



LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) CHENNAI – 600 034
M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION – INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
THIRD SEMESTER – NOVEMBER 2024
PIR 3503 – ISSUES AND DYNAMICS IN WEST ASIA



Date: 12-11-2024
Time: 01:00 pm-04:00 pm

Dept. No.

Max. : 100 Marks

PART – A

(4x 10 = 40 Marks)

Answer any Four of the following in 400-500 words each

1. Discuss the uniqueness of the Persian ethnic identity in relation to its national and cultural characteristics.
2. Define sectarianism in the context of the post-mandate system and its impacts.
3. Outline the concept of *velayat-e faqih*, its roots in Shia Islam, and its development by Ayatollah Khomeini.
4. Describe Arab Spring and the role of social media in West Asia.
5. Assess the 1973 oil price crisis and triggering of successive global recession.
6. Analyse the ideology of Ze'ev Jabotinsky and 'revisionist Zionism' during the pre-state period of Israel's formation?

PART – B

(3 x 20 = 60 Marks)

Answer any Three of the following in 1200 words each

7. a) Explain how the 1453 conquest of Constantinople marked a pivotal moment in the expansion of the Ottoman Empire and the decline of Byzantine power.
(or)
b) Critically analyze the significance of the end of the Treaty of Lausanne after 100 years. In what way its expiration affect modern geopolitics, particularly in relation to territorial claims and economic zones, in the Eastern Mediterranean?
8. a) Analyze Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990. What were the key motivations behind the invasion, and what were the broader regional and international implications of this conflict?
(or)
b) Outline Syrian Civil War and assess how international intervention shaped the course of the war and influenced Syria's political and humanitarian situation.
9. a) Examine Saudi Arabia's role within OPEC shape its influence on global oil markets, and in what manner do the country leverage its oil wealth to advance its diplomatic strategies?
(or)
b) Identify and describe the major monotheistic religions of the Middle East—Islam, Judaism, and Christianity—and their historical significance in the region.

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