

**MASTER OF ARTS EXAMINATION 2025**  
**First Year, Second Semester**  
**ENGLISH**  
**Narratives of Nation Formation and Rupture**

**Time: Two hours**

**Full Marks: 30**

Answer *any three* of the following questions. All questions are of equal marks.

- 1) Do you agree that an emphasis on ‘unity’ contributes to the stability of a nation while diversity contributes to fragmentation? Justify your answer.
- 2) Tagore writes that India is “suffering from this conflict between the spirit of the West and the Nation of the West.” Explain with close reference to Tagore’s *Nationalism*.
- 3) “In my humble opinion, rejection is as much an ideal as the acceptance of a thing. It is as necessary to reject untruth as it is to accept truth.” Comment on Gandhi’s arguments in favour of the Non-cooperation movement.
- 4) Critically examine the speech delivered by Nehru on the eve of independence. What is his perception of history and how does he imagine India through this ‘historical’ lens?
- 5) Do you think Ambedkar’s argument that democracies have promoted liberty at the cost of equality is valid? Justify your answer.
- 6) Critically comment on the increased visibility of the margins and the marginal during the Indian Partition with reference to Urvashi Butalia’s *The Other Side of Silence*.
- 7) Examine Sabitri Roy’s representation of female migrations during a time of socio-political turbulence in her novel *Paka Dhaner Gaan* (‘Harvest Song’).
- 8) Critically comment on Roshi’s insanity in the concluding sections of Qurratulain Hyder’s *My Temples, too*.
- 9) How does Sadat Hasan Manto perceive the ordinary man in his partition stories? Answer with reference to the short stories you have read.
- 10) Analyse how Ritwik Ghatak represents ‘rupture’ in *Komol Gandhar*.

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