

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level

**BANGLADESH STUDIES**

**7094/01**

Paper 1 History and Culture of Bangladesh

**Specimen paper for examination from 2006**

**1 hour 30 minutes**

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.  
Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.  
Write in dark blue or black pen.  
You may use a soft pencil for any diagrams, graphs, or rough working.  
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **three** questions.  
Answer **Question 1** and **two** other questions..

You are advised to spend about 30 minutes on each question.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.  
The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.

This document consists of **5** printed pages and **1** blank page.



**You must answer this question.  
Answer ALL parts.**

**Question 1: The Culture and Heritage of Bangladesh**

**Part (a)**

(i) What was unusual about the childhood of Syed Aaol?

- A He never learned to read.
- B He was brought up in an orphanage.
- C He was captured by pirates.
- D He was sent abroad to be educated. [1]

(ii) In which field did Kazi Nazrul Islam contribute to the culture of Bangladesh?

- A architecture
- B film
- C painting
- D poetry [1]

(iii) Which famous figure is said to have caught smallpox and been abandoned as a child by his community?

- A Mir Mosharraf Hossain
- B Kazi Nazrul Islam
- C Jasimuddin
- D Lalon Shah [1]

(iv) Which of the following statements about Rabindranath Tagore is true?

- A He came from a poor background.
- B He never left Bengal.
- C He was born in 1922.
- D He wrote his first rhyme when he was 7 years old. [1]

(v) Which of the following acted as an inspiration to Zainul Abedin in 1943?

- A the birth of his son
- B the death of his wife
- C the Great Bengal Famine
- D World War Two [1]

**Part (b)**

Why is song a highly important part of Bangladeshi life? Explain your answer. [8]

**Part (c)**

Which of the following do you think has made the most contribution to the development of the culture of Bangladesh? Explain your answer by writing about all three choices provided. You must give examples of their work to support your answer.

- Mir Mosharraf Hossain
- Begum Rokeya
- Rabindranath Tagore [12]

**Choose TWO of Questions 2 to 4.  
Answer ALL parts of the two questions you choose**

**Question 2: The Mughal Period**

The Mughals first arrived in India in the early sixteenth century and extended their authority widely. Victory in battle in 1576 meant that Bengal became an integral part of the Mughal Empire. 1

The Mughals ruled in Bengal for more than 150 years and many of their emperors were great leaders. Sometimes, however, their policies were unpopular. An example of this was the re-imposition of the Jizia on non-believers in 1679. 5

Towards the end of the seventeenth century, Mughal authority in Bengal began to decline. They faced opposition from the Persians, the Afghans and the British. It is also true that after the death of Viceroy Shaista Khan, Mughal authority declined and the Nawabs of Bengal ruled almost independently of the Mughal Emperor. 10

**Part (a)**

- (i) Who was the founder of the Mughal Empire? [1]
- (ii) After which battle in 1576 did Bengal finally become an integral part of the Mughal Empire (line 2)? [1]
- (iii) Which Mughal emperor re-imposed the Jizia on non-Muslims in 1679 (line 6)? [1]
- (iv) Which Afghan Chief attempted to regain power in Orissa and south-west Bengal in around 1695? [1]
- (v) In which treaty did Nawab Siraj-ud-doula agree to pay the British compensation for an attack on Calcutta? [1]

**Part (b)**

- (i) Write what you know about the Nawabs of Bengal (1713-60) (line 9). [5]
- (ii) Why did Mughal authority in Bengal decline after the death of Viceroy Shaista Khan (line 9)? [5]

**Part (c)**

Which of the following do you think was the most important event in the history of the Mughal Empire? Explain your answer by writing about all three examples.

