

M.A. Examination, 2025
Semester IV
Comparative Religion
Course: MACOMRSP-403
Bhagavad Gītā (Modern Commentaries)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 60

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin

Answer any four questions.

1. According to Vinoba Bhave, what is the chief purpose of the *Bhagavadgītā*? What, in his opinion, makes an individual worthy to receive the main message of the *Gītā*? Elaborate. 10+5=15
2. Why does *karma* need *vikarma* to complement it? How does the union of *karma* and *vikarma* culminate into *akarma*? Explain following Vinoba Bhave's talk, entitled '*Vikarma: The Key to Karmayoga*'. 5+10=15
3. How does Vinoba Bhave argue in favour of the assertion that *sannyāsa* and *karmayoga* do not essentially differ from each other? How does he explain the *Bhagavadgītā*'s declaration that *karmayoga* is still better than *sannyāsa*. Elucidate. 10+5=15
4. How does the awareness of the Self that transcends the body help in performance of *karmayoga*? Answer following Vinoba Bhave's talk entitled 'The Teaching in brief: Self-knowledge and Equanimity'. 15
5. How can one attain one-pointedness of mind? Does equanimity and non-discrimination in outlook help in developing concentration of mind? Answer after Vinoba Bhave. 7+8=15
6. How does the practice of *karmayoga*, by renunciation of the fruits of actions, lead to infinite gains? Explain following Vinoba Bhave's talk entitled 'Yoga of Selfless and Desireless Actions'. 15

M.A Examination – 2025

Semester IV

Comparative Religion

MACOMRSP406 – Postcolonial Studies in Religion – II

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 60

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin

Answer any FOUR questions

1. What are the four paradigms of Biblical criticism? How does postcolonial Biblical criticism approach the modern readings of the texts. Explain it after Fernando F. Segovia. 5+10
2. How does postcolonial Biblical feminist criticism adopt five different approaches to elucidate the intricate relationship between colonialism and patriarchy in interpretative practices? Explain it after Kwok Pui-Lan. 15
3. Is Manu's explanation of the origin of mixed castes historically true? Explain it with reference to Ambedkar's analysis of tribal communities. 3+12
4. How does Ambedkar explain the origin of caste system through the superposition of endogamy on exogamy? Discuss. 15
5. How does Max Müller relate the study of Sanskrit with the intellectual and territorial conquest? Explain It after Sharada Sugirtharajah. 15
6. How does Max Müller connect linguistic affinity to Aryan racial identity? In this process, how does he Aryanise Hindus, according to Sharada Sugirtharajah. Explain. 5+10

M.A. Examination, 2025

Semester – IV

Comparative Religion

Course: MACOMROP 402

Modern Religious Movements In India – II

Answer any four questions

Each question is of value as indicated in the margin

Full Marks: 60

Time: 3 Hours

1. Give an idea of the main challenges faced by the Arya Samaj movement from the existing religious communities of India. 15
2. Describe the works of charity like famine relief and building of orphanages taken up by Arya Samaj and the reasons behind such activities. 15
3. Describe the program of Suddhi taken up by Arya Samaj. How was this movement connected to the upliftment of the depressed classes? Discuss. 5+10=15
4. Give a broad outline of the political dimension of Ambedkar's Dalit movement and its connection with his interpretation of Hinduism. 15
5. What is *Navayana* Buddhism? Discuss the reasons behind the choice of Buddhism by Ambedkar for the Dalit caste. 5+10=15
6. Write short notes on **any two** of the following: 7.5+7.5 = 15
 - a) Ambedkar's movement and Indian Marxist movement
 - b) The DAV schools of Arya Samaj
 - c) The Five Yajnas of Arya Samaj
 - d) B.R. Ambedkar's views on Gandhi-Nehru led freedom movements in India

M.A. Examination, 2025
Semester-IV
Comparative Religion
Course: MACOMROP405
Women and Religion-II

(For Regular and Back Candidates)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 60

Questions are of equal value as indicated in the margin.
Answer any four questions

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| 1. | Write a brief essay discussing women's status in Hinduism during the Vedic era and late Vedic period. | 15 |
| 2. | Give a brief overview of the key elements influencing Dalit Buddhist women's gender-related practices. | 15 |
| 3. | Write a brief essay discussing the development of Indian mother worship. | 15 |
| 4. | Describe and assess the idea of Goddess Saraswatī | 15 |
| 5. | Explain and evaluate the concept of Goddess Kālī. | 15 |
| 6. | List and evaluate the key facets of the Goddess Durgā concept. | 15 |