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9. a. What is "Popular Literature" and why does it matter? Discuss with reference to any two texts that you have read in this paper.

OR

- b. Write a critical note on representation and voice in Indian Popular Literature with reference to any two texts that you have read in this paper.

(500)

[This question paper contains 8 printed pages.]

Your Roll No.....

Sr. No. of Question Paper : 6391 **K**

Unique Paper Code : 2032104701/2032204701

Name of the Paper : Indian Popular Literature

Name of the Course : **Bachelor of Arts (Honours Course) DSC**

Semester : VII

Duration : 3 Hours Maximum Marks : 90

Instructions for Candidates

1. Write your Roll No. on the top immediately on receipt of this question paper.
2. This question paper contains 2 parts. Both parts are compulsory.
3. Candidates must answer ANY THREE questions in Part A and ANY THREE questions in Part B.
4. Questions in **Part A** carry **10 marks** each and questions in **Part B** carry **20 marks** each.

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PART A

1. a. Analyze the significance of tilism in Chandrakanta

OR

- b. Examine the role of aiyaars in Chandrakanta

2. a. Identify, contextualize, and critically comment upon the following lines: "Sometimes he sees landscapes, too, but rarely a skyline dotted with palaces and temple spires, a forest in the middle of a busy thoroughfare-and, strangest of all, once, an array of tall, jewelled towers reaching into the clouds. Each such vision seems to be charged with a peculiar energy, like a scene lit up by lightning."

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issues such as casteism, patriarchy, and emotional isolation?

What impact do these social realities have on the unfolding mystery?

8. a. What according to you makes Bhimayana an instance of Popular Literature?

OR

- b. What is Sandria Freitag's central thesis in "The Realm of the Visual"? How does she position visual culture as constitutive of modernity?

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Thought She was a Planet. Select 2 or 3 stori for close analysis.

7. a. In what ways do the characters Machhli Baba and Maganlal Meghraj embody the theme of deception within the story Joy Baba Felunath/The Mystery of the Elephant God, and how do Feluda's interactions with them drive the narrative forward?

OR

- b. The narrative of The Menagerie explores both the idyllic and sinister elements of Bengali society in the mid-20th century. How does Bandyopadhyay use the characters' troubled backgrounds and interactions to reflect broader

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OR

- b. Identify, contextualize, and critically comment upon the following lines:

"I am not ill," she said. "I have had a revelation. I am a planet. I used to be a human, a woman, a wife and mother. All the time I wondered if there was more to me than that. Now I know. Being a planet is good for me. I have stopped taking my liver pills."

3. a. Write a short critical note on Topshe.

OR

- b. Write a short critical note on Golap Colony.

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4. a. Write a short note on the motif of water in Bhimayana.

OR

- b. Write a short note on the use of newspaper clippings in Bhimayana.

PART B

5. a. Examine Devakinandan Khatri's portrayal of female characters, particularly Chandrakanta and Chapala. How do these women challenge or reinforce gender norms of their time?

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- b. Examine Khatri's portrayal of masculinity in Chandrakanta. How do the actions of the male characters define or challenge contemporary ideals of manhood?

6. a. How do Vandana Singh's stories address issues of technological development, cultural preservation, and environmental degradation within Indian contexts? Answer with reference to any 2 or 3 stories you have studied in this anthology.

OR

- b. Analyse the gender dimensions explored in Vandana Singh's anthology The Woman Who