

**Entrance Examinations 2024**

PhD (History)

Time 2 Hours: Maximum Marks - 70

Hall Ticket Number \_\_\_\_\_

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**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 QUESTION 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.

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**THIS QUESTION PAPER CONTAINS THREE (3) PAGES INCLUDING THIS FRONT PAGE.**

## Ph.D. (History)

## Part A

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

1. Would you agree with the suggestion that doing oral history has to deal with the subjective nature of memory and narrative on the one hand, and the democratizing potential of it on the other? Elucidate your answer by discussing the worth and limits of using oral resources for writing history.
2. Do you think the intervention of Dalit histories from 1990s has altered our understanding of Indian history? While answering this, discuss the methodological and theoretical issues in Dalit historiography.

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

3. Analyze the relevance of "subjectivity" in historical interpretation. In what ways can the authorial voices be inflected through subjective locations and distinctive politics of representation?
4. Discuss the evolution of Indian historiography from colonial to postcolonial periods. How have Indian historians critiqued and reinterpreted colonial narratives to develop a more nuanced understanding of India's history?

## Part B

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

5. Trace the rise of a distinctive urban and courtly culture in India from around 3<sup>rd</sup> century CE to 13<sup>th</sup> century CE.
6. Critically examine the debates on the decline of Mughal rule in India?
7. Examine the impact of postmodernist theories on Indian historiography. How have postmodern perspectives critically interrogated and reshaped traditional historical narratives and methodologies?

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

8. How would you differentiate between a region and a subregion in Indian history? What are the ingredients of sub-regional history? Why is it important to view the coastal region as independent from the inland region?
9. Analyze the ways in which land grants transformed the production process and led to the emergence of regional polities in early medieval south India.
10. Would you agree with the argument that communalism approximates nationalism? Delineate your answer by discussing the take of different historiographies on communalism in India on this question.