

**B.A. 5th Semester (Honours) Examination, 2019 (CBCS)**

**Subject : English**

**Paper : DSE-2**

**(Partition Literature)**

**Time: 3 Hours**

**Full Marks: 60**

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks.*

*Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words  
as far as practicable.*

1. Answer *any ten* of the following questions: 2×10=20
- (a) In which year was the novel, *The Shadow Lines*, published? In which year did it receive the Sahitya Akademi Award?
  - (b) When, and where, was Tha'mma born?
  - (c) What was the narrator's first impression of Ila as a grown up woman?
  - (d) Explain the significance of the Victoria Memorial as 'our ruin' as referred to by Tridib.
  - (e) How did Tridib die?
  - (f) Briefly comment on the character of Jethamoshai.
  - (g) Comment on the farewell ceremony which the school arranged on Tha'mma's last working day.
  - (h) When did Tridib and May first start exchanging letters and under what circumstances?
  - (i) Comment on the Character of Pramatha.
  - (j) Comment on how the character of Bhushan stays on the margin.
  - (k) Why did Alam stay back with Anantashekhhar's family?
  - (l) Why were the lunatics in Manto's "Toba Tek Singh" put in the asylum in the first place?
  - (m) Comment on the reaction of the Anglo-Indian lunatics on the occasion of Indian independence.
  - (n) Jyoti's "belly remains big even though she hasn't had food for four days." — Explain.
  - (o) "Certain lands are meant for certain roots only." — Critically comment.

2. Answer *any four* of the following questions: 5×4=20

- (a) What does Ila mean when she says that she wants to be 'free'? What is the difference between her perception of freedom and Tha'mma's perception of freedom? 2+3=5
- (b) What is the significance of the 'Upside-Down House' in *The Shadow Lines*?
- (c) Comment on the sub-continental partition as the cause of conflicted identities in Ghosh's *The Shadow Lines*.
- (d) Comment on Manik Bandopadhyay's depiction of Kolkata as a city in "The Final Solution".
- (e) Comment on Manto's choice of a lunatic as the protagonist of *Toba Tek Singh*.
- (f) What role does 'nostalgia' play in Palit's story, "Alam's Own House"?

3. Answer *any two* of the following questions: 10×2=20

- (a) Comment on the title of Khushwant Singh's narrative *Train to Pakistan*.
- (b) Analyse the role of women in Khushwant Singh's *Train to Pakistan*.
- (c) Compare the characters of the narrator and Ila while reflecting on their respective understanding of borders and countries in Ghosh's *The Shadow Lines*.
- (d) Critically analyse the theme of partition in Ghosh's *The Shadow Lines*.

*Or,*

Comment on the importance of the Parsi perception of independence, as depicted in Bapsi Sidhwa's *Ice-Candy Man*.

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