

ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS, 2020

M Phil (History)

Time 2 Hours: Maximum Marks - 70

Hall Ticket Number _____

INSTRUCTIONS

1. THE QUESTION PAPER CONTAINS PART-A AND PART-B.
2. PART-A HAS TWO SECTIONS. ANSWER ONE QUESTION EACH FROM SECTION 1 (20 MARKS) AND SECTION 2 (15 MARKS).
3. PART-B HAS TWO SECTIONS. ANSWER ONE QUESTION EACH FROM SECTION 1 (20 MARKS) AND SECTION 2 (15 MARKS).
4. BEFORE YOU START WRITING YOUR ANSWERS, PLEASE CHECK THAT THIS QUESTION PAPER DOES NOT HAVE ANY UNPRINTED OR TORN OR MISSING PAGES OR ITEMS.

THIS QUESTION PAPER CONTAINS TWO (2) PAGES INCLUDING THIS FRONT PAGE.

Part A

Section 1: Answer ONE question from this section. 20 Marks

1. Would you agree with the proposition that generations of research has made certain chapters of history sufficiently closed in terms of facts and paradigms? Explain.
2. Historian while dealing with multiplicity of causes is always driven by the compulsion of interpreting and hierarchifying them in their relative significance – Discuss with examples.

Section 2: Answer ONE question from this section. 15 Marks

3. Why is it necessary for historians to keep pace with and draw from the other social sciences?
4. Can we justify the division of the historical time into different/various epochs or periods? Illustrate your answer by referring to Indian history.

Part B

Section 1: Answer ONE question from this section. 20 Marks

5. Trace the process of state formation in early India with different explanatory models employed by various historians.
6. What are the advantages and pitfalls of using religious texts as a source for history writing? Illustrate your answer with reference to medieval India.
7. Do you agree with the argument that economic history of modern India was all about the enduring link between colonialism and India's underdevelopment? Draw your answer from the debates of the economic impact of colonialism on India.

Section 2: Answer ONE question from this section. 15 Marks

8. What methods could be employed to reconstruct history in the absence of written sources? Answer the question with special reference to ancient India.
 9. Critically explore the suggestion that Aurangzeb's death did not see the decline of Mughal Empire, but it was the beginning of disintegration of a political empire.
 10. What is common and what is different between communalism and nationalism in the Indian context? How do the various historians of communalism look at this issue?
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