

ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS 2025

PhD (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 FROM SECTION 1 (20 MARKS) AND ONE QUESTION FROM SECTION 2(15 MARKS).
3. PART-B HAS TWO SECTIONS. ANSWER ONE QUESTIONN FROM SECTION 1 (20 MARKS) AND ONE QUESTION FROM 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 THREE (3) PAGES INCLUDING THIS FRONT PAGE.

PhD (History)

Part A

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

1. How can we methodologically access and interpret historical consciousness by analysing conventional or alternative historical texts? Explain with examples how these texts embody and construct historical consciousness, considering their epistemological foundations and engagement with relevant theoretical frameworks.?
2. Do you think that the ongoing 'spatial encompassment' in the form of globalization and planetary crisis is encouraging historians to re-orient historical research? Discuss the ways in which one can write global and planetary histories in time and space from the vantage point of the present.

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

3. Among the several variant versions of the history (of an event, social process, etc.) which can sometimes even be contradictory to one another, how does a historian/reader express preference for one version over the many others?
4. What is "Source, Author-Positionality" in historical research? Does this interrogative approach help historians to ascertain primary and secondary sources with a balanced perspective when writing about the past?

Part B

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

5. What do you understand by Gender history? Critically discuss representations of Gender relations in early India by exploring the kavya literature.
6. How does the study of epigraphy contrast with that of literature in the Reconstruction of land system in medieval India? Also discuss the Feudalism debate in the context of land grants.
7. Do you think history is mere representation? Explain articulation and rearticulation of histories by the caste groups in colonial India.

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

8. How have historians of early India have articulated the idea of 'dissent' in the history of the subcontinent.
9. Do you think that patronage leads to the production of specific themes in Art and architecture? How can they help in the reconstruction of Medieval history? Discuss with reference to Vijayanagara or Cholas.
10. Would you agree with the argument that the cultural turn in History has outmoded economic history? Examine the possibilities of writing history at the interstices of economic and cultural histories with special reference to modern India.