

West Bengal Civil Service Examination (Main), 2002

(Optional Papers)

HISTORY

Paper I

Time Allowed-3 Hours

Full Marks-100

Group - A

Answer *any three* questions

1. Critically assess the importance of literary sources for the study of history of ancient India.
2. Discuss the rise of the Nanda Dynasty, and try to determine the causes of its downfall.
3. Discuss briefly the career of Chandragupta II.
4. Account for the emergence of the Pala dynasty and give reasons for its ultimate downfall.
5. Assess the importance of the career of Vallalasena.

Group-B

Answer *any two* questions.

6. Discuss the salient features of Mahayana Buddhism.
7. Account for the popularity of the worship of Mother Goddess in early mediaeval Bengal.
8. Discuss the growth of agriculture in Northern India.