

**M.A. Examination, 2024**  
**HISTORY**  
**Semester III**  
**Course: CC XIII**

**Medieval India: Regional Powers-II**

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

Questions are of equal value  
Answer any four questions

1. How do you compare the political and religious conditions of Kashmir between the pre-Sikandar and Sikandar's period?
2. What was the nature of popular revolts against the Vijayanagara state? How did the rulers suppress them?
3. How did artisans participate in economic networks and experience social mobility during the Vijayanagara Empire?
4. What is 'Chhamu-Chitao' diplomacy? What role did the Jagannatha cult play in consolidating power?
5. Critically examine 'Khyat' literature as a historical source. How trustworthy is it in terms of reconstructing historical narratives?
6. In what ways does the Thar Desert refute the idea that it is just a 'waterless and grainless wilderness'?
7. Highlight the shifts in the narratives surrounding Rana Pratap's image in Mewar sources before and after his death.
8. Examine the Marathas' political significance in the Deccan during the 18th century.

**M.A. Examination, 2024**  
**HISTORY**  
**Semester-III**  
**Course: CC-XIV**  
**History of Modern India: Gandhi and the India National Movement (1914–1947)**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks: 40**

Questions are of equal value  
Answer *any four* questions

1. Discuss the impact of First World War on Indian society and polity.
2. Explore the importance of Champaran peasant movement in early popularity of M.K. Gandhi.
3. Analyze the major trends in Khilafat Movement.
4. Explain the constructive programme advocated by M.K. Gandhi.
5. Describe the major trends in Dalit politics with special reference to Dr. Ambedkar's leadership during colonial rule.
6. Review the regional variations in Quit India Movement.
7. Assess the contribution of INA in India's nationalist movement.
8. Write a critique on the Telangana peasant movement.

**M.A. Examination, 2024**  
**HISTORY**  
**Semester-III**  
**Course: CC-XV (Compulsory)**  
**India after Independence (1947–1971)**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks:40**

Questions are of equal value  
Answer **any four** questions

1. Describe the atrocities committed against women on both sides of the border. Do you think that there was an interconnection between violence against women and the question of the community's honour?
2. 'Like the integration of the princely states, the rehabilitation of refugees was a political problem unprecedented in nature and scope.' (R.C. Guha) Explain.
3. Critically discuss the basic philosophy enshrined in the preamble of the Constitution.
4. Would you agree that unifying post-partition India and princely states under one administration was political leadership's most critical task? Explain this with reference to Hyderabad *or* Kashmir.
5. What do you understand by the term Nehruvian Consensus? Examine the major trends of Indian politics in the 1950's.
6. Make a critical assessment of the First Five-Year Plan and agrarian reforms introduced by the Nehru government.
7. Analyse the foreign policy of Jawaharlal Nehru with special reference to the Non-Aligned Movement and India's role in the Korean War.
8. Examine the rise of Indira Gandhi. What were the challenges she faced during her initial years as Prime Minister?

**M.A. Examination, 2024**  
**Semester-III**  
**HISTORY**  
**Course: DSE-I (Optional)**  
**Science and Technology in Medieval India (1200–1707)**

Questions are of equal value  
Answer **any four** questions

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks: 40**

1. Write an essay on the meaning, scope, nature and importance of science and technology in context of pre-modern times.
2. What do you know about the Arab world's scientific thoughts? What was its impact on the growth of Indian science and technology?
3. Describe the irrigation system of India during Sultanate–Mughal period. Do you think Persian wheel and canal system brought a technological breakthrough in it?
4. Examine the chief constraints of India's indigenous medical systems. Why did they fail to face the challenges of western medical system?
5. Discuss the various steps in producing cotton and silk textiles in India with emphasis on its technological aspects.
6. What was the role of scientific instruments such as astrolabes, celestial globes and observatories in the development of astronomy in India in pre-colonial period?
7. What new technologies were introduced in ship-building in India during the period of your study?
8. Write a note on the position of science and technology on the eve of British occupation of India.

**M.A. Examination, 2024**  
**Semester-III**  
**Course: DSE-III (Optional)**  
**History in Literature: 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century India, with Special Reference to Bengal**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks: 60**

Questions are of equal value

Answer *any four* questions

1. Do you think that *Sabhyatar Sankat* was successful in portraying the evils of Imperialism?
2. Was *Anandamath* a conscious decision on part of Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay to project the Bengalis possessing of martial qualities?
3. How far was Tagore successful in addressing to the new element of *Hindutva* in late nineteenth and early twentieth century India in his novel 'Gora'?
4. Make a critical assessment of the journey of Gadadhar Chattopadhyay to become Sri Ramakrishna Paramhansa during later half of nineteenth century Bengal.
5. Do you think that *Aranyer Adhikar* by Mahashweta Devi is a successful confluence of consciousnesses of a historian, a litterateur and an environmentalist?
6. Was replacing *Sahaj Path* as a primer for children of classes I and II in West Bengal a mistake by the contemporary Left Front Government?
7. "My works are attempts to retrieve pearls of rare hue from the man-made ocean of blood" (S.H. Manto). Make an analysis of Manto's literary creations to justify the remark.
8. Is *Meghe Dhaka Tara* by Shaktipada Rajguru successful in portraying the struggle of the 'New Woman' in post-Partition Calcutta?