- the Battle of Panipath 1526
- the formation of the East India Company 1600
- the death of Aurangzeb 1707 [10]

**Question 3: The British Period****British government in the sub-continent**

At the beginning of the twentieth century, the British were dominant in the subcontinent. However, there were many who opposed British rule and looked to increase the role that local people played in government, or even to persuade the British to leave and grant independence. An important development in this area was the formation of the All-India Muslim League. Sometimes the Muslim and Hindu communities acted together, as when they drew up the Lucknow Pact calling for political reform. 1  
5

The British response to such pressure varied. On occasions, they reacted to opposition with violent oppression. For example, they imprisoned over 30,000 alleged troublemakers during the Khilafat Movement. At other times, they also realised the need to make reforms to answer criticisms of their government. So in 1919 the Montagu-Chelmsford reforms introduced a new method of government, and during the 1920s and 1930s other reforms gave more power to local people. Organisations such as the Krishak-Praja Party also campaigned to improve the living conditions of those living in Bengal. 10

Despite these reforms, opposition to the British continued to grow and they found it increasingly difficult to maintain their authority. In 1947 Viscount Mountbatten announced that the British would be leaving no later than June 1948. 15

**Part (a)**

- (i) In which city did the twentieth Muhammadan Educational Conference pass a resolution in 1906 to set up the All-India Muslim League (line 4)? [1]
- (ii) In which year was the Lucknow Pact drawn up (line 6)? [1]
- (iii) What type of government was set up by the Montagu-Chelmsford reforms (line 10)? [1]
- (iv) Who founded the Krishak-Praja Party (line 12)? [1]
- (v) Which Chief Minister of Bengal tried to prevent partition of Bengal in 1947? [1]

**Part (b)**

- (i) Write what you know about the Khilafat Movement of the 1920s (line 9). [5]
- (ii) Why did the Krishak-Praja Party (line 12) decline in importance from 1937? [5]

**Part (c)**

Which of the following do you think played the greatest part in encouraging Bengalis to seek independence from Britain? Explain your answer by writing about all three choices provided.

- the Government of India Act 1935
- the outbreak of World War Two
- the Cabinet Mission Plan [10]

### Question 4: From Pakistan to Bangladesh

Pakistan began its life as an independent country with a number of serious problems. Not only did it have to find a way to set up a new government in a country with limited resources, but it had to do so in the face of some of the most serious communal violence ever seen. Even more significant was that Pakistan was not really one country, but two – West Pakistan and East Pakistan. 1  
5

The differences between the two separate wings soon became apparent and the people of East Pakistan complained bitterly that they were being treated unjustly. A major cause of discontent concerned the status of the Bangla language, but the government of Pakistan was determined to keep Urdu as the only State Language. No unity could be developed between the distinctive languages, culture, tradition and livelihood of the people of these two parts of Pakistan. 10

During the 1950s, political organisations developed in East Pakistan in response to discrimination from central government, and in 1969 a round table conference was held to discuss the constitutional and political problems. Sheikh Mujibur Rahman demanded autonomy for East Pakistan, as set out in his Six Points. After the failure of the talks, the situation in East Pakistan deteriorated to such an extent that law and order began to break down. Fresh elections were held in 1970, and the Awami League won a majority. The government was forced to postpone the opening of the Assembly to prevent the Awami League taking power. 15

In East Pakistan a non-co-operation movement started, and the government sent troops into East Pakistan to 'keep order'. The division of Pakistan into two separate countries was growing nearer. 20

#### Part (a)

- (i) On what date did Pakistan become an independent country (line 1)? [1]
- (ii) Which Prime Minister declared in the Constituent Assembly in September 1950 that Urdu would be the only State Language of Pakistan (line 9)? [1]
- (iii) Where was a round table conference held in March 1969 to discuss constitutional and political problems relating to East Pakistan (lines 12-13)? [1]
- (iv) Who was appointed Martial Law Administrator and Governor of East Pakistan in March 1971? [1]
- (v) Which leader sent an army into East Pakistan in 1971 'to keep order' (line 19)? [1]

#### Part (b)

- (i) Write what you know about the Agartala Conspiracy Case, 1968. [5]
- (ii) Why did the Awami League win the 1970 General Election? [5]

#### Part (c)

Which of the following was the greatest problem facing Pakistan in 1947? Explain your answer by writing about all three examples.

- economic difficulties
- refugees
- the unequal distribution of financial and military assets [10]

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