

Master of Arts Examination, 2018  
English  
First Year Second Semester  
The Pilgrimage in Medieval Literature

Time: Two Hours

Full Marks: 30

1. Answer any *two* of the following:

[12X2=24]

1. Examine the various modes and patterns of sacred mobility in the Greco-Roman ancient world. How far would it be correct to consider them as precursors of the Christian Pilgrimage?
2. Comment on the mystical tendency and allegorical understanding of the material world in the architectural descriptions of Eusebius of Caesarea's *The Churches of Constantine at Jerusalem*. How did this influence the earliest pilgrimage narratives of late antiquity?
3. Describe and analyse the innovations introduced into the genre of the 'itinerarium' by the *Itinerarium Burdigalense*? Justify its claim to be the first text considered to have begun 'a great tradition of Christian sacred travel'.
4. 'Egeria's journey to the Holy Land is a kind of psychodrama; it is a prayer and an *imitatio* in a territory that is itself only an *imitatio*.' Examine the *Peregrinatio* in the light of the above statement.
5. Discuss how the advocates of the crusades united the spiritual paradigm of pilgrimage to Jerusalem with the chivalrous ideals of Latin Christian culture? How was this 'topos' of travel later used to express new strategies to cope with the problem of religious belief during a time of crisis resulting from the failure of the crusades?
6. Examine how Petrarch's *Itinerarium ad sepulcrum domini nostri Yehsu Christi* marks an important shift not only in terms of the directionality of Christian travel but also and especially in terms of the priority given to the subject who experiences and writes about travel.
7. How does *The Book of John Mandeville* recreate the theology of a sacred geography of a post-crusade Christian world?
8. Examine the role of pilgrimage as a structuring principle used in *The Book of Margery Kempe* which gives it a kind of formal completeness.

9. Write a short note on any one of the following:

[6X1=6]

- i) The Great Panathenaea
- ii) Theoria
- iii) The Peutinger Table
- iv) Communitas
- v) Athanasius's *Life of Antony*
- vi) St. Polycarp of Smyrna
- vii) coenobitic monasticism
- viii) Church of the Holy Sepulchre