sustainable development, inclusive growth

2. Mobilisation of Resources

- Domestic resource mobilisation: taxation, black money, financial inclusion
- External resources: FDI, FII, ECBS, remittances, sovereign bonds
- Public finance: deficits, FRBM debates, off-budget borrowings

3. Banking, Finance & Monetary Policy

- Structure & reforms in Indian banking
- NPAs, IBC, recapitalisation
- RBI: monetary policy framework, inflation targeting, digital rupee
- Financial markets: capital markets, SEBI role, fintech & crypto debates

4. Indian Industry

- MSME sector – role, challenges, Udyam reforms
- Industrial policies & PLI schemes
- Startup ecosystem, unicorns, ease of doing business
- Disinvestment & privatisation debates

5. Infrastructure

- Transport (roads, rail, air, ports) – Bharatmala, Sagarmala, UDAN
- Energy sector: coal, oil, renewables, nuclear, energy transition
- Urban infrastructure: Smart Cities, AMRUT, PM Awas Yojana
- Digital infrastructure & 5G rollout

6. Investment & Employment

- Trends in investment, FDI policy, Make in India
- Employment trends: organised vs unorganised sector, gig economy, migration
- Skill development & demographic dividend
- Social sector spending

B. Agriculture

7. Agriculture & Allied Sectors

- Cropping patterns in India
- Irrigation, watershed management, PMKSY
- Irrigation, watershed management, PMKSY
- Food processing industry – potential & policies
- Animal husbandry, dairying, fisheries, Blue Revolution

8. Agricultural Issues & Reforms

- Land reforms, tenancy reforms, consolidation debates
- Pricing: MSP, APMC, e-NAM, contract farming
- Food security: PDS, buffer stocks, nutrition issues
- Doubling farmers' income strategies
- Climate change & agriculture

C. Environment, Ecology & Biodiversity

9. Conservation & Climate Change

- Environmental issues: pollution, deforestation, desertification
- Biodiversity: hotspots, conservation methods, species protection
- Climate change: IPCC reports, India's INDCs, National Action Plan on Climate Change
- International agreements: UNFCCC, Paris Agreement, COP summits
- Renewable energy & sustainable development goals (SDGs)

10. Environmental Legislation & Governance

- Environment Protection Act, Wildlife Protection Act, Forest Rights Act
- EIA, CRZ regulations
- National Green Tribunal (NGT) – role & limitations
- Issues of inter-state water disputes, river linking

D. Science & Technology

11. Developments in S&T

- IT, AI, robotics, nanotech, biotech, quantum computing
- Defence technology & indigenisation (DRDO, ISRO)
- Space: Chandrayaan, Gaganyaan, commercial space startups
- Nuclear energy & safety issues
- Cybersecurity, data protection, digital ethics

12. Health & Medicine

- Vaccines, biotechnology, genomics
- Public health infrastructure, Ayushman Bharat
- Pandemic preparedness & One Health approach

E. Disaster Management

13. Disaster Preparedness & Mitigation

- Disaster types: natural (earthquakes, floods, cyclones, droughts) & man-made (industrial accidents, nuclear, chemical, biological)
- NDMA & SDMA – structures, policies
- Early warning systems, mock drills, community participation
- Sendai Framework & India's initiatives
- Case studies: Uttarakhand floods, Kerala floods, Odisha cyclone model

F. Internal Security

14. Internal Security Challenges

- Terrorism: cross-border, domestic, cyber terrorism
- Left-wing extremism (Naxalism): causes, spread, state response
- Insurgency in Northeast India – historical roots & peace accords
- Kashmir issue, AFSPA debates

15. Border & Coastal Security

- Border management with Pakistan, China, Nepal, Myanmar, Bangladesh
- Coastal security architecture: Navy, Coast Guard, marine police
- Smuggling, illegal migration, human trafficking

16. Cyber & Technology-related Security

- Cybersecurity architecture in India: CERT-In, NCIIPC
- Data privacy & digital warfare
- Social media manipulation, fake news, disinformation

