2022

ENGLISH

Paper : ENG-HE-6036

(Partition Literature)

(Honours Elective)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions

1. Answer any *ten* of the following as directed : 1×10=10

(a) Who is the author of *The Other Side of Silence* ?

(b) Who was the Chairman of the Boundary Commission constituted on 30th June, 1947?

(c) In which village in undivided India did Zakir spend his childhood?

(d) During which movement did Zakir as a student observe demonstrations?

(e) Zakir was a professor of _____.

(Fill in the blank)

(f) Why were Tridib's parents always away in his childhood?

(g) "Once you start moving you never stop."

Who is the speaker of the above line in *The Shadow Lines*?

(h) "I want to live in neither Hindustan nor Pakistan ... I'd rather live on this _____."

(Fill in the blank)

(i) Name the friend who comes to visit Bishan Singh in the asylum.

(j) In which language was *A Leaf in the Storm* originally written?

(k) Where did the exchange of women take place in *A Leaf in the Storm*?

(l) Name any one river mentioned in the poem, *I Shall Return to This Bengal.*

(m) Since which year had Raka's family started settling in different places in India?

(n) Why does Alam think he had roots in Calcutta?

(o) Who does the poet Gulzar want to meet at the border?

2. Answer any *five* of the following questions : 2×5=10

(a) What is 'hizrat'?

(b) Name the two parts that the novel, *The Shadow Lines* is divided into.

(c) What did Alam's Baba do on the day of the crossing of the border?

(d) What final solution does Mallika adopt?

(e) What did the lunatic do after climbing the tree?

(f) What would Bishan Singh do when it was time for his relatives and friends to visit him?

(g) How does the poet express his desire to be reborn in Bengal?

(h) How does Faiz Ahmed Faiz use the imagery of the beloved to depict love for his country?

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

(a) Analyze the character of Sabirah.

(b) How did Alam's Baba explain the idea of Partition to the compounder?

(c) According to Feroze, what kind of differences are there between India and Bangladesh?

(d) Describe how Mallika's dispossessed family spent their days at the railway station.

(e) Show how the landscape of Bengal has shaped the poetic sensibility of Jibanananda Das.

(f) How do the lunatics voice out their trauma at the idea of Partition?

(g) Comment on the ending of Manto's story, *Toba Tek Singh.*

(h) Describe how the poem, *For Your Lanes, My Country* speaks of a strong commitment towards country.

4. Answer any *four* of the following questions : 10×4=40

(a) Discuss how Partition literature engages with the issues of identity, home and memory.

(b) Examine critically Intizar Hussain's depiction of pre-Partition and post-Partition life in the novel, *Basti.*

Or

Discuss how Hussain dramatizes the psychological costs of loss of one's homeland and the resultant sense of alienation.

(c) Critically comment on the title of the novel, *The Shadow Lines*.

Or

Discuss the idea of lines, maps and borders as presented in *The Shadow Lines*.

(d) Discuss why the historical divide cannot be bridged in Dibyendu Palit's *Alam's Own House*.

(e) Manto uses the motif of insanity to question the rationality of Partition that resulted in unprecedented suffering. Discuss with reference to *Toba Tek Singh*.

(f) Examine *Toba Tek Singh* as a story of resistance.

(g) Show how Gulzar uses his poetic imagination and adapts Manto's story, *Toba Tek Singh* to tell that the ordeal of Partition still continues.

(h) Examine the women's experience during Partition with special reference to *The Final Solution* and *A Leaf in the Storm*.

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