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PREFACE

Malcolm Forbes said “Education's purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one” and this is something which is always followed by Government of Kerala, Department of Education, whether through their education system framework or recent enhancement in their curriculum. The aim of their Curriculum is not just to let learners obtain basic knowledge but to make them life-long learners.

The purpose of this book is to nurture individuality and thus enhance one's innate potentials which help in increasing the self-study mode for students. This book strengthens knowledge and attitude related to subject. This book is designed in such a way that students can set their own goals and can improve their problem solving and thinking skills.

This book is strictly as per the latest SCERT Kerala Textbook, introduced by SSLC Board in 2016. It follows the latest syllabus prescribed by the board. It contains all types of questions like Textbook Questions, VSA Questions (Very Short Answer), SA Questions (Short Answer), MCQs (Multiple Choice Questions) and LA Questions (Long Answer). A synopsis is given for every chapter which contains important points from that chapter. Each chapter has high quality figures wherever required for better, fast and clear understanding.

OSWAAL SSLC Question Bank is different and better in terms of High Quality Questions which are developed by 'OSWAAL Expert Panel' which ensures success in examination. The Question Bank is arranged 'Topic-Wise' where each topic from every chapter is explained in detail. High quality figures and Flow charts are given to improve retention of concepts.

Through OSWAAL Books students are taught how to think, not what to think. We at OSWAAL Books try to use quality content, standard language, creativity and high-quality figures to facilitate clarity and lucidity. This is one of the reasons that the scope of this book extends from students to teachers. Teachers can use this book as a perfect teaching guide and students can use this book for effective learning and practice.

At last we would like to thank our authors, editors, reviewers and specially students whom we request to send suggestions regularly which will help in continuous improvement of this book and will make this book “One of the Best”. Wish you all Happy Learning.

–Publisher

ANNUAL EXAMINATION-2018

SOCIAL SCIENCE

(Solved Paper)

(Issued by Academic Council in March - 2018)

Time allowed : 2 ½ Hours

Total Score : 80

General Instruction :

1. First 15 minutes is cool off time.
2. Read the questions and instructions carefully before writing the answers.
3. While answering the questions, consider score and time.

Answer all questions from 1 to 4. Each carries 1 score.

(4×1 = 4)

1. During the time of which ruler did the Ottoman empire reach its zenith ?
2. Identify the minor lithospheric plate from among the following.
 - (a) Eurasian plate
 - (b) Australian plate
 - (c) Arabian plate
 - (d) Pacific plate
3. Which among the following is the university established in Italy ?
 - (a) Bologna
 - (b) Al-Azhar
 - (c) Oxford
 - (d) Cambridge
4. Name the government agency responsible for assessing National Income in india.

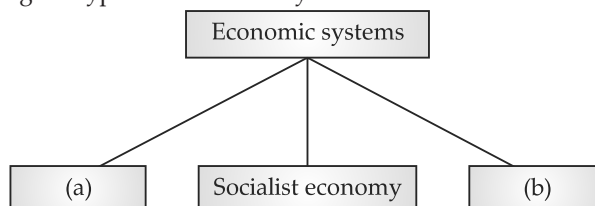
Answer any five from questions 5 to 11. Each carries 2 score.

(5 × 2 = 10)

5. List down any two fundamental duties you perform as an Indian citizen.
6. On what situations do spring tides occur ? Mention the characteristics of these tides.
7. List our the factors leading to human development
8. Write any two features of Mughal administration.
9. Nadus and their corresponding Swaroopams that existed in medieval Kerala are given in the table given below. Fill in the missing columns :

Nadus	Swaroopams
Kolathunadu	Kola Swaroopam
Eranad(a).....
.....(b).....	Perumpadappu Swaroopam

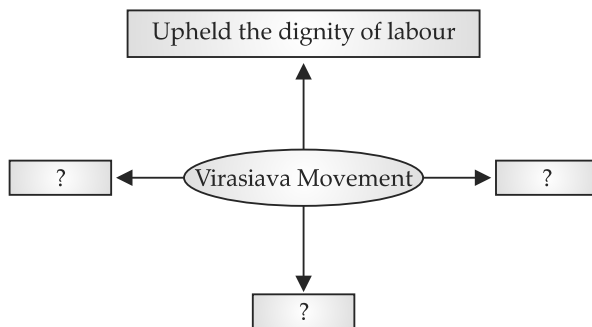
10. Distinguish between fog and mist
11. Complete the chart showing the types of economics systems



Answer any six from questions 12 to 19. Each carries 3 score

(6 × 3 = 18)

12. Explain the features of the administrative system that existed in the Vijayanagara empire.
13. List out the major natural disasters occurring in India.
14. What are the precautions to be taken to avoid the threat of flood ?
15. Prepare a note on the problems that the use of intoxicants create.
16. Suggest the scientific land use practices suitable for the steep slopes.
17. Explain the different measures adopted by the medieval Indian rulers for the progress of trade.
18. Complete the chart based on the activities of Virasaiva movement.



