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UPSC, IAS
Civil Services
(Mains)
Exam Syllabus

Optional Literature Subject

“Malayalam”

:: PAPER - I ::

(Answers must be written in Malayalam)

Section A

1-Early phase of Malayalam Language :

- 1.1 Various theories : Origin from proto Dravidian, Tamil, Sanskrit.
- 1.2 Relation between Tamil and Malayalam : Six nayas of A. R. Rajarajavarma.
- 1.3 Pattu School-Definition, Ramacharitam, later pattu works-Niranam works and Krishnagatha.

2-Linguistic features of :

- 2.1 Manipravalam-definition. Language of early manipravala works-Champu, Sandesakavya, Chandrotsava, minor works. Later manipravala works-medieval Champu and Attakkatha.
- 2.2 Folklore-Southern and Northern ballads, Mappila songs.
- 2.3 Early Malayalam Prose-Bhashakautaliyam, Brahmandapuram, Attaprakaram, Kramadipika and Nambiantamil.

3-Standardisation of Malayalam :

- 3.1 Peculiarities of the language of Pana, Kilippattu and Tullal.
- 3.2 Contributions of indigenous and European missionaries to Malayalam.
- 3.3 Characteristics of contemporary Malayalam; Malayalam as administrative language. Language of scientific and technical literature-media language.

Section B

LITERARY HISTORY

4-Ancient and Medieval Literature :

- 4.1 Pattu-Ramacharitam, Niranam Works and Krishnagatha.
- 4.2 Manipravalam-early and medieval manipravala works including attakkatha and champu.
- 4.3 Folk Literature.
- 4.4 Kilippattu, Tullal and Mahakavya.

5-Modern Literature-Poetry :

- 5.1 Venmani poets and contemporaries.
- 5.2 The advent of Romanticism-Poetry of Kavitraya i.e., Asan, Ulloor and Vallathol.
- 5.3 Poetry after Kavitraya.
- 5.4 Modernism in Malayalam Poetry.

6-Modern Literature-Prose :

- 6.1 Drama.
- 6.2 Novel.
- 6.3 Short story.
- 6.4 Biography, travelogue, essay and criticism.

:: PAPER - II ::

(Answers must be written in Malayalam)

This paper will require first hand reading of the texts prescribed and is designed to test the candidate's critical ability.

Section A

Unit 1

- 1.1 Ramacharitam-Patalam 1.
- 1.2 Kannassaramayanam-Balakandam first 25 stanzas.
- 1.3 Unnulisandesam-Purvabhagam 25 slokas including Prastavana.
- 1.4 Mahabharatham Kilippattu-Bhishmaparvam.

Unit 2

- 2.1 Kumaran Asan-Chintavisthayaya Sita.
- 2.2 Vailoppilli-Kutiyozhikkal.
- 2.3 G. Sankara Kurup-Perunthachan.
- 2.4 N. V. Krishna Variar-Tivandiyile pattu.

Unit 3

- 3.1 O. N. V.-Bhumikkoru Charamagitam.
- 3.2 Ayyappa Panicker-Kurukshetram.
- 3.3 Akkittam-Pandatha Messanthi.
- 3.4 Attur Ravivarma-Megharupan.

Section B

Unit 4

- 4.1 O. Chanthu Menon-Indulekha.
- 4.2 Thakazhy-Chemmin.
- 4.3 O. V. Vijayan-Khasakkinte Ithihasam.

Unit 5

- 5.1 M. T. Vasudevan Nair-Vanaprastham (Collection).
- 5.2 N. S. Madhavan-Higvitta (Collection).
- 5.3 C. J. Thomas-1128-il Crime 27.

Unit 6

- 6.1 Kuttikrishna Marar-Bharataparyatanam.
- 6.2 M. K. Sanu-Nakshatrangalute Snehabhajanam.
- 6.3 V. T. Bhattathirippad-Kannirum Kinavum.

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