



MEER SIR ACADEMY

JMI MA History Entrance Examination Syllabus

Department of History and Culture Jamia Millia Islamia

Examination pattern, section-wise distribution and undergraduate-level preparation framework

Total Marks 100

Part A 40 Marks | Part B 60 Marks

Examination overview

The M.A. History entrance examination assesses undergraduate-level knowledge of Indian and world history. Questions may address sources, chronology, events, historical figures, processes and major debates. The paper carries 100 marks and is divided into an objective section and an essay section.

Part	Format	Questions	To answer	Marks
A	Multiple choice questions	40	All 40	40
B	Essay type questions	12	Any 3	60

Part A objective component

Part A comprises 40 multiple-choice questions of one mark each. Every question has four options marked A, B, C and D, and the candidate must select one option.

Testing area	Number of questions	Marks
Ancient Indian History	10	10
Medieval Indian History	10	10



Testing area	Number of questions	Marks
Modern Indian History	10	10
World History across all periods	10	10
Total	40	40

What Part A may test

- Identification and use of historical sources, including literary, archaeological, archival and material evidence.
- Chronology, sequence, periodisation and the relationship between major events.
- Historical figures, institutions, empires, states, movements and transformations.
- Political, social, economic, cultural and intellectual processes.
- Important interpretations, controversies and debates in Indian and world history.

Part B subjective component

Part B contains 12 essay-type questions carrying 20 marks each. Candidates must answer any three questions, for a total of 60 marks.

Testing area	Questions provided	Marks per answer
Ancient Indian History	3	20
Medieval Indian History	3	20
Modern Indian History	3	20
Issues in Contemporary India and the World	3	20
Total	12	Answer any 3

Expected essay skills

- Interpret the question precisely and state a clear central argument.
- Use relevant evidence, examples, chronology and historical context.
- Explain causes, consequences, continuity, change and competing interpretations.
- Organise the answer into a focused introduction, analytical body and reasoned conclusion.
- Distinguish factual description from historical analysis and debate.



Suggested structure for a 20 mark answer

Stage	Purpose
Introduction	Define the scope, period and central argument.
Historical context	Locate the issue in its relevant chronology and setting.
Analysis	Develop thematic points using evidence and explanation.
Debate	Mention important interpretations or contrasting positions where relevant.
Conclusion	Provide a balanced judgement that answers the question directly.

Indicative preparation coverage

The official syllabus defines broad testing areas. The following checklist translates those areas into practical undergraduate-level preparation themes.

Area	Indicative themes for revision
Ancient Indian History	Sources and historiography; prehistoric cultures; Harappan civilisation; Vedic society; state formation; Mauryas; post-Mauryan developments; Guptas; early medieval transitions; society, economy, religion, art and culture.
Medieval Indian History	Sources; regional states; Delhi Sultanate; Vijayanagara and Bahmani kingdoms; Mughal Empire; administration and economy; agrarian and urban change; Bhakti and Sufi traditions; society, culture and regional powers.
Modern Indian History	European expansion; colonial state and economy; social and religious reform; tribal and peasant movements; Revolt of 1857; nationalism; Gandhian movements; constitutional developments; Partition and independence.
World History	Ancient civilisations; feudalism and Renaissance; Reformation; Enlightenment; American and French Revolutions; industrialisation; nationalism and imperialism; World Wars; Russian Revolution; fascism; decolonisation and Cold War.
Contemporary India and the World	Post-independence India; Constitution and nation-building; social and economic change; regional and global conflicts; decolonisation; international organisations; globalisation; major contemporary political and social issues.

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