

M. A. Examination 2026
Semester IV
Comparative Religion
Course: MACOMRSP 403
Bhagavadgita (Modern Commentaries)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 60

Questions are of value as indicated in the Margin

Answer any FOUR questions

1. How does Vinoba Bhave argue that *bhakti* results in pure and unalloyed bliss? Does *bhakti* practiced for worldly gains also have any value? Answer following Bhave's exposition. 15
2. Why has desireless *bhakti* been termed as superior to all other forms of *bhakti*? Can there be many kinds of desireless *bhaktis*? Answer after Vinoba Bhave. 15
3. Why is it important to accumulate good *samakāras*? How, according to Vinoba Bhave, such accumulation helps in the spiritual development of a person? Explain. 15
4. Why, according to Vinoba Bhave, is it important to live with the awareness of death? How does such awareness help us to create a proper value system? Elucidate. 15
5. How does Vinoba Bhave distinguish between *Karmayoga* and *Rājayoga*? Which one of them is superior according to Bhave? Do you agree with his view? Justify your answer. 15
6. Why does Vinoba Bhave think that the way of the Bhagavadgītā is the easiest way to understand spiritual science? How does it help in gaining knowledge through direct spiritual experience? Explain. 15

M.A Examination – 2026

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. How does postcolonial optic provide for better option for the modern readings of the texts of Jewish and Christian antiquity? Explain it after Fernando F. Segovia. 15
2. How does postcolonial Biblical feminist criticism offer diversity of methods and interpretative voices? Explain it after Kwok Pui-Lan. 15
3. Write an essay on how postcolonial criticism offers critical insights to examine the intersection among gender, empire and the formation of early Christian communities in New Testament. 15
4. How does Ambedkar explain the origin of uxorial customs to maintain caste endogamy? Discuss. 15
5. Write an essay on the salient features of Max Müller's Cambridge lectures to the students of Indian Civil Service. 15
6. How does Max Müller understand the *Veda* as the childhood of European race to denote racial affinity between the Indians and Europeans? Explain it after Sharada Sugirtharajah. 15

M.A. Examination, 2026

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. Briefly discuss the reformatory programme of the Arya Samaj within the Hindu tradition. 15
2. Give an account of the philanthropic activities of the Arya Samaj and discuss their role in socio-religious reform. 15
3. Discuss the objectives and significance of *Śuddhi* Movement of the Arya Samaj. 15
4. What are the main features of *Ambedkarism*? Compare and contrast it with Marxist ideology. 5+10
5. Why did B. R. Ambedkar choose Buddhism for the Dalits? Discuss with reference to his understanding of the historical relationship between Dalits and Buddhism. 15
6. Write short notes on *any two* of the following: 7.5x2
 - i) Nāgārjuna Buddhism
 - ii) Brahmin- bourgeois and the Congress party
 - iii) Ambedkar's relationship with Gandhi
 - iv) Educational activities of the Arya Samaj

M. A. Examination 2026
Semester IV
Comparative Religion
Course: MACOMROP 407
Contemporary Hindu Studies II

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 60

Questions are of value as indicated in the Margin

Answer any FOUR questions

1. How does Aurobindo, with reference to the development of regional philosophies in India, refute the objection that outward Indian life has been “depressed, dull, poor, gloomy with hues of asceticism.” Explain. 15
2. Why does Aurobindo think that Indian culture is “at once an effectuation and limitation of the spirit”? In this context, why does he compare Indian civilisation with that of Greek? Elucidate. 15
3. How according to Aurobindo both *Māyāvāda* of Śaṅkara and philosophy of Buddhism has shaped Indian way of thinking? Discuss 15
4. What according to Aurobindo is the *functus officio* of Indian civilisation? Has Indian been able to deliver it to the world? Explain following, ‘The Foundations of Indian Culture’. 15
5. How does Aurobindo explain the notion of *adhikāra* to study the *śāstras* etc. in the ancient India. How does he relate the notion of *iṣṭa-devatā* with that of the *adhikāra*? Do you agree with Aurobindo’s view? Justify your answer. 15
6. How does Aurobindo try to prove that aesthetic satisfaction, in addition to spiritual development was an integral part of the Hindu Culture? 15