17. Security Forces & Reforms

- Role of Army, paramilitary, CAPFs, intelligence agencies
- Modernisation of police forces, prison reforms
- Role of technology (drones, satellites, AI) in security



GS Paper-4 : Ethics, Integrity & Aptitude

Official UPSC Syllabus (as per notification)

- ▶ Ethics and Human Interface: Essence, determinants and consequences of Ethics in human actions; dimensions of ethics; ethics in private and public relationships.
- ▶ Human Values – lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators; role of family, society and educational institutions in inculcating values.
- ▶ Attitude: content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behaviour; moral and political attitudes; social influence and persuasion.
- ▶ Aptitude and foundational values for Civil Service, integrity, impartiality and non-partisanship, objectivity, dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance and compassion towards the weaker-sections.
- ▶ Emotional intelligence-concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance.
- ▶ Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and the world.
- ▶ Public/Civil service values and Ethics in Public administration: Status and problems; ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions; laws, rules, regulations and conscience as sources of ethical guidance; accountability and ethical governance; strengthening of ethical and moral values in governance; ethical issues in international relations and funding; corporate governance.
- ▶ Probity in Governance: Concept of public service; Philosophical basis of governance and probity; Information sharing and transparency in government, Right to Information, Codes of Ethics, Codes of Conduct, Citizen's Charters, Work culture, Quality of service delivery, Utilization of public funds, challenges of corruption.
- ▶ Case Studies on above issues.

Micro-Syllabus

A. ETHICS & HUMAN INTERFACE

A1. Nature & Scope

- Definition and meaning of Ethics
- Difference between ethics, morality, values, laws
- Dimensions of ethics: personal, professional, social
- Determinants of ethical behaviour

A2. Human Action & Consequences

- Role of intention, means and ends in ethics
- Ethical dilemmas in decision making
- PCase illustrations on private vs. public life choices

A3. Ethics in Relationships

- Ethics in family life
- Ethics in professional conduct
- Ethics in public administration

B. HUMAN VALUES

B1. Sources of Values

- Role of family, society, culture, religion
- Educational institutions and value inculcation

B2. Values from Exemplars

- Teachings of Indian leaders (Gandhi, Vivekananda, Ambedkar, Tagore etc.)
- Global leaders and reformers (Mandela, Lincoln, Dalai Lama etc.)
- Administrators known for integrity (T.N. Seshan, E. Sreedharan etc.)

B3. Types of Values

- Fundamental vs. Instrumental values
- Democratic, social, aesthetic and professional values

C. ATTITUDE

C1. Structure & Components

- Cognitive, affective, behavioural elements of attitude

C2. Functions of Attitude

- Adaptive, ego-defensive, value-expressive, knowledge function

C3. Formation & Change

- Role of belief, values, socialisation
- Impact of persuasion & group influence

C4. Attitudes in Governance

- Moral and political attitudes in public life
- Moral and political attitudes in public life

D. APTITUDE AND FOUNDATIONAL VALUES FOR CIVIL SERVICES

D1. Core Aptitudes

- Analytical ability, logical reasoning, decision making
- Essential aptitudes for civil servants

D2. Foundational Values

- Integrity, impartiality, non-partisanship
- Objectivity, neutrality, anonymity
- Empathy, tolerance, compassion, humility, perseverance

D3. Public Service Commitment

- Dedication to service delivery
- Balancing rights and duties

E. EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE (EI)

E. EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE (EI)

- Definition and importance of EI
- Theoretical models of EI

E2. Components of EI

- Self-awareness, self-management
- Social awareness, relationship management

E3. Application of EI

- In administration and governance
- Enhancing decision making, conflict resolution, team management

F. MORAL THINKERS & PHILOSOPHERS

F1. Indian Thinkers

- ▶ Buddha, Mahavira, Gandhi, Tagore, Vivekananda, Ambedkar, Dayanand Saraswati, Aurobindo, etc.

