

Ex/CBCS/CL/UG/CORE/3.2/2024

BACHELOR OF ARTS EXAMINATION, 2024

(2nd Year, 3rd Semester)

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

PAPER : CBCS/CL/UG/CORE/3.2

(European Literature : Renaissance & Neo Classicism)

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) Would you agree that Machiavelli's *Il Principe* encourages political deception and this in turn promotes the evolution of Renaissance Humanism? In what ways do you think this evolution affected the existing thoughts and beliefs that were predominant in Europe at that time? Answer with specific references to the text.

(OR)

- (b) Machiavelli's *Il Principe* contains repeated references to issues like virtue, fortune, crime, opportunity as integral parts of the newly evolving concept of Renaissance Humanism. To what extent do you think Shakespeare was influenced by this when he wrote *Macbeth*? Critically comment with reference to both the texts.

(2)

2. (a) Do you think Rabelais' over-emphasis on the images of flesh and gluttony, and Montaigne's pro-cannibalism, show Renaissance anthropocentrism in a negative light? Answer with references to the concerned texts.

(OR)

- (b) With reference to *Lazarillo de Tormes* comment critically on the interweaving of Renaissance Humanism within a picaresque tradition with relevant references from the text.

3. (a) Both *Phaedra* and *The Misanthrope* are expressions of acute anxiety about the possible collapse of a known social and ethical structure. Do you agree? Answer with close reference to the texts.

(OR)

- (b) Through close analyses of any three texts of your choice examine how Neoclassical literature could be both original and traditional.

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