

# Mark Scheme with Examiners' Report GCE O Level Bangladesh Studies (7038)

June 2005

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June 2005

Order Code: U0017132

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## BANGLADESH STUDIES 7038, MARK SCHEME

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### Paper 1

This mark scheme does not contain all relevant material that could be used to answer the questions. Answers that contain other appropriate materials will be assessed on their merits.

1. Why is Iliyas Shah often regarded as the founder of Bengal? 20
- Band 1: Simple statements giving examples of reasons, eg won victories, organised administration, independent from Delhi etc. (1-6)
- Band 2: Developed statements describing reasons, eg won victories against Nepal and Orissa, enlarged Bengal, set up coinage, defeated Delhi Sultan and won recognition of independence etc. (7-12)
- Band 3: Explanation of reasons, eg established independence and took the title of sultan, created first coinage, used the term Bangalah, based administration on local people rather than foreign invaders etc. (13-17)
- Band 4: Sustained argument assessing reasons, eg Bengal emerged as an independent state for the first time for more than one hundred years, founder of the Bengal Sultanate, began the tradition of using existing Bengali customs, methods and people etc. (18-20)
2. Explain the impact of TWO of the following in Bengal in the period to the end of the fifteenth century: 20
- The Pala Dynasty
  - Bakhtiyar Khalji
  - Sufis

This mark scheme is to be used for both parts of the answer.

- Band 1: Simple statements giving some effects, eg stable government, conversion, spread Islam etc. (1-4)
- Band 2: Developed statements describing some effects, eg details of the above etc. (5-8)
- Band 3: Explanation of effects, eg Palas tolerant and stable, art flourished, Buddhist tradition, Bakhtiyar Khalji, Turkish invader who led to the conversion to Islam, Sufis used to spread Islam, but also role as government ministers led to stability and gave authority to rulers and sultans etc. (9-10)

3. Why was Islam Khan able to gain control of all of Bengal for the Mughal Empire during the years 1608 to 1613? 20
- Band 1: Simple statements giving examples of reasons, eg concerted attacks, used army and navy, captured leaders, Dhaka as a base, stable administration etc. (1-6)
- Band 2: Developed statements describing reasons, eg amphibious attacks, moved capital to Dhaka, did not release captives, recruited to Mughal forces, centralised administration etc. (7-12)
- Band 3: Explanation of reasons, eg planned overall strategy, used Dhaka as a base because of confluence, launched amphibious campaign using separate naval base, did not make earlier mistakes of allowing captives to return to the fight, turned against the Afghans etc. (13-17)
- Band 4: Sustained argument assessing reasons, eg West Bengal already captured, Islam Khan was able to conquer East Bengal, Bara-Bhuiyans weakened by death of Musa Khan, maintained continuous presence in Bengal, realised importance of central base and used river network to transport forces throughout the area etc. (18-20)
4. In what ways did TWO of the following help the development of Bengal in the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries: 20
- Shaista Khan
  - Trade
  - Mushid Quli Khan

This mark scheme is to be used for both parts of the answer.

- Band 1: Simple statements giving some effects, eg Shaista Khan last successful subahdar, trade flourished, Mushid Quli Khan founded the nawabate etc. (1-4)
- Band 2: Developed statements describing some effects, eg details of the above etc. (5-8)
- Band 3: Explanation of effects, eg Shaista Khan re-established Mughal control, through long period in power, welcomed the British, trade flourished with Dhaka becoming an important market, muslin exported leading to a financial centre developing, Mushid Quli Khan established independence from Delhi with Bengal becoming a nawabate for about forty years etc. (9-10)