**M.A. Examination, 2024**  
**HISTORY**  
**Semester-III**  
**Course: DSE-IV (Optional)**  
**Social History of Health and Medicine in Colonial India**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks: 40**

Questions are of equal value  
Answer *any four* questions

1. Discuss the historical context of Public Health in colonial India.
2. Review the major trends in Public Health policy of the British government in India.
3. Critically discuss the nature of state medicine during colonial rule.
4. What necessitated mental asylums in India?
5. Account for the emergence of Lock Hospitals in the nineteenth century.
6. Write a critique on the role of missionaries in promoting maternal health care.
7. How did Indians respond to colonial Public Health policies?
8. Review the nature of medical education in India during colonial rule.

**M.A Examination, 2024**  
**Semester-III**  
**HISTORY**  
**Course-DSE-VIII (Optional)**  
**Contextualising the Colonial Armies: The Colonial Army and Indigenous Society**  
**(1757–1947)**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks: 40**

Questions are of equal value

Answer *any four* questions

1. What were the differences in the recruitment policies of the pre-mutiny Bengal and Bombay armies?
2. The Vellore mutiny of 1806 was proof that the Madras sepoy too had very strong notions of honour. Comment.
3. The pre-1857 Bengal Army's recruitment policy negated against the idea of a corporate identity of the Bengal sepoy. Comment.
4. Comment on the recent historiographical trends regarding the Revolt of 1857.
5. What were the reasons for the rise of the Martial Race theory in the 1880's? Did the pre-mutiny Bengal army follow a recruitment policy akin to that of the Martial Race theory?
6. Write a critical note on the Indianization process in the Colonial Indian Army post First World War.
7. What were the circumstances leading to the formation of the INA? What were the consequences?
8. Was the Post-Colonial Indian Army a colonial legacy?

**M.A. Examination, 2024**  
**Semester-III**  
**HISTORY**  
**Course: DSE-IX (Optional)**  
**Business History of Maritime India (1700–1800)**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks: 40**

Questions are of equal value

Answer *any four* questions

1. How effective was the *Hundi* in overcoming the challenges posed by limited banking infrastructure and slow means of communication during the medieval period?
2. With special reference to the role of the *Potedar*, write a note on the growth of banking and accountancy in Western India.
3. Briefly discuss the emergence and role of the 'Comprador Traders' in eighteenth-century India.
4. 'The brokers were useful figures in commercial transactions in foreign countries.' Discuss.
5. To what extent did the 'Surat Crisis' of 1730-32 affect the business community of Western India?
6. Examine Ashin Dasgupta's central argument regarding the decline of Surat.
7. Trace the activities of the Managing Agency Houses in India during the period under study.
8. Examine the role of Asian trade in European economy at the end of the eighteenth century.



**M.A. Examination, 2024**  
**Semester-III**  
**HISTORY**  
**Course: DSE-X (Optional)**  
**Twentieth Century World**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks: 40**

Questions are of equal value  
Answer *any four* questions

1. How has Benedict Anderson's book *Imagined Communities* reshaped the study of nations and nationalism?
2. Trace the circumstances under which Europe came to be divided into two camps on the eve of World War I.
3. Was Germany treated harshly after the end of World War I? What criticism was the Treaty of Versailles subjected to?
4. How did France, in her quest for security enter into a system of alliances with different European states?
5. Do you agree that Fascism in Italy 'emerged out of chaos'?
6. Critically examine Hitler's responsibility for the outbreak of World War II.
7. Why was the Spanish Civil War (1936–1939) regarded as an international event? Examine its impact.
8. Who provided the ideology of militarism in Japan? Why was Japan regarded as a Fascist power?

**M.A. Examination, 2024**  
**Semester-III**  
**HISTORY**  
**Course: DSE–XI (Optional)**  
**Environmental History of Medieval and Modern South Asia**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks: 40**

All questions are of equal value

Answer Question No. 1 and any three of the remaining questions

1. Describe the “three waves” in the development of the field of environmental history of South Asia? Give examples of at least two books and/or articles from each “wave”.
2. How has geomorphology shaped South Asia’s climate and environment?
3. How did environmental factors impact the Mughal conquest of North India?
4. To what extent did the supply of fodder and horses by the Rajput states determine the operational success of the Mughal cavalry?
5. Discuss the shifts in environmental policies as regional states gradually ceded power to the English East India Company over the eighteenth century. Can we characterise the East India Company’s activities as “Green Imperialism”?
6. Give an account of the activities of Arthur Cotton and Richard Strachey in the first half of the nineteenth century.
7. Write a critical note on colonial forestry in the nineteenth century.
8. Assess the environmental impact of railways and irrigation projects during the second half of the nineteenth century.