F2. Western & Global Thinkers

- Plato, Aristotle, Socrates
- Kant, John Stuart Mill, Jeremy Bentham
- Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau
- Karl Marx, Adam Smith, John Rawls, Confucius, Nietzsche

F3. Administrative & Modern Thinkers

- Max Weber, Peter Drucker, Elton Mayo, Mary Parker Follett

G. ETHICS IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION & GOVERNANCE

G1. Public Service Values

- Ethical concerns in government and private institutions
- Status & problems of public service values

G2. Ethical Frameworks

- Laws, rules, regulations, conscience as guides
- Ethical dilemmas in policy, administration & business

G3. Accountability & Governance

- Transparency, accountability, ombudsman
- Whistleblower protection, citizen engagement

G4. Ethics in International & Corporate Sphere

- Ethical issues in foreign aid & relations
- International organisations and ethical standards
- Corporate governance and CSR models

H. PROBITY IN GOVERNANCE

H1. Conceptual Basis

- Meaning of probity and philosophical basis of governance
- Importance of vigilance and citizen participation

H2. Tools & Mechanismst

- RTI, e-governance, transparency measures
- Codes of ethics and conduct (for legislators, ministers, civil servants, regulators, judiciary)

H3. Public Service Delivery

- Citizen's Charters: features, limitations, reforms
- Work culture: Indian approach & reforms
- Quality of service delivery

H4. Public Funds & Corruption

- Utilisation of public funds, leakages, fund release issues
- Role of Parliament in financial control
- Corruption as a social evil; types & causes
- Mechanisms: Lokpal, Lokayukta, vigilance bodies

I. CASE STUDIES

- Ethical dilemmas in administration
- Conflict between public duty and private interests
- Issues of corruption, transparency, accountability
- Application of values and EI in real-life governance scenarios

UPSC CSE 2025 | Ranker's Testimonial



Raghav Jhunjhunwala

AIR-4

CONQUER Mains 2025
CONQUER 2025 super 200
CONQUER Mains 2024, MAD for Prelims

Thanks 'US' for the great content throughout **especially Conquer (mains) & MAD (Prelims)**.

MAD has been the most important defining feature for my Prelims. I watched all the lectures of **MAD**. I understood the language of UPSC Questions from it. I used all the materials provided in **CONQUER** - be it summary or handwritten short notes. Truly worthy Content.



Surabhi Yadav

AIR-14

Conquer Mains Answer Writing,
Conquer Super 200 Group,
Conquer SFG 2023

I have been associated with Satyam Sir since 2023. I was part of online sessions that he used to take when he himself was giving the exam. CONQUER program helped in building my speed while doing answer writing with Sir. In DAF also he helped a lot- pin pointed role of keywords and presentation. Overall played an important role in building confidence as well.



Nisar Dishant Amrutlal

AIR-19

'US' Core Faculty
2 UPSC Selections

When I joined US for the first time, I instantly recognized what makes an institution feel like a family. 'US' was one such institution that felt like home and catered to students.

This attempt, US and team helped in bringing out my best and creating space which helped me in delivering Satyam Sir's insights. His trust in me and the opportunity he provided has been crucial for me. I am grateful for all of this.



Prachi Honey

AIR-28

Conquer Mains 2025 Program
MAD for Prelims, YPLP 2024 & 2025
ECO 550 Series (for Prelims 2025)

Thank you to Satyam sir for bringing MAD series. It is the most essential thing any aspirant can use in prelims preparation. Conquer mains material also provide much needed insight in crisp and to the point form. Thank you to entire 'US' team for this. I owe my success to Satyam sir.



Nancy Singh
AIR-34

CONQUER Mains 2025,
HyRise 2025, MAD (for Prelims 2025)
Antim Pag 2023/2024

Thanks to Satyam sir for the MAD series that helped in building aptitude for tackling prelims questions. Also for the emotional support and one-to-one mock interview session. I extend my gratitude for whole UnderStand UPSC team for their contribution.



