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6 SEM TDC DSE ENG (CBCS) 3 (H/NH)

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(May/June)

ENGLISH

(Discipline Specific Elective)

(For Honours and Non-Honours)

Paper : DSE-3

(Partition Literature)

Full Marks : 80

Pass Marks : 32

Time : 3 hours

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

UNIT—I

1. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 15

(a) "Times and places are scrambled inside me. Where am I going? In what time? In what place? Every direction confused, every place disordered."

In the light of the above statement, comment on the narrative technique as employed in Intizar Hussain's *Basti*.

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(Turn Over)

- (b) *Basti* is a novel about multiple partitions, yet it embodies an unpartitioned consciousness. Do you agree? Give reasoned answer.
- (c) Examine how Intizar Hussain employs *Basti* to translate the partition trauma.

2. Write a short note on any one of the following :

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- (a) Significance of the flood and the fire at the end of the novel, *Basti*
- (b) Significance of the character Sabirah
- (c) Indian mythology as a literary device in *Basti*

UNIT—II

3. Answer any one of the following questions : 15

- (a) Attempt a reading of Amitav Ghosh's *The Shadow Lines* as a critique of nationalism.
- (b) Attempt a character analysis of Tridib as portrayed in Amitav Ghosh's *The Shadow Lines*.
- (c) Give an idea of the historical events as they inform into the text of Amitav Ghosh's *The Shadow Lines*.

4. Write a note on any one of the following : 5

- (a) Political implications of the Mu-I-Mubarak incident in *The Shadow Lines*
- (b) Metaphorical significance of the upside-down house in *The Shadow Lines*
- (c) Short character sketch of either Nick Price or May Price

UNIT—III

5. Answer any one of the following questions : 15

- (a) Examine Dibyendu Palit's *Alam's Own House* as a memoir.
- (b) Analyze how women is the focus of enquiry, a subject and an agent of the narrative in Manik Bandopadhyay's *The Final Solution*.
- (c) Make an assessment of Sa'adat Hasan Manto's *Toba Tek Singh* as a tale of trauma, confusion and loss of identity for the inmates of the asylum.
- (d) Examine Lalithambika Antharjanam's *A Leaf in the Storm* as a story of survival and recuperation.

(4)

6. Attempt a short analysis of any *one* of the following, with reference to your prescribed texts :

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- (a) Colonialism, nationalism and the partition
- (b) Female body as a site of violence in the partition
- (c) The significance of space in partition literature

UNIT—IV

7. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 15

- (a) Identify and examine the note of irony as implicit in Faiz Ahmad Faiz's poem, *For Your Lanes, My Country*.
- (b) Why do you think the speaker of Jibanananda Das' poem, *I Shall Return to this Bengal* wish to return as an incarnation of nature to his birthplace Bengal? Elaborate.
- (c) Examine how Gulzar elaborates on the idea of partition as a continuous process in the subcontinent in his poem, *Toba Tek Singh*.

(5)

8. Explain, with reference to the context, any *one* of the following : 5

- (a) I shall return to this Bengal, to the
Dhansiri's bank :
Perhaps not as a man, but mayna or
fishing-kite;
- (b) For the many apologists of tyranny,
it's enough that a few of your dear friends
have turned into power-seekers,
judges and plaintiffs.
- (c) Slay that "Bhuri", none will come to
claim her now
That girl who grew one finger every
twelve months,
Now shortens one phalanx each year.
