

BACHELOR OF ARTS EXAMINATION 2017
English
Second Year Fourth Semester
Images of the Orient in Romantic Literature

Time: Two Hours

Full Marks: 30

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

1. Do you agree with Said's belief that modern images of the Orient are rooted in the collective history and imagination of the West? Give textually supported reasons for your answer.
2. What problems arise for the reader in reconciling the fabular Eastern exoticism in *Vathek* with its moral message?
3. 'The cause of tolerance was again my inspiring theme, and the spirit that had spoken in the melodies of Ireland found itself at home in the East'. Analyse 'The Fire Worshippers' in the light of the above statement by Moore in the Preface to *Lalla Rookh*.
4. How does Southey try to limit his deployment of Indological material and mould his readers' expectations in *The Curse of Kehama*? Answer with close reference to the first two sections of the poem.
5. Examine Byron's *The Giaour* as a contestation of Europe's imperialist and evangelical attitude towards the orient.
6. How does Wordsworth hope to overcome the threat to his subjectivity posed by the 'tide of collective energy represented by the proletarian and colonial mob' in Book VII of *The Prelude*?
7. Examine De Quincey's 'oriental nightmares' as instances of the degeneration of the 'pleasures of the sublime into sheer terror' in *Confessions of an English Opium Eater*.