

Download UPSC, IAS Civil Services (Mains)

Exam Syllabus

Optional Literature Subject

"Bengali"



:: PAPER - I ::

History of Language and Literature [Answers must be written in Bengali]

Section A: Topics from the History of Bangla language

- 1. The chronological track from Proto Indo-European to Bangla (Family tree with branches and approximate dates).
- 2. Historical stages of Bangla (Old, Middle, New) and their linguistic features.
- 3. Dialects of Bangla and their distinguishing characteristics.
- 4. Elements of Bangla Vocabulary.
- 5. Forms of Bangla Literary Prose—Sadhu and Chalit.
- 6. Processes of language change relevant for Bangla:

Apinihiti (Anaptyxis), Abhishruti (umlaut), Murdhanyibhavan (cerebralization), Nasikyibhavan (Nasalization), Samibhavan (Assimilation), Sadrishya (Analogy), Svaragama (Vowel insertion) —Adi Svaragama, Madhya Svaragama or Svarabhakti, Antya Svaragama, Svarasangati (Vowel harmony), y—shruti and w—shruti.

- 7. Problems of standardization and reform of alphabet and spelling, and those of transliteration and Romanization.
- 8. Phonology, Morphology and Syntax of Modern Bangla.

(Sounds of Modern Bangla, Conjuncts; word formations, compounds; basic sentence patterns.)

Section B: Topics from the History of Bangla Literature.

- 1. Periodization of Bangla Literature : Old Bangla and Middle Bangla.
- 2. Points of difference between modern and pre-modern Bangla Literature.
- 3. Roots and reasons behind the emergence of modernity in Bangla Literature.
- 4. Evolution of various Middle Bangla forms; Mangal Kavyas, Vaishnava lyrics, Adapted narratives (Ramayana, Mahabharata, Bhagavata) and religious biographies.
- 5. Secular forms in middle Bangla literature.
- 6. Narrative and lyric trends in the nineteenth century Bangla poetry.
- 7. Development of prose.
- 8. Bangla dramatic literature (nineteenth century, Tagore, Post-1944 Bangla drama).
- 9. Tagore and post-Tagoreans.
- 10. Fiction, major authors:

Bankimchandra, Tagore, Saratchandra, Bibhutibhusan, Tarasankar, Manik).

11. Women and Bangla literature: creators and created.



:: PAPER - II ::

Prescribed texts for close study [Answers must be written in Bengali]

Section A

- 1. Vaishnava Padavali (Calcutta University) Poems of Vidyapati, Chandidas, Jnanadas, Govindadas and Balaramdas.
- 2. Chandimangal Kalketu episode by Mukunda (Sahitya Akademi).
- 3. Chaitanya Charitamrita, Madhya Lila by Krishnadas Kaviraj (Sahitya Akademi).
- 4. Meghnadbadh Kavya by Madhusudan Dutta.
- **5. Kapalkundala** by Bankimchandra Chatterjee.
- 6. Samya and Bangadesher Krishak by Bankimchandra Chatterjee.
- 7. Sonar Tari by Rabindranath Tagore.
- **8. Chhinnapatravali** by Rabindranath Tagore.

Section B

- 9. Raktakarabi by Rabindranath Tagore.
- 10. Nabajatak by Rabindranath Tagore.
- 11. Grihadaha by Saratchandra Chatterjee.
- 12. Prabandha Samgraha, Vol. 1, by Pramatha Choudhuri.
- 13. Aranyak by Bibhutibhusan Banerjee.
- 14. Short stories by Manik Bandyopadhyay: Atashi Mami, Pragaitihasik, Holud-Pora, Sarisrip, Haraner Natjamai, Chhoto-Bokulpurer Jatri, Kustharogir Bou, Jakey Ghush Ditey Hoy.
- 15. Shrestha Kavita by Jibanananda Das.
- 16. Jagori by Satinath Bhaduri.
- 17. Ebam Indrajit by Badal Sircar.

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