

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

Subject: English

Paper: GE 1

(Gender and Human Rights)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 60

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

Candidates are required to answer in their own words as far as practicable.

1. Answer **any six** of the following questions: 5x6=30
- a. "Aggression is the best kind of trouble-shooting". Critically comment on this statement.
 - b. "Of inward struggles..." --- What kind of 'inward struggles' are mentioned in Meena Kandasamy's poem?
 - c. What does the Laburnum tree symbolise in the short story by Tamsula Ao?
 - d. "But nature has a way of upstaging even the hardest rock and granite edifices fabricated by men." - Discuss with reference to Tamsula Ao's short story "Laburnum for My Head".
 - e. "The subjugation, the torture or the way our women suffer may be different but the age old system of dominance over women by men will never end and they are and will always be victim in our male chauvinistic society "-- Do you agree? Discuss the above-mentioned comment with reference to Manjula Padmanabhan's *Lights Out*.
 - f. What is meant by the phrase "the Angel in the House" in "Professions for Women" by Virginia Woolf?
 - g. According to Virginia Woolf, what are the two main obstacles to women's professional identity? Answer with reference to "Professions for Women".
 - h. How does Woolf present herself in the opening paragraph of "Professions for Women"? What relationship is she establishing with her audience?
2. Answer **any three** of the following questions: 10x3=30
- a. Comment critically on the title of Manjula Padmanabham's *Lights Out*.
 - b. Discuss the role of the women in Padmanabhan's *Light's Out*.
 - c. Attempt a feminist analysis of Durrani's *Blasphemy*.

- d. "Meena Kandasamy's poetry is a powerful testimony to the anti-caste feminist literature". Briefly discuss.
 - e. Discuss Temsula Ao's "Laburnum for My Head" from an ecocritical perspective.
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