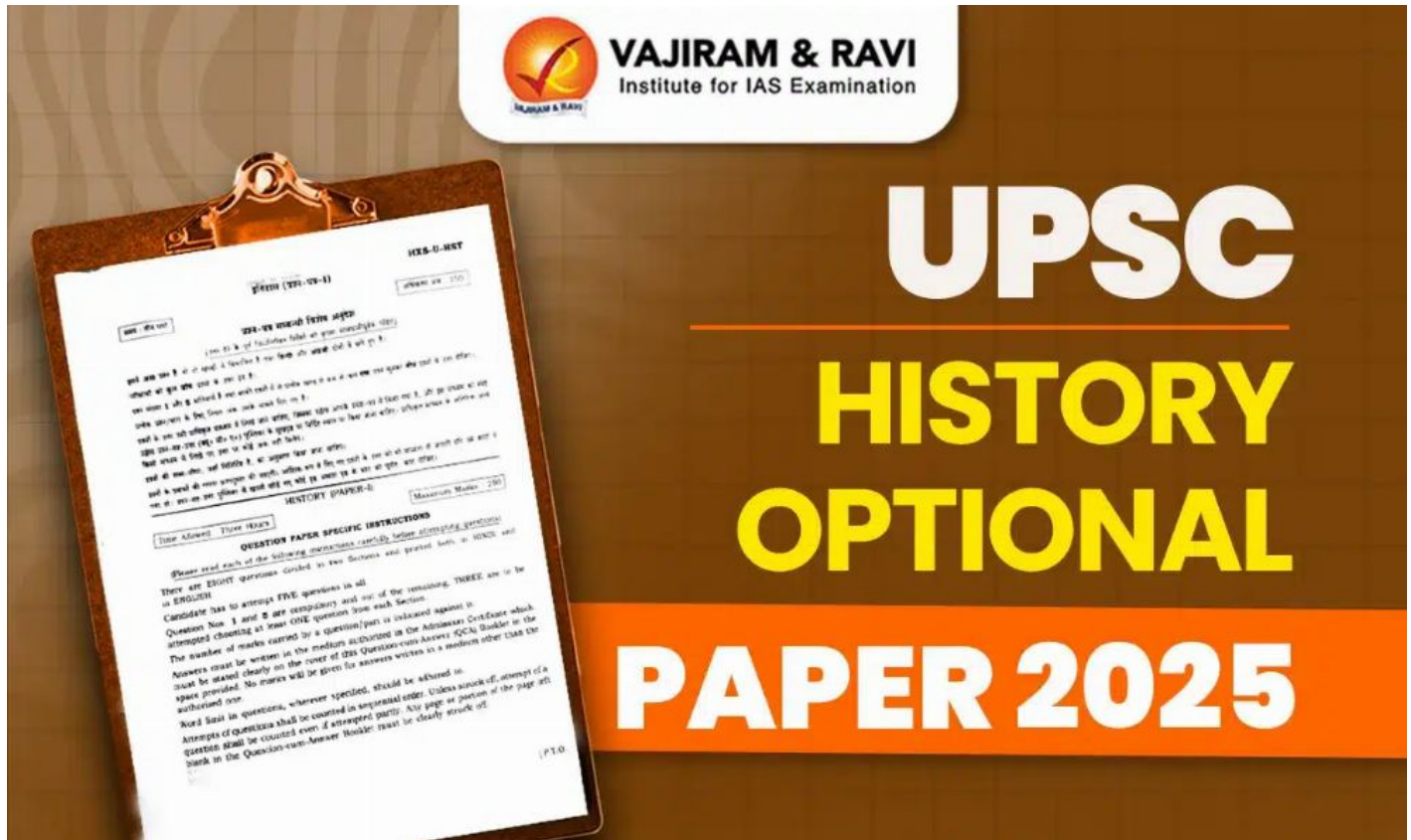


UPSC History Optional Paper 2025 Out, Download Paper 1 & 2 PDF

July 29, 2026 • vajiramandravi.com

A promotional banner for the UPSC History Optional Paper 2025. On the left, a clipboard holds a sample question paper with text in Hindi and English. The top right features the Vajiram & Ravi logo and the text 'VAJIRAM & RAVI Institute for IAS Examination'. The right side of the banner has a dark brown background with the text 'UPSC HISTORY OPTIONAL PAPER 2025' in large, bold, white and yellow letters.

