



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
International General Certificate of Secondary Education

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BANGLADESH STUDIES

0449/01

Paper 1 History and Culture of Bangladesh

May/June 2011

1 hour 30 minutes

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

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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) What was Alaol's most celebrated work?

- A Padmavati
- B Ratnawati
- C Bajimat
- D Dara-Sekandarnama

[1]

(ii) What is Jasimuddin known as?

- A The Singer of the City
- B The Rural Poet
- C The Folk Hero
- D The War Novelist

[1]

(iii) What was the name of the publication in which Kazi Nazrul Islam preached revolution?

- A The Star
- B The Comet
- C The Gazette
- D The Red Crescent

[1]

(iv) Lalon Shah is most famous for

- A Written poems
- B Songs
- C Religious dramas
- D Folk art

[1]

(v) In 1913 Rabindranath Tagore was given an important honour. Which of the following was it?

- A He was made a knight of the British Empire.
- B He was received by the Emperor of Japan.
- C He gained the Nobel Prize for Literature.
- D He was made a doctor at Cambridge University.

[1]

Part (b)

Why is Begum Rokeya considered to be such an important cultural figure in Bangladesh? 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. [12]

- Drama
- Painting
- Dance

Choose TWO of questions 2 to 4.

Answer ALL parts of the two questions you choose.

Question 2: Pre-Mughal Bengal

The establishment and consolidation of Muslim Rule in Bengal 1204–1342

An important event in the political influence of Islam is 1204, when the important city of Nadia was taken by a Muslim army. Towards the end of the twelfth century Muslim Turkish forces had made inroads into northern India. Gauda was captured in 1205 but Muslim forces could not capture Tibet.

Islamic rule did not bring political stability to Bengal and there were internal conflicts as well as struggles with the Sultan of Delhi. A strong ruler like Shamsuddin Firuz Shah could expand territory under Muslim control, but not until 1338 did a strong new Sultan of Bengal emerge. One of the greatest elements in the development of Muslim Bengal was the impact of the Sufis who had a major influence on religious life.

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Part (a)

- (i) Which leader captured Nadia in 1204? (line 1–2) [1]
- (ii) Of which kingdom was Gauda the capital? (line 3) [1]
- (iii) Which Sultan of Delhi invaded Bengal following Tughal's declaration of independence? [1]
- (iv) Who was the strong Sultan of Bengal? (line 7) [1]
- (v) Name any area conquered by Shamsuddin Firuz Shah. (line 6) [1]

Part (b)

- (i) Write what you know about the taking of Nadia in 1204. [5]
- (ii) Explain why there was so much internal conflict in Bengal in this period. [5]

Part (c)

Which do you think were the most important in the development of Muslim rule in Bengal in this period? Explain your answer by writing about **all three** choices. [10]

- The Sufis
- The Ilyas Shahi Dynasty
- The Hussain Shahi Dynasty

Question 3: The British Period

The British Government in the sub-continent and events leading to independence in 1947

The period of Congress Rule which began in 1937, following the Government of India Act, seemed to threaten Muslims. There was suspicion of the Wardha Scheme and at local level there were attacks on mosques. Congress approval of the Bande Matram was resented and Jinnah encouraged the Muslim League to develop both membership and organization.

A major event was the Lahore Resolution of March 1940. The Muslim League rejected the Cripps proposals of 1942 for an Indian Union and also rejected the Quit India campaign. By 1946 Jinnah was demanding the formation of Pakistan, which the Cabinet Mission Plan rejected. 5

When Mountbatten arrived in India in March 1947, he was convinced that partition was the only solution. On 3 June the plan was announced that both India and Pakistan were to have Dominion status and that Muslim majority provinces would vote either to join India or Pakistan. The terrible violence which accompanied Partition was not foreseen. 10

Part (a)

- (i) What was the purpose of the Government of India Act? (line 1) [1]
- (ii) What was the Wardha Scheme? (line 2) [1]
- (iii) What was the Bande Matram? (line 3) [1]
- (iv) Who proposed the Lahore Resolution? (line 5) [1]
- (v) What office did Mountbatten hold? (line 8) [1]

Part (b)

- (i) Write what you know about the Cabinet Mission Plan and its failure. [5]
- (ii) Why was there so much violence during Partition in 1947? [5]

Part (c)

Which do you think was the most important factor in the emergence of an independent Pakistan in 1947? Explain your answer by writing about **all three** choices. [10]

- The rule of Congress 1937–9
- The growth of the Muslim League 1939–45
- The political developments of 1946–7

Question 4: From Pakistan to Bangladesh (1947–1971)**Political Mobilization and the events leading to Independence**

There were long-standing resentments between East and West Pakistan, but there was little chance for the people of Bengal to express their views until the 1970 election. The six points of 1966 were the basis of victory by the Awami League in 1970 but were not acceptable to the Pakistani president. Negotiations broke down and in March 1971 a military solution was adopted. This was generally popular in Pakistan and the leader of the Pakistan People's Party spoke of the country being saved by the army. A resistance movement in East Pakistan arose and a brutal civil war broke out. In November 1971 a provisional government of Bangladesh was formed.

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International opinion was unfavourable to Pakistan and its traditional allies failed to give it support. Indian intervention led to the unconditional surrender of the Pakistani army on 16 December 1971. The new President of Pakistan had little option but to accept that Bangladesh was an independent state.

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Part (a)

- (i) Who drew up the six points? (line 2) [1]
- (ii) Name the Pakistani president in 1970. (line 4) [1]
- (iii) What was the name of the resistance movement in East Pakistan? (line 6) [1]
- (iv) Name one of Pakistan's traditional allies. (line 8) [1]
- (v) Who was the leader of the Pakistan People's Party who became the new President of Pakistan in December 1971? (line 10) [1]

Part (b)

- (i) Write what you know about the Awami League. (line 3) [5]
- (ii) Why were there long-standing grievances between East and West Pakistan? [5]

Part (c)

Which of the following do you think was the most important reason for the success of the independence movement in 1971? Explain your answer by writing about **all three** of the choices provided. [10]

- The resistance movement in East Pakistan
- International opinion
- Indian intervention