Deeksha Chourasiya
AIR-44

Conquer Mains 2025 Program
Conquer Mains Answer Writing
Antim Pag 2025

Thank you for guiding all the aspirants. Your interview guidance aided a lot. Satyam Sir's mentorship and Conquer mains material proved to be really useful.



Priya Singh Chauhan
AIR-45

Conquer Mains 2025 Program

Thank you Satyam sir for being an emotional guide in this eternally exhaustive journey. Academically, the MAD videos helped me develop a mindset for prelims and Conquer videos and flash sessions also helped. A very big thank you for the motivating feedback session post mock interview. That was a big confidence booster and much needed.



Preeti Chauhan
AIR-47

'US' Core Faculty & Mentor
2 UPSC Selections
Conquer Mains 2025 Program
Conquer Mains Answer Writing
Antim Pag 2025

My rank would have been impossible without the role of "Satyam Bhaiya" as well as the whole "US" team. From fabulous course deliverables to extremely personalized mentorship to unparalleled motivation (Satyam Bhaiya), CONQUER MAINS & US remains incomparable. Thank you for telling me, "There are no Alps". Surely, there are not. 'Thank you' to Satyam Bhaiya & everyone from "US"
सपने सच होते हैं, होते हैं, होते हैं।



Prachi Panwar

AIR-59

Conquer Mains 2025 Program
Conquer Super 200 Group
YPLP 2024 & 2025

UnderStand UPSC has been instrumental in achieving this feat. MAD program for prelims, Conquer for mains helped me to clear both stages with good scores. Forever grateful to Satyam sir. Value addition was so amazing. I learned how to hit the demand of questions after doing CONQUER answer writing. I could actually use the materials provided by you in the UPSC exam.



Vishwajeet Gupta

AIR-67

Conquer Mains 2025 Program,
Conquer Super 200 Group,
Prevail 2025,
Upsurge Prelims Test series 2025,
SFG 2023 & 2024

Big thanks to Satyam sir and UnderStand UPSC family.
- The single point source for Prelims, Mains & Interview.
- Conquer being the best Mains program available in the country, hugely indebted for the content.
- Those late-night answer writing sessions, current affairs, MAD & Antim Pag played a crucial role in my rank.



Aryan Kumar Singh

AIR-104

MAD (for Prelims 2025)
Antim Pag 2025
Conquer Mains 2024 Program
YPLP 2024 & 2025

Grateful for Satyam Sir's support and guidance throughout my journey.

I was part of the Conquer mains batch and Antim Pag interview guidance program. The MAD approach really simplified Prelims.

All my gratitude for the team of US and Satyam Sir.



Sanskriti Singh
AIR-165

MAD Series, ECO 550 Series
CONQUER Mains 2024
HYrise 2024

I am grateful to Satyam Jain sir for helping throughout my UPSC journey. From MAD series on YouTube to flash sessions for Mains, UnderStand UPSC has been an integral part of my preparation. Sir's support throughout the journey was immense



Tanya Singh
AIR-200

CONQUER Mains 2025
UpSurge Mains Test Series 2025
UpSurge Prelims Test Series 2025
PreVail 2025

UnderStand UPSC has been like a family to me throughout the UPSC preparation in Prelims, Mains & Interview.

Satyam Sir's guidance & motivation sailed me and many other rankers in the journey. I feel very grateful to be a part of such an institute which not only provides mentorship but also emotional support to the students.

I definitely owe this rank & this beautiful journey to the institute.



Rahul Choudhary
AIR-332

CONQUER Mains 2025
CONQUER Super 200 Group
UpSurge Mains Test Series 2025
PreVail 2025, HYrise 2025
MAD Series, ECO 550 Series
CONQUER Mains 2024
Antim - Pag 2025, 2024 & 2023

It was my absolute privilege to be under Satyam Sir's Mentorship. His seamless guidance is a boon to my journey that continued till the selection day.

