

KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY

THINK IAS!!

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COMPREHENSIVE **UPSC MAINS ANSWER** WRITING PROGRAMME

> **NEW STUDENT** 6999 /-4999 /-



ORIENTATION 02/08/2025 04:00 PM

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Features of Test:

- Comprehensive syllabus coverage with Current affairs integration
- 20 Sectional + 2 Full length Tests
- Online & Offline Mode
- One-on-One Personalised Mentoring
- Live Test Discussions
- Answer keys will be Provided

"The scariest moment is always just before you start"

FOR DETAILED SCHEDULE REACH TO US



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PAPER 1 - SECTION A

POLITICAL THEORY & INDIAN POLITICS



10.Western Political Thought: Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, John S. Mill, Marx, Gramsci, Hannah Arendt.

1. Political Theory: meaning and approaches.



- 2. Theories of state: Liberal, Neo-liberal, Marxist, Pluiralist, post-colonial and Feminist.
- 3. Justice: Conceptions of justice with special reference to Rawl's theory of justice and its communitarian critiques.
- 8. Political Ideologies : Liberalism, Socialism, Marxism, Fascism, Gandhism and Feminism.



- 4. Equality: Social, political and economic; relationship between equality and freedom; Affirmative action.
- 5. Rights: Meaning and theories; different kinds of rights; Concept of Human Rights.
- 6. Democracy: Classical and contemporary theories; different models of democracy—representative, participatory and deliberative.



- ${\bf 7.\ Concept\ of\ power: hegemony,\ ideology\ and\ legitimacy.}$
- 9. Indian Political Thought: Dharamshastra, Arthashastra and Buddhist Traditions; Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, Sri Aurobindo, M. K. Gandhi, B. R. Ambedkar, M. N. Roy.



PAPER 1 , SECTION A
POLITICAL THEORY AND INDIAN POLITICS
13/09/2025

PAPER 1 - SECTION B

INDIAN GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

6 20/09/2025

1. Indian Nationalism:

- (a) Political Strategies of India's Freedom Struggle: Constitutionalism to mass Satyagraha, Noncooperation, Civil Disobedience; Militant and Revolutionary Movements, Peasant and Workers Movements.
- (b) Perspectives on Indian National Movement; Liberal, Socialist and Marxist; Radical Humanist and Dalit.
- 2. Making of the Indian Constitution: Legacies of the British rule; different social and political perspectives.
- 4. (a) Principal Organs of the Union Government: Envisaged role and actual working of the Executive, Legislature and Supreme Court.



- 3. Salient Features of the Indian Constitution: The Preamble, Fundamental Rights and Duties, Directive Principles; Parliamentary System and Amendment Procedures; Judicial Review and Basic Structure doctrine.
- 5. Grassroots Democracy: Panchayati Raj and Municipal Government; Significance of 73rd and 74th Amendments; Grassroot movements.
- 4. (b) Principal Organs of the State Government: Envisaged role and actual working of the Executive, Legislature and High Courts.



6. Statutory Institutions/Commissions: Election Commission, Comptroller and Auditor General, Finance Commission, Union Public Service Commission, National Commission for Scheduled Castes, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, National Commission for Women; National Human Rights Commission, National Commission for Minorities, National Backward Classes Commission.



- 7. Federalism: Constitutional provisions; changing nature of centrestate relations; integrationist tendencies and regional aspirations; interstate disputes.
- 8. Planning and Economic development: Nehruvian and Gandhian perspectives; Role of planning and public sector; Green Revolution, land reforms and agrarian relations; liberalization and economic reforms.



- 9. Caste, Religion and Ethnicity in Indian Politics.
- 10. Party System: National and regional political parties, ideological and social bases of parties; Patterns of coalition politics; Pressure groups, trends in electoral behaviour; changing socio-economic profile of Legislators.
- 11. Social Movement : Civil liberties and human rights movements; women's movements; environmentalist movements.



PAPER 1, SECTION B INDIAN GOVERNMENT & POLITICS 25/10/2025

PAPER 2 - SECTION A

COMPARATIVE POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS



- 1. Comparative Politics: Nature and major approaches; Political economy and political sociology perspectives; Limitations of the comparative method.
- 2. State in Comparative Perspective: Characteristics and changing nature of the State in capitalist and socialist economies, and advanced industrial and developing societies.
- 3. Politics of Representation and Participation: Political parties, pressure groups and social movements in advanced industrial and developing societies.



- 4. Globalisation: Responses from developed and developing societies.
- 5. Approaches to the Study of International Relations : Idealist, Realist, Marxist, Functionalist and Systems theory.
- 6. Key Concepts in International Relations: National interest, security and power; Balance of power and deterrence; Transational actors and collective security; World capitalist economy and globalisation.



- 7. Changing International Political Order:
- (a) Rise of super powers; Strategic and ideological Bipolarity, arms race and cold war; Nuclear threat;
- (b) Non-aligned Movement : Aims and achievements.
- (c) Collapse of the Soviet Union; Unipolarity and American hegemony; Relevance of non-alignment in the contemporary world.
- 8. Evolution of the International Economic System: From Brettonwoods to WTO; Socialist economies and the CMEA (Council for Mutual Economic Assistance); Third World demand for new international economic order; Globalisation of the world economy.



