

International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad
(Deemed to be University)

INTRODUCTION TO HISTORY (HSS343a) – MONSOON 2019

Mid Sem Examination

19 Sept 2019

Max. Time: 90 mins

Max. Marks: 60

Answer any three questions in about 350-400 words each. Each answer carries 20 marks

Question 1: What does a reading of Robert Darnton's "Peasants Tell Tales: The Meaning of Mother Goose" and Romila Thapar's "The Many Narratives of Somnath" tell you about the nature of historical memory?

Question 2: What is the part played by labour in the transition from ape to human? Why does surplus play such an important part in the understanding of history?

~ Question 3: What are the three rhythms of historical time and how are they related to each other? What is the importance of the *longue durée* for historians?

Question 4: The comparative and quantitative methods of the Annales historians is like big data analysis from a pre-digital age. Explain why you would agree or disagree with this statement.

Question 5: Can wars change the course of history? Answer using both the Marxist and the Annales method of doing historical analysis.

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INTRODUCTION TO HISTORY – MONSOON 2019

End Semester Examination

Max. Time: 3 Hrs

Max. Marks: 100

Date: 21 Nov 2019

ANSWER EITHER PART-A OR PART-B

PART A

Write a long essay discussing **one** of the following questions.

A1: What is the point of studying history?

A2: Is the act of researching and writing about the past an exercise of power by the historian?

PART B

Answer any **four** questions. Each answer is for 25 marks.

B1: Explain the three rhythms of time given by Fernand Braudel. How does it change the way historians study the past?

B2: How have the space-time conceptions changed within the discipline of history over the past two centuries?

B3: In your opinion, what is the single greatest insight of Marxism to the understanding of history?

B4: What are the central arguments of post-colonialism? Describe its intellectual lineage.

B5: How relevant does the fact remain to historical explanation?

B6: What is methodological nationalism? What is its impact on understanding history?

B7: Can we write a history of the night? If no, why not? If yes, what will it include and how will you go about it?