Opting for History as an Optional Subject in the UPSC CSE Exam 2025 can be highly beneficial, particularly for candidates who are interested in exploring the past and understanding its influence on the present and future. The subject spans the ancient, medieval, and modern periods, offering insights into how societies, cultures, economies, and political systems have evolved over time. By studying history, aspirants gain a deeper appreciation of both continuity and transformation across different phases of human development, from the earliest civilizations to major global events that continue to shape the contemporary world.

The article covers all the essential aspects of UPSC History Optional Paper 2025 which is conducted on 31st August 2025, including the syllabus, recommended books, concise notes, previous year question papers (PYQs).

Also Check: [UPSC Mains Optional Question Paper 2025](#)

UPSC History Optional Paper 2025

The **UPSC Mains Exam** 2025 offers History as one of the popular optional subjects, divided into two papers, Paper I and Paper II. The syllabus is broad, covering ancient, medieval, and modern Indian history along with significant

themes in world history. It explores cultural, social, economic, and political developments, giving aspirants a comprehensive perspective on how societies evolve. Choosing History as an optional subject helps candidates connect past events with present realities, offering valuable insights into governance, policymaking, and contemporary social issues.

History as an Optional Subject

- **Rich Content and Analytical Depth:** History offers a vast repository of information and perspectives, allowing candidates to develop analytical depth. This critical analysis aids in crafting well-informed, insightful answers that stand out in evaluations.
- **Synergy with General Studies:** History extensively overlaps with the General Studies syllabus, especially in areas like Indian Freedom Struggle, World History, Cultural Developments, and Social Movements, enriching a candidate's responses across papers.
- **Abundant Study Material:** There is a wealth of study materials available for History, including standard textbooks, scholarly articles, and a plethora of online resources, ensuring comprehensive coverage of the syllabus.
- **Potential for High Scores:** With its scope for presenting structured arguments and engaging narratives, History allows candidates to score well.
- **Connection to Current Affairs:** Studying History provides context to many contemporary issues, from geopolitics to social justice, enabling candidates to draw insightful connections between past events and current affairs in their answers and interviews.

Also Check: [UPSC Mains Question Paper 2025](#)

UPSC History Optional Paper 2025 Download PDF

The UPSC History Optional Paper 2025 was conducted on 31st August 2025 in two papers, Paper I and Paper II. Direct link to download UPSC History Optional Paper 2025 PDF is available [here](#).

[UPSC History Optional Paper 2025 Download PDF \(Paper 1\)](#)

[UPSC History Optional Paper 2025 Download PDF \(Paper 2\)](#)

UPSC History Optional Exam Pattern 2025

The History Optional in the UPSC Mains Examination consists of two papers, Paper-I and Paper-II, each carrying 250 marks, making a total of 500 marks for the optional subject.

- **Number of Questions:** Each paper contains five questions.
- **Mandatory Questions:** Questions 1 and 5 are compulsory.
- **Choice of Questions:** Candidates must attempt three additional questions from the remaining ones.
- **Sectional Requirement:** It is essential to select at least one question from each section of the paper to ensure balanced coverage.

UPSC History Optional Exam Pattern 2025

Paper	Marks	Number of Questions	Compulsory Questions	Choice Questions	Duration
Paper I	250	5	Questions 1 and 5	Choose 3 out of the remaining	3 Hours
Paper II	250	5	Questions 1 and 5	Choose 3 out of the remaining	3 Hours

Also Check: [UPSC Indian Language Paper 2025](#)

UPSC History Previous Year Question Paper

The table below provides direct download links for the previous years' History Optional Question Papers, covering both Paper I and Paper II. Candidates can use these PDFs for practice and exam analysis.

UPSC History Previous Year Question Paper	
UPSC CSE History Optional PYQ 2024	
UPSC CSE History Optional Paper I (2024)	UPSC CSE History Optional Paper II (2024)
UPSC CSE History Optional PYQ 2023	
UPSC CSE History Optional Paper I (2023)	UPSC CSE History Optional Paper II (2023)
UPSC CSE History Optional PYQ 2022	
UPSC CSE History Optional Paper I (2022)	UPSC CSE History Optional Paper II (2022)
UPSC CSE History Optional PYQ 2021	
UPSC CSE History Optional Paper I (2021)	UPSC CSE History Optional Paper II (2021)
UPSC CSE History Optional PYQ 2020	
UPSC CSE History Optional Paper I (2020)	UPSC CSE History Optional Paper II (2020)

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