

STELLA MARIS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI 600 086  
(For candidates admitted during the academic year 2011 – 12 and thereafter)

SUBJECT CODE: 11EL/PC/IL34

M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2014  
BRANCH VII – ENGLISH  
THIRD SEMESTER

COURSE : CORE  
PAPER : INDIAN LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION  
TIME : 3 HOURS  
MAX. MARKS: 100

I. Analyse any ONE of the passages given below in about 750 words: (1x20 =20)

**Balarama:** Listen, I will make an offering for your fallen comrades. I will give them the sons of Pandu, their bodies pierced with my plough and smashed with my club.

**Duryodhana:** No, no, sir. Bhima fulfilled his vow. My brothers have gone to heaven. I am in this condition. What will be achieved by fighting?

**Balarama:** Sir, you were cheated before my eyes. That has made me very angry.

**Duryodhana:** You think I was cheated?

**Balarama:** Is there any doubt about it?

**Duryodhana:** O I had put my life on stake. Bhima had the wit to escape from that dreadful fire in the house of lac. He survived the avalanche of rocks in the battle with Kubera. He killed the demon Hidimba. If you think, Balarama, that he beat me today by deceit, that is just not so.

**Balarama:** Should Bhimasena live, having cheated you in battle?

**Duryodhana:** Was I cheated by Bhimasena?

**Balarama:** Then by whom have you been brought to this pass?

**Duryodhana:** Listen. Who defied Indra and took away the wishing tree from paradise? Who sleeps for sport on the ocean for a thousand celestial years? Who is the world's beloved? It was he who suddenly entered Bhima's sharp mace and delivered me to death.

*(Discuss the dramatic significance of the passage with reference to the righteous indignation of Balarama and the transformation of Duryodhana)*

OR

You are the refuge, O Rain Giver  
for all who burn with anguish; so bear  
a message from me parted from my love  
by the wrath of the Lord of Treasures;  
go then to Alaka, abode of the Yaksha Lord  
her palaces washed by moonlight  
streaming from Siva's brow  
where He is seated in her outer groves.

*(Discuss the theme, use of poetic techniques, and the context of the above passage)*

**II. Answer any THREE of the following in about 350 words each: (3x10=30)**

1. How does Gandhi define Swaraj and why does he consider passive resistance, which he calls “truth force” an efficacious method to realize it?
2. “Ecological concerns loom large in *Meghadutam*.” Comment.
3. Discuss Ghalib’s poems as ‘hallowed revelations’ on unconditional love for all things, both great and small.
4. How does Tiruvalluvar foreground individual transformation in his “In Praise of God”?
5. Comment on the use of the narrative and dramatic modes in *Urubhangam*.
6. Comment on the love between Devadas and Chandramukhi.

**III. Answer any TWO of the following in about 1000 words each: (2x25=50)**

7. “*Urubhangam* can hardly be considered a "tragedy" [in an Aristotelian sense]: in it Duryodhana is exalted as might never be a mere man, a mere hero” (Edwin Gerow) Discuss.
8. How does Tagore problematise the Swadeshi Movement in *The Home and the The World*?
9. Write an essay on *Meghadutam* locating it in the tradition of ‘duta-kavyam’.
10. Discuss Devadas as an archetype of self-destructive love.

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