

Ex/CL/PG/3.3a/2024

MASTER OF ARTS EXAMINATION, 2024

(2nd Year, 3rd Semester)

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

PAPER : CL/PG/3.3a

( Literatures of Africa–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) Describe in your own words the subtle nuances of cultural contact that shape the West African oral narratives as reflected in Sundiata and *Tales of Amadou Koumba* through a close reading of those texts.

( OR )

- (b) Explain and elaborate what Dorothy S. Blair means when she says “....there are no frontiers between reality and fantasy, for the supernatural is everywhere” with reference to the close reading of any number of African oral texts in this course.

( 2 )

2. (a) Examine how folk traditions interact with the novel in *Forest of a Thousand Daemons* and *The Palm-wine Drinkard*. Is Tutuola simply imitating Fagunwa? Answer with reference to their literary strategies.

( OR )

- (b) What are the tasks of the intellectuals according to Ngugi and Fanon? Explain why their views differ.

3. (a) Foreign domination works by destroying or paralyzing native culture. How would you address the dilemma of articulating resistance by an African speaking a European language?

( OR )

- (b) Whereas Amilcar Cabral’s understanding of culture transcended the framing of race arguing for the class character of culture, Zoë Wicomb argues for the South Africans’ dilemma to imagine culture beyond color. Keeping in mind the dialectical relation of the essays studied, comment on the limitations and nuances of imagining pan-African cultural identity.

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