5. **Why did Bangla develop into a formal (written) language in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries?** **20**
- Band 1: Simple statements giving examples of reasons, eg Carey wrote a grammar, S Press published books, Tagore wrote poems etc. **(1-6)**
- Band 2: Developed statements describing reasons, eg details of above, Carey was first to set out rules for Bangla, Press published journals, Tagore internationally known writer etc. **(7-12)**
- Band 3: Explanation of reasons, eg Bangla could not develop until grammar sorted out, handwritten until then, Press published books in Bangla for almost the first time, led to Bengal Renaissance, Tagore attracted worldwide support, won Nobel Prize etc. **(13-17)**
- Band 4: Sustained argument assessing reasons, eg settled period of British rule encouraged Bangla, Carey a missionary who wanted to convert, printing need organised text etc. **(18-20)**
6. **How did TWO of the following help establish British rule in Bengal:** **20**
- The battle of Palashi
  - Double Government
  - The Permanent Settlement

**This mark scheme is to be used for both parts of the answer.**

- Band 1: Simple statements giving some effects, eg Palashi was a British victory, Double Government enabled taxes to be collected, Permanent Settlement organised administration etc. **(1-4)**
- Band 2: Developed statements describing some effects, eg Palashi enabled the British to overthrow Sirajudaula and the nawabate, Double Government used Bengalis to collect taxes for EIC, Permanent Settlement imposed rates on zamindars etc. **(5-8)**
- Band 3: Explanation of effects, eg Palashi brought independent nawabate to an end, British used divided and rule, Double Government used by Clive to administer Bengal and avoid involvement in Bengali affairs, Permanent Settlement ended difficulties of raising taxes and established zamindars in perpetuity etc. **(9-10)**

7. Why did the Pakistan Movement grow in strength and support in the years 1937- 1947? 20
- Band 1: Simple statements giving examples of reasons, eg Congress would not work with Muslim League, Jinnah broke away from Congress, LD called for Pakistan etc. (1-6)
- Band 2: Developed statements describing reasons, eg Congress refused to work with Muslim League after 1937 elections, claimed it represented Muslims, Jinnah disagreed with Nehru over Indian constitution, LD demanded separate Muslim state for the first time etc. (7-12)
- Band 3: Explanation of reasons, eg elections led to break down between Muslim League and INC, they disagreed over powers of central and provincial governments, Muslims began to demand separate state, accentuated by outbreak of war, support from British etc. (13-17)
- Band 4: Sustained argument assessing reasons, eg major factor was disagreement over constitution, Muslim League wanted strong provinces, INC wanted strong central government, 1937 elections exposed disagreement, etc. (18-20)
8. Explain the importance of TWO of the following in the development of campaigns for independence for India: 20
- The Partition of Bengal, 1905
  - The foundation of the Muslim League
  - The Morley-Minto Reforms (Indian Councils Act)

This mark scheme is to be used for both parts of the answer.

- Band 1: Simple statements giving some effects, eg Bengal divided east and west in 1905, Muslim League set up in 1906, MM Reforms gave Indians some say for the first time etc. (1-4)
- Band 2: Developed statements describing some effects, eg details of the above, partition created communal differences, attacked by INC, Muslim League formed to protect Muslims, Morley-Minto Reforms only gave less than 2% of Indians the vote etc. (5-8)
- Band 3: Explanation of effects, eg partition encouraged opposition, first demands for swaraj, swadeshi campaign, attacks on British, Muslim League formed, Morley-Minto Reforms attempt to assuage Indian opinion etc. (9-10)

9. Why did attempts to produce a constitution for Pakistan lead to opposition in East Bengal? 20
- Band 1: Simple statements giving examples of reasons, eg Jinnah wanted Urdu, CA had few powers, local government was weak etc. (1-6)
- Band 2: Developed statements describing reasons, eg Jinnah wanted Urdu to be the sole national language, he was Governor-General, CA could not influence policy, that remained in the hands of senior politicians, local government did not allow autonomy for East Bengal etc. (7-12)
- Band 3: Explanation of reasons, eg Jinnah used his position to create control in West Pakistan, refused to accept Bangla as a national language, most senior politicians came from the West, therefore Bengalis had little influence, administration was centralised etc. (13-17)
- Band 4: Sustained argument assessing reasons, eg discussions on the constitution were deliberately weighted in favour of the West, CA was given little power so that West Pakistani elite could assume control, Jinnah used position of C-G for that end and to counteract numerical superiority of East etc. (18-20)
10. What part was played by TWO of the following in the growth of demands for self-government in East Bengal/Pakistan: 20
- The foundation of the Awami League
  - The United Front
  - The Lahore Conference, 1966

This mark scheme is to be used for both parts of the answer.

