

M.A. Examination, 2014

Semester – I & III

English

Paper – II (Optional)

(Milton)

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 40

Questions are of equal value.

Answer **all** questions.

1. (a) The Renaissance debate between Free Will and No-Free-Will informs Milton's major concerns in *Paradise Lost*. Discuss, with reference to the books you have read.

or

- (b) 'Which way I fly is Hell; myself am Hell.' In the light of this statement, show how, in *Paradise Lost*, Hell is less of a topographical space, more of a psychic experience.

2. How far are Milton's sonnets poetic statements of his personal experience? Analyse.

3. (a) How far is Milton's description of *Samson Agonistes* as 'that sort of Dramatic Poem which is call'd Tragedy' valid? Discuss.

or

- (b) The real stage of the drama enacted in *Samson Agonistes* is the mind of Samson. Would you agree? Substantiate your view.

4. Marriage to be sustainable must be perfect. Would you read Milton's arguments in *The Doctrine and Discipline of Divorce* as leading to this idealistic position? Justify your position.

5. Milton's treatment of Eve in *Paradise Lost*, of Dalila in *Samson Agonistes*, and his postulations in the Divorce tract reflect his misogynist perception of women. Discuss critically.

6. Would you agree that much of Milton's literary career was shaped by the socio-political upheavals of his age? Elaborate your new, with reference to the works of Milton that you have studied.
-