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**ST. JOSEPH’S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), BENGALURU - 27**

**BA END-SEMESTER EXAMINATION JULY/AUGUST 2022**

 **TS 219 - Theatre Studies**

 **This paper contains 2 printed pages and four parts**

**Time: 2 ½ Hours** **Max. Marks: 70**

1. **Read the following excerpt and respond to the questions that follow:**

Karnad has argued from the beginning that the deep-rooted narratives of myth, oral history, and legend constitute a vital connection between an author and his or her audience, and theatre is a particularly powerful medium for the communication of such culturally resonant fictions. He belongs perhaps to the last generation of urban Indian writers who encountered the ‘great’ and ‘little’ traditions of myth, poetry, history, legend, and folklore at first hand in their earliest childhood, and internalized them deeply enough to have their adult authorial selves shaped by them. Such a vibrant culture or polity is no longer available to the Western playwright, and Karnad is fully aware that it is being rapidly eroded in India by the processes of urbanization, Westernized education, and economic development.

**I.A. Answer ANY TWO of the following in about 150 words each: (2x10=20)**

1. Is it correct to say that the resources that were available to Karnad’s generation are not available ‘at first hand’ to your generation?
2. What would you understand as a little tradition in your cultural context? Do you see evidence for a little tradition at work in Nagamandala?
3. Does Westernized education take away anything from the student? What has your experience been?
4. **Answer ANY TWO of the following questions in 200 words each: (2X10=20)**
5. Comment on the function of the minor characters in *Nagamandala*
6. Examine Karnad’s use of the barking dog in the opening scene. How is this detail useful in establishing an understanding for the audience?
7. Based on your reading of the play, describe how the stage directions shape the reader’s understanding of events.
8. **Respond to the following excerpt with reference to context: (10 marks)**

I am not a mongoose or a hawk that you should be so afraid of me. Good. Relax. Tell me about your parents. What did all of you talk about? Did they pamper you? Tell me everything—

1. Who speaks these words? What do they reveal of themselves? What is the listener unable to see for themselves?
2. **Answer ANY ONE of the following in 200-250 words : (20 marks)**
3. If you were to offer a staging of Nagamandala based on the idea that Rani is descending into an imaginary world/madness, what resources would you use? You are not allowed to change the words or omit characters.
4. Imagine that Appanna turns up at a staging of the play Nagamandala. At what point will he recognise himself as a character in the play. What will he then do? Write about the incident from the point of view of a journalist reporting it for a newspaper.

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