UnderStand UPSC is an institution built differently, by aspirants & for aspirants. Accessibility & relatability are two jewels in the crown of 'US'.

Always indebted & grateful.

UPSC CSE 2024 | Ranker's Testimonial



Shakti Dubey

Conquer Mains 2024,
Antim Pag IGP 2024
Mains 2023 SFG,
Antim Pag IGP 2023

After 2023 Result : Sach me Satyam sir, It was my 1st mains and I could score 435 in GS without any coaching and test series, It was all because of your efforts

After 2024 Result : UnderStand UPSC is more than just an institution, it is the support you need. I had Satyam Sir as mentor, who played a significant role in my preparation. He was a great support throughout the journey. Specifically for Ethics, I referred to the notes uploaded by him, and they were incredibly helpful. Even last year, I managed to score well in Ethics.



Ettaboyina Sai Shivani

Conquer Mains 2024,
Antim Pag IGP 2024
HYRise Prelims 2024, YPLP 2024

Model answers are credited to you and your entire team. Personally, I don't deviate from those model answers, except for news and current event data-which also you provided. You've helped me understand how each GS paper requires a different kind of mindset.



Iram Choudhary

Conquer Mains 2024, Antim Pag
IGP 2024, HYRise Prelims 2024
YPLP 2024

Conquer Mains has been a game-changer in my preparation. The Score Enhancers added immense value to my answers and played a crucial role in boosting my overall performance in the mains exam especially GS4 .Whatever content was not prepared by myself was done through Conquer short notes. Live answer writing breaks inertia and FLT really helped a lot. Current affairs video helped immensely. For Prelims, I focused on PYQs and watched the MAD series multiple times. I was also part of the High Rise Initiative, which I followed with complete dedication. It truly made a difference in my preparation.

I followed the conquer timeline fully. The model answers of the PYQs were easily replicable in exams. Economy content was gold with Committees, Bar-Graphs, Diagrams and Pie-chart. IR compilations of Harsh Pant, S. Jaishankar quotes were very handy to use across GS. Mains mock tests were very helpful as it was fully based on PYQ and hence helped me revise it. Sir is providing the content which is a consolidation of what an aspirant should do in 5–6 years and it's not easily available in the market. I have watched all the MAD series and understood clear patterns to crack the exam. I highly recommend taking Satyam Sir's guidance to understand what is required to decode this exam. He is really an amazing mentor one can have.



Mudita Bansal

Conquer Mains 2024, Antim Pag
IGP 2024, HYRise Prelims 2024
YPLP 2024

I was part of the SFG group. It was a beautiful journey. I was able to clear mains and interview because of that community. Cleared 2024 prelims and then became part of Conquer mains group. I personally feel this community is a very big thing where everyone is ready to help each other. I am very grateful for it. Now if I am able to achieve anything, a great part yours would be reflected in me. Very much thankful for everything



Saksham Bhatia

Conquer Mains 2024
Antim Pag IGP 2024
Mains 2023 SFG,
Antim Pag IGP 2023



Manu Garg

Conquer Mains 2024
Antim Pag IGP 2024

"It's all because of Satyam Sir's efforts. I have enrolled in all UnderStand UPSC's courses-Conquer, HyRise, and last year's SFG."



Devika

Conquer Mains 2024
Antim Pag IGP 2024, YPLP 2024

MCQ Aptitude series helped me immensely. Bharat Darshan Series helped a lot. I don't have words to express my gratitude. I was able to score much above the cutoff. This was only possible because of the MAD series. I followed the US at every stage of the preparation. I followed the Mains Program and was able to score 125 marks in the Ethics Paper and it was possible only because of the answer writing program.