- Band 1: Simple statements giving some effects, eg Awami League main opposition group, United Front formed from opposition groups, Lahore Conference when Sheikh Mujib demanded autonomy etc. (1-4)
- Band 2: Developed statements describing some effects, eg Awami League formed 1949, 42 Point Programme, wanted Bangla, United Front formed to fight the 1954 elections, fell apart afterwards, Lahore Conference forum for opposition groups produced 6 Point Programme etc. (5-8)
- Band 3: Explanation of effects, eg Awami League was first opposition group in Pakistan, opposed dominance of the West, United Front won convincing victory in provincial elections in 1954 showed extent of opposition to West, Lahore Conference was the breakdown of relations between Awami League and other opposition groups in Pakistan over autonomy etc. (9-10)

- 11. Explain the importance of the role of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in the creation of an independent Bangladesh from 1970 to 1973. 20**
- Band 1: Simple statements giving examples of reasons, eg won the election, tried to reach a compromise, formed the constitution etc. (1-6)
- Band 2: Developed statements describing reasons, eg details of the above, won the election and controlled the National Assembly, should have been Prime Minister, negotiations were to reach a compromise after decision not to call the Assembly, arrested when they were inconclusive, based on the Awami Leagues of nationalism, secularism, socialism and democracy etc. (7-12)
- Band 3: Explanation of reasons, eg showed strength of feeling in East, forced Yahya Khan to delay calling Assembly because Sheikh Mujibur would have become Prime Minister, ZAB used negotiations to try to force Sheikh Mujibur into a trap, mainly responsible for the Constitution etc. (13-17)
- Band 4: Sustained argument assessing reasons, eg was the figurehead who held opposition together, had taken the decision to go for autonomy in 1966 and had been imprisoned in 1968, elections showed that East was behind him and put pressure on the West and led to the crisis of March 1971, Constitution was the great triumph for Sheikh Mujibur. (18-20)
- 12. What part was played by TWO of the following in the events of the War of Liberation? 20**
- Operation Searchlight
  - The Indian government
  - International intervention

**This mark scheme is to be used for both parts of the answer.**

- Band 1: Simple statements giving some effects, eg Operation Searchlight was the Pakistani attack, Indian government sent aid, UN supported Bangladesh, US supported Pakistan etc. (1-4)
- Band 2: Developed statements describing some effects, eg Operation Searchlight was an attempt to put down opposition by force, Indian Government opened border for refugees, did not recognise Mujibnagar government, sent in troops in December 1971 etc. (5-8)
- Band 3: Explanation of effects, eg Operation Searchlight led to the deaths of many Bangladeshis, created overwhelming opposition to Pakistan and won international support, Indian army was the main reason for the defeat of Pakistan, UN attracted world wide sympathy for Bangladesh etc. (9-10)



13. Why has the number of political parties in Bangladesh increased since 1975? 20

In addition to your own knowledge you may also use the following to help in your answer:

- General elections
- Caretaker governments
- Political leaders

Band 1: Simple statements giving examples of reasons, eg elections encourage parties, Caretaker Governments allow free elections, leaders have set up their own parties etc. (1-6)

Band 2: Developed statements describing reasons, eg details of the above OR background of parties, Jatiya etc. (7-12)

Band 3: Explanation of reasons, eg leaders were opposed by voters, parties set up to represent interest, Islamic parties, end of military rule etc. (13-17)

Band 4: Sustained argument assessing reasons, eg main reason was end of Pakistani rule, Bangladeshis were united against Pakistan in Awami League but have since disagreed as a result of seizure of power, policy disagreements etc. (18-20)

14. In what ways have TWO of the following developed in Bangladesh since 1975: 20

- Education
- Women's rights
- Popular culture?

This mark scheme is to be used for both parts of the answer.

