



BACHELOR OF ARTS EXAMINATION 2023

First Year Second Semester

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

South Asian Writing in English

Time: 2 hours

Full marks: 30

Answer any three questions, taking one from each group:

[3x10 = 30]

Group A:

1. On the basis of your reading of *Cinnamon Gardens*, explain how the import of the anti-sodomy law in the British colonies jeopardized queer lives.
2. "*The Hungry Tide* is a reflection on language and translation." Do you agree with this comment by Amitav Ghosh? Substantiate your answer with textual references.
3. Examine how in *The Guide* R.K. Narayan makes use of a dual narrative told from two points of view. What purpose does this serve? Explain with close reference to the text.
4. How does Kamila Shamsie use the stories related to the Prophet Muhammad's migration in *Burnt Shadows* to rewrite history from the perspective of human displacement caused by 'modern catastrophic events'?

Group B:

5. In Dattani's *Dance like a Man*, how does gender politics inform the theme of rethinking masculinity through dance in the Indian context?
6. Elaborate on the different types of marginalizations that Prajwal Parajuly explores in the short stories you have read.
7. Critically comment on Kaiser Haq's refusal to become an "Exhibit in alien multicultural museums", with close reference to his poem "Published in the Streets of Dhaka".

Group C:

8. What do you understand by the 'soft power' of English? Answer with reference to the politics behind the introduction of Macaulay's *Minute on Indian Education* and its impact on the Indian subcontinent.
9. "Despite Tagore's strong reproach for the term 'nationalism' it remained an extremely popular sentiment during the anti-colonial movements in India". Discuss.
10. "On one hand, Ambedkar is criticizing multiple political positions, and on the other, persuading his largely reformist Hindu audience to let go of the centrality of the *shastras*." Do you agree? Elaborate with close reference to "The Annihilation of Caste."

Ex.CBCS/ENG/UG/Core/2.2/2023

