MASTER OF ARTS Examination, 2024

(2nd Year, 3rd Semester)

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

PAPER: CL/PG/3.4

(Comparative Cultural Studies)

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) As a student of Comparative Literature in India at present, how far would you agree with the definition of 'Cultural Studies' put forward by Stuart Hall and Simon During?

(OR)

(b) Does violence play a significant role in communities with respect to creating the dichotomy between 'own woman' and the 'other woman'? What is the necessity for creating such a dichotomy? Agree on the basis of the interventions made by Sangari and Sunder Rajan.

(2)

2. (a) State how the invocation of the feminine and the infant in poetry, through of voyeuristic gaze of the lover and the supremacy of the master, might be an outcome of an Orientalist imagination. Discuss with specific references from the writings of Baudelaire and Kipling.

(OR)

- (b) On the basis of your reading of Saadat Hasan Manto's Black Borders and Ken McMullen's Partition, assess and compare the effectiveness of the literary and cinematic medium with respect to how they enliven the violent reality of partition.
- 3. (a) Discuss how Sanskrit knowledge for Ramabai and militant nationalism for Sarala Debi enabled them to write counter-narratives to a masculine Hindu nationalism. Elucidate your argument with close reference to the life situations of these two iconic figures in 'Whatever Happened to the Vedic Dasi'.

(OR)

(b) Discuss how the graphic narrative version of Saadat Hasan Manto's "Dog of Tetwal" is based upon the original text but also departs from it and problematises it in its own way. Comment on how the artwork of the graphic narrative of Manto's story complements the words.

