

**Vidya Bhawan Balika Vidyapith, LKR.**

**Class-6<sup>th</sup>, Sub. -Social Science, Date-14-04-2021**

## **Ch1 History-Where, When and How**

### **Literary sources:-**

It includes all kinds of literature-long and short, written and oral. Historians estimate that writing began around 6000 BCE. The most ancient form of writing was cuneiform, wedge-shaped marks made on clay tablets. Humans developed different types of scripts. People recorded events and memories by hand. These handwritten records are known as **manuscripts**. They were written on rocks, **parchments**, palm leaves, bark of birch trees, clay tablets, and later paper. The other forms of literary sources are books, religious texts, account of foreign travellers, and biographies. Even oral history is considered as a record. Literary sources are of two types: religious and secular.

### **Religious Literature**

The writings which are religious in context and theme are called religious literature. They may be classified in following:

- 1. Vedic literature, which comprises four Vedas-Rig Veda, Sama Veda, Yajur Veda, and Atharva Veda.**
- 2. The two epics, the Ramayana and the Mahabharata, and the Bhagvata Gita, and the 18 Purans.** The Purans not only contain information on early religious practices but also throw light on the social, economic and political life of the people.
- 3. The three Tripitakas of the Buddhists and the Angas of the Jainas, besides being sacred religious texts, throw light on the economic and social changes taking place in North India just before the rise of the Mauryas.**

**By- Punit Kumar**