Aditya Acharya

Conquer Mains 2024
Antim Pag IGP 2024
HYRise Prelims 2024
YPLP 2024

I was able to crack the prelims just because of UnderStand UPSC. MAD series is the one that has revolutionized my whole preparation because I knew I needed to change my approach for attempting the exam but didn't know how to do it. Then sir came as a guiding light. Then it was a constant journey- I was part of YPLP, Conquer and Antim Pag. I was fully dependent on Conquer notes for Ethics. Live answer writing was very helpful in building confidence and brain storming. For Ethics I revised the model answers multiple times and prepared my short notes from them. The answers were made with a lot of effort. My success in this exam is solely because of sir.



Preeti Chauhan

Conquer Mains 2024
Antim Pag IGP 2024

By getting associated with UnderStand UPSC, all my myths were broken. I followed each and everything as sir told and trusted him blindly. I did all PYQ analysis, attended all answer writing sessions, I didn't miss even a single target. Earlier, I used to find Ethics very tough because it is completely different from the other three GS papers. I had no idea what exactly needed to be done in it. But the 3-4 sessions you took, along with the notes we made during them (which I still have), really helped me understand. That's when I realized, oh, this is what Ethics actually is-because no one really explains it this way. Satyam sir is more like an elder brother to me because he was there when I needed him the most.



Angad Ji Saggu

Conquer mains 2024
YPLP 2024, Antim Pag 2024

"I followed all the programs of Understand UPSC. I was also a part of the Conquer Program. I followed every series and every program with complete trUSt- I have made this clear to just follow obediently what Sir is telling and go ahead because I had immense believe in Satyam Sir."



Rekha Siyak

Conquer Mains 2024
Antim Pag IGP 2024
Mains 2023 SFG

You cracked the main formula-I can now teach anyone how to write answers for Mains. You taught us how to UnderStand the demand of the question, what it's really asking, and how to break the answer into the right parts."



Soumya Sharma

Conquer Mains 2024

Antim Pag IGP 2024, YPLP 2024

Mains 2023 SFG

I got the understanding of writing a good intro, body and conclusion in mains answers by sir's SFG group. I got really comprehensive notes from US which helped me immensely for last minute revision. My biggest motivation is when sir's journey was coinciding with our journey, He was working hard for his exam as well as our exams. He used to take audio sessions, lectures, It really helped and built an extra hope. I learned mains PYQ analysis under Sir's guidance and I saw 100 marks jump in my mains.



Kaushik Mishra

Conquer Mains 2024

Antim Pag IGP 2024

Mains 2023 SFG

Antim Pag IGP 2023

US's role is very important in my success. I was associated with UnderStand UPSC since 2 years. There are some factors like I was preparing from my home and I had no one in family/ near ones who have any background in civil services so there was this feeling of constant FOMO and Lack of guidance. I got in touch with sir when I was writing 2023 Mains and I was so inspired to see that Sir was also appearing for Mains and even then he was managing and teaching us. I attended all the sessions daily- be it answer writing, doubt sessions or even helping us to overcome self doubts and boosting our confidence. He was available as a senior, as a mentor and as an elder brother. Sir's revision session was very very helpful. I have revised even in between my GS papers at my centre. It replicated well as I got around 214 marks in GS 2.



Nikhil Yadav

Conquer Mains 2024
SFG Mains 2023
Antim Pag IGP 2024
Essay Alchemy

I have been part of Conquer, Antim Pag and it helped me so much. I used to write a diary daily and I have mentioned in it as well that I have joined a very promising course by Satyam Jain Sir. Sir is a very genuine person and he really wants to help the aspirant community. I have been following sir for this exam cycle and his feedback for the interview helped me and gave me confidence. I really thank sir for being a very strong pillar in my journey.



Poonam Singh

Conquer Mains 2024
HYRise, YPLP, YT Guidance
SFG 2023

"If you weren't there, it would be nearly impossible for me to clear the UPSC. During the 2023 mains, I had a lot of fear and anxiety. Mock test prices at other institutes were very high. Then, a friend told me about Satyam Sir. After attending just one session, I decided-I'll stay here only."



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