

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN  
ENGLISH**

**Term-End Examination**

00821

**December, 2017**

**MEG-14 : CONTEMPORARY INDIAN LITERATURE IN  
ENGLISH TRANSLATION**

*Time : 3 hours*

*Maximum Marks : 100*

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*Note : Answer all questions. All questions carry equal marks.*

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1. Discuss with reference to the context any *four* of the following passages : 4×5=20
- (a) Thirst is to plunge headlong  
Without learning to swim  
Without a barge and a pole  
Into the roaring whirlpools.
- (b) The dark of the well  
Longs for that moment of courage  
When in full sight of all  
My hands will stretch out  
For a drink

- (c) Death does not come to all of us in  
the same manner  
nor do the dead become equal in death  
for they were not so before.  
The body is the residue of struggle ...
- (d) It's good to have some stones in your heart  
There is no letter-box — messages can  
be left between stones —  
besides, one sometimes feels like making  
a home.
- (e) I then collected  
all half-formed desires,  
joined them together,  
rushed towards you like a gale  
and entwined my fingers  
in your fingers.
- (f) Atom or Atman —  
Which of these do your scientists  
strive after ?

2. Discuss the role of Chandri in the novel  
*Samskara*. (500 words)

20

**OR**

Discuss Sahni's treatment of the theme of  
communalism in *Tamas*. (500 words)

3. Discuss the theme of power in the play *Tughlaq*. (500 words) 20

OR

Write a note on the contemporary relevance of *Tughlaq*. (500 words)

4. Attempt *one* question each from 4(a) and 4(b):  
10+10=20

- (a) Discuss the character of Pooran Mausi in Motilal Jotwani's *Very Lonely, She*.  
(225 words)

OR

In what way is the story *The Compromise* relevant to our times? (225 words)

- (b) Write a note on humour, irony and contrast in the 'Birthday'. (225 words)

OR

Can 'Tiny's Granny' be read as a social document? Comment. (225 words)

5. Explain critically *Bama's* views about the life of Dalit Christians. (500 words) 20

OR

Critically underline the salient features of Manto's pen-sketch of *Ismat Chughtai*.

(500 words)