

WORLD SIKH UNIVERSITY LONDON

MA Semester One

Students must spend a minimum of three hours per week to revise their lectures and to complete their tutorials. Please print the following information along with your answersheets for each tutorial.

Name of student: _____ ID number: _____

Declaration: I solemnly declare that I spent _____ hours to study, research and complete this tutorial.

Signatures: _____ Date of submission: _____

Maximum Marks 30 Marks awarded: _____ Marks obtained: _____

**Tutorial Exercise: 1: Introduction to Sikhism
M.A. Comparative Studies of World Religion
Module: 101T**

Essays: Answer all questions

1. Explain the meaning of the word 'Sikh' and 'Sikhi'. Who is a Sikh? Give the traditional classifications of Sikhs. Do you agree with this classification? Compare the definitions as given in the Sikh Gurdwara Act, Delhi Gurdwara Act, the Rehat Maryada and the Mahan Kosh. Give your own views on the diversification of these definitions.
2. What is the meaning of 'The Theory of One Spirit'. Explain in detail giving quotations from important sources.
3. Guru Nanak is the founder of the Sikh faith, later nourished by his nine successors. Give briefly the relationship of the Sikh Gurus and the basis on which the Guruship was bestowed upon on the next Guru.

**Tutorial Exercise: 2 : Introduction to Sikhism
M.A. Comparative Studies of World Religion
Module: 101T**

Essays: Answer all questions

1. Explain, what do you understand by the Primary and Secondary sources of research in Sikhism. Give examples of one primary and one secondary source which you know.
2. Dasam Granth was compiled in the early eighteenth century, why is it still clouded in criticism.
3. "Guru Granth Sahib is the living Guru of the Sikhs." Comment. Do Sikhs worship their Gurus and Guru Granth Sahib. Discuss

**Tutorial Exercise: 3 : Introduction to Sikhism
M.A. Comparative Studies of World Religion
Module: 101T**

Essays:
Answer all questions

1. Name the Sikh 'nitnem banis' and their composers, comparing it with the compulsory sayings of other religions.
2. Define and explain words Gurdwara and Church as understood in their respective religious literature. In a Gurdwara people of any faith, sex, colour, creed and nationality can come and offer their respects. Give examples

from other religions where there are restrictions on the entry of people of different faiths/castes.

3. The focal point in a Gurdwara is 'Guru Granth Sahib', what are the focal points in the shrines of other faiths. Describe also other important objects which one finds in the shrines of different religions.
4. As Golden temple is to the Sikhs, what (give name of the shrine) shrines are to the people of other faiths.
5. Which Gurdwaras are called Sikh Takhts? What is the main reason of their selection.

**Tutorial Exercise: 4 : Introduction to Sikhism
M.A. Comparative Studies of World Religion
Module: 101T**

Essays: Answer all questions

1. Though the 'Pure (nirol) Kirtan' is an essential and integral part of the Sikh Service but the 'Katha' is equally important, though very seldom pursued. Explain
2. Explain the fundamental Teachings of the Sikh Gurus and compare those with the teachings of Islam and Hinduism.
3. The application of the teaching, in life, is more important than the mere knowledge of the teachings. Discuss

**Tutorial Exercise: 5 : Introduction to Sikhism
M.A. Comparative Studies of World Religion
Module: 101T**

Essays: Answer 3 questions

Either:

1. Explain the Sikh theory of life after death. How many heavens and hells are mentioned in the Sikh theory.
Or
2. Discuss the Sikh theory of Karma?
3. What do you understand by the term 'Karam Kand'? Do Sikhs believe in it. Discuss.
4. The ultimate aim of life is Mukti. Discuss

**Tutorial Exercise: 6 : Introduction to Sikhism
M.A. Comparative Studies of World Religion
Module: 101T**

Essays: Answer all questions

1. It is widely said that the Sikhs have made history but have not recorded it. Discuss.
2. From the soil of Punjab, the birth place of the Sikhs, the Sikhs have spread all over the globe. Briefly explain the difficulties faced by the Sikhs settling in foreign territories.
3. List the dates and the duration of the two periods of the Sikh 'Raj' in Punjab. What were the reasons of its downfall.
4. The Sikh Rehat Maryada is one of the law books of the Sikhs, why only a few Sikhs know about it? Briefly comment on it.

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Name of student: _____ ID number: _____

Declaration: I solemnly declare that I spent _____ hours to study, research and complete this tutorial.

