

Please check the examination details below before entering your candidate information

Candidate surname					Other names				
Centre Number					Candidate Number				

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE

Thursday 15 May 2025

Afternoon (Time: 1 hour 30 minutes) **Paper reference** **4BN1/01**

Bangladesh Studies

PAPER 1: History and culture of Bangladesh

You do not need any other materials.

Total Marks

Instructions

- Use **black** ink or ball-point pen.
- **Fill in the boxes** at the top of this page with your name, centre number and candidate number.
- In Section A, answer mandatory Question 1.
- In Section B, answer **one** question from Questions 2–4.
- In Section C, answer **one** question from Questions 5–6.
- Answer the questions in the spaces provided
– *there may be more space than you need.*

Information

- The total mark for this paper is 75.
- The marks for **each** question are shown in brackets
– *use this as a guide as to how much time to spend on each question.*

Advice

- Read each question carefully before you start to answer it.
- Check your answers if you have time at the end.

Turn over ►

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SECTION A

You must answer the question in this section.

Write your answers in the spaces provided.

Some questions must be answered with a cross in a box ☒. If you change your mind about an answer, put a line through the box ☒ and then mark your new answer with a cross ☒.

You should aim to spend no more than 30 minutes on this section.

1 Towards Bengali independence (1947–1975)

(a) Identify the year that Ayub Khan stepped down as president of Pakistan.

(1)

☐	A 1966
☐	B 1967
☐	C 1968
☐	D 1969

(b) State **two** features of the Special Powers Act, 1974.

(2)

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(c) Explain why Kashmir was a major difficulty in creating the new state of Pakistan in 1947.

(6)

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(d) 'The Language Movement was the main reason for the outbreak of the War of Liberation in 1971.'

Discuss how far you agree with this statement.

(16)

You may use the following in your answer:

- the mass uprising of 1969
- the 1970 election result.

You **must** also use information of your own.



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(Total for Question 1 = 25 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 25 MARKS



SECTION B

Answer ONE question from this section.

Write your answers in the spaces provided.

Some questions must be answered with a cross in a box ☒. If you change your mind about an answer, put a line through the box ☒ and then mark your new answer with a cross ☒.

You should aim to spend no more than 30 minutes on this section.

If you answer Question 2, put a cross in the box ☒ .

2 Early Bengal (AD 600–c1538)

(a) Identify the ruler in the Pala dynasty who ended matsyanyaya.

(1)

☐	A Devapala
☐	B Dharmapala
☐	C Gopala
☐	D Ramapala

(b) State **two** achievements of Fakhruddin Mubarak Shah.

(2)

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(c) Explain the importance of the leaders of Sufism.

(6)

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- (d) 'Hussain Shah's extension of Bengal's territory was his most important achievement in establishing Bengal under the Sultanate.'

Discuss how far you agree with this statement.

(16)

You may use the following in your answer:

- religious conversions
- development of the arts.

You **must** also use information of your own.



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(Total for Question 2 = 25 marks)



If you answer Question 3, put a cross in the box ☐.

3 The Mughal Empire (c1550–1764)

(a) Identify the year of the second battle of Panipat during the reign of Akbar.

(1)

☐	A 1555
☐	B 1556
☐	C 1557
☐	D 1558

(b) State **two** reasons why Siraj ud-Daulah was defeated at the battle of Palashi.

(2)

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(c) Explain why the Mughal Empire grew weak.

(6)

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(d) 'Shaista Khan's role as subahdar was his most important achievement in the development of Bengal.'

Discuss how far you agree with this statement.

(16)

You may use the following in your answer:

- relations with Europeans
- administrative reforms.

You **must** also use information of your own.



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(Total for Question 3 = 25 marks)



If you answer Question 4, put a cross in the box ☐.

4 Bengal under British rule (1764–1911)

(a) Identify the year that the Serampore Mission Press was introduced.

(1)

☐	A 1799
☐	B 1800
☐	C 1801
☐	D 1802

(b) State **two** features of the Swadeshi Movement.

(2)

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(c) Explain the importance of the Faraizi Movement to the revival of Islam.

(6)

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(16)

You **must** also use information of your own.

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(Total for Question 4 = 25 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 25 MARKS



SECTION C

Answer ONE question from this section.

Write your answers in the spaces provided.

Some questions must be answered with a cross in a box ☒. If you change your mind about an answer, put a line through the box ☒ and then mark your new answer with a cross ☒.

You should aim to spend no more than 30 minutes on this section.

If you answer Question 5, put a cross in the box ☒ .

5 The road to partition (1909–1947)

(a) Identify the year the Morley-Minto Reforms (Indian Councils Act) were introduced.

(1)

☐	A 1908
☐	B 1909
☐	C 1910
☐	D 1911

(b) State **two** terms of the Rowlatt Act, 1919.

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(c) Explain the difficulties faced by Congress and the Muslim League in accepting the Government of India Act, 1935.

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(d) 'The June 3 Plan was the main reason for the partition of the sub-continent of India in 1947.'

Discuss how far you agree with this statement.

(16)

You may use the following in your answer:

- the appointment of Lord Mountbatten as Viceroy of India
- the Radcliffe Award, 1947.

You **must** also use information of your own.



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(Total for Question 5 = 25 marks)



If you answer Question 6, put a cross in the box ☐.

6 Bangladesh: establishing the new country (1975–2001)

(a) Identify the year the UN Mother Tongue Day was established.

(1)

☐	A 1952
☐	B 1953
☐	C 1954
☐	D 1955

(b) State **two** achievements of Zainul Abedin.

(2)

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(c) Explain why General Hussain Mohammad Ershad resigned in 1990.

(6)

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- (d) 'Bangladesh has been more successful in its relations with Pakistan than with any other Asian country.'

Discuss how far you agree with this statement.

(16)

You may use the following in your answer:

- India
- China.

You **must** also use information of your own.



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(Total for Question 6 = 25 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION C = 25 MARKS
TOTAL FOR PAPER = 75 MARKS



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