

M. A. 2nd Semester Examination, 2025

HISTORY

(Social History of Colonial Bengal)

PAPER — HIS-201

Full Marks : 50

Time : 2 hours

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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

GROUP—A

Answer any two questions : 10 × 2

- 1. Write a critical essay on the caste upliftment movement among the Mahisyas of Medinipur up to 1921.**

(Turn Over)

(2)

2. How did consciousness variously impact upon labour movements in colonial India ?

Or

Write a critical essay on the Calcutta Madrassa. What were its inherent defects ?

3. What ethical and cognitive wherewithal was provided to Bengali children through their magazines in the period 1883-1926 ?
4. Discuss the physical growth of Calcutta up to the mid-19th century. Why did it remain 'a city of hutments' ?

GROUP - B

Answer any four questions : 5 × 4

5. Why is it not possible to isolate social history from other histories merely on the basis of subject matter ?

6. What were the three traditional types of social history ? What led to the proliferation of a new social history after the Second World War ?
7. What kind of education was prevalent in traditional Muslim society in early 19th century India ?
8. Write briefly on the socio-economic condition of Medinipur in the early 20th century.
9. What is meant by 'push and pull' factors and 'cyclical migration' regarding modern factory labourers in colonial India ?
10. Write a note on the pioneering families of colonial Calcutta, the Setts and the Basaks.

[Internal Assessment — 10 Marks]

