



Ambedkar University Delhi
Answer Book for MA Gender Studies Entrance Exam, 2017
(7 Pages)

Roll No.

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Date of Test : _____

Name of the Programme : _____

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Please fill all the details asked above.
2. Start writing from the next page and write on both sides of the paper.
3. No additional sheets will be provided.
4. Time allotted: 90 minutes

SIGNATURE OF INVIGILATOR: _____

Question No.	1 (20)	2 (10)	3 (5)	4 a (5)	4 b (5)	4 c (5)	4 d (5)	5 (20)	Marks (75)
Marks									

Overall Marks: _____

Signature of the Evaluator (with Date): _____

1. Read the excerpts from an open letter by Meena Kandasamy, the well known Dalit feminist writer. Write a short letter in response to this, addressed to her. Your letter must explain why you agree or disagree with the contents. (150 words) 20 marks

Dear Citizen of Youngistan,

Hi!

You are the talk of the town these days, so, you know, I wanted to talk to you.

You are a student. You seek to be highly educated, but you turn a blind eye to the academic terrorism that routinely cripples and kills poor students in universities. You never acknowledge the privilege of exclusivity. You strut about with the confidence that you will never slip below the poverty line. You never know the pain of exclusion. You would have never lost your home in a slum demolition drive.

On the other hand, you know, with self-assured grace you make up India's fanciful, much-advertised youngistan edge. You flaunt the fact that you are one of the 120 million youth that your country will add to its workforce over the next decade. You forget that this workforce, devoid of any working class consciousness, shall only serve to launch the latest edition of slave trade. Welcome aboard, dude! The Slave Ship is waiting for you. If and when India's economy goes into freefall mode, you will be the first to flounder. Just remember that.

You also like to imagine yourself as a sexually restless youngster. Sadly, diktats and death threats make you seek shelter in matrimonial websites with drop-down menus listing 450 sub-castes. You blame this casteism on parental pressure. In your hallowed opinion, caste should be annihilated. You say that this is possible only by discontinuing affirmative action policies for adivasis and Dalits. You have anecdotal evidence to prove that reservation equals ruin.

