



# BHARATHIDASAN UNIVERSITY

Tiruchirappalli- 620024,  
Tamil Nadu, India

## **Programme: M.A. History**

**Course Title : Historiography**

**Course Code : CC06**

### **Unit-III**

**Krishna Prasad Jaiswal**

**Dr. Y. Srinivasa Rao**

**Associate Professor**

**Department of History**



- A well known ideologist of colonial times
- He belong to a merchant community in Muzafar Nagar, UP.
- Studied at London in mission school and went to oxford
- Qualified Bar at Linclon Inn and became Bar at law
- Influenced by the politics in India, he joined with the educated gang at Indian House, London.
- Afer he returned from London, he tried to join in Calcutta Univeristy,
- British government was suspected him of sedition



- He joined the law profession at Calcutta High Court in 1911
- Here too he was suspected and he moved to Patna High court.
- Tired by the British suspicion he decided to settle down as a researcher in ancient
- He tried to regenerate national pride through ancient historical and heritage
- He was responsible for starting of the Bihar & Orissa Research Society, 1914
- It was the first non-official intellectual society of Bihar to further the cause of research on Indian history



- The Journal of Bihar & Orissa Research Society was started in 1915.
- He built Patna Museum too
- He became popular with his writings on indology
- An Introduction to Hindu Polity in *Modern Review Journal* 1913.
- It was later made into book *The Hindu Polity*, 1924
- He also delivered lectures on Manu and Jagyanvalkya for the Tagore Law Lectures
- Through his research on ancient India, he rejected the Dark Age argument( 150 to 350 AD)
- It was period between the fall of Kushanas and raise of Imperial guptas



- He tried to decipher Hathigupma Inscription of Kharavela, Ashoka inscriptions and Samudra Gupta inscriptions
- He made contribution to numismatics wrote articles on Purana coins
- The methodology of Jayaswal was an advocate style ask questions and give his own answers
- He used this style in *History of India, 150-350 AD*.
- He questioned V.A. Smith to prove the inadequacy of his argument



- He uses long historical introduction before coming to his subject matter
- Step by step leads his readers to the main theme after conditioning their minds to accept reasoning and conclusions.
- He used comparative methods also
- But he did not define the idea of history and no framework but his indology could place him in the category of indologist and nationalist historian
- History of political activity and associations he was proud about national heritage



- His nationalist line of argument developed from his contemporary foreign British rule
- He equated the foreign rule of 20<sup>th</sup> century with the Kushan rule of 2<sup>nd</sup> century CE
- He wove story from scattered slender threads, often of doubtful authenticity of national regeneration movements against the foreign rule and tried to dominate
- Barasivas restoring the hindu imperial throne was view as revival of the national civilisation and gave new lease of life to their country



- Impressed by the national zeal and movement, he tried to impress upon the educated and non-educated that there is nothing to be dazzled about democratic parliamentary system
- In *Hindu Polity*, he argued that republics were as old as post-vedic age
- He also points the theory of limited monarchy