

Ex/CBCS/CL/UG/CORE/1.1/2024 (OLD)

BACHELOR OF ARTS EXAMINATION, 2024

( 1st Year, 1st Semester )

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

PAPER : Core 1.1

( Literatures of the Ancient World I )

Time : Two Hours

Full Marks : 30

All questions carry equal marks.

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

1. (a) Explain the concepts of *vidya* and *avidya* in the *Isopanisad*. What are their individual tenets?

( OR )

- (b) Dharma is *sukshma* or subtle and *gahana* or intricate because sometimes dharma looks like adharmā. In the light of this statement, how does dharma determine identity? Answer with close reference to *The Mahabharata*.

2. (a) How would you connect the respective contexts of narration to the ethical conundrum represented in both *The Ramayana* and *The Mahabharata*? Discuss with close textual references.

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[ Turn Over ]

( 2 )

( OR )

- (b) Do you think *akam* and *puram* are two mutually exclusive types of poems in the Sangam corpus? Analyse with reference to the rules of classification as discussed in the *Tolkappiyam*.

3. (a) Do you think that the main tenets of Buddhism can be found in the *Dhammapada*? Discuss with relevant references to the text.

( OR )

- (b) Do you consider the *Dhammapada* as an ethical text which contain a deep understanding of the idea of Humanism? Discuss with relevant references to the text.

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