

**MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN
ENGLISH**

Term-End Examination

June, 2006

MEG-7 : INDIAN ENGLISH LITERATURE

Time : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 100

Note : Answer **all** questions. All questions carry equal marks.

1. Explain with reference to context any **four** of the following in about 150 words each : 4×5=20
- (i) The eagle pinion is chained down at last,
And grovelling in the lowly dust art thou;
Thy minstrel hath no wreath to weave for thee
Save the sad story of thy misery !
- (ii) This is the soul of man. Body and brain
Hungry for earth our heavenly flight detain.
- (iii) Who never spoke before his spirit moved.
The slow movement seems, somehow, to say much
more.

To watch the rarer birds, you have to go
Along deserted lanes and where the rivers flow
In silence near a source, or by a shore

- (iv) Endless crow noises
A skull on the holy sands
tilts its empty country towards hunger.
- (v) He had spent his youth whoring
after English gods.
There is something to be said for exile :
- (vi) he popped a stone
in his mouth
and spat out gods
- (vii) ... and reduce the entire career
of my recent unique self
to the compulsion of some high
sentence in His Smilesian diary.

2. What according to you is the significance of *Hind Swaraj* ? Do you think it is relevant today ?
(Answer in 450 – 500 words) 20

OR

- How far are Nirad C. Chaudhuri's autobiographical works
a contribution to contemporary history ?
(Answer in 450 – 500 words)

3. Comment on Mulk Raj Anand's criticism of Hindu society with regard to the practice of untouchability. (Answer in 450 – 500 words) 20

OR

Write an essay on the role of women characters in Raja Rao's *Kanthapura*. (Answer in 450 – 500 words)

4. Discuss the role that music plays in Anita Desai's *Clear Light of Day*. (Answer in 450 – 500 words) 20

OR

Which of the two stories by R.K. Narayan, "An Astrologer's Day" and "Engine Trouble", do you prefer and why? (Answer in 450 – 500 words)

5. Examine the role of Sinai as autobiographer in Rushdie's *Midnight's Children*. (Answer in 450 – 500 words) 20

OR

What are the major themes of *Tara*? Which is the most important of them and why? (Answer in 450 – 500 words)