

**GUJARAT NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY  
SILVASSA CAMPUS**

Course: **Constitutional History of India**  
**Semester- I (Batch: 2024-29)**

**End Semester Examination: Oct 2024**

**Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct, 2024**

**Duration: 3 hours**

**Max. Marks: 50**

**Instructions:**

- Read the questions properly and write the answers in the given answer book.
- Do not write anything on the question paper.
- The respective marks for each question are indicated in-line.
- Indicate correct question numbers in front of the answer.
- No questions or clarification can be sought during the exam period, answer as it is, giving reason, if any.
- Word Limit: 10 Marks: 800 words, 5 Marks: 400 words.

<b>Part A</b>		<b>Marks</b>
Answer <b>any four</b> of the following:		
Q.1	Every civilisation through history evolved its own distinct understanding of law and justice. It was shaped predominantly by the ideology and religious affiliations of the ruling classes. The understanding of crime and procedures of punishments often reflected this aspect. In the light of the above-mentioned understanding, compare and contrast crime and punishment in ancient and medieval India.	(10)
Q.2	With the passing of the Regulating Act in 1773, there came into existence two independent and distinct legal systems in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa. While one was the Company's system in the mofussil areas, having a hierarchy of Adalats, deriving its authority from the grant of Diwani to the company, the other was the Supreme Court at Calcutta deriving its authority from the British Crown and Parliament, but having its jurisdiction outside Calcutta. This resulted in conflict between the two systems. Cases such as Patna and Cossijurah reflected this conflict between the two systems. Discuss the problems of jurisdiction, law and procedure which emerged as a result of the conflict between these two systems.	(10)
Q.3	"The establishment of the High Courts in 1861 was the fulfilment of a long-cherished ambition harboured by many to have a unified judicial system instead of a dual system." Critically analyse the existing circumstances and the reasons for the establishment of the High Courts in the year 1861.	(10)
Q.4	Write short notes on the following: a) Charter Act of 1833 b) Property rights of women in ancient India	(5x2= 10)
Q.5	India's commitment to the rule of law is grounded in the Constitution which establishes India as a 'Sovereign Socialist Secular Democratic Republic.' It is the supreme legal authority which binds the legislative, executive, and judicial organs of the government. Discuss the salient features of the Indian Constitution.	(10)

**Part B**

Answer **any two** of the following:

- Q.6 How far the aim of a responsible government was achieved under the Government of India Act, 1935? (5)
- Q.7 Explain the defects in the criminal law system prevailing in India before the consolidation of power by the Britain. Reflect on the major changes in the criminal law system brought about by the British. (5)
- Q.8 Critically discuss the impact of the freedom struggle on legislative developments beginning from the proclamation made by Queen Victoria in 1858 till the passing of the Government of India Act, 1935. (5)

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