

B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2022
BRANCH XII – ENGLISH
FIFTH SEMESTER

COURSE: MAJOR – CORE

TIME: 3 HOURS

PAPER: WEST ASIAN LITERATURE

MAX. MARKS: 100

SECTION A

I. Answer any four of the following questions in 250 words each. (4x10=40 marks)

1. Examine how Mahmoud Darwish's "The Passport" explores the close tie between place and identity.
2. How does Goli Taraqqi's "A House in Heaven" reveal the way exile complicates the notion of "home"?
3. What does the poem "I was in a Hurry" tell the reader about the poet's relationship with her country?
4. Consider how Mohammed Hasan Alwan's story sheds light on the geopolitical dimension of America's intervention in the Middle East.
5. Hisham Bustani's "Freefall in a Shattered Mirror" is a portrayal of the interconnectedness of place, culture and the self. Elucidate.
6. Explain how Yehuda Amichai's poetry captures the reality of an individual living in a region ravaged by conflict and political uncertainty.

SECTION B

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

7. Discuss how *A Tale of Love and Darkness* fuses personal and political history.
8. Critically examine how gender shapes the experience of conflict, exile and displacement based on your reading of the texts prescribed for your study
9. Write an essay evaluating the plight of displaced individuals from various conflict zones in the world and the response of the developed nations to the global refugee crisis by drawing on relevant texts prescribed for your study.
10. How does Marjane Satrapi's *Persepolis* challenge the one-dimensional Western perception of Iran's culture, politics and people by presenting a turbulent era of the nation from a young girl's perspective?

SECTION C

III. Analyse the given extract from a poem prescribed for your study taking into consideration the socio-political issues of the region which the text represents.

(1x20=20 marks)

11. Let's play a game the little kids
Murdered in Gaza used to play.
Let's play house.
Let's pretend that our tent is our home,
That our hearts are not broken,
Like our broken bones.
Let's play house, maybe
For one last time,
Over the rubbles.