**FORGOTTEN HISTORIES - A BROAD OUTLINE**

The course comprises 8 sessions designed to pique the participants’ interest, while encouraging a critical look at some well-known (and not so well-known) personalities and events from Indian history. Even though all 8 sessions will have a common thread in terms of approach and methodology, each session will be complete in itself.

***14 JUNE (SESSION 1):***

A pictorial study of one of the most ancient civilizations in the world – its wondrous “modernity” and its art – and some of its riddles that remain unanswered in spite of indefatigable efforts over nearly a century.

***28 JUNE (SESSION 2):***

One of the most famous emperors in the history of ancient India – his enduring legacy lives on through our national emblem. This session will take a critical look at what makes him “great” – his policies, his philosophy of life and his patronage of the arts – as well as his relevance in the India of today.

***12 JULY (SESSION 3):***

What began essentially as a religion of protest has given us a priceless legacy in terms of the arts – painting, sculpture and architecture. This session will include a pictorial study of some of these incredible treasures.

***26 JULY (SESSION 4):***

No course on appreciation of Indian history would be complete without a reference to arguably the greatest of the Great Mughals. This session will take you through some interesting facets of his kingship as well as his religious predilections.

***2 AUGUST (SESSION 5):***

Whereas the study of temple architecture in the Indian subcontinent encompasses innumerable spectacular monuments, this pictorial session will take a look at some fascinating examples to give participants a flavour of the awe-inspiring skills of Indian craftsmen.

***23 AUGUST (SESSION 6):***

“All history is economic history” is the argument put forward by an influential school of historians. This session will study the agrarian foundations on which the British Raj in Bengal rested, along with trade and enterprise, and its ramifications in terms of the culture in British Calcutta.

***13 SEPTEMBER (SESSION 7):***

The Swadeshi movement in Bengal articulated almost every major idiom that defined the freedom struggle. This session will analyse some significant aspects of the movement, with an emphasis on the cultural aspects that formed its hallmark.

***20 SEPTEMBER (SESSION 8):***

Bringing the curtains down on the course will be a critical look at the leader who was as much admired as he has been maligned – an analysis of what made the man a “Mahatma” and the question of his relevance in today’s India.