Band 1: Simple statements giving some effects of the stimuli etc. (1-4)

Band 2: Developed statements describing some effects of the stimuli etc. (5-8)

Band 3: Explanation of effects of the stimuli etc. (9-10)

- 15. Why did the Language Movement become so important in the 1950s and 1960s? 20**
- Band 1:** Simple statements giving examples of reasons, eg Ekushey was the killing of students, Bangla was the language of Bangladesh, PC wanted Urdu etc. **(1-6)**
- Band 2:** Developed statements describing reasons, eg Ekushey was a student demonstration that was fired on by the police and seven were killed, Bangla had developed since the nineteenth century and the people of East Bengal wanted it as a national language, PC was intended only to allow Urdu as a national language etc. **(7-12)**
- Band 3:** Explanation of reasons, eg Bengalis wanted their language to be accepted otherwise it would be difficult to participate in the government and administration, few spoke Urdu and the majority of Pakistanis spoke Bangla etc. **(13-17)**
- Band 4:** Sustained argument assessing reasons, eg Language Movement arose because the West wanted to use Urdu as a means of retaining control and dominating the more populous East, Language Movement began with students etc. **(18-20)**
- 16. Explain the importance of TWO of the following in the culture of Bangladesh: 20**
- Folk Customs
  - Hill Tracts
  - The Santhal

**This mark scheme is to be used for both parts of the answer.**

- Band 1:** Simple statements giving some effects, eg any references to folk customs, Hill Tracts near Chittagong, Santhal agricultural tribe etc. **(1-4)**
- Band 2:** Developed statements describing some effects, eg descriptions of folk customs, Hill Tracts occupied by Buddhists, at odds with the government, Santhal animists with own language etc. **(5-8)**
- Band 3:** Explanation of effects, eg folk customs contain traditional Bangladeshi culture, Hill Tracts only surviving area of Buddhism, revived in nineteenth century, Santhal some of the earliest settlers in Bangladesh, traditions passed by word of mouth etc. **(9-10)**

## Paper 2

1. (a) Name the following features shown on the map (Figure 1).
- (i) River A: Jamuna
  - (ii) The most common natural hazard at B: drought
  - (iii) The mineral resource at C: sea sand
  - (iv) The mineral resource at D natural gas
  - (v) The city at E: Rajshahi (5)
- (b) What are the following:
- (i) A delta? An accumulation of sediment deposited by a river as it enters the sea.
  - (ii) A 'beel'? A large body of water occupying a shallow depression formed by erosion.
  - (iii) A 'diara'? The low bank or a levee of a river. (3)
- (c) What causes monsoon rains to be so heavy?  
Summer low pressure over Asia; drawing in of unstable maritime air; northward cooling and uplift by mountains. (3)
- (d) Give two reasons why aquaculture is increasing in Bangladesh.  
Overfishing of wild stocks; pollution of rivers, canals, etc; increasing demand for fish. (2)
- (e) Why is there interest in developing the coal resources of Bangladesh?  
High oil prices; need for more electricity - produced more cheaply by burning local coal. (2)
- Total 15 marks**
2. (a) Study Figure 2 which shows the distribution of forests in Bangladesh.
- (i) What special use is made of 'Sal' timber?  
Poles in house construction and for carrying electric and telephone lines. (1)
  - (ii) Describe the distribution of Sal Forest as shown in Figure 2.  
Main area is on the Madhurpur Tract; small patches in Rangpur. (2)
  - (iii) Give one physical factor that has influenced this distribution.  
Slightly higher ground of terraces. (1)
- (b) (i) What is a renewable resource? Give an example.  
A resource is any feature of the environment that can be used to meet human needs. A renewable resource is either a flow of nature (wind, water) or a living thing, and can thus be used repeatedly. (2)

- (ii) **Suggest three different ways rivers can be used as a resource.**  
As a source of water  
As a means of transport  
As a source of energy. (3)

- (c) **Why is the Sundarbans region an important part of Bangladesh?**  
Only extensive area of mangrove; mangrove good form of coastal protection; mangrove yields a range of useful products (honey, wax, crustaceans).

Band 1: Simple statements (1 - 2 marks)  
List of two or three uses.

