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JMI M.A. International Relations West Asian Studies Entrance Syllabus

Programme Code M 66 Academic Session 2027-28

*Centre for West Asian Studies
Jamia Millia Islamia New Delhi*

Maximum marks	100 marks
Part A	60 marks Objective type questions
Part B	40 marks Subjective type questions
Primary focus	International Relations and West Asian Studies

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Entrance Test Overview

The entrance test for M.A. International Relations-West Asian Studies assesses advanced knowledge of the subject. The 100-mark examination is divided into two parts and evaluates factual knowledge, conceptual clarity, analytical understanding, critical thinking and structured writing.

Examination Pattern

Part	Marks	Question type	Assessment focus
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A	60	Objective MCQs	Factual knowledge, conceptual clarity and analytical understanding of key themes.
B	40	Subjective descriptive	Critical thinking, writing ability, depth of understanding and structured, well-articulated answers.

Scope of the Test

Questions cover the history, politics, economy, culture, society and current affairs of West Asia, together with major themes in International Relations. Both analytical and factual knowledge may be tested.

Official Entrance Syllabus

Section 1 International Relations Theories and Organizations

- Key theories: Realisms, Liberalisms, Constructivisms and Critical Theories.
- Major international organizations: United Nations, International Criminal Court, International Monetary Fund, World Bank, World Trade Organization and BRICS.

Section 2 Introduction to West Asia

- Geography, identities and geo-strategic significance.
- Historical legacy, society, culture and religion in West Asia.

Section 3 Conflicts and Political Transitions in West Asia

- First World War and its impact: Ottoman Empire, nationalist movements and the Mandate System.
- Arab-Israeli conflicts: the wars of 1948, 1967 and 1973, and the Suez Crisis of 1956.
- Gulf Wars of 1990-91 and 2003, Syrian Crisis, Arab Spring, migration and diaspora.

Section 4 Regional Integration and Cooperation

- Arab League, Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries, Organisation of Islamic Cooperation and Gulf Cooperation Council.

Section 5 Peace Process and External Influences

- Camp David Accords 1978, Madrid Conference 1991 and Oslo Accords 1993.
- Israel-Palestine conflict: roles of the United States, United Nations, Palestine Liberation Organization, Hamas and regional actors.

Section 6 West Asia and Global Powers

- Influence of Great Britain, USSR and Russia, United States, China and Europe.



Section 7 India and West Asia and North Africa

- India-WANA historical ties and post-independence relationship.
- Role of India in the Israel-Palestine conflict.
- India-GCC countries and emerging cooperation.
- West Asia and India's energy security.
- India as an emerging player in the region.

Expanded Preparation Guide

The following revision framework expands the official syllabus for preparation. Candidates should connect historical facts with concepts, regional developments and contemporary international relations.

International Relations foundations

- Meaning, nature and scope of International Relations; state, sovereignty, power, national interest and balance of power.
- Core assumptions and differences among realism, liberalism, constructivism and critical approaches.
- Functions, structure and contemporary relevance of the UN, ICC, IMF, World Bank, WTO and BRICS.

West Asian region

- Location, subregions, major states, strategic waterways, energy resources and geopolitical significance.
- Ethnic, linguistic and religious identities; social and cultural diversity; state and society in the region.

Conflict transition and peace

- Chronology, causes and consequences of major wars, crises and political transitions.
- Palestine question, Arab-Israel conflict, peace initiatives and the role of regional and external actors.
- Arab Spring, Syrian Crisis, migration, refugees and diaspora.

Regional and global relations

- Aims, membership and role of the Arab League, OAPEC, OIC and GCC.
- Policies and influence of Britain, Russia, the United States, China and European powers in West Asia.

India and WANA

- Historical and civilizational relations, post-independence foreign policy and diplomatic engagement.
- Energy security, trade, diaspora, remittances, defence and strategic cooperation with GCC states.
- India's approach to the Israel-Palestine conflict and its growing regional role.

Current affairs

- Recent diplomatic initiatives, conflicts, normalization processes, economic changes and regional alignments.
- India-West Asia connectivity, energy, security and multilateral cooperation.



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Preparation Strategy

For Part A: Revise dates, organizations, agreements, personalities, geography, terminology and core concepts; practise timed MCQs.

For Part B: Prepare issue-based notes, use introductions and conclusions, present evidence and chronology, and practise analytical answers.

For current affairs: Track West Asian political developments and India's relations with WANA while linking news with syllabus themes.

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