

ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, 2014

M.Phil./Ph.D.

HISTORICAL STUDIES

[Field of Study Code—Ancient : ANCP (139)/
Medieval : MEDP (138)/Modern : MODP (137)]

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 70

- Note** : (i) Candidates must indicate their preferred choice of admission, e.g., Ancient, Medieval or Modern on their answer-book's cover-sheet in bold letters.
- (ii) Answer **any one** question from Section-I (which carries 20 marks) and **any two** questions from your stated area of specialization (each carries 25 marks).

SECTION—I

1. What considerations would guide your choice of a research theme? Illustrate with examples.
2. Can community sentiments delimit the writing of history? Draw upon specific examples in support of your arguments.
3. What is the significance of intangible heritage in reconstructing the past?
4. Memorializing involves a selective appropriation of the past. Comment.
5. Discuss a work of history which you would consider a good example of interdisciplinary historical research.

SECTION—II

(**Ancient India**)

6. How has the historiography of caste in ancient India developed in the post-Independence period?
7. Literary and archaeological sources present different pictures of Buddhism. Comment.

8. How can art and architecture throw light on the social history of ancient India?
9. What socio-economic significance can you ascribe to agrarian expansion in ancient India?
10. What aspects of ancient Indian history can be gleaned from the study of genealogies?

SECTION—III

(Medieval India)

11. Why did the Indian Ocean become so crucial to global maritime history from the sixteenth century onwards?
12. In what way did the Mughal state interface with the agrarian economy and with what consequences?
13. How can the study of medieval Indian history be enriched by the use of documents?
14. What were the constitutive elements of an Indo-Persianate culture in medieval India?
15. How did gender relations affect the division of labour in medieval India?

SECTION—IV

(Modern India)

16. How do you assess the scholarship on Gandhi over the last three decades?
17. Would you agree with the understanding that mass movements must necessarily be non-violent?
18. How did the post-Independence Indian state handle the legacy of colonialism?
19. Assess the role of women social reformers in the context of socio-political movements in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.
20. How would you use autobiographies as a source for writing modern Indian history?
