

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
GCE Ordinary Level

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**MARK SCHEME for the May/June 2012 question paper
for the guidance of teachers**

7094 BANGLADESH STUDIES

7094/01

Paper 1 (History and Culture of Bangladesh),
maximum raw mark 75

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1 (a) The Culture and Heritage of Bangladesh

One mark is awarded for each correct answer.

- (i) Choice A
- (ii) Choice B
- (iii) Choice C
- (iv) Choice C
- (v) Choice B

(b) Why is Rabindranath Tagore considered to be such an important cultural figure in Bangladesh? Explain your answer. [8]

Level One: Answers which give a generalised account about the work of Tagore but do not give examples. [1–2]

Reserve one mark for very simplistic statements.

Level Two: Answers which describe examples of work but make no comment on his cultural importance in Bangladesh. [3–5]

Examples could include his poetry (e.g. Bhanusingher Padavali) Chhabi O Gan, Kadi O Komal or Gitanjali, the English translation of which won the Nobel Prize for literature in 1913)

His novels (Bouthakoranir Hat; Rajarshi and later Dui Bon, Malancha and Char)

Short Stories (e.g. Chitra, Kalpana)

His contribution to education (founding Santiiniketan)

His dance dramas (e.g. Chandalika)

His music – he wrote over 2000 songs including Amar Shonar Bangla, the national anthem of Bangladesh

His painting

Mark within the level should be based upon the amount of supporting detail provided.

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Level Three: Answers which explain the link between Tagore's work and Bangladeshi culture and give examples.

Possible significance could include the international fame (Nobel Prize 1913, knighthood 1915, honorary doctorate at Oxford 1940 which make him one of Bengal's most prestigious artistic figures in the wider world.

Candidates may refer to his versatility – that his artistic achievements cover so many different aspects of cultural life and therefore are important for showing a range of cultural achievements.

There may be comment about his spirituality and the ideals of students being close to nature in what became his international university – again something that attracted world attention and took culture forward by inspiring future generations.

Some may refer to his renouncing his knighthood after the Amritsar Massacre, showing the world that culture and a sense of political justice were linked.

Mark within the level should be based upon the number of evaluative comments made and the degree of support given to those comments.

(c) (i) Explain why each of the following has made an important contribution to the development of the culture of Bangladesh. [8]

- Literature
- Music
- Architecture

Level One: Answers which do no more than describe some elements of the three media given in the question without considering its importance. [1–4]

Up to three marks for each element. Therefore two detailed descriptions would score 4.

(e.g. in Literature by describing the hymns of the ancient period; some of the elements of the mediaeval period such as the poetic narratives or the translations from Sanskrit; or the western-inspired works of the modern period or some modern works.

Music describing Kirtan, Kavigan. Jatra Song, the pata; classical ragas; modern songs.

Architecture – Buddhist monasteries, Hindu temples, mosques of Muslim period, buildings influenced by Mughal imperial monuments (mosques, tombs, forts, temples, bridges), colonial buildings, buildings in the Pakistan period, and developments since independence.

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Level Two: Explanation of the importance of the media given.

Explanation of importance could refer to the development of the Bengali language; religious literature; the links between religion and literary development from the mediaeval to the modern periods; the influence of western thought reflected through literature; the links between politics and literature and literature as a way of expressing pride in the new nation and reflecting the experiences of a new nation.

Music: the deep links between music and religious expression; the expression of rural life through music; the development of more urban songs and diverse music culture; the influence of the west and the development of modern popular music. Music as an expression of nationality and music as a link with the rural past.

Architecture: again, the link between religious life and building styles; richness of architecture in sites like Mahasthangarh; the way key groups influenced buildings e.g. Sufis, Mughals, British. How Bengali architecture developed its distinctive characteristics alongside other influences; architecture as a sign of modern development and social change.

Up to two marks for each example assessed. Therefore:

One element explained = 5/6 marks.

Two elements explained = 7 marks.

Three elements explained = 8 marks. [N.B. Explanations need to be clearly supported to reach this level.]

(ii) Explain which of these has made the most important contribution, and why. [4]

Marks awarded according to the number of choices compared and quality of support.

No marks will be awarded for simply saying that one is more important.

