

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN  
ENGLISH**

**Term-End Examination**

**June, 2016**

03665

**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 in about 150 words each :

*4×5=20*

- (a) Sermons were shouted.

Gossips were floated.

Palms were read.

Tea and biscuits were distributed.

Then, her sudden demise was sadly lamented :

- (b) What makes one hundred fat heads hang --

The load of wisdom ?

The weight of reverence ?

The burden of shame ?

(c)

But in the east

The wood nymphs lit the moon's cooking stove  
In whose soft glow shoots of the steaming rice  
Seemed to spring upon the hills.

(d) Our children are about to enter

these lonely kitchens.

Come, for their sake,

let's demolish

these kitchens now !

(e) Such tumult in the heart

is altogether new.

I do not know if

on a bend of my life

or of the path to the river

a discomfiture lies in ambush.

(f) I have handed over, my notebook of poems

long back to Kabir.

There is no Kabir in this market.

Only I stand here.

2. The protagonist of *Samskara* is caught between tradition and modernity. Discuss. (450 words) 20

**OR**

*Tamas* captures the historical consequences of the partition in human terms. Discuss.  
(450 words)

3. Discuss how *Tughlak* dramatizes the protagonist's love of power and its subsequent collapse. (450 words) 20

**OR**

*Tughlak* is "a split personality representing the deep-rooted dualities of human nature". Discuss.  
(450 words)

4. Discuss the following : (450 words) 2×10=20

(a) (i) The depiction of poverty and hunger in *Birthday*. (225 words)

**OR**

(ii) Granny as a tragic character in *Tiny's Granny*. (225 words)

(b) (i) Toradoi's relationship with the empty chest. (225 words)

**OR**

(ii) Manohar's interaction with his aunt and what it teaches him. (225 words)

5. Is the title of Amrit Rai's biography of Premchand, *Kalam ka Sipahi (The Soldier of the Pen)* appropriate? Discuss. (450 words) 20

**OR**

How does *Manimahesh* combine history and legend, reality and myth? (450 words)

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