19. Write any three features of mixed economy.

Answer any time from questions 20 to 30. Each carries 4 score

(9 × 4 = 36)

20. Mention the features commonly found in the upper course of rivers.
21. Match the items in column A with those in column B.

A	B
Kalhana	Kaviraja Margam
Surdas	Ramacharitamanes
Thulsidas	Sursagar
Amoghavarshan	Rajatarangini

22. Prepare a note on the occupational groups of medieval Kerala.
23. Write any four consequences of migration.
24. Differentiate single majority system and proportional representation.
25. Explain the changes occurred in India as a result of liberalisation.
26. Reports show that the number of old age homes are increasing in our country. Prepare a note by analysing the circumstances leading to it.
27. Elucidate the guidelines of free trade agreements formed by World Trade Organisation (WTO).
28. What are the reasons for juvenile crimes ?
29. What are the steps to be followed in the event of earthquakes?

30. Complete the table based on ocean currents.

Ocean current	Ocean	Warm/cold
Agulhas current	Indian ocean(a).....
Humboldt current(b).....	cold current
Kuroshio current	Pacific ocean(c).....
Canaries current(d).....	cold current

Answer any two from questions 31 to 33. Each Carries 6 score

(2 × 6 = 12)

31. Explain the role of medieval literature in the growth of Malayalam language.

32. Describe the different types of trade of medieval Kerala.

33. There are arguments for and against globalisation. Explain.

ANSWERS

1. The Ottoman Empire reached its zenith under Suleyman, often known as 'the law giver'. 1
2. (c) Arabian Plate. 1
3. (a) Bologna. 1
4. Central Statistical Organisation. 1
5. List of fundamental duties we perform as an Indian citizen:
 - (i) To oblige with the Indian Constitution and respect the National Anthem and Flag.
 - (ii) To cherish and follow the noble ideas that inspired the national struggle for freedom.
 - (iii) To protect the integrity, sovereignty and unity of India.
 - (iv) To defend the country and perform national services if and when the country requires.
 - (v) To promote the spirit of harmony and brotherhood amongst all people of India and renounce any practices that are derogatory to women.
 - (vi) To cherish and preserve the rich national heritage of our composite culture.
 - (vii) To protect and improve the natural environment including lakes, wildlife, rivers, forests, etc.
 - (viii) To develop scientific temper, humanism and spirit of enquiry.
 - (ix) To safeguard all public property.
 - (x) To strive towards excellence in all genres of individual and collective activities. (Any two) (1+1=2)
6. Spring tides occur during the full moon and the new moon. During the moon's quarter phases, the sun and moon work at right angles, causing the bulges to cancel each other. The result is a smaller difference between high and low tides and is known as a neap tide.

Characteristics of Spring Tide:

 - (i) Spring tides occur when the Moon, the Sun, and the Earth are aligned. When this is the case, their collective gravitational pull on the Earth's water is strengthened.
 - (ii) Spring tides occur about every two weeks, when the Moon is full or new, and are at their maximum when the Moon and the Sun are in the same plane as the Earth. (Any one) (1+1=2)
7. **Factors leading to human development are :**
 - (i) **Education:** Kerala is able to record the highest value of HDI largely due to its impressive performance in achieving near hundred per cent literacy in 2001. In a different scenario, the states like Bihar, Madhya Pradesh,

Odisha, Assam and Uttar Pradesh have very low literacy. For example, total literacy rate for Bihar was as low as 60.32 per cent during the same year. States showing higher total literacy rates have less gaps between the male and female literacy rates.

- (ii) **Economic development:** Apart from the educational attainment, the level of economic development also has a significant impact on HDI. Economically developed states like Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Punjab and Haryana have higher value of HDI as compared to states like Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, etc.
- (iii) **Regional distortions and social disparities:** These aspects which developed during the colonial period continue to act as an important factor. (Any two) (1+1=2)

8. Features of Mughal administration:

- (i) Enjoying absolute power, the Emperor of the Mughal Empire was always the central administrative authority. A number of officers in different governmental departments were appointed for the smooth functioning of transactions involving various affairs.
- (ii) The Army had cavalry which was the most important unit, the infantry, made up of townsmen and peasants and artillery with guns and navy. The Mughal Army was a mixture of diverse elements. As it grew in number it became too heterogeneous to be manageable.
- (iii) Land revenue was the major source of the income. Akbar had instituted a system of Dahsala/Bandobast Arazi/ the Zabti system. Under this, the average produce of different crops and the average prices from the last ten years were calculated. One-third of the average was the share of the state that was collected in cash.

(Any two) (1+1=2)

9. (a) Nediyruppu Swaroopam.

(b) Kochi.

10. Following are the differences between fog and mist:

S.No.	Fog	Mist
1.	Fog is a cloud that reaches ground level, even if that "ground" is a hill or mountaintop.	Mist forms wherever water droplets are suspended in the air by temperature inversion, volcanic activity, or change in humidity.
2.	If visibility is less than 1,000 metres, we call it 'fog'.	If visibility is greater than 1,000 metres, we call it 'mist'.

