



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level

**BANGLADESH STUDIES**

**7094/01**

Paper 1 History and Culture of Bangladesh

**May/June 2007**

**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.

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 **3** blank pages.



You MUST answer this question. Answer ALL parts.

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

**Part (a)**

(i) At which age did Mir Mosharraf Hossain start his writing?

- A 13
- B 33
- C 53
- D 73

[1]

(ii) Where did Begum Rokeya learn English?

- A at home
- B at school
- C at university
- D in England

[1]

(iii) Rabindranath Tagore was knighted by which English monarch?

- A Edward
- B Elizabeth
- C George
- D Victoria

[1]

(iv) Which of the following statements about Mir Mosharraf Hossain is true?

- A He died in England
- B He had no interest in the everyday life of the people
- C He has a statue erected to his memory in Kolkata
- D He was a famous painter

[1]

(v) Who was arrested in 1922 for anti-British writings?

- A Alaol
- B Begum Rokeya
- C Kazi Nazrul Islam
- D Zainul Abedin

[1]

**Part (b)**

Why are drama and dance a highly important part of Bangladeshi cultural life? Explain your answer. [8]

**Part (c)**

Which of the following do you think has made the most important 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.

- Alaol
- Jasimuddin
- Lalon Shah

[12]

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

## Question 2: The Mughal Period

### The Decline of the Mughal Empire

By the end of the 16th century, the Mughal rulers had set up a mighty empire which extended across much of the subcontinent. To many, the Mughals were so powerful that it seemed they could not be challenged. 1

However, the outward signs of wealth and authority hid many problems within the Mughal administration. There were a number of internal weaknesses which finally contributed to its downfall. For example, after Aurangzeb's death a war of succession broke out between his three sons. This merely added to problems in Aurangzeb's reign created by his religious policy and his aggressive actions in the Deccan and in northern India. 5

When the weaknesses of the mansabdari system and the activities of the Persians and British are added to this list of problems, the fall of the Mughal Empire becomes less surprising. 10

#### Part (a)

- (i) Name **one** of the 'three sons' of Aurangzeb who fought to succeed him after his death (lines 6–7). [1]
- (ii) What was Aurangzeb's view of religious toleration? [1]
- (iii) Name **one** of the groups against which Aurangzeb was fighting in 'northern India' (line 8). [1]
- (iv) What were mansabdars (line 9)? [1]
- (v) Which Persian leader plundered Delhi in 1739? [1]

#### Part (b)

- (i) Write what you know about Aurangzeb's actions in the Deccan. [5]
- (ii) Why did the weak character of the nobility hasten the downfall of the Mughal Empire? [5]

#### Part (c)

Which of the following do you think was the most important reason for the decline of the Mughal Empire? Explain your answer by writing about **all three** choices provided.

- a weak army
  - powerful opponents in India
  - the arrival of the British
- [10]

### Question 3: The British Period

#### The Arrival of the British

The British first arrived in the Indian subcontinent as traders. The British East India Company (EIC) was granted a charter in 1600. The British government gave support to the EIC by sending Sir Thomas Roe to the court of the Mughal Emperor to ask for concessions. He was granted permission to build a factory in Surat. By 1689, the EIC's influence had grown to the point where it had three main bases (presidencies) in India, and its position in one of those bases (Bengal) was strengthened when Job Charnock founded a new city in 1690.

British dominance further increased when Robert Clive defeated the Nawab of Bengal at Palashi in 1757. By the end of the 18th century, the British were dominant in Bengal and in 1793 introduced the Permanent Settlement to improve tax collection there.

#### Part (a)

- (i) Which British monarch 'granted a charter in 1600' to the EIC (line 2)? [1]
- (ii) Which Mughal Emperor told Sir Thomas Roe that the EIC could 'build a factory in Surat' (line 4)? [1]
- (iii) By 1689 the EIC had 'three main bases (presidencies) in India' (line 5). Bengal was one. Name **one** of the other two. [1]
- (iv) Which 'new city' was founded by Job Charnock in 1690 (line 6)? [1]
- (v) Which 'Nawab of Bengal' was defeated by the British at Palashi in 1757 (lines 7–8)? [1]

#### Part (b)

- (i) Write what you know about Robert Clive. [5]
- (ii) Why did the British win the Battle of Palashi in 1757? [5]

#### Part (c)

Do you agree that by 1800 Bengal was a better place under British government than it had been before the British arrived? Try to give **both sides** of the argument in your answer. [10]

#### Question 4: From Pakistan to Bangladesh

In August 1947 Muhammed Ali Jinnah became the leader of Pakistan. A formula for splitting military assets was agreed with India, but there were difficulties over financial assets. Pakistan received only 200 million of the 750 million rupees it was due from the Reserve Bank. Later, the Indian government paid another 500 million. However, 50 million rupees remain unpaid. 1

Pakistan's two wings (West Pakistan and East Pakistan) disagreed over the issue of the state language. East Pakistanis also thought they were discriminated against by the central government, which was based in West Pakistan. The Awami League introduced a Six Point Programme calling for greater economic and political autonomy for East Pakistan. In retaliation, the central government arrested and imprisoned its leader. 5

When the Awami League won the 1970 general election but was prevented from taking power, events moved quickly towards a War of Liberation. 10

#### Part (a)

- (i) What title did Jinnah hold as 'the leader of Pakistan' (line 1)? [1]
- (ii) What 'formula for splitting the military assets was agreed' between Pakistan and India (lines 1-2)? [1]
- (iii) What event persuaded the Indian government to pay 'another 500 million' rupees to Pakistan (line 4)? [1]
- (iv) Which Awami League leader was 'arrested and imprisoned' by the central government in January 1968 (line 9)? [1]
- (v) Which Pakistani leader suspended the opening of the Assembly in March 1971 to prevent the Awami League from 'taking power' (line 10)? [1]

#### Part (b)

- (i) Write what you know about the Canal Water Dispute of 1947-48. [5]
- (ii) Why was the debate about the state language in Pakistan so important in the period 1947-56? [5]

#### Part (c)

Which of the following do you think was the most important in increasing the desire for independence in East Pakistan? Explain your answer by writing about **all three** choices provided.

- administrative and political disparity between East and West Pakistan
- economic disparity between East and West Pakistan
- the mass uprising in East Pakistan in 1969 [10]

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