

M.A. 4th Semester Examination, 2025

HISTORY

PAPER – HIST-405(B,C,D)

Full Marks : 50

Time : 2 hours

Answer all questions

The figures in the right hand margin indicate marks

Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable

PAPER – HIST-405 B

(Culture in Bengal, 19th and 20th Centuries)

GROUP—A

Answer any two questions : 10 × 2

1. Discuss the relationship between culture and society as problematised by historians in the 19th and 20th century.

(Turn Over)

2. Trace the trajectory of Durga worship in Bengal from a household ritual in the 15th century to a social festival in the late 19th century.

Or

Show how Islam assumed a distinct local character in Bengal in pre-modern times.

3. Show how theatre became a vehicle of social and political consciousness in 19th century Bengal. Discuss briefly, in this context, the Dramatic Performances Act of 1876.
4. Write an essay on the wave of 'cultural nationalism' triggered by Mohan Bagan's 1911 IFA Shield victory.

GROUP – B

Answer any four questions :

5 × 4

5. What are the three chief meanings of the word 'Culture' ?
6. Discuss briefly the Dramatic Performances Act of 1876.
7. How did the arrival of Muslims help add to the diet of Bengalis ?
8. Write briefly on the differences and similarities between Sanskrit drama and Bengali jatra ?
9. Mention the four major aspects of modern Indian theatre in the colonial period.
10. Give some examples of British perception of Bengali physique and mentality in the 19th century.

[Internal Assessment — 10 Marks]

(4)

PAPER – HIST-405 C

(*Global History of Pandemic*)

GROUP – A

Answer any two of the following questions :

10 × 2

1. What were the global impacts of the cholera pandemic during the nineteenth century, and how did it affect public health policies and societal structures world wide ?
2. Discuss the debate centering on *Leishmania Donovanii*.
3. How did the Spanish Flu impact the US Army Camp ?
4. What led to the spread of malaria in colonial India during the nineteenth century ? What were the controlling measures adopted by the colonial state ?

GROUP—B

Answer any four of the following questions :

5 × 4

- 5. What are the differences between endemic, epidemic, and pandemic ? Discuss with appropriate examples.**
- 6. How did the East India Company's medical officers define the various diseases in India ?**
- 7. What was the outlook and religious belief of the Indians towards cholera during the nineteenth century ?**
- 8. Discuss the various aspects of the Haiti Cholera epidemic.**
- 9. What geographical path did Ebola take inside Africa ? What was its impact ?**

10. Discuss the societal impact of COVID-19 in India.

[Internal Assessment — 10 Marks]

PAPER — HIST-405 D

*(Post-Partition Bengal : Select Themes on
Politics and Society)*

GROUP—A

Answer any two of the following questions :

- 1. How did the historiography of Partition incorporate the experiences and narratives of women ?** **10 × 2**
- 2. How did low-caste refugee politics in Bengal evolve during and after Partition ? In what ways did the left parties respond to these political mobilizations ?**

3. How would you explain the political and ideological implications of the Naxalite movement between the late 1960s and the 1970s ?
4. How has the Gorkhaland Movement influenced the question of ethnic identity and regional autonomy in West Bengal ?

GROUP—B

Answer any four of the following questions : 5 × 4

5. What were the main objectives of the Nehru-Liaquat Pact of 1950, and how did it aim to protect minority rights ?
6. Why did Jana Sangh and Hindu Mahasabha fail to effectively address the concerns of Hindu refugees in West Bengal ?

7. To what extent did the West Bengal Estates Acquisition Act, 1953, succeed in dismantling rural landlordism ?
8. How did the major development projects initiated by Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy contribute to the reconstruction of West Bengal ?
9. What have been the major trends in the Rajbanshi movement in the northern part of West Bengal ?
10. How did the *chhitmahals* (enclaves) complicate the India-Bangladesh border situation ?

[Internal Assessment — 10 Marks]