

THE UNIVERSITY OF BURDWAN
B.A. Semester III (General) Examination 2020 (CBCS)

Subject: English

Paper: GE-3/CC-1C

(Contemporary India: Women and Empowerment)

Time: 3 hours

Full Marks: 60

1. Answer *any six* of the following questions: 5x6=30

- a. What is Dalit feminism?
- b. Do you think patriarchy promotes domestic violence against women?
- c. Discuss the significance of the Chipko movement.
- d. What is heteronormativity?
- e. Point out the changes Gholam Murshed suggests in *The Reluctant Debutante* to 'modernise' women.
- f. What is the impact of female foeticide upon society in India?
- g. What is the significance of the last line of 'Letters to a Wife'?
- h. Mention any two aspects of Partition referred to by Butalia in the 'Beginnings' of *The Other Side of Silence*?

2. Answer *any three* of the following questions. 10x3=30

- a. Assess the transformation of the self from victim to warrior in Bama's *Karukku*.
- b. Do you agree with Murshed's views about nineteenth century Bengali men being instrumental in changing the lives of the Bengali women of the time?
- c. How does Butalia negotiate the problems of presenting the narratives of Partition in *The Other Side of Silence*?
- d. How was the husband-wife relationship reassessed after the decline of joint family in India?

Or

What were the main reform measures suggested by Raja Rammohan Roy to fight injustice perpetrated against women in early nineteenth century society?

- e. Briefly discuss the portrayal of women in *Sultana's Dream*.
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