

**BACHELOR OF ARTS EXAMINATION 2019**  
**Third Year Fifth Semester**  
**ENGLISH (HONOURS)**  
**Life Histories**

**Time: Two hours**

**Full marks: 30**

Answer *any three* of the following questions taking *at least one* from each group. All questions carry equal marks.

**GROUP A**

- 1) How does Rassundari Dasi transform her 'lived life' into an autobiography? Why do you think she wrote *Amar Jiban*?
- 2) How do Ismat Chughtai's narratives about her relationship with Azim Begh Chughtai and Sadat Hasan Manto contribute to the complexity of her autobiographical writing?
- 3) How does Kamala Das represent her experience of love and desire as a child and an adult in *My Story*?
- 4) Examine how Revathi negotiates the persistent and pervasive violence that attempts to structure her life and identity through a close reading of *The Truth about Me*.

**GROUP B**

- 5) Would you agree that Gertrude Stein is attempting to position herself as a modernist while writing *The Autobiography of Alice B Toklas*? Give reasons for your answer.
- 6) How do the birth of her son and becoming the first "Negro" street-car conductor enable Marguerite Johnson to complete the journey she began as a little girl on Easter in Maya Angelou's *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*?
- 7) Why do you think Satrapi names her first autobiographical work *Persepolis*? How does she use the form of the graphic novel to talk about histories?