

Ex/ED/1.5/15/2017

BACHELOR OF ARTS EXAMINATION, 2017

(1st Year, 1st Semester)

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

Course - CL/ED/1.5

(Narrative)

[Extra Departmental Course]

Full Marks : 30

Time : Two Hours

All questions carry equal marks.

Answer all questions either in English or in Bangla
but all *three* in the same language.

1. (a) Though the Epic and the Mahakavya belong to different cultures they share some common narrative features because of their origin in the oral tradition. Discuss with suitable illustration.

Or;

- (b) Would you consider the *Ramayana* to be an epic in the same sense as the *Iliad* ?

2. (a) In what sense may Colleen McCullough's *The Thorn Birds* be read as a covertly racist and sectarian book? Answer with reference to the relevant section of the text.

[Turn over]

[2]

Or,

- (b) Discuss how Nirmal Verma, in *The Red Tin Roof*, delicately unravels the growing mind of a young girl who comes into adulthood both physically as well as mentally as soon as she realises she needs to be free.
3. (a) Chekhov is a realist with a difference. Do you agree ?
Answer with reference to the texts you have read.

Or,

- (b) Discuss how the desire for independence found expression in the works of many Indian short story writers of the early twentieth century who sought to address the political tensions in the country. Answer with reference to the texts you have read.
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