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ENGLISH

(Honours Elective)

Paper : ENG-HE-5026

(Modern Indian Writing in English Translation)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions*

1. Answer any ten of the following questions :

1×10=10

- (a) What is the original title of Premchand's *The Shroud*?**
- (b) If Ghisu worked for one day, for how many days would he rest?**
- (c) What did Ghisu and Madhav do while the latter's wife lay writhing in pain?**
- (d) In *The Quilt*, where did the narrator's mother go?**

- (e) How old was Begum Jaan when the narrator first saw her?
- (f) How many members were there in Shyambandhu Mohanty's family?
- (g) What did Shyambandhu Mohanty desire to give his daughter?
- (h) Who became a frequent visitor to Shyambandhu Mohanty's house?
- (i) How does Tagore wish for the light to be kindled?
- (j) In *So Very Far* who walks with the poet in his isolation?
- (k) Who is the daughter of Punjab whose story Waris Shah had written?
- (l) Which river had turned crimson in *I Say Unto Waris Shah*?
- (m) According to Thangjam Ibopishak Singh, what do the Vedas say?

(n) What would the poet like every citizen of Imphal to do?

(o) What do the mouths of the women deliver in *The Land of the Half-Humans*?

(p) In which year was *Andha Yug* written?

(q) Who killed Dronacharya?

(r) For what sin does Krishna curse Aswatthama?

2. Answer any *five* of the following questions :

2×5=10

(a) What role did Madhav's wife play in the family?

(b) What ways did Begum Jaan adopt in order to retain the love of her straying husband?

- (c) How did Shyambandhu Mohanty's family manage to lead a comfortable life?
- (d) How did the upper-primary school come to be established in Rebati's village?
- (e) What does Amrita Pritam say about the spinning wheel in her poem?
- (f) How does the poet Thangjam Ibopishak Singh present a comparison between 'guns' and 'flowers' in his poem?
- (g) What unique and powerful ability is Sanjaya blessed with?
- (h) Why did Dronacharya put his weapons down in the battlefield?
- (i) Why was Yuyutsu apprehensive of meeting his parents after returning from Kurukshetra?
- (j) What seems to be the effect of love on the speaker in *What is it that Burns in Me?*

3. Answer any *four* of the following questions :

5×4=20

- (a) Comment on the strange life of Ghisu and Madhav.
- (b) Examine the centrality of 'eating' in the lives of Ghisu and Madhav.
- (c) How does the poet express his feelings of nostalgia in *When My Play was with Thee?*
- (d) Critically examine the character of Rebati's grandmother.
- (e) Write a critical appreciation of the poem, *Light, Oh Where is the Light?*
- (f) Examine the imagery of horror and violence as presented in *The Void*.
- (g) According to Vyasa, what would be the consequences of using the Brahmastra?
- (h) How does Gandhari confront Krishna after Duryodhana's death?

4. Answer any four of the following questions :

10×4=

- (a) What is the role of translation in Indian literature? Give a reasoned answer.
- (b) Ismat Chughtai explores the idea of womanhood and female identity in *The Quilt*. Discuss.
- (c) Examine the theme of exploitation in *The Shroud*.
- (d) Discuss Premchand's *The Shroud* as a story of social realism.
- (e) Critically analyze *Rebati* as a story that questions social prejudice against women's education.
- (f) Examine how Amrita Pritam analyses the carnage and social devastation caused during Partition in her poem, *I Say Unto Waris Shah*.
- (g) Comment on the title of the poem, *The Land of the Half-Humans*.

- (h) Discuss how *The Land of the Half-Humans* offers a critique of contemporary Manipuri society.
- (i) *Andha Yug* raises serious existential questions on morality, ethics and the futility of violence. Discuss.
- (j) Discuss the plight of the protagonists in the play, *Andha Yug*.

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