(1 × 2=2)

11. (a) Capitalist economy.

(b) Mixed economy.

(1+1=2)

12. The Vijayanagar administration system was centralized, elaborate and just.

Following are the feature of the administrative system that existed in the Vijayanagara Empire:

- (i) **Powers of the king:** The king of Vijayanagara kingdom was at the top of the administration. He had unlimited power. He was responsible for the overall administration of the state. He was the commander-in-chief of the army, the highest administrator and the chief justice. Yet, he was not a tyrant. Rather, he was a benevolent ruler.
- (ii) **Focus on welfare of subjects:** The aim of the Vijayanagara administration was to do the welfare of his subjects. Krishnadevaraya (also Krishna Deva Raya) was the most important king of Vijayanagara Empire. He believed in the principle that a crowned king should always rule with an eye towards dharma.
- (iii) **Council of ministers:** To assist the king in the affairs of administration of Vijayanagara empire, there was a council of ministers which consisted of, possibly six or eight ministers. They were appointed by the king who could dismiss them also and they held office during the pleasure of the king.
- (iv) **Tax:** The kings of Vijayanagara charged a little more than one-sixth of the revenue in the form of tax. This was because the king had to maintain a huge army to protect the Vijayanagara Empire as well as to fight against their permanent enemy, the Bahmani Sultanate. Apart from this land tax, the government also levied other

taxes like the grazing tax, the marriage tax, and the customs duty, tax on gardening and taxes on manufacture of various articles. The rate of taxation was rather high, but the taxes were never extorted. The mode of payment of these taxes was both in cash and in kind.

- (v) **Judiciary:** The king was at the top of the judiciary. He was the fountain head of justice. All the cases were judged and decided by him. There were also regular courts, the judges of which were appointed by the king. The villages had their own Village Assembly or Panchayats which adjudicated the cases of the village people. In some cases, the judges used to take the help of the local bodies to settle the disputes. **(Any three)(1 × 3 = 3)**

13. Major natural disasters occurring in India:

- (i) **Earthquake:** An earthquake is the result of a sudden release of energy in the Earth's crust that creates seismic waves. At the Earth's surface, earthquakes manifest themselves by vibration, shaking, and sometimes, displacement of the ground. Earthquakes are caused by slippage within geological faults. The underground point of origin of the earthquake is called the seismic focus. The point directly above the focus on the surface is called the epicentre. On January 26, 2001, an earthquake measuring 7.7 on the Richter scale hit the state of Gujarat, killing over 20,000 people.
- (ii) **Landslide:** A landslide is described as an outward and downward slope movement of an abundance of slope-forming materials including rock, soil, artificial, or even a combination of these things. The landslide which took place on June 16, 2013 at Kedarnath, Uttarakhand was the result of Uttarakhand floods. Over 5700 were reported dead and over 4,200 villages had been affected by the flood and post-flood landslides.
- (iii) **Floods:** A flood is an overflow of water that 'submerges' the land. Flooding may result from the volume of water within a body of water, such as a river or a lake, which overflows, causing the result that some of the water escapes its usual boundaries. Assam flood of 2012 killed at least 120 people and also affected the life of the people in 1744 villages spread across nine districts. **(1 × 3 = 3)**

14. Precautions to be taken to avoid the threat of flood:

- (i) Avoid construction of buildings in a floodplain.
- (ii) Construct barriers (levees, beams, floodwalls) to stop floodwater from entering the home.
- (iii) Seal the walls in basements with waterproofing compounds to avoid seepage.
- (iv) If a flood is likely in your area, listen to the radio or television for information.
- (v) Know the difference between a flood watch and a flood warning. A watch means flooding is possible. A warning means flooding is occurring or will occur soon.
- (vi) Flood control has been practiced since ancient times with methods such as reforestation, and the construction of levees, dams, reservoirs and channels diverting floodwater, called floodway. Levees were used by the ancient Chinese to raise the banks of the Yellow River. **(Any three) (1 × 3 = 3)**

15. Problems that the use of intoxicants can cause:

- (i) Long-term overconsumption of intoxicants causes death of brain cells, which can lead to brain disorders as well as a lowered level of mental or physical function.
- (ii) Liver damage from intoxication can result in cirrhosis, a severe medical condition that can require a liver transplant to treat.
- (iii) Intoxication often causes severe social consequences on a person's life as well. **3**

16. Scientific land use practices suitable for steep slopes :

- (i) Hill sides may be transformed into terraces in order to reduce the slope.
- (ii) The course of the natural streams in the hilly terrain should not be blocked.
- (iii) Construction activities along steep slopes should be avoided.

17. The different measures adopted by the medieval Indian rulers for the progress of trade:

- (i) India has had a maritime history dating back to around 4,500 years, since the Indus Valley Civilization. The later maritime journeys spread the influence of ancient and medieval Indian civilisation as far as the islands of Indonesia to