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ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS 2026

PhD (History)

Time 2 Hours | Maximum Marks 70

Hall Ticket No:

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, CHECK AND ENSURE 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.

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PhD (History)

Part A

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

A) How does archaeology contribute to history writing? Is archaeology merely an 'auxiliary science' that aids history writing, or is it an independent field of inquiry in itself ?

B) How does the 'spatial turn' in history writing that focuses on mobility, circulation, networks, and interconnectedness complicate the conventional categories and identities of region, nation, and periodization in global history-writing?

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

A) Can a historian rise above (overcome) the dominant (ideological) discourses current during her lifetime?

B) What are the problems with using a colonising government's records (and reports) in studying the politics and history of people belonging to non-literate societies?

Part B

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

A) How are historical regions in early India conceptualized, and what was the relationship between region and religion?

B) How centralized (or decentralized) was the Mughal state?

C) How does a study of icons, symbols, myths, rituals, and collective memory contribute to the writing of a cultural history of Indian nationalism?

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

A) **Discuss the causes and consequences of the so-called Second Urbanization in Early India.**

B) **What were the non-religious dimensions and functions of the medieval South Indian temple? Elucidate your answer by discussing examples from one or more of the ruling dynasties of the period.**

C) **Why were the anti-caste movements frequently at loggerheads with the Indian national movement?**