SECOND PUBLIC EXAMINATION
Honour School of History and Economics

FURTHER SUBJECT 36:
POSTCOLONIAL HISTORIOGRAPHY: WRITING THE (INDIAN) NATION

TRINITY TERM 2019

Monday 3 June, 2.30 pm – 5.30 pm

Candidates must answer THREE questions, and COMPLETE all their answers. They should illustrate their answers, as far as possible, by reference to the prescribed authorities, and must complete AT LEAST ONE answer from BOTH Section A and Section B.

Do not turn over until told that you may do so
Further Subject (36)

POSTCOLONIAL HISTORIOGRAPHY: WRITING THE (INDIAN) NATION

Candidates must answer THREE questions, and COMPLETE all their answers. They should illustrate their answers, as far as possible, by reference to the prescribed authorities, and must complete AT LEAST ONE answer from BOTH Section A and Section B.

SECTION A

1. Discuss the relationship between history, myth and memory in the thought and writing about the nation in this period.

2. Is it possible to make connections between literary writing and the actual shaping of empire?

3. In what ways did the representation of gender and gender relations change in the intellectual and literary writing of this period?

4. To what extent did Gandhian views of caste AND/OR rural identities influence the writing of this period?

5. What are the advantages and disadvantages of literary treatments of Partition compared to other kinds of historical approach?

6. How significant has cosmopolitanism been in Indian thought and writing?

7. In what ways has the relationship between ‘tradition’ and ‘modernity’ been approached in ONE or MORE of the prescribed texts?

SECTION B

8. To what extent have postcolonial approaches to history succeeded in their aims?

9. How helpful is the concept of ‘governmentality’ in explaining British approaches to power in India?

10. Was the idea of the modern woman a construction of male nationalism?
11. To what extent is it true to suggest that the geography of the Indian nation has been more imaginative than territorial?

12. Why have religious identities been so central in Indian nationalism?

13. Was the goal of recovering an authentic subaltern consciousness an essentially hopeless endeavor?

14. Has globalization undermined or reinforced the influence of Indian nationalist ideas since the 1980s?