

2012

HISTORY

(Major)

Paper : 3.2

[History of Assam (5th Century AD to 1228 AD)

Full Marks : 80

Time : 3 hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks
for the questions*

Answer **all** questions

1. Answer the following questions in 1 word or 1 sentence each : 1×10=10
 - (a) Name the first historical dynasty of ancient Assam.
 - (b) Who issued the Umachal Rock Inscription?
 - (c) Who were the *Mahattaras*?
 - (d) Name the princess of Assam who married a king of Kashmir.
 - (e) Name the ambassador of Kamarupa to the Court of Thaneswar in the 7th century AD.

- (f) Who built the city of Sri Durjjaya?
- (g) Who issued the Silimpur Stone Slab Inscription?
- (h) What are *dukula* and *kshauma*?
- (i) From which city was the Puspabhadra Copperplates of Dharmapala issued?
- (j) Name the ruler of Bengal who conquered Kamarupa according to the Kanauli Copperplates.

2. Answer the following in brief : $2 \times 5 = 10$

- (a) Name the *vishaya* and *grama* in which land was granted in the Nidhanpur Copperplates.
- (b) Name the Chinese pilgrim who visited Assam during the reign of Bhaskara Varman. By what name does he refer to the Kamarupa king?
- (c) Name the Kirata Chieftain killed by Naraka. Beyond which river were the Kiratas driven?
- (d) Name the two princesses of Kamarupa who were taken as prisoners of war to Gauda.
- (e) Name any two regular taxes levied on land by the rulers of ancient Assam.

3. Write short notes on any *four* of the following : $5 \times 4 = 20$

- (a) Coins of the Sala Stambha Dynasty
- (b) Saivism in Assam
- (c) Capital cities of the Palas
- (d) Kanai Barasi Bowa Rock Inscription
- (e) Da-parbatiya Gateway
- (f) Mantriparishad

4. Answer any *four* of the following : $10 \times 4 = 40$

- (a) Assess the importance of indigenous literature in reconstructing the history of ancient Assam.
- (b) What light do the epigraphic sources throw on the administrative machinery of early Assam?
- (c) To what extent was the society of ancient Assam influenced by the *Varnashramadharma*?
- (d) Analyse the causes leading to the growth of feudalism in Assam in your period of study.
- (e) Discuss the nature of the economy of Assam with reference to the existing sources of information.

- (f) Trace the origin and growth of the worship of the Mother Goddess in Assam.
- (g) Why did Bhaskara Varman form an alliance with Harshavardhana? How far was he successful in attaining his objectives?
- (h) Evaluate the importance of the Bargaon Copperplate in the history of the Sala Stambhas and Palas.
