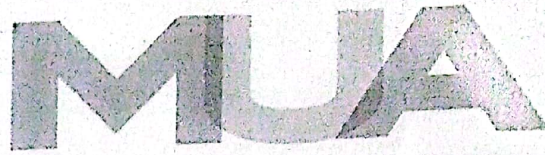


The
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UNDERGRADUATE UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP
DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS

HIS 422 : HISTORY OF USSR

DATE: 3RD APRIL 2024

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:

From Russian Empire to Union of Soviet Socialist Republic

The U.S.S.R. was the successor to the Russian Empire of the tsars. Following the 1917 Revolution, four socialist republics were established on the territory of the former empire: the Russian and Transcaucasian Soviet Federated Socialist Republics and the Ukrainian and Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republics.

On December 30, 1922, these constituent republics established the U.S.S.R. Additional union republics (Soviet Socialist Republics) were set up in subsequent years: the Turkmen and Uzbek S.S.R.'s in 1924, the Tadzhik S.S.R. in 1929, and the Kazakh and Kirgiz S.S.R.'s in 1936. In that year the Transcaucasian Republic was abolished and its territory was divided between three new republics: the Armenian, Azerbaijan, and Georgian S.S.R.'s. In 1940 the Karelo-Finnish, Moldavian, Estonian, Latvian, and Lithuanian S.S.R.'s were established. The Karelo-Finnish S.S.R. became an autonomous republic in 1956, leaving a total of 15 union republics.

Under the constitution adopted in the 1930s and modified down to October 1977, the political foundation of the U.S.S.R. was formed by the Soviets (Councils) of People's Deputies. These existed at all levels of the administrative hierarchy, with the Soviet Union as a whole under the nominal control of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R., located in Moscow. This body had two chambers—the Soviet of the Union, with 750 members elected on a single-member constituency basis; and the Soviet of Nationalities, with 750 members representing the various political divisions: 32 from each union republic, 11 from each autonomous republic, 5 from each autonomous region, and 1 from each autonomous district. In elections to these bodies, the voters were rarely given any choice of candidate other than those presented by the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU), which, until the amendment of Article 6 of the constitution in March 1990, was the "leading and guiding force of Soviet society and the nucleus of its political system."

Required:

- a) Describe long term socio-political problems that bedeviled Russia before 1905 revolution (12 marks)
- b) Analyze the global impact of Russian Revolution (8 marks)
- c) Explain the terms of Treaty of Portsmouth that ended Russo-Japanese war (5 marks)

QUESTION TWO

- a) Justify factors that led to the rise of Eastern European Empire of Byzantine (9 marks)
- b) Discuss reasons that motivated Russia to join First World War (6 marks)

QUESTION THREE

- a) Examine reasons which motivated Soviet Union to join Allies during the Second World War (10 marks)
- b) Explain main points of disagreement during the Yalta Conference (5 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

- a) Evaluate main characteristics of Stalinism (12 marks)
- b) Explain the successes of Council for Mutual Assistance (COMECON) created after Second World War by USSR (3 marks)

QUESTION FIVE

- a) Contrast political and Economic beliefs between USA and USSR during Cold war (12 marks)
- b) Explain results of Berlin Blockade (3 marks)

QUESTION SIX

- a) Analyze two main reforms undertaken by Mikhail Gorbachev in USSR (6 marks)
- b) Illustrate key factors that led to the collapse of Soviet Union by 1990 (9 marks)