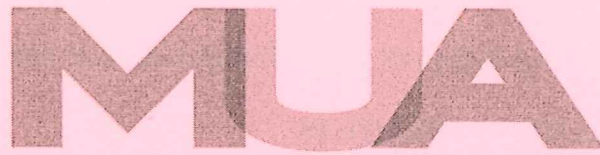


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UNDERGRADUATE UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS

HIS 422: HISTORY OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC (USSR)

DATE: 24TH MARCH 2025

DURATION: 2 HOURS

MAXIMUM MARKS: 70

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Write your registration number on the answer booklet.
2. **DO NOT** write on this question paper.
3. This paper contains **SIX (6)** questions.
4. Question **ONE** is compulsory.
5. Answer any other **THREE** questions.
6. Question **ONE** carries **25 MARKS** and the rest carry **15 MARKS** each.
7. Write all your answers in the Examination answer booklet provided.

QUESTION ONE

Read the Case Study below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

THE FEBRUARY REVOLUTION

On February 23 (March 8, New Style), 1917, the revolution began, but it was neither organized nor immediately recognized as such by any of the existing parties or political groups. Strikes for higher wages at some of Petrograd's factories had been occurring sporadically for some time, and on that day no fewer than 130,000 men were picketing. To this total must be added the considerable number of female workers who were celebrating International Women's Day. The number of strikers and their sympathizers was large, and although several bakers' shops were demolished by the mob, neither the leaders of the Duma on the one hand nor the imperial government and the police on the other gave the matter any particular attention. The only precaution taken by the authorities was to prevent the demonstrators from reaching the centre of the city. The next day the strikers were still more numerous and probably amounted to 30 percent of all workers in Petrograd. Some sections of the crowd succeeded in reaching the city centre, and their mood soon became threatening.

On that day university students joined the movement, but the primary concern of protesters remained the food shortages that had plagued the capital. Only a few cries were raised denouncing the autocracy and the war. The third day (February 25 [March 10, New Style]) would prove the turning point. The strike became general, and the strikers assumed an aggressive demeanour, raiding police stations in the factory districts and disarming the police. In this area of the city the police practically disappeared, and the political demonstration began to assume the character of an armed uprising.

The Cossacks who had been patrolling the streets as the bulwark of the autocracy suddenly manifested neutrality and even friendliness to the strikers. Sergey Khabalov, the military governor of the capital, received a telegram from the tsar, then at the front, ordering him to suppress the strike. In another telegram Nicholas empowered Prime Minister Nikolai Golitsyn to prorogue the Duma.

On February 26 (March 11, New Style), acting on the instructions he had received, Khabalov tried to disperse the demonstrators by force, employing the police as well as cadets from Imperial Guard regiments. The crowds in the centre of the city were temporarily scattered, and scores of demonstrators were shot down. This resort to force on the part of the authorities was not strong enough to crush the strikers and may well have intensified their revolutionary mood.

Required:

- a) Analyze causes of 1905 Russian revolution (12 Marks)
- b) Examine political changes that transformed Tsarist Russia to Soviet Union (9 Marks)
- c) Explain prevailing conditions in Russia that led to 1917 revolution (4 Marks)

QUESTION TWO

- a) Discuss factors that led to the collapse of Eastern European Empire of Byzantine (9 Marks)
- b) Explain key ideas embodying Leninism (6 Marks)

QUESTION THREE

- a) Explore reasons for Germany's inability to defeat Soviet Union during the Second World War (10 Marks)
- b) Explain reasons for Russia's entry in the First World War (5 Marks)

QUESTION FOUR

- a) Evaluate main goals of Warsaw Pact (12 Marks)
- b) Explain reasons for breakdown of Alliance between USA and USSR during Potsdam conference (3 Marks)

QUESTION FIVE

- a) Analyze significance of 'Iron curtain' speech by Winston Churchill **(9 Marks)**
- b) Explain USSR communist society beliefs during Cold War **(6 Marks)**

QUESTION SIX

- a) Examine two main reforms undertaken by Mikhail Gorbachev in USSR **(6 Marks)**
- b) Evaluate main factors that led to the collapse of Soviet Union by 1990 **(9 Marks)**