

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600 086
(For candidates admitted during the academic year 2019– 2020 and thereafter)
SUBJECT CODE: 19CE/ME/LA45

B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2022
ENGLISH AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS
SIXTH SEMESTER

COURSE: MAJOR ELECTIVE
TITLE: LITERATURE OF ASIA

TIME: 3 HOURS
MAX. MARKS: 100

SECTION A

I Answer three of the following questions in about 350 words each. (3x15= 45marks)

1. Discuss the use of imagery in the poems of Yehuda Amichai that have been prescribed for study.
2. How does Emily Nasrallah record the psychological trauma of refugees in her short story "The Green Bird"?
3. Bring out the pathos in the story "Old Man Xinjiang".
4. How is Manto's narrative of the Partition of India significant from the perspectives of gender and subalternity?
5. Throw some light on the terrors of war as portrayed in Falastine Dwikat's poems.

SECTION B

II Answer any two of the following questions in about 600 words each. (2x20=40 marks)

6. Comment on Shanmughalingam's use of the theatre as a political space.
7. "Remembering is never a quiet act of introspection or retrospection. It is a painful remembering, a putting together of a dismembered past to make sense of the trauma of the present" - Homi Bhabha. Comment with reference to the novel *A Tale of Love and Darkness*.
8. Discuss the issues of identity crisis and survival drawing suitable examples from the texts prescribed for study.
9. *The Kite Runner* is a story of hope and redemption. Justify with instances from the novel.

SECTION C

III Analyse the following passage with reference to concepts prescribed for study. (1x15=15 marks)

Batashi, see, see, what a lovely son you have. Oh Jaigun, fill your eyes with the sight of your grandson,' Rahima Bibi cries out joyfully. She is happy that she has been able to help Batashi in her hour of need. Rahima Bibi's heart fills with satisfaction.

Jaigun's tired old eyes are streaming like the Brahmaputra. Her heart brimming with joy, she says, 'You were a great help, Sister. Without you I wouldn't have been able to save the girl.'

. 'What rubbish you talk, Jaigun. God is the one who saves. How much could I have done? And what did I do, after all? Wouldn't I have done the same for my own girl? Isn't Batashi like my own daughter? What do you say?' Rahima Bibi's eyes shine with joy. 'After all, we are all one family. Is Batashi an outsider?' Chan Bibi comes forward. Jaigun, Rahima Bibi, Chan Bibi and Anwara carefully clean mother and child. The men have been waiting outside on the lawn.

Now Naimuddin comes forward and says, 'Oh, Jaigun, don't you need the azaan to be said in the ears of your grandson?'

'Yes, yes, but who will do it?'

'Why, I will do it. In my village, didn't I give the azaan five times a day?'

Jaigun, Rahima Bibi and Anwara have a wash and then sit down in the verandah to rest. They have had a tiring night. The birth of a human being is not easy. Pain and toil attend it.

No one notices Abul entering and sitting down beside the newborn. He stares wide-eyed at the baby.

'What are you staring at like that? You are very happy, aren't you, to become an uncle?' Abul looks up, startled. So do the others. Sonaban is standing there smiling with a plateful of pithas.

'Abul, wipe your tears. Today is a happy day for you. Here, sweeten your mouth with a pitha,'

Sonaban says, stuffing a pitha into Abul's hands. Then she puts the plate in front of Rahima Bibi.

'Here, sweeten your mouth as well. For the first time a child has been born here. It is a happy day for all of us.'

Jaigun is sitting silently a little further off. Sonaban goes up to her, holding out both her arms. 'Come, Sister. Come and eat a bite.'

Jaigun looks at Sonaban in surprise. Sonaban is smiling. Jaigun holds out her hands to Sonaban.
