

3064

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5. (a) The ring and the curse enrich an otherwise simple story featuring Duhşanta and Śakuntalā. Do you agree? Give reasons.

OR

- (b) One comes across several sages in Kalidasa's *Abhijnānaśakuntalam*. Describe the various roles and functions they perform in the play.
6. (a) Give an account of the imperial expedition as depicted in "The Book of Vañci".

OR

- (b) Discuss ways in which "The Book of Vañci" explores questions relating to gender, especially through the deification of Kannaki.
7. (a) Indian classical literature provides a broad understanding of the significance of caste, class and gender in ancient India. Comment on the above statement focusing on any one of the prescribed texts in your course.

OR

- (b) Love in its various stages forms a major theme in Indian classical literature. Elaborate on the above statement focusing on any one of the prescribed texts in your course.

(8000)

[This question paper contains 4 printed pages.]

Your Roll No.....

Sr. No. of Question Paper : 3064

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Unique Paper Code : 2032101103

Name of the Paper : Indian Classical Literature

Name of the Course : DSC Core – 3 (Hons)

Semester : I

Duration : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 90

Instructions for Candidates

1. Write your Roll No. on the top immediately on receipt of this question paper.
2. This question paper contains 2 parts: **Part A & Part B. Both** parts are compulsory.
3. Candidates have to answer **ALL** the questions in **Part A** and **ANY THREE** questions in **Part B**.
4. Questions in **Part A** carry **10** marks each and questions in **Part B** carry **20** marks each.

P.T.O.

PART A

Answer all questions.

1. (a) Write a short note on the character of Śakuni, with special reference to his role in the game of dice.

OR

- (b) In "The Temptation of Karna," Karna's character emerges as an upholder of Dharma. Discuss.

2. (a) Once she stood before my eyes and I spurned her, now, I adore her painted in a picture.

Having passed by a full-flowing stream,

I pant after a mirage, my friend.

Based on your understanding of the above lines, elaborate on Duṣanta's lamentation.

OR

- (b) Show how in *Abhijnānaśākuntalam*, Śakuntalā finds in Priyamvadā and Anasūyā her pillars of support.

3. (a) Opposed by such a warrior,

Uttara ... Vijaya

Marched at the head of an army boundless as the sea.

They said:

"Let us see the courage

Of the southern Tamil kings."

With reference to the above lines, discuss how Iṅkō Aṭikaḷ highlights the differences between the "righteous South" and the "unruly North."

OR

- (b) Critically comment on the notion of justice as portrayed in "The Book of Vañci."

PART B

Answer any three.

4. (a) Draupadi's questions during the game of dice make the reader aware of the complex interplay of *dharma*, women's rights and the position of women in a Kshatriya dominated world. Discuss.

OR

- (b) Critically comment on the role of Dhritarashtra as a king in *The Mahabharata* with reference to the sections of the epic prescribed for you.