

3. Examine the various issues facing indigenous martial arts in the country today and suggest ways to revive them.

<b>Keywords</b>	– Indigenous martial arts, issues, revive
<b>Introduction</b>	– Provide some basic details about Martial arts in a brief manner
<b>Body</b>	– Highlight the issues faced by indigenous martial arts – Suggest ways to address the above issues
<b>Conclusion</b>	– A relevant concluding statement

**Introduction:**

- Indian martial arts refer to the **fighting systems of the Indian subcontinent**. It is a part of India's ancient culture and heritage. The practice of martial arts is believed to be dating back to Indus valley civilization.
- One of the seals discovered from IVC period shows two men spearing one another in a duel which seem to be centered on a woman. A statue of a spear thrower was also excavated from an Indus valley site.
- Some of the examples of Indigenous martial arts in India are- Kalaripayattu, Gatka, Silambam, Malla-yuddha etc

**Body:**

- **Issues facing indigenous martial arts:**
  - In 21<sup>st</sup> century, **due to influence of westernization** the traditional martial arts are losing its significance. **Ex:** Individuals are taking up **western martial arts such as boxing, fencing** over indigenous martial arts.
  - **Due to lack of awareness** regarding the martial arts among the people is one of the big reasons for **deterioration of martial arts**.
  - The **current lifestyle of individuals** in the society also makes it difficult to pursue martial arts.
  - **Influx of different martial arts** from different countries such as **kung-fu from china** and so on
  - **Lack of funding** in the area of promotion of martial arts in international arena
  - **Lack of recognition** of the artists by the Government of India.
  - **Lack of research and development** in the area of martial arts India.
  - **Indigenous martial arts** are primarily restricted to **non-urban areas in India**. The inability of these arts to find a suitable market in urban cities makes the survival of the arts in India that more precarious.
  - The **patronage to indigenous martial arts** in India is largely taken care of by few families who have practiced the arts since many generations.