

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600 086
(For candidates admitted during the academic year 2019–2020 and thereafter)

SUBJECT CODE: 19EL/PC/LM24

M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, APRIL 2022
BRANCH VII – ENGLISH
SECOND SEMESTER

COURSE : CORE
PAPER : LITERATURE & MYSTICISM

TIME : 3 HOURS
MAX. MARKS : 100

SECTION A

I. Answer any four of the following in about 650 words each. (4x15=60)

1. Critically evaluate the bhakti of Mahadevi Akka in “No God This Man” and Andal in “The Song to the Kuyil.”
2. Examine the religious sentiments of the poets in “The Collar” and “Batter my heart, Three Person’d God.”
3. Discuss the juxtaposition of the spiritual death and awakening of “... the soul that suffers with longing to see God” by St. John of the Cross.
4. Comment on the significance of the mystical concert in Rumi’s “Reed Flute’s Song.”
5. Bhakti poetry is an articulation of mystical expressions embedded within religious traditions. Discuss with reference to three prescribed texts.
6. Compare and contrast Pillaithamizh 63 and “God Child” as mystical poems.

SECTION B

II. Answer any one of the following in about 750 words. (1x20=20)

7. Examine bridal mysticism with reference to “Song of Solomon,” chapters 1 & 2.
8. Explain Sufi mysticism with reference to any two poems prescribed for study.

SECTION C

III. Analyse the poem given below in about 750 words. (1x20=20)

9. “Hope” is the thing with feathers
by Emily Dickinson

“Hope” is the thing with feathers -
That perches in the soul -
And sings the tune without the words -
And never stops - at all -

And sweetest - in the Gale - is heard -
And sore must be the storm -
That could abash the little Bird
That kept so many warm -

I've heard it in the chillest land -
And on the strangest Sea -
Yet - never - in Extremity,
It asked a crumb - of me.
