

THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY

OLLSCOIL NA hÉIREANN, GAILLIMH

2nd ARTS EXAMINATIONS 1999-2000

SEMESTER II

HISTORY

COURSE: HI 266 – Modern India

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N. Canny

A. J. Ballantyne

Time allowed: TWO hours

Answer THREE questions

- 1) "A tinsel sovereign" (C.A. Bayly, *Indian Society and the Making of the British Empire*). Why did the Mughal emperor, and Delhi, the Mughal capital, lose power in the eighteenth century?
- 2) "A gradual process that can only be understood in the context of the wider changes in eighteenth century India as a whole" (P.J. Marshall, *The Oxford History of the British Empire: The eighteenth century*). To what degree was the rise of the East India Company a result of local circumstances in India, rather than a drive from London?
- 3) To what degree was British Orientalism simply a mask for British conquest before 1829?
- 4) What was the relationship between the reforms initiated by the colonial state and indigenous social change between 1820 and 1857?

Please turn over.....

- 5) Of what historical value is Dean Mahomed's account of his travels in India, England and Ireland?
- 6) How did the British reconstruct their authority after the rebellion of 1857?
- 7) What insight into the position of Indian women can we gain from Tarabai Shinde's *A comparison between women and men*?

OR

Of what political and cultural significance was the "Woman Question" in colonial India?

- 8) "It was colonialist writers who established the pattern of the Indian past pretty much as we know it today. And in that pattern, sectarian strife was a dominant motif" (Gyanendra Pandey, *The construction of communalism in colonial India*). How far was communalism a product of British understandings of India and the effects of colonial policy?
- 9) What was the relationship between regional religious revival and the emergence of nationalism in the late nineteenth century?
- 10) What was Gandhi's understanding of *swaraj* and how it was to be attained?

OR

Outline the theory and practice of *satyagraha*.

- 11) Why was South Asia partitioned in 1947?