A simple statement in explanation. [1]

(e.g. Music because it is performed widely)

A choice is made and there is a developed reason (e.g. Architecture because more people see buildings and the buildings are a clear reflection of the changes in Bengali life and reflect different influences reminding us that Bengali culture has been made by different religious and political elements). [2–3]

A well developed explanation which offers clear reasoning **and** some comparison with the other possible choices. For example, Music is much more associated with popular religious feelings, traditions and emotions, from ancient times when songs were associated with religions to modern times where they represent a diverse world of emotions and modern life while keeping the old traditional rural culture alive, than architecture which has revealed more the official world of the rulers. [4]

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2 (a) Pre-Mughal Bengal

- (i) **What was the name given to the six territorial units of ancient Bengal?**
Janapadas [1]
- (ii) **What was the name given to the capital of Bengal during the time of the Mauryas?**
Mahasthangarh of Bogra or Pundranagara/Pundrunagara [1]
- (iii) **What was the main trade in the Maurya period?**
Weaving or fine cotton or fine muslin cloth [1]
- (iv) **Which ruler established Gupta rule in the 4th century AD?**
Samudragupta [1]
- (v) **Who became ruler of Bengal around 600 AD, ending the rule of the Guptas?**
Shashanka [1]

(b) (i) What historical evidence exists about ancient Bengal? [5]

One mark is awarded for each explained source of evidence (max 5 marks).

- The Arthashastra of Kautilya The Kautiliya Arthasastra, Sanskrit work of C3rd and C4th BC, refers to cotton cloth in Bengal
- Archaeological sources (reveals urban centres such as Pundra)
- Religious texts (often scanty reference to political/social/economic history)
- Greek and Latin writers of same period confirm
- Ptolemy Greek Scholar writes about powerful kingdom
- Evidence from trade with China
- Copper plates from C5th show Gupta rule in Northern Bengal
- Fa-hsien, Chinese visitor confirms trade
- Coins and ornaments of Gupta period
- (Sculptural art shows artistic influence)

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(ii) Explain the importance of the Mauryan period in the history of Bengal.

Level One: Answers which write about the elements with no explanation of importance. [1]

Level Two: Answers which **explain ONE** reason. [3–4]

Level Three: Answers which **explain TWO OR MORE** reasons. [5]

- 1 There was **important economic development** and greater trade links with other regions – Vessels from western Bengal sailed to Sri Lanka and S.E. Asia. Cotton weaving in S.E. Bengal (Vanga) became famous and was noted by foreign observers.
- 2 There was important **religious development** - Buddhism arrived in Bengal during this period. Buddhism was carried to Sri Lanka from Bengal in this period. In 260, the Emperor Asoka converted to Buddhism.
- 3 The Maurya Empire was **important for the lands it controlled**. It became famous e.g. Asoka (c.300–232) had lands extending to Afghanistan and covering the Ganges Plain and the Deccan plateau.

(c) (i) Explain why each of the following was important in making the Gupta period a 'Golden Age'. [8]

- Trade and commerce
- Religion
- Political stability

Trade and commerce Bengal benefited from the prosperity generated by trade and the internal peace that allowed trade to flourish internally within the Empire. It brought contacts with other nations; it encouraged the development of markets, the circulation of money, riches for merchants and urban growth. The Gupta period is famous for its trade and commerce, Tamralipi was a major trading centre and noted by Chinese visitor Fa-hsien. Coins and ornaments suggest prosperity. There were important bankers and money lenders. Luxury goods were exported and there were important sea routes. Internal trade was carried by roads and rivers. Trade was with China, Sri Lanka, Persia, Arabia, Ethiopia and the Greek Empire. Silks and spices were exported to Byzantium.

Religion The significance lies in the toleration of the rulers, the development of more diverse religious practices, and the development of scholarship, poetry sculpture and architecture. The Gupta rulers encouraged religious toleration, practising Brahmanism and offering support to Buddhism and Jainism. Religious toleration helped internal peace and also promoted religious growth and the building of temples. There was the growth of the worship of female goddesses and fertility cults and the transition from sacrifices to offerings. Scholarship and religious literature grew as well as images and temples.

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Political stability There was a strong central government which brought prosperity. By the 4th CE, most of Bengal's independent states had come under Gupta rule and Samatata followed by the end of the 6th. The Rulers of the Gupta Empire were strong supporters of developments in the arts, architecture, science, and literature. The Guptas circulated a large number of gold coins, and internal stability is linked to the growth of trade. The Gupta Dynasty also left behind an effective administrative system. During times of peace, the Gupta system was decentralised. During times of war however, the government realigned and fought its invaders. The military system was well developed with the use of elephants and heavy armoured cavalry which defeated invaders and ensured internal security.

Level One: Answers which do no more than describe the elements given in the question without considering their importance. [1–4]

Up to two marks for each example. Maximum of 4 marks.

Level Two: Answers which explain the importance of the elements in the question given. [5–8]

Up to two marks for each element explained.

One element explained = 5–6 marks.

Two elements explained = 7 marks.

Three elements explained = 8 marks. [N.B. Explanation must be fully explained and supported to reach this level.]

(ii) Explain which one of these was the most important, and why. [2]

A reason must be offered; merely saying that one element was most important will not gain a mark.

