

Ex/CL/PG/3.3D/62/2017

MASTER OF ARTS EXAMINATION, 2017

(2nd Year, 3rd Semester)

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

Course - CL/PG/3.3D

(Literatures of Latin America - I)

Full Marks : 30

Time : Two Hours

All questions carry equal marks.

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

1. (a) Discuss any two of the following in relation to the themes and issues that constitute their significance for our understanding of Latin American literatures and cultures : *Popol Vuh; A Brief Account of the Destruction of the Indies ; The Mexican Revolution; Labyrinths of Solitude.*

Or

- (b) In his Nobel Prize Speech, Garcia Marquez said “...we have had to ask but little of imagination, for our crucial problem has been a lack of conventional means to render our lives believable. This, my friends, is the crux of our solitude.” Explain what he meant by this and what he

[*Turn over*]

[2]

did in his narratives to tackle this problem; include in your response how he drew upon Carpentier's 'lo real maravilloso.'

2. (a) Do you read *The Open Veins of Latin America* and *How to Read Donald Duck* as socio-historical-cultural-economic 'criticism' of Imperialism or as non-fictional 'literature'? Establish your view with logic and close reference to the texts.

Or

- (b) How do the 'The Voice of the Poet' in Pablo Neruda's play *The Splendour and Death of Joaquin Murieta* and the poets of Brazilian *modernismo* engage with the dilemma of Latin American identity through different choices of form and content? Explore with reference to the texts.
3. (a) Do you think that the concept of 'modernismo' as is reflected in the works of Ruben Dario and Jose Marti underwent a change in terms of political and experimental commitment during the 20th century? How does it get reflected differently in the poems of Gabriela Mistral and Pablo Neruda? Explain with close to reference the poems of each of these poets.

[*Turn over*]

[3]

Or

(b) If “The Wings” by Delmira Augustini is an allegory of the soul subject to the body, Gabriela Mistral’s “A Woman” can be interpreted from the autobiographical level to the spiritual. Discuss and, through your readings of these poems, comment on the role of women’s voices in Latin American Poetry.