Signatures: _____ Date of submission: _____

Maximum Marks 50 Marks awarded: _____ Marks obtained: _____

**Tutorial Exercise: 1 : Guru Granth Sahib – An Introduction
M.A. Comparative Studies of World Religion
Module 103D**

Essays: Answer all questions

1. "The Sikhs regard Guru Granth Sahib as their living Guru." Discuss this statement drawing references from the Sikh history.
2. Write brief notes on the following:
 - a. Guru Har Sahai pothi.
 - b. Kartarpuri bir
 - c. Damdami bir
 - d. Bhai Banno bir
 - e. Manuscript 1245
 - f. Mohan Pothis
3. Trace a brief history of Guru Granth Sahib from Guru Nanak's period until the annexation of Punjab and a gift of Guru Granth Sahib to queen Victoria by the Sodhis.

**Tutorial Exercise: 2 : Guru Granth Sahib – An Introduction
M.A. Comparative Studies of World Religion
Module 103D**

Essays: Answer all questions

1. All hymns in Qoran are written in Arabic language, in Vedas in Sanskrit language, and in Torah in the Hebrew language. In which language are hymns of Guru Granth Sahib written? Discuss in detail.
2. Describe the composition and structure of the following:
 - a. A Shabad: Dopadas, Tripadas, Chaupadas do tuke, Ashtpadis, Sohle
 - b. A Var
 - c. A Chhant
 - d. A Sloak
 - e. A Swaya
 - f. Sepcialist composition
3. Draw a table showing the horizontal and vertical layout of compositions in a raga. Give brief explanations of each insertion.

**Tutorial Exercise: 3 : Guru Granth Sahib – An Introduction
M.A. Comparative Studies of World Religion
Module 103D**

Essays: Answer all questions

1. Define the words 'Raga' and 'Ghar'. Discuss the ragas and ghars used in Guru Granth Sahib illustrating your answer with selection of appropriate shabads.
2. What is the meaning of the title 'Rahau'. Explain its use in Guru Granth Sahib.

3. Make a table to insert the name of the raga and suggested time of its recitation, of the following long/titled compositions:

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| a. Japji | b. Anand Sahib |
| c. Sukhmani Sahib | d. Sodar |
| e. Baramah (Mehla 5) | f. Baramah (Mehla 1) |

**Tutorial Exercise: 4 : Guru Granth Sahib – An Introduction
M.A. Comparative Studies of World Religion
Module 103D**

Essays: Answer all questions

1. In Guru Granth Sahib, there is a numeral (counting of hymns) system aimed at safeguarding the addition of unauthorised bani and deleting the authorised hymns so included. Discuss with example from different ragas.
2. For a comprehensive study of Guru Granth Sahib, it can be divided into three sections. Discuss.
3. If a raga has the following number of shabads of Gurus, then show how the numerals should be recorded at the end of each individual and cumulative Shabad/s?
 - a. Guru Nanak = 5 shabads (4 padas shabads)
 - b. Guru Amardas = 3 shabads (3 padas shabads)
 - c. Guru Ramdas = 2 shabads (4 padas shabads)
 - d. Guru Arjan = 2 shabads (2 padas shabads)
4. Decipher the following numerals: 3/4/2/6; 3/4/2/5/1/12

**Tutorial Exercise: 5 : Guru Granth Sahib – An Introduction
M.A. Comparative Studies of World Religion
Module 103D**

Essays: Answer all questions

1. Discuss the meaning and explanation of the word 'Ik Ongkar' as used in Guru Granth Sahib.
2. It is believed that 'Mool Mantra' and 'Japji' were personally handed to Guru Nanak by God. Discuss.

**Tutorial Exercise: 6 : Guru Granth Sahib – An Introduction
M.A. Comparative Studies of World Religion
Module 103D**

Essays: Answer all questions

1. Name the bhagats who are supposed to be contemporary of Sikh Gurus.
2. In addition to the bani of Sikh Gurus, Guru Granth also has bani of both Hindu and Muslim saints. Discuss
3. Comment on the inclusion of Bhhat Swayas in Guru Granth Sahib.

**Tutorial Exercise: 7 : Guru Granth Sahib – An Introduction
M.A. Comparative Studies of World Religion
Module 103D**

Essays: Answer all questions

1. Define the word 'Mangal'. How many variety of Managals have been used in Guru Granth Sahib.

2. 'Guru Granth is the living Guru of the Sikhs'. What do you understand by this statement? In this context, how would you justify that the Sikhs worshipped only One Almighty God and not any images or objects.
3. Sikhs believe that the Bani recorded in Guru Granth Sahib is the revealed Word. In this context discuss the status of various contributors of Bani in Guru Granth Sahib, comparing that in every other Religion the Word was revealed to only One Prophet, e.g., Quran to Prophet Mohammed and Torah to Moses.

Tutorial Exercise: 8 : Guru Granth Sahib – An Introduction
M.A. Comparative Studies of World Religion
Module 103D

Essays: Answer all questions

Discuss in detail the subject matter of Guru Granth Sahib.

2. Write at least two lines from any Five hymns selected at random which deal with the following subjects, selecting one hymn for each of the five:
 - a. True love
 - b. The month of Vaisakh
 - c. The company of saints
 - d. The difficult times
 - e. Simran

Tutorial Exercise: 1 : History of Punjab
M.A. Comparative Studies of World Religion
Module 102F

Essays: Answer all questions

1. Write a short note on the Indus Valley civilisation, and the period called the Golden Hindu period in the Indian history.
2. Write briefly the life account of the Sikh Gurus highlighting the following:
 - a. Guru Nanak's missionary journeys.
 - b. Guru Arjan's martyrdom
 - c. Guru Hargobind's battles with Shah Jahan
 - d. Guru Tegh Bahadur's martyrdom.
3. Explain the scenario of the period starting from 1704 when Guru Gobind Singh evacuated the fort of Anandpur until his departure from this world in 1708 at Nanded.

Tutorial Exercise: 2 : History of Punjab
M.A. Comparative Studies of World Religion
Module 102F

Essays: Answer all questions

1. Explain, in detail, why the period between 1715 –1762 is called the darkest period of the Sikh history.
2. After the death of Aurangzeb the power of the Mughal rule went into the hands of the provincial Governors. Discuss in this context the rule of the four powerful governors of Punjab.
3. In 1740, Harimandir Sahib was desecrated by the City Kotwal of Amritsar. Discuss the reasons and repercussions of this desecration.

Tutorial Exercise: 3 : History of Punjab
M.A. Comparative Studies of World Religion
Module 102F

Essays: Answer all questions

1. Explain the results of the invasion of Abdali on the Mughal rule in Delhi.

2. List the most important events of the invasions of Abdali in relation to the movement of Sikh in and around Punjab.
3. Briefly comment on the relationship of Marathas and the Sikhs, during their occupation of Punjab.

**Tutorial Exercise: 4 : History of Punjab
M.A. Comparative Studies of World Religion
Module 102F**

Essays: Answer all questions

1. Either: Critically examine the role played by the Misls in laying the foundation of the future Sikh empire.
Or: Explain in detail the activities of three major misls commenting on their rise and fall.
2. Explain in your own words the drama of the fall of the Sikh Empire, its causes and its repercussions.
3. Give a detailed account of :
Either the life of Maharaja Dalip Singh
Or the life of Maharani Jinda

**Tutorial Exercise: 5 : History of Punjab
M.A. Comparative Studies of World Religion
Module 102F**

Essays: Answer all questions

1. Either: Critically examine the role played by the Misls in laying the foundation of the future Sikh empire.
Or: Explain in detail the activities of three major misls commenting on their rise and fall.
2. Explain the bloody drama which was staged to destroy the Sikh empire after the death of Maharaja Ranjit Singh.
3. The mutiny of 1857 could not get the support of Sikhs. Discuss.

**Tutorial Exercise: 6 : History of Punjab
M.A. Comparative Studies of World Religion
Module 102F**

Essays: Answer all questions

1. Critically examine the life story of Maharaja Dalip Singh
2. Explain briefly the rise and fall of Maharani Jindan

**Tutorial Exercise: 1 : Holy Qoran – An Introduction
M.A. Comparative Studies of World Religion
Module 104HI**

Essays: Answer all questions

1. Like other religions, Muslims also believe that the Holy Qoran is a revealed book Discuss in detail the history, composition and subject matter of Qoran.
2. Draw a table comparing the structure and text of Qoran and Guru Granth Sahib

**Tutorial Exercise: 1 : Introduction to Bhagvad Gita
M.A. Comparative Studies of World Religion
Module 104 HH**

Essays: Answer all questions

1. Hindus have numerous scriptures. Commenting on scriptures of other religions discuss this statement.
2. Discuss any 3 stories from Puranas and the instructions imparted by such stories.
3. Define the word Shruti and Smritis, and explain scriptures which fall under the heading Shruti.

**Tutorial Exercise: 2 : Introduction to Bhagvad Gita
M.A. Comparative Studies of World Religion
Module 104 HH**

Essays: Answer all questions

1. Bhagvad Gita is a Divine song instructing Arjan to do his Karmas. Discuss
2. Explain briefly the structure and layout of Bhagvad Gita.
3. Select any two chapters of Bhagvad Gita and explain its subject matter.