



INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE AND OPEN LEARNING
Gauhati University

HOME ASSIGNMENT

M. A. in History
(PREVIOUS – 2009-2010)

Guidelines for Submission:

1. Write your name, session, roll number, the topic selected and the title of the answer *clearly on the top*.
2. Each answer (essay) carries a weightage of **20 marks**.
3. Keep a margin of about 1 inch on each side of the page.
4. You can submit the essay written in your own hand-writing on clean, foolscap sheets, or A-4 sized paper.
5. In case you prefer to submit type-written answers, make sure that there are no typing errors which will deduct from the overall impression.
6. Do not submit commercially purchased answers as such a practice is deemed to be unfair.
7. You are permitted to submit your assignment by 31st January, 2010. Please note that if you submit beyond the last date of submission, as mentioned in the IDOL prospectus i.e., after 31st March, 2010, it may not be considered.

Paper 1

Group A (Political and administrative History of Ancient India from earliest times to 319 A.D.)

1. Explain the role of iron in the growth and expansion of the Later Vedic period.
Or
2. Account for the downfall of the Mauryan Empire. To what extent was Ashoka responsible for the same?

Group C (Political and Administrative History of Modern India from 1757 to 1858 A.D.)

1. Explain the economic, social and political motives behind the introduction of Permanent Settlement.
Or
2. Examine the contribution of Cornwallis to the evolution of the British administrative system.

Paper 2

Group A (History of North-east India from the earliest times to 1228 A.D.)

1. Discuss the importance of inscriptions in reconstructing the political history of Ancient Assam.
Or
2. Do you agree with the view that the Salastambha period witnessed increasing decentralization in administration? Give reasons for your answer.

Group C (History of North –East India from 1826 to 1905)

1. Examine the terms of the treaty of Yandaboo (1826) relating to Assam, Cachar, Jayantia and Manipur and make a critical assessment of the Treaty.

Or

2. Analyse the factors responsible for the growth of political awareness in the Brahmaputra Valley in the nineteenth century.

Paper 3

History of United States of America 1783-1916

1. “American Constitution is a bundle of Compromises”- Do you agree?

Or

2. What were the causes of the American civil War? Do you agree with the fact that sectional conflict was the key factor behind the outbreak of the Civil War in USA?

Paper 4

History of Modern Europe 1871-1919

1. Do you agree with the view that the congress of Berlin created more problems than it solved? Give reasons for your answer.

Or

2. Discuss the importance of Moroccan crisis in European history.

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