



**Cambridge International Examinations**  
Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary Education

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**BANGLADESH STUDIES**

**0449/01**

Paper 1 History and Culture of Bangladesh

**May/June 2017**

**1 hour 30 minutes**

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

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**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

An answer booklet is provided inside this question paper. You should follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

Answer **three** questions.

Answer **Question 1** and **two** other questions.

You are advised to spend about 30 minutes on each question.

The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.

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This document consists of **9** printed pages and **3** blank pages.



You must answer **all** parts of Question 1.

### Question 1

#### The Culture and Heritage of Bangladesh

You are advised to spend about 30 minutes on this question.

(a) This question tests your knowledge.

(i) Which of the following recognises Zainul Abedin's contributions to the culture of Bangladesh?

- A He wrote a journal about changes in farming
- B A school of agriculture was set up in his name
- C He was given the title Shilpacharya
- D The library he established in Dhaka carries his name

[1]

(ii) Mir Mosharraf Hossain is best known for writing about which of the following?

- A Education
- B Sufism
- C Town growth and development
- D The lives of zamindars

[1]

(iii) What did Kazi Nazrul Islam encourage through his writings?

- A That people should stay out of politics
- B That people should struggle against colonial rule
- C That people should be involved in acting and plays
- D That people should spread Islam

[1]

(iv) Which of the following is true of the early life of Alaol?

- A His family was poor
- B He became a poet at the royal court
- C He became familiar with a range of European languages
- D He was born in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century

[1]

(v) Which of the following explains why Lalon Shah's work is remembered?

- A It was made up of decorated writing
- B It took the form of poetry
- C It showed his belief in equality
- D It demonstrated his passion for music

[1]

(b) This question tests your knowledge and understanding.

(i) Describe the life and work of Jasimuddin.

[5]

(ii) Explain Jasimuddin's importance to our knowledge of society in Bangladesh.

[3]

(c) This question tests your understanding and judgement.

(i) Explain the importance of **each** of the following to the culture of Bangladesh:

- architecture of the British period
- literature of the British period

[8]

(ii) Which of these two do you think has made the more important contribution to our knowledge of the history of Bangladesh? Explain your answer.

[4]

[Total: 25]

Choose **two** of questions 2 to 4.

Answer **all** parts of the **two** questions you choose.

## Question 2

### Pre-Mughal Bengal

#### Pataliputra



#### The remains of a once great city

The earliest phase of the history of Bengal is not well known. There is little written evidence left, meaning that information has had to be gathered from a wide variety of documents and pieced together.

Some structures are known to have existed by the fourth century. Land was thought to have been divided into six main areas of settlement. There were centres of trade and commerce. There were capital cities such as Pundranagara.

**5**

Links to the wider world are known to have been created in the Mauryan era. Buddhism arrived in Bengal and was carried to Sri Lanka by Bengal's leader.

By the era of the Guptas, a powerful kingdom of Bengal, based on a well-developed market town on the banks of the River Ganges, is known to have been able to trade with China and even further afield.

**10**

**(a)** This question tests your knowledge.

**(i)** What were the areas of settlement known as? (line 5) [1]

**(ii)** Which area had important centres of trade and commerce? (line 5) [1]

**(iii)** Of which area was Pundranagara the capital city? (line 6) [1]

**(iv)** Which Bengal leader carried the message of Buddhism to Sri Lanka? (line 8) [1]

**(v)** Which market town was the capital of the kingdom of Bengal? (line 10) [1]

**(b)** This question tests your knowledge and understanding.

**(i)** Describe the Guptas' attitude to religion. [5]

**(ii)** Explain how the Guptas developed an Empire. [5]

**(c)** This question tests your understanding and judgement.

**(i)** Explain the importance of the following aspects of Gupta rule:

- strong central control
- art and artworks [8]

**(ii)** Which of these aspects earned the Gupta period the title of 'The Golden Age of India'? Explain your answer. [2]

[Total: 25]

### Question 3

#### The Mughal Period

#### The Shalimar Gardens



#### The Consolidation of the Mughal Empire

Sher Khan, better known as Sher Shah, established Afghan rule in Bengal and threatened the Mughal Empire. It was not until the death of Sher Shah in 1545 that the Mughals could regain the empire from the Afghans. When Akbar became Emperor he had to fight to consolidate his empire in both the north and south of India. He was not able to take control of Bengal until 1576.

5

However, conflict with local zamindars of Bengal, known as the Baro Bhuiyans, meant that his period of rule remained a period of war. It was only under Islam Khan, sent by Jahangir to be Governor of Bengal, that the conflict finally ended.

The outcome was that Shah Jahan, son of Jahangir, was able to establish a period of peace where there was control of the borders and arts and trade could prosper.

10

(a) This question tests your knowledge.

(i) Who was Akbar's father? (line 3)

[1]

(ii) When did Akbar become Emperor of Delhi? (line 3)

[1]

(iii) Who accepted the right to be overlord of Bengal in 1564?

[1]

(iv) Who took the right to rule Bengal after 1572?

[1]

(v) Which battle of 1576 led to Bengal becoming part of the Mughal Empire?

[1]

**(b)** This question tests your knowledge and understanding.

**(i)** Describe how Prince Suja changed the way that Viceroy ruled Bengal. [5]

**(ii)** Explain how the Viceroy handled challenges to their rule during the reign of Shah Jahan. [5]

**(c)** This question tests your understanding and judgement.

**(i)** Explain the importance of the following aspects of Shah Jahan's rule:

- architecture
- religious tolerance [8]

**(ii)** Which of these aspects most earned Shah Jahan's rule its reputation as the era of the arts? Explain your answer. [2]

[Total: 25]

## Question 4

### The British Period

#### Lord Cornwallis



#### The Impact of the Great Famine

The East India Company (EIC) developed British interests in India. However, the impact of the Great Famine between 1769 and 1770 was so severe that the British Government was forced to interfere in the EIC's business. Following a period of Dual Administration, the British Government took direct control of its Indian possessions. There was to be a Governor-General, provincial Governors and a Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces.

5

Land ownership rules were changed by law. Zamindars, subject to meeting British requirements, were made permanent owners of the land. While this system created an aristocracy loyal to the government, it failed to improve farming.

British rule did not show clear understanding of how society in India worked. Britain neither understood the relationship between zamindars and farmers, nor the role played by alms in religious practice.

10

(a) This question tests your knowledge.

(i) What caused the Great Famine? (line 2)

[1]

(ii) What was meant by Dual Administration? (line 3)

[1]

(iii) What was the law of 1793 that changed the role of zamindars? (line 7)

[1]

(iv) What were zamindars required to do in order to own their land? (line 8)

[1]

(v) What were 'alms'? (line 12)

[1]



(b) This question tests your knowledge and understanding.

(i) Describe the work of Robert Clive in India between 1757 and 1773. [5]

(ii) How did the way that Britain ruled India change under Lord Cornwallis? [5]

(c) This question tests your understanding and judgement.

(i) Explain how **each** of the following opposed the British:

- the Fakir-Sanyasi movement
- the Faraizi movement [8]

(ii) Which of these two had more impact on the British? Explain your answer. [2]

[Total: 25]

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