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By
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2/11A, Swadeshi Bima Nagar, AGRA-282 002

Phone : 4053333, 2530966, 2531101

Fax : (0562) 4053330, 4031570

E-mail : care@upkar.in

Website : www.upkar.in

Branch Offices :

4845, Ansari Road,
Daryaganj,

New Delhi— 110 002

Phone : 011-23251844/66

Pirmohani Chowk,
Kadamkuan,

Patna— 800 003

Ph. : 0612-2673340

1-8-1/B, R.R. Complex (Near
Sundaraiah Park, Adjacent to
Manasa Enclave Gate), Bagh
Lingampally,

Hyderabad— 500 044 (A.P.)

Phone : 040-66753330

28, Chowdhury Lane,

Shyam Bazar, Near Metro
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Phone : 033-25551510

B-33, Blunt Square, Kanpur

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**Dedicated
to**

The cause of justice and liberty which the
great men of all times have always
cherished the most, and have
struggled and died for.

Preface

I feel immense pleasure in presenting my book Modern Essays to the competitors aspiring for careers in higher services both of the central government and the state governments. The book comes as a result of the persistent demand made by the competitors to the publishers to bring out a comprehensive book of essays, particularly since compulsory English essay paper was introduced by the U.P.S.C. in the Indian Civil Services Examination (Main) syllabus.

Most of these essays were contributed to various magazines and periodicals in the last few years. Before inclusion in this book they have been thoroughly revised and brought up-to-date. As the contents of the book will show, the essays cover a wide variety of subjects ranging from the political, social, sociological to economic, environmental, literary, reflective, personality development and biographical or semi-biographical. It is for this reason, therefore, that the book has been divided into four parts, each containing more than a dozen essays except the last part.

The preparation of the book has been a very very strenuous exercise on the part of the author who possesses some experience in this field. He has taken adequate care to present the essays in a most systematic and organised manner, keeping in mind, at the same time, the requirements of standard essays for higher services examinations. The thought-content of the essays has been tried to be made as pithy as possible so that the competitors may find adequate material to respond to the requirements of a higher competitive examination.

I acknowledge my deep debt of gratitude to those great writers, thinkers and other great men of the world who have exercised a deep influence on me and have inspired me to undertake this onerous task. I would also like to express my heartiest thanks to my publishers, the Upkar Prakashan, who have so kindly co-operated all along in bringing out the book in time even after passing the entire printing exercise through a computerization process. I am also highly thankful to all those young competitors who have been persistently pressing me and the publishers to bring out a book which adequately caters to their needs for answering the essay paper in higher services examinations conducted by the U.P.S.C. and various State Public Service Commissions. I hope that the book will come upto their expectations. Suggestions for the further improvement of the book will be highly welcomed and gratefully acknowledged.

—B. K. Goyal

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**Political and
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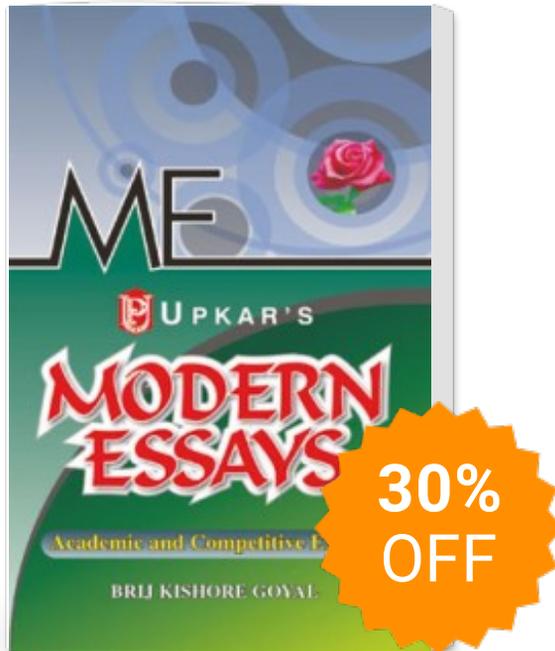
South Asia in the changed contexts

South Asia comprises countries of Asia south of Peoples Republic of China and includes all the countries of the Indian sub-continent like India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar (Burma), countries of the former Indo-China like Vietnam, Korea, Laos and Cambodia, Thailand and countries south of this belt like Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and Philippines. This is a part of the world which has been subject to exploitation by the European colonialists like Britain, France, Portugal, Holland etc., during the last two centuries. These countries can boast of a very highly advanced ancient civilization and culture. Of these, India is the largest country and has a most glorious past. During the colonial period, this part of the world was just like a puppet in the hands of the colonialists who were the determiners of its destiny. These countries hardly played an independent role in international politics during the colonial period. The Europeans were virtually their masters.

With the achievement of freedom by India, freedom movements in these countries too got intensified and in about two decades' time all the countries of the region became independent. In the changed times of today these countries have come to play a notable role in world politics. Their voice now counts for much in the comity of nations. Whereas Europe gave two world wars, this region promises to give permanent peace to the world, thanks to the multifarious efforts being made in this direction by countries of this region. If we cast a glance on the recent history of this region, there is much which supports the view that the future of the world will be determined by this part of the globe. South Asian countries are pleading for peace on several world forums including the United Nations Organization. An Asian Relations Conference was held in New Delhi in 1947. This was followed by Bandung Conference of Afro-Asian countries in 1955. These conferences tried to focus world attention on the problems of peace, exploitation of one country by another and gave a call for the establishment of a new and equitable world order. Earlier in 1954, India and China jointly enunciated Panch Sheela, the famous five principles of peace. These principles are : Non-aggression, equality and mutual benefit, respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, and peaceful co-existence. It may be recalled that war in Vietnam was not fought at the initiative of this country. It was a determined struggle on the part of that country to defend its honour and freedom. No country of this region has engaged itself in a war of the like fought on the arena of European politics.

South Asia has striven hard to give non-alignment movement a meaningful content. India can proudly boast of having originated the concept

Modern Essays



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Author : Brij Kishor Goyal

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