

RAMAKRISHNA MISSION VIDYAMANDIRA

Belur Math, Howrah

Admission Test, 2010 for B.A. 1st Yr

Date: 19.06.10

History (Honours)

Full Marks 40

Time: 11 am – 1 pm

GROUP-A

Answer **any one** of the following in your own words (within 350 words):

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1. What was the importance of the year 1857 in Indian History"?
2. Elucidate the basic differences between the pre-Gandhian and the post-Gandhian nationalist movement in India.
3. Is the post Cold War international system more unstable than the Cold War international system?
4. Write about the Utility of studying History.

GROUP-B

5. Translate into Bengali:

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The question, which comes first - society or the individual – is like the question about the hen and the egg. Whether you treat it as a logical or as a historical question, you can make no statement about it, one way or the other, which does not have to be corrected by an opposite, and equally one-sided statement. Society and the individual are inseparable; they are necessary and complementary to each other, not opposites. "No man is an island, entire of itself," in Donne's famous words; "every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main." That is an aspect of the truth. On the other hand, take the dictum of J.S. Mill, file classical individualist: "Men are not, when brought together, converted into another kind of substance."

Or

Make a summary of the following (within 75 words)

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It is very difficult to define precisely the term 'feudalism'. Just as there are as many definitions of socialism as there are socialists, so also there are as many definitions of feudalism as there are scholars working on the subject. 'The term is attributed variously to stages of historical development far removed from one another in time and placebut generally it is applied to society in Europe from the fifth to the Fifteenth century AD. Even in the last case some stress the legal aspect of feudalism embodied in the contractual relationship between the lord and the vassal, while the others emphasise its economic aspect manifested in the manorial system. To us the European experience suggests that the political essence of feudalism lay in the organisation of the whole administrative structure on the basis of land; its economic essence lay in the institution of serfdom in which peasants were attached to the soil held by landed intermediaries placed between the king and the actual tillers, who had to pay rent in kind and labour to them. The system was based

on a self sufficient economy in which things were mainly produced for the local use of the peasants and their lords and not for market.