**M.A Examination, 2024**  
**Semester-III**  
**HISTORY**  
**Course: DSE-XIII**  
**History of the USA (1492–1860)**

**Time:** 3 Hours

**Full Marks:** 40

Questions are of equal value

Answer *any four* questions

1. Analyse the circumstances which led to the colonization of what is now the USA in the early 17th century.
2. Trace the circumstances leading to the American Revolution. What was the role played by ideologues such as Thomas Paine?
3. Account for the reasons behind the abolition of the Articles of Confederation and the framing of a new Constitution.
4. Discuss the main points of difference between the Federalists and Anti-Federalists. Was Thomas Jefferson an Anti-Federalist?
5. Explore the reasons behind the War of 1812. Was it an accidental war?
6. Write a critical note on the significance of Andrew Jackson's term as President of the United States?
7. Describe the circumstances that led to the annexation of Texas.
8. What were the ideological differences between the North and South that led to the American Civil War?

**M.A. Examination, 2024**  
**Semester-III**  
**HISTORY**  
**Course: DSE-XV (Optional)**  
**The Cold War and Its Impact**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks: 40**

Questions are of equal value  
Answer *any four* questions

1. Explain the meaning of Cold War. Trace its origins.
2. How did the US Policy of Containment lead to the economic recovery of Europe?
3. By what treaty did the Policy of Containment become militarized? What conflict led to its globalization?
4. Was Fidel Castro a Communist in the beginning? How did Cuba become a site of nuclear tension in 1962?
5. Trace the circumstances under which Iran became a centre of Cold War conflict.
6. Critically examine how there was a hardening of attitude between the USA and the USSR during the New Cold War.
7. Do you think Mikhail S. Gorbachev was responsible for the disintegration of the Soviet Union in 1990–1991? Illustrate your answer.
8. What is meant by Non-Alignment Movement? Discuss some of its aims and objectives by focusing on at least five of its conferences/summits.

**M.A. Examination, 2024**  
**Semester-III**  
**HISTORY**  
**Course: DSE-XVI (Optional)**  
**Contemporary World**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks: 40**

Questions are of equal value

Answer ***any four*** questions

1. Why is Feminism regarded as insular? Briefly discuss the origins and waves of Feminism.
2. Critically examine the role of Pandita Ramabai and Rokeya Sultana towards the education and uplift of women.
3. What were the three major women's organizations created in India after World War I? What are the Indian waves of Feminism?
4. Analyse briefly how Indian women participated in Gandhi's major movements.
5. What significant role did forests play in the lives of Garhwali women? What was their contribution in the Chipko Movement?
6. Describe briefly the four waves of Terrorism.
7. Analyse the strategy and functioning of the LTTE in Sri Lanka till its defeat in 2009?
8. Is Globalization a remedy or a curse? Why did India adopt liberalization in 1990?

**M.A. Examination, 2024**  
**HISTORY**  
**Semester-IV**  
**Course: DSE-XVIII**  
**History of Western Political Thought-I**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks: 40**

Questions are of equal value  
Answer **any four** questions

1. Examine the salient features of Greek political thought. Do you agree that western political thinking begins with the Ancient Greeks?
2. What does pre-Socratic mean? In what context was Socratic political philosophy distinct from the pre-Socratics?
3. Evaluate Plato's political philosophy. What is Plato's contribution to Western political thinking?
4. Discuss Aristotle's concept of State. Do you think that Aristotle's State is totalitarian in nature?
5. Explain the concept of distributive justice propounded by Aristotle.
6. Critically discuss Marcus Tullius Cicero's thought of State and citizenship.
7. Explain the political philosophy of St. Augustine with special reference to his work *City of God*.
8. Write a critical note on Ibn Khaldun's ideas on State, culture and civilization.

**M.A. Examination, 2024**  
**Semester-III**  
**HISTORY**  
**Course: DSE–XIX (Optional)**  
**History of Western Political Thought II**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks: 40**

All questions are of equal value

Answer Question No. 1 and any three of the remaining questions

1. How could three mutually incompatible ideologies—liberalism, conservatism, and socialism—grow out of the same historical context of post-French Revolution Europe?
2. Distinguish between Marxist and non-Marxist notions of ideology.
3. In your opinion, how much primacy should be accorded to individualism and individual freedom in social and political life? Give justification.
4. How do conservatives link the idea of organic society with their support for hierarchy, authority and property?
5. Give a comparative assessment of neoliberalism and neoconservatism.
6. How can we distinguish between the liberal idea of “equality” from the socialist idea of “equality”?
7. Critically discuss the core themes of community, cooperation and class politics in socialism.
8. What do you understand by “social democracy”? Give an account of its development in the twentieth century.