Band 2: Developed statements (3 - 4 marks)  
Three reasons quite well developed.

Band 3: Thorough response (5 - 6 marks)  
Covers at least four, with some evidence of evaluation.

(6)

Total 15 marks

3. (a) **Study Figure 3 which gives information about three main types of natural hazard worldwide.**
- (i) **Compare the bar charts for droughts and food shortages with those for storms and floods.**  
Droughts are less frequent than floods and storm surges, but at a global level kill roughly the same number of people and affect more people. (2)
- (ii) **Give two reasons why in Bangladesh, earthquakes affect fewer people than floods.**  
A natural hazard is a natural event (storm, flood, earthquake, volcanic eruption) that causes damage and destruction to people and their settlements. (2)
- (b) (i) **Give two physical reasons why flooding occurs so frequently in Bangladesh.**  
The confluence of major rivers.  
The concentration of rainfall during the monsoon season.  
The low-lying nature of the country. (2)
- (ii) **Draw an annotated diagram to explain why cyclones often cause storm surges.**  
The cyclone is an area of very low pressure. This low pressure allows the sea to 'expand' several metres above its normal level. Thus the sea can easily swamp low-lying coastal areas. (3)
- (c) **Hazards can be created by people and their activities. Use examples from Bangladesh to explain how this happens.**  
By polluting air; by polluting water bodies; by building on unstable slopes; by occupying land where there is a high risk of flooding or exposure to storm surges; by deforestation; by mining and the construction of dams and reservoirs.

Band 1: Simple statements (1 - 2 marks)  
Basic listing of man-made hazards

Band 2: Developed statements (3 - 4 marks)  
Some linking between human actions and resulting hazards.

Band 3: Thorough response (5 - 6 marks)  
Good range of hazards considered, with links well recognised. (6)

**Total 15 marks**

4. (a) **Study Figure 4 which is a population pyramid of Bangladesh.**
- (i) **What term is used to describe a population pyramid of this shape?**  
Youthful. (1)
- (ii) **What does the 'narrowing' at the base of the pyramid indicate?**  
A reduction in the birth rate. (1)
- (iii) **Suggest two reasons for this 'narrowing'.**  
More birth control  
Growing concern about having large families. (2)
- (b) (i) **Suggest two ways in which Bangladesh could be described as a homogenous society.**  
Most of the population share the same religion and have the same ethnic background. (2)
- (ii) **Suggest three ways in which Bangladeshi society is not homogenous.**  
Made up of rich and poor people  
Contrast between urban and rural people  
Uneven distribution of political power. (3)
- (c) **Describe and explain the factors (physical and human) that cause population densities to vary within Bangladesh.**  
Relief, particularly height above flood levels; agricultural value (soils, etc.); non-agricultural activities; level of development.

Band 1: Simple statements (1 - 2 marks)  
Tendency to simply list factors; may be one-sided, more likely physical.

Band 2: Developed statements (3 - 4 marks)  
Rather better balance.

Band 3: Thorough response (5 - 6 marks)  
Some evidence of evaluation. (6)

**Total 15 marks**

5. (a) **Study Figure 5 which shows the urbanisation curve for Bangladesh.**
- (i) **What is meant by the term urbanisation?**  
The process of becoming more urban - change in the size and functions of settlements, as well as to the way of life. (1)
- (ii) **What is causing urbanisation to increase?**  
Economic development - more jobs in secondary and tertiary sectors; most of these jobs occupy urban locations. (2)
- (b) (i) **Of what age and gender are most of Bangladesh's international migrants?**  
20s and 30s. Young adults (largely males) anxious to improve their quality of life. (2)
- (ii) **Give an example of each, distinguish between 'forced' and 'voluntary' migration.**  
'Forced' migration is when the 'push' factors are much stronger and the person has little choice but to move. With 'voluntary' migration, the pull factors are paramount and choice prevails. (4)
- (c) **Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of living in towns and cities in Bangladesh .**  
Advantages: employment opportunities; better wages; more education and health services; more entertainment, etc.  
Disadvantages: pollution of air and water; noise and congestion; housing expensive; stress, etc.
- Band 1: Simple statements (1 - 2 marks)  
List two examples of both.
- Band 2: Developed statements (3 - 4 marks)  
Some explanation of both advantages and disadvantages.
- Band 3: Thorough response (5 - 6 marks)  
Balanced treatment, plus some explanation. (6)