If a reason is given and explained [1–2]

e.g. political stability was most important because trade and religious developments could not have happened unless there had been strong rulers to regulate and protect trade and to finance major religious temples.

No set answer is required. Marks awarded according to the number of reasons compared and quality of support.

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3 (a) The Mughal Period

- (i) **When did Aurangzeb die?**
1707
- (ii) **Name an area annexed by Aurangzeb in the Deccan.** [1]
Golconda or Bijapur
- (iii) **Who were driven to oppose Aurangzeb by the annexation of Marwar?** [1]
Rajputs
- (iv) **Who defeated the Mughal Empire at Panipat?** [1]
Ahmed Shah Abdali of Persia
- (v) **In the reign of which Mughal emperor had the British been given permission in 1620 to build forts and to trade?** [1]
Jahangir

(b) (i) Describe the struggles for the Mughal throne between Aurangzeb's sons. [5]

One mark for each fact. Maximum 5 marks.

- There was a war of succession following his death in 1707 between three sons.
- The sons had been allowed to become powerful regional rulers in Aurangzeb's lifetime and wanted to take overall power.
- They got the support of rival nobles.
- Their names were Muazzam, Muhammad Azam and Muhammad Kam Baksh (one mark for two names, 2 marks for all three).
- They ignored their father's direction to divide the empire peacefully.
- In the fighting, two sons (Azam and Muhammad) died.
- Muazzam took the title Bahadur Shah/Alam I but died in 1712.

(ii) Why did Aurangzeb's policies weaken his empire? [5]

Level One: Answers which write about policies/aspects with no explanation. [1–2]

Level Two: Answers which **explain ONE** reason. [3–4]

Level Three: Answers which **explain TWO OR MORE** reasons. [5]

Religious policy seemed unfair to Hindus and weakened unity of empire (e.g. reimposed Jizia and banned Suti).

Annexation of Golconda and Bijapur in the Deccan – lost an opportunity to gain allies against Maharas and made empire too vast and unwieldy.

Alienated Rajpui by annexing Marwar. Lost valuable allies and their opposition turned into a major uprising and prolonged war.

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(c) (i) Explain why each of the following was important in causing Mughal decline in 1712.

- The power of the nobles
- The weakness of the army
- Foreign invaders

Level One: Answers which do no more than describe the elements given in the question without considering their importance. [1–4]

Up to two marks for each example, maximum of 4 marks.

Level Two: Answers which explain the importance of the elements given. [5–8]

Nobility only interested in increasing their power and influence. This led to civil wars. Religious divisions – the Hindustani nobles aligned with Hindus; the Turrani were mostly Sunni Muslims and the Irani were Shias. Linked to regional differences. The different factors fought each other and emperors could not control them. So led to civil wars and factions; increased religious differences; led to differences and war between different regional groups. Misused state revenue, weakening the defence of the Empire.

Army Too much under control of selfish and corrupt nobles and out of control of the Emperor and the central government. Too weakened by soft living and corruption to defend the empire (e.g. from Persians in 1739). No standardised drill and uniformity in use of weapons; discipline poor. Outdated weapons. This led to defeat by more efficient Maratha cavalry. High ranking officers quarrelled and army became too linked to regions and particular nobles to be a national army. Importance: weakened central authority, allowed nobles too much power, opened the way to foreign invasions, e.g. Persia and Britain.

Foreign Invaders 1739 Nader Shah opened up Persian invasions – decisive battle of Panipat 1761. These invasions revealed the internal divisions of the Empire and the weaknesses caused by civil wars. European established trading posts. Self-regulating enclaves undermined the authority of the Emperors and weakened the prestige of the Mughal rulers. The Dutch French and British recruited local support which weakened the Empire. The defeat of the Nawab of Bengal at Plassey in 1757 showed how divisions in the Empire had led to the richest province falling under foreign rule.

Up to two marks for each element explained.

One element explained = 5–6 marks.

Two elements explained = 7 marks.

Three elements explained = 8 marks. [N.B. Assessment must be fully explained and supported to reach this level.]

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(ii) Explain which one of these was the most important, and why.

A reason must be offered; merely saying that one element was most important will not gain a mark.

If a reason is given and explained [1–2]

e.g. nobles were the most important factor. They weakened the empire which in turn meant that foreigners could take advantage. They were responsible for leading the army and they failed to do this because they were too intent on their selfish interests. Thus the nobles are linked to the other factors and the most important reason.

No set answer is required. Marks awarded according to the number of reasons compared and quality of support.

