

West Bengal Civil Service Examination (Main), 2000

(Optional Papers)

HISTORY

Paper I

Time Allowed-3 Hours

3 Full Marks-100

Group – A.

Answer any three questions

1. Critically evaluate the importance of archaeological sources for the study of the history of ancient India.
2. Trace the rise and growth of the Magadhan power to the position of an imperial power till the fall of the Nandas.
3. Discuss the causes of the downfall of the Gupta Empire.
4. What are the various sources of the history of the reign of Harshavardhana. Examine critically the achievements of his reign.
5. "The short period of Sena rule is an important landmark in the history of Bengal". Elucidate the statement.

Group – B

Answer any two questions.

6. Discuss the essential features of Jainism'. To what extent would you attribute its vitality even in modern times?
7. In what way did the Mauryan age constitute a landmark in the history of Indian art and architecture?
8. How did the organization of guilds represent the corporate activity in the economic life of ancient India?

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HISTORY

Paper II

Time Allowed-3 Hours

Full Marks-100

Group – A

Answer any three questions

1. Describe briefly the political, social and economic condition Of France on the eve of the French Revolution of 1789.
2. How did the nature of Industrial Revolution different European nations?
3. In what ways did Slavery became a central issue in the American Civil War?
4. How did Kaiser William II change the foreign policy of Bismarck? What were its results ?
5. Examine the causes of the Russian Revolution of 1917.

Group -B

Answer any two questions.

6. Why was France anxious for her security after the First World War? What did she do to ensure her security in the inter-war her war period?
7. Analyze the diplomatic background of the Second World War. The outbreak of war - was it accidental or design?
8. Explain critically the Arab-Jewish problem centering Palestine. Did the birth of Israel in 1949 settle the issue?

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