**Total 15 marks**

6. (a) **Read this recent information about the tertiary sector in Bangladesh, then answer the questions below.**
- (i) **What is the tertiary sector?**  
It is the sector of the economy concerned with the provision of services. (1)
- (ii) **Explain what is causing the difference in the two percentage values given in Figure 6.**  
The services provided are relatively high value and therefore make a significant contribution to the economy. (3)

- (b) (i) **Suggest three improvements that could increase manufacturing output in Bangladesh.**  
 Improve transport  
 Introduce modern production methods  
 More investment. (3)
- (ii) **Explain the importance of one of the improvements you have given in (b)(i).**  
 Transport - quicker, cheaper assembly of raw materials and dispatch of finished goods.  
 Production methods - faster and possibly cheaper output.  
 Investment - updating production methods; more efficient marketing. (2)

- (c) **Describe and explain the advantages and disadvantages of either rail or river transport in Bangladesh.**  
 Rail faster; river transport reaches much of the country, rail does not; rail has expensive infrastructure; because of the river network, rail transport is less direct.

Band 1: Simple statements (1 - 2 marks)  
 One or two simple comparisons made.

Band 2: Developed statements (3 - 4 marks)  
 Rather more comparison, plus an element of explanation.

Band 3: Thorough response (5 - 6 marks)  
 At least three elements of comparison, with differences clearly explained. (6)

**Total 15 marks**

7. (a) **Study the diagram of a farm system.**
- (i) **Name one other input to the system.**  
 Capital; seeds; fertilisers; pesticides. (1)
- (ii) **Explain the difference between commercial and subsistence agriculture.**  
 Commercial agriculture is concerned with producing for a market, either by sale or barter. Subsistence agriculture produces the food requirements of the farmer and his dependents. (2)
- (b) (i) **Why is life expectancy a good measure of development?**  
 It is conditioned by such things as health, diet, housing conditions; quality of life - all are important facets of development. In short, several indicators for the price of one! (3)
- (ii) **Name three other measures of development.**  
 Adult literacy; people per doctor; per capita GNI; food intake. (3)

- (c) **Describe and explain how the development of Bangladesh can be made more sustainable.**

Ensuring that the impact of development on resources and the environment is kept to a minimum. As regards resources, use should focus on renewable rather than non-renewable ones. As regards the environment, the critical things are controlling pollution and protecting biodiversity.

**Band 1: Simple statements (1 - 2 marks)**

Little grasp of sustainability. Maybe aware that it is better to use non-renewable resources.

**Band 2: Developed statements (3 - 4 marks)**

Shows some understanding of the 'costs' of development.

**Band 3: Thorough response (5 - 6 marks)**

Grasp of the concept, but may only resources and environmental pollution be implied in terms of reducing both use of non-renewable and environmental pollution.

**(6)**

**Total 15 marks**



## **BANGLADESH STUDIES 7038, CHIEF EXAMINER'S REPORT**

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### **Paper 1**

#### **General Comments**

All concerned with the preparation of candidates for this session deserve the highest praise. It required no small effort to tackle the demands of a completely new syllabus and prepare candidates so effectively in such a short space of time. Great credit is also due to the candidates who undertook the examination. A majority of the scripts would have done justice to candidates who had been studying for the full two years.

Teachers are reminded that answers in Paper 1 will be marked using a system of bands. This is explained in detail in the Teachers' Guide for this paper, but is summarised below.

**Band 1:** Simple statements, ie sentences giving information about the topic.

**Band 2:** Developed statements, ie paragraphs describing aspects of the topic.

**Band 3:** Explanation, ie sequences of paragraphs linked together related to the focus of the question.

**Band 4:** Argument, ie the main reason/s identified in an opening paragraph and then supported in an argument.

Only Questions 9-15 were attempted.

