

MASTER OF ARTS EXAMINATION 2017
First Year Second Semester
ENGLISH
Shakespeare and Empire

Time: Two hours

Full Marks: 30

Answer *any two* questions from part A and *one* from part B:

Part A

(11x2=22)

1. "Underdeveloped, you brand me, inferior, that's the way you have forced me to see myself. I detest that image !what's more, it's a lie!"--Cesaire, *A Tempest*. "I am not Othello. Othello was a lie."—Salih, *Season of Migration to the North*. Discuss the meaning and implication of the "lies" in the quotations above.
2. Discuss how, in the colonial period, "English literature in general, and Shakespeare in particular, became the *Mantra* for the New India in its fight against obscurantism." Illustrate your answer with an example.
3. Does the continuing postcolonial engagement with Shakespearean texts only help to reinforce their canonical centrality? Explain with illustrations.
4. Discuss what new theoretical paradigms in can help us to better understand Shakespeare's impact on mainstream Bollywood cinema and the "Bollywoodisation of the bard".
5. Critically discuss how and why Shakespeare is harnessed for the politics of multiculturalism in the United Kingdom.

Part B

6. Write short notes on *any one* of the following: (8x1=12)
 - (a) Baishnab Charan Addhya's *Othello*
 - (b) Shakespeareana
 - (c) Tim Supple's *Indian Dream*
 - (d) Intraculturalism and Shakespeare performances
 - (e) *The Pleasures of Exile*