

Ambedkar University, Delhi (AUD)

School of Liberal Studies (SLS)

Masters in History

Specimen Entrance Test

Maximum Marks: 100

Time: 2 hours

Section-I

Read the following paragraph and answer the question given below:

‘The past becomes something that leads up to the present, the moment of action, the future something that flows from it; and all three are inextricably inter-twined and interrelated.

The roots of that present lay in the past and so I made voyages of discovery into the past, ever seeking a clue in it, if any such existed, to the understanding of the present. The domination of the present never left me even when I lost myself in musings of past, events and of persons far away and long ago, forgetting where or what I was. If I felt occasionally that I belonged to the past, I felt also that the whole of the past belonged to me in the present. Past history merged into contemporary history: it became a living reality tied up with sensations of pain and pleasure.

If the past had a tendency to become the present, the present also sometimes receded into the distant past and assumed its immobile, statuesque appearance. In the midst of an intensity of action itself, there would suddenly come a feeling as if it was some past event and one was looking at it, as it were, in retrospect.’

(Jawaharlal Nehru, The Discovery of India, p.10.)

How does your own understanding of the relationship between the past and the present differ from or is similar to that expressed by Nehru in the above paragraph. (Word limit 500 to 700 words)

50 marks

Section-II

Answer any one question in around 500 to 700 words.

50 marks

1. Critically analyse the socio-economic developments in independent India.
2. ‘Partition defeated the ideals of the Indian national movement’. Comment.
3. What relevance does Ambedkar’s legacy have for politics of social justice today?
4. To what extent were the goals of the national movement realised in independent India?
5. ‘We are living in an era of environment crisis.’ Comment with reference to development policies of the Indian State.

6. How do you understand the benefits and disadvantages of globalisation?