

QNSMARTI:H:QPCODE

Reg.No :

Name :

MAHATMA GANDHI UNIVERSITY, KOTTAYAM

Fifth Semester MGU-UGP (Honours) Regular Examination November 2026

Discipline Specific Elective - MG5DSEHISA01- Nationalism and Nation-Building in

Postcolonial Contexts

(2024 ADMISSION ONWARDS)

Duration: 2 Hours

Maximum Marks: 70

Remember(K), Understand(U), Apply(A), Analyse(An), Evaluate(E), Create(C), Skill(S), Interest(I) and Appreciation (Ap)

Students should attempt at least one question from each course outcome to enhance their overall outcome attainability.

Part A

Answer in One or two Sentences

Answer any **10** questions

Each question carries **2** marks

1. What do you understand by Benedict Anderson's idea of 'imagined communities'? [U] [CO1]
2. Briefly explain the difference between the primordialist and constructivist views of nationalism. [U] [CO1]
3. Name one anti-colonial thinker, for example Fanon, Nkrumah or Cabral, and one of their ideas. [Ap] [CO1]
4. How did empire-drawn borders contribute to ethnic divisions in postcolonial states? [U] [CO2]
5. What was one major consequence of the Partition of India for nation-making? [U] [CO2]
6. Why is the Rwandan genocide often linked to the legacies of colonial rule? [U] [CO2]
7. Why do nationalist movements today often use social media to build support? [I] [CO3]

8. Why is economic nationalism often seen as a response to globalisation? [I] [CO3]
9. Why might a grouping like BRICS be seen as an alternative to older global power structures? [I] [CO3]
10. Why is language policy considered an important tool in nation-building? [I] [CO4]
11. Suggest one policy step a postcolonial state could take to reduce statelessness among migrant communities. [Ap] [CO4]
12. Give one example of South–South cooperation among postcolonial nations. [Ap] [CO4]

[2x10 = 20]

Part B

Answer in one or two short paragraphs

Answer any **6** questions

Each question carries **5** marks

13. Analyse the significance of the comparative liberation struggles in Ghana and Vietnam in challenging imperial control. [An] [CO1]
14. Apply the concept of 'imagined communities' to explain how a modern nation builds a shared sense of identity among people who will never meet each other. [Ap] [CO1]
15. Examine how colonial-era administrative boundaries contributed to ethnic conflict in postcolonial Nigeria. [An] [CO2]
16. Evaluate the consequences of the Partition of India for the formation of India and Pakistan as separate nation-states. [E] [CO2]
17. Discuss the contribution of women to anti-colonial and nationalist movements, with suitable examples. [U] [CO2]
18. Analyse the relationship between religious nationalism and digital populism in contemporary politics. [An] [CO3]
19. Discuss why BRICS is considered significant as an alternative global political and economic grouping. [I] [CO3]
20. Examine how terrorism has been linked to the politics of insecurity in postcolonial states. [An] [CO3]

21. Suggest how educational reform could help reduce ethnic tensions in a postcolonial state, giving one example. [Ap] [CO4]
22. Discuss the significance of citizenship laws in creating inclusion or exclusion within postcolonial nations. [I] [CO4]
- [5x6 = 30]**

Part C

Essay

Answer any **2** questions

Each question carries **10** marks

23. Critically analyse the role of anti-colonial nationalism in challenging and dismantling the political and cultural structures of imperial rule. Illustrate your answer with examples from at least two different regions. [An] [CO1]
24. Evaluate how colonial-era borders and ethnic divisions have shaped the challenges of nation-building in postcolonial states, with reference to specific case studies. [E] [CO2]
25. Critically assess the rise of neo-nationalist movements and the growing role of digital nationalism in shaping political identities today. [An] [CO3]
26. Design a policy framework that a postcolonial state could adopt to address historical injustices and promote national cohesion. Justify the key elements of your proposal. [C] [CO4]

[10x2 = 20]