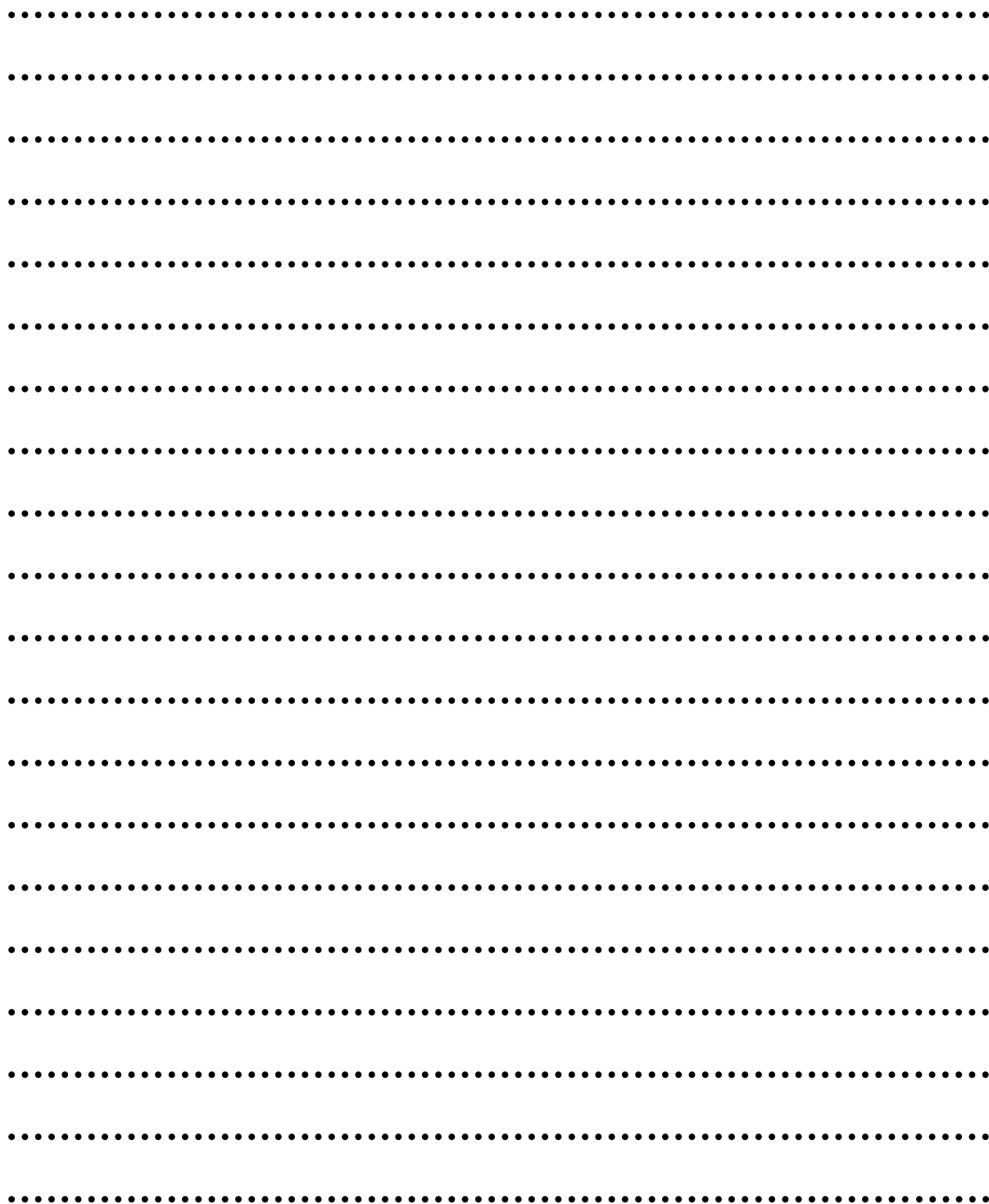
You have not heard of Khairlanji or Koodankulam; they are multi-syllable names of places that have never managed to sneak into your sublime conversations. Ultra-ambitious, you only enter lands that require your passport, your visa and your commercialized skill-sets. You are India's shining, swaggering export. You have sold your soul for a song. You have sold your song for a sophisticated accent. You have sold your sophisticated accent for a sanitized silence.

Maybe you earnestly believe in the development panacea. Maybe you are bamboozled by its seductive, saleable divinity. You don't realise that government-style development is a devil that walks backwards, drinks blood, feeds on corpses and fattens on millions of tonnes of bauxite and iron. Like its cross-cousin democracy, development is widely believed to be a rumour to keep rural masses in a hysteric state.

I writhe in guilt as I write to you. My searing anger at you is merely an exercise in self-flagellation; I lay no claim to a moral high ground. Sometimes, I am afraid that I am you. My dreams explode but my callousness kills me. I see in you every weakness that shows up in me. I write to you because I believe that you could be the stronger one. Some day you will step out of your selfish skin and speak up for the people. Some day you will wage war against every injustice and uproot every oppression. Some day your sacrifice will set us free.

Out of habit, don't look for the 'Like' button as you finish reading this. Look for liberation. Learn to fight.

Love,
M



2. This question is with reference to the poem “Phenomenal Woman” by Maya Angelou or “Main Kiski Aurat Hun?” by Savita Singh put up on the website. Explain the main idea in any **one** of the poems in your own words. (100 words only) 10 Marks

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3. What do you think the video “Tea Consent” shared on the website is referring to? (50 words only) 5 Marks

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4. Answer the following questions based on the video “We should all be Feminists” by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. ” shared on the website? (50 words for each answer)
5 marks each

a. What are some of the negative descriptions about feminism that Adichie refers to?

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b. Listen to Adichie’s recounting of the “class monitor story”? Please share your thoughts about this experience?

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c. "The higher you go, the fewer women there are." Comment.

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d) Adichie recounts her experience of tipping the parking attendant in Lagos. What do you think she is drawing our attention to?

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5. In the light of your readings and experiences, please explain why you wish to enroll in the Gender Studies Programme at Ambedkar University Delhi? (150 words)
20 marks

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