- 9. United Nations: Envisaged role and actual record; Specialized UN agencies—aims and functioning; the need for UN reforms.
- 10. Regionalisation of World Politics: EU, ASEAN, APEC, AARC, NAFTA.
- 11. Contemporary Global Concerns: Democracy, human rights, environment, gender justice terrorism, nuclear proliferation.



PAPER 2 , SECTION A

COMPARATIVE POLITICS & INTERNATIONAL

RELATIONS

06/12/2025

PAPER 2 - SECTION B

INDIA AND WORLD



- 1. Indian Foreign Policy: Determinants of foreign policy; the institutions of policy-making; Continuity and change.
- 2. India's Contribution to the Non-Alignment Movement Different phases; Current role.

20/12/2025

- 3. India and South Asia:
- (a) Regional Co-operation : SAARC-past performance and future prospects.
- (b) South Asia as a Free Trade Area.
- (c) India's "Look East" policy.
- (d) Impediments to regional co-operation: River water disputes; illegal cross border migration; Ethnic conflicts and insurgencies; Border disputes.
- 4. India and the Global South: Relations with Africa and Latin America; Leadership role in the demand for NIEO and WTO negotiations.
- 18 27/12/2025
- 5. India and the Global Centres of Power : USA, EU, Japan, China and Russia.
- 6. India and the UN System: Role in UN Peace-keeping; Demand for Permanent Seat in the Security Council.
- 03/01/2026
- 7. India and the Nuclear Question : Changing perceptions and policy.
- 8. Recent developments in Indian Foreign Policy: India's position on the recent crises in Afghanistan, Iraq and West Asia, growing relations with US and Isreal; Vision of a new world order.

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PAPER 2, SECTION B INDIA AND THE WORLD 24/01/2026

FULL LENGTH TESTS

TEST 1 - 07/02/2026

TEST 2 - 28/02/2026

HOW TO APPROACH PAPER

1. Deconstructing the question

- **Read Carefully:** Read the question at least 2-3 times to grasp its core demand and underlying implications.
- Identify Directive Words: Pay close attention to keywords like "analyze," "discuss," "critically examine," "evaluate," etc., as these dictate the tone and scope of your response.
- **Break Down:** Divide the question into smaller parts to ensure all facets are addressed in your answer.

2. Structuring for impact

- **Compelling Introduction:** Start with a brief, impactful introduction (2-3 sentences). This could be a definition, context, a relevant quote by a prominent scholar, or a statement outlining the significance of the topic. A complex question can be simplified in the introduction.
- Logical Body: Present arguments in well-structured paragraphs (3-5 lines each), avoiding excessive bullet points unless the question specifically requires enumeration.
- Multi-dimensional Approach: Structure the body using different perspectives and dimensions to add depth. For example, for questions on democracy, discuss historical, social, political, and economic aspects.
- Balanced Analysis: Present both supportive and critical arguments, addressing challenges and proposing solutions where appropriate.
- **Strong Conclusion:** End with a forward-looking or optimistic concluding statement, potentially linking back to the introduction or summarizing the key arguments from a future-oriented perspective.

3. Incorporating Value Additions

• Theorists and Theories: Integrate relevant theories and thinkers to give a scholarly approach and demonstrate a deeper understanding. Citing Hobbes, Locke, and Rousseau for a question on the social contract theory adds value.

- Interlinking Concepts: Connect different theories, thinkers, and concepts across the syllabus (even between Paper I and Paper II). This shows a holistic understanding and analytical depth. You could use a theoretical concept from Paper I to illuminate an IR issue in Paper II.
- **Current Affairs:** Use relevant examples from recent events, reports, policies, or case studies to support arguments, particularly in Paper II. For example, discuss India's G20 presidency to highlight multilateralism in international relations.
- Data, Statistics and Reports: Include facts, data, and statistics from credible sources (e.g., UN, World Bank, government reports) to strengthen arguments and add authenticity. Avoid excessive or inaccurate data, which can negatively affect your score.
- Diagrams and Flowcharts: Use diagrams and flowcharts sparingly but effectively to simplify complex ideas, illustrate relationships, or present data visually. Only use them when truly adding value and not for the sake of using them.
- Contextual Examples: Provide specific, real-world examples to support your points and make your arguments more concrete.
- **Relevant Keywords:** Use specific terminology and keywords relevant to the PSIR discipline, but avoid using overly complex language that hinders clarity.
- Scholar Names and Quotes: Quoting scholars (if done correctly and relevantly) can add a scholarly approach. Paraphrasing the idea and attributing it to the thinker is acceptable, even if the exact wording is forgotten.

4. Avoiding common pitfalls

- Do not write everything you know, but write what is asked.
- Avoid a generic or one-sided argument.
- Do not just mention facts and current events, but tie them to the political science concepts asked.