#### **Question 9**

This proved a popular question and was very well answered. Candidates understood the means used to produce a constitution for Pakistan and the various proposals that were put forward. They were also able to comment very effectively on the aims of Jinnah and differences between West Pakistan and East Bengal/Pakistan.

#### **Question 10**

This was also a popular question and was also one which was well answered. Candidates generally wrote convincingly about the Awami League and the Lahore Conference. However, it should be reminded that coverage of the Lahore Conference should involve more than a recital of the Six Points. It marked a key turning point in relations between East and West Pakistan.

#### **Question 11**

Several candidates tackled this question and showed sound knowledge of events from 1970 to 1973. However, there was a tendency to continue after 1973 which was irrelevant to the question.

#### **Question 12**

Most candidates attempted this question and wrote very effectively on Operation Searchlight and the Indian Government. The details of the War of Liberation were known extensively and answers were very convincing.

**Question 13**

One candidate attempted this question but appeared to misunderstand its demands. The mark scheme anticipated an explanation of the setting up of different political parties since 1975. This could have been explained by referring to the differing aims of political leaders or to the different groups within Bangladesh that the parties represent.

**Question 14**

Many candidates tackled this question, usually concentrating on education and women's rights. Answers were well written and showed a concern for, and an interest in, current affairs in Bangladesh. Details of educational provision were accurate but accounts of women's rights tended to focus on the negative side to too great an extent.

**Question 15**

This was understandably a very popular question and candidates wrote convincingly and at great length about the creation of the Language Movement and its impact in the 1950s and 1960s. It was very rewarding to discover that Bangladeshi students have taken so much interest in the recent past of their nations.

## Paper 2

### General Comments

It is recognised that the first examination of a new syllabus is never easy either for teachers in preparing their candidates or the candidates themselves in their revision and performance in the examination room. However, this paper appears to have differentiated well among the small candidature. Most encouraging were the signs of really good work. All candidates attempted the required number of questions and there were no rubric offences when it came to question selection.

A general note for future examinations is with regard to the responses on part © of optional questions. Here candidates responded mainly by setting down isolated and non-sequential bullet points. They should be advised to write their answers to this question part in continuous prose.

Hopefully, the feedback to individual questions given below will provide guidance for an even stronger candidate performance in future examinations.

#### Question 1

In part (a) only (i) the river and (iv) the city were known by most candidates. In the other three sub-parts there was some evidence of guess work. It was surprising that in part (b) the terms 'beel' and 'diara' were largely unknown. The performance was rather more confident in parts (c), (d) and (e). For most candidates, this proved to be the weakest of their four answers.

#### Question 2

This question had very limited appeal, but all parts were handled competently.

#### Question 3

Generally well tackled, except for part (b)(ii). Some ignored this part of the question altogether, whilst others compiled weak diagrams that did little to establish or explain the link between cyclones and storm surges.

#### Question 4

This question needs much more focus and attention. It is important to remember that one of the objectives of this paper is to test the candidates' ability to interpret resource materials (maps, graphs, diagrams, etc.). Possibly the word 'homogenous' in part (b) was more challenging than anticipated and so in preparing future papers the Chief Examiner will ensure that the language is clear and simple.

#### Question 5

This proved to be the most popular of the optional questions. Part (a) appears to have caused some difficulty. Clearly, in (i) candidates must note that rural-urban migration is only one aspect of urbanisation. Understanding of the causes shown in (ii) must be clearer. The performance on the remaining parts of this question was altogether more confident.

#### Question 6

As in the previous question, it was part (a) that drew the least confident performance. Candidates did not appear clear about the nature of the tertiary sector, but they were better able to deal with parts (b) and (c).

#### Question 7

Some good work in evidence in all parts of this question. It was encouraging to find candidates with a sound grasp of the concept of sustainability.

## **BANGLADESH STUDIES 7038, GRADE BOUNDARIES**

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<b>Grade</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>
<b>Lowest mark for award of grade</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>23</b>

**Note:** Grade boundaries may vary from year to year and from subject to subject, depending on the demands of the question paper.

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