

Ex/ENG/PG/H35/2024

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JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY
M.A. ENGLISH EXAMINATION 2024
FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER
LITERATURE AND CONTEMPLATIVE LIFE

Time: 2 hours

Full marks: 30

Attempt any three questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Examine the "terrible sonnets" of Hopkins in the light of the fourteen Ignatian 'Rules for Discernment.'
2. Critically analyze Petrarch's conflation of learning and leisure in *De Vita Solitaria*.
3. "Julian of Norwich's *Revelations* demonstrates the double meaning of contemplation - as both thought and vision." Discuss.
4. Briefly trace the history of ideas about contemplative life in the Christian tradition from Clement of Alexandria to Pope Gregory the Great.
5. "*The Prophet* by Gibran is about bringing mindfulness into everyday existence." Discuss the narrative structure of the text in the light of this statement.
6. With reference to the Sufi approach to the Islamic tradition, comment on the significance of "assimilating the Quran into one's very being" on the basis of the model established by the Prophet.
7. Write an essay on the moral praxis of the dervish, based on the portions of Saadi Shirazi's *Gulistan* that you have read in translation.
8. Compare the ways in which Rumi's *Song of the Reed* and Attar's *Conference of Birds* treat the idea of a "return to Source."
9. Discuss the 'Song of Tilana to Narana' and the sections of the 'Song of the Avedbut' that you