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2026

M.A. 2nd Semester Examination

HISTORY

Paper : HISC451X0

(History of the Modern World)

Full Marks : 50 Time : Two Hours

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.
Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words as far as practicable.

Group - A

Answer any ***two*** questions : 10×2=20

1. To what extent did the issue of nationalism play a crucial role in causing the First World War?

Or,

Discuss the nature and origins of the Second World War highlighting structural, ideological and immediate factors.

2. What were the compelling considerations that prompted England to adopt a policy of appeasement toward the Axis powers during the interwar years? Were they truly justified?

P.T.O.

Or,

Critically examine France's security strategy after World War I showing how diplomatic, economic and military measures were combined to contain Germany.

3. How did the Arab nationalism emerge and spread during the first half of the twentieth century? Discuss.

Or,

Analyse the mandate system introduced by the League of Nations in the Middle East, and evaluate whether it functioned as a new form of European imperial domination.

4. Was the Manchurian episode of 1931 simply a reflection of the domestic challenges facing Japan at that time? Give reasons for your answer.

Or,

Discuss the emergence of Japan as a dominant power in East Asia during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and examine how nationalism and militarism influenced its imperialist foreign policy.

Group - B

Answer any ***four*** questions : 5×4=20

5. Critically assess the historical development leading to the formation of the Triple Entente.

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Or,

What was the political significance of the Spanish Civil War for Europe?

6. How did the First World War facilitate the emergence of a global society?

Or,

What was the significance of the Fourteen Points of Woodrow Wilson in post-war peace settlements.

7. Write a note on the extra-territorial rights of foreigners in China, which were keenly resented by the younger generation of educated Chinese during the early twentieth century.

Or,

Discuss the contribution of modern education to the development of nationalist movements in colonial Southeast Asia.

8. Highlight the historical significance of the Treaty of Rapallo.

Or,

What were the principal social and political effects of Mustafa Kemal Pasha's reform programme in Turkey?

9. Make a critical assessment on the purpose of the Hoare-Laval Pact.

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Or,

Outline the main features of Britain's policy toward Egypt after 1918.

10. Trace the history of the genesis and development of the Palestinian problem up to 1948.

Or,

Briefly explain the significance of the Munich Agreement (1938).

[Internal Assessment : 10 marks]

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