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4 (a) The British Period

- (i) Which viceroy introduced the partition of Bengal in 1905?
Curzon
- (ii) When was the Lucknow Pact? [1]
1916
- (iii) Who led the Swarajya Party? [1]
CR Das
- (iv) Which country did the Khilafat movement wish to support? [1]
Turkey/Ottoman Empire
- (v) Who led the Muslim League in the period of its rapid growth 1937–40? [1]
Jinnah

(b) (i) Write what you know about the Swarajya Party. [5]

One mark is awarded for each fact up to a maximum of five marks.

- Started by CR Das and owed much to his leadership
 - Based on the principle of sharing power between Hindu and Muslim
 - Held discussions with prominent Muslim Leaders
 - Led to Bengal Pact December 1923 (planned separate electorates for Bengal legislative council with guaranteed appointments to Muslims)
 - Opposed by Congress
 - Das died in 1925 weakening the party
 - Pact rejected and party declined
- (ii) Why was there resentment among many Muslims in India against Hindu leaders in the years 1920–40? [5]

Political Grievances Congress did not support Muslim demands for separate electorates and Jinnah felt that the agreements made in the 1916 Lucknow Pact had not been kept. Jinnah's Fourteen Points wanted more protection for Muslim culture and religion than Congress would accept. Nehru did not agree to cooperate with the Muslim League in elections resulting from the Government of India Act – 'there are two parties in India, the British and Congress'.

Muslims felt threatened when Congress formed governments in eight provinces in 1937–38. The singing of the nationalist Hindu song *Vande Matram* was made compulsory before the start of work in the assemblies which many Muslims found offensive.

Educational grievances The Wardha Scheme alienated Muslims. There was resentment about education in Hindi and no religious education in schools and pictures of Gandhi in schools – Muslims saw this as an attempt to undermine their faith.

Local provocations Hindu extremists in some areas issued sectarian regulations against the slaughter of cows, music in Hindu processions took place near Mosques and there were minor provocations which seemed to be defended by Hindu rulers. By 1939, Hindu-Muslim relations were at a low ebb and membership of Muslim League had increased.

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Level One: Answers which write about the grievances with no explanation.

Level Two: Answers which **explain ONE** grievance.

Level Three: Answers which **explain TWO OR MORE** grievances. [5]

(c) (i) Explain why each of the following was important in the development of the demand for a separate Muslim state. [8]

- The Partition of Bengal
- The failure of the Khilafat movement
- The Lahore Resolution

It led to Muslims formulating clearer political demands and forming their own party. The 1905 partition of Bengal led to a considerable protest movement by the Hindu middle classes. Muslims had not objected as they thought that a separate East Bengal would help the social and economic development of their region. They disliked the well-organised protests of the Hindus and thought that they too should have an organisation to promote their view. This led to the formal demands put to the viceroy – the Simla Declaration for separate Muslim and Hindu electorates for local and provincial councils and to the All-India Muslim League which first met in December 1906.

The failure of the movement led to rifts between politically active Hindus and Muslims and was part of the reason why Muslims did not cooperate with Hindus and moved towards a separate political organisation and strategies. The movement led to Muslims coming together to appeal that the rights of the Sultan of Turkey should be respected and that it should not be punished in the same way that Germany had been in 1919. There was a threat of non-cooperation and Muslims and Hindus worked together; there were strikes, and anti-British rioting. The violence caused Gandhi to call off the protests, but the Muslim activists wanted to persist.

This was a major turning point towards the creation of a separate Muslim state, hitherto not specifically demanded by the Muslim League. Even though 'state' was not specifically referred to, the resolution called for autonomous Muslim provinces. On 22 March 1940 the premier of Bengal, Fazl-ul-Haq, put forward a resolution to the annual Muslim League conference at Lahore calling for independent states to be formed in regions where Muslims were a majority. 'States' was not replaced by 'state' until 1946 but it was a move towards the creation of an independent Muslim state. The Cripps Mission of 1941 did propose that individual provinces could opt out, showing the influence of the Resolution.

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Level One: Answers which do no more than describe the factors given in the question without considering their importance.

Up to two marks for each example, maximum of 4 marks.

Level Two: Answers which explain the importance of the factors. [5–8]

Up to two marks for each element explained.

One element explained = 5–6 marks.

Two elements explained = 7 marks.

Three elements explained = 8 marks. [N.B. Assessment must be fully explained and supported to reach this level.]

(ii) Explain which of these was the most important, and why. [2]

A reason must be offered; merely saying that one element was most important will not gain a mark.

If a reason is given and explained [1–2]

e.g. the partition of Bengal is the most important for this led to the establishment of the Muslim League which was the most important organisation in securing an independent Muslim state and representing Muslims. Without this the Lahore Resolution could not have been passed.

No set answer is required. Marks awarded according to the number of reasons compared and quality of support.