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6 SEM TDC DSE ENG (CBCS) 4 (H/NH)

2025

(May)

ENGLISH

(Discipline Specific Elective)

(For Honours and Non-Honours)

Paper : DSE-4

(**Travel Writing**)

Full Marks : 80

Pass Marks : 32

Time : 3 hours

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

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

- (a) Describe Muhammad bin Tughlaq's administrative policies as depicted by Ibn Battuta in his memoir *The Court of Muhammad bin Tughlaq*.
- (b) Critically comment on Ibn Battuta's description of the palace of Muhammad bin Tughlaq at Delhi.

- (c) Discuss how Al-Biruni's understanding of the caste system reflects his scholarly approach and cultural sensitivity.

2. Answer any *one* of the following questions : 5

(a) Write a brief note on Ibn Battuta's representation of the city landscape in *The Court of Muhammad bin Tughlaq*.

(b) Describe the major pilgrimage sites mentioned by Al-Biruni and explain their religious importance.

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

(a) Write a detailed note on Mark Twain's critique of culture and society with reference to his travelogue, *The Innocents Abroad*.

(b) In his encounters with the South American poverty, helplessness and leprosy lies the origins of Guevara's revolutionary formation. Discuss critically.

(c) Write a critical note on 'class consciousness' as described by Ernesto Guevara in *The Motorcycle Diaries : A Journey around South America*.

4. Answer any one of the following questions : 5
- (a) Attempt a brief note on the use of narrative technique in Guevara's *The Motorcycle Diaries : A Journey around South America*.
 - (b) Discuss briefly Mark Twain's use of humour in *The Innocents Abroad*.
5. Answer any one of the following questions : 15
- (a) Comment on the significance of the title of William Dalrymple's travelogue, *City of Djinnns* on the basis of your reading of the chapters prescribed for you.
 - (b) Attempt a critical note on the treatment of history in Dalrymple's *City of Djinnns*.
 - (c) Examine critically the elements of a travel narrative in Rahul Sankrityayan's *From Volga to Ganga* with examples from the text.
6. Answer any one of the following questions : 5
- (a) Write a short note on Dalrymple's description of the ancient ruins as depicted in *City of Djinnns*.
 - (b) Discuss briefly Rahul Sankrityayan's depiction of primitive human civilization in *From Volga to Ganga*.

7. Answer any one of the following questions : 15

- (a) Assess Nihad Gandhi's *Alternative Realities : Love in the Lives of Muslim Women* as a feminist critique of Muslim women's lives.
- (b) In the travelogue, *May You Be the Mother of a Hundred Sons* Elisabeth Bumiller attempts to represent the complex paradoxes in the lives of Indian women. Examine critically with illustrations from the chapters prescribed for you.
- (c) In the field of travel writing, how would you assess the role of gender in the perception of reality and freedom?

8. Answer any one of the following questions : 5

- (a) Write a brief note on Bumiller's views on arranged marriage.
- (b) Attempt a short note on the representation of trauma and memory in *Alternative Realities*.

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