
UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

Second Semester Examination
Academic Session 2006/2007

April 2007

HSB 233 – HISTORY OF SOUTH ASIA

Duration: 3 hours

Please check that this examination paper consists of TWO pages of printed material before you begin the examination.

Answer any FOUR questions. All questions carry the same marks.

1. "The main cause for the downfall of the Maratha was the internal weaknesses of the empire and not the might of the British." Discuss.
2. Despite the introduction of capitalist economy and infrastructures for economic growth why did the Indian economy continue to decline under British rule?
3. "The Indian Mutiny of 1857 was not a war of independence, but rather a revolt of those who suffered losses under British rule." Discuss.
4. With reference to the issues championed by the Indian National Congress (INC) between 1885 and 1905 evaluate the opinion that during this early period the INC did not exhibit nationalistic characteristics.
5. Evaluate to what extent did Gandhi succeed in infusing the principles of *ahimsa* in the Indian nationalist struggle through his "Non-Violent Non-Cooperation" movement.
6. "The conflict between the Hindus and Muslims in India was not because of religion but over political and economic interest." To what extent do you agree?
7. "It was the separatist sentiments sowed by the British in India since 1905 that ultimately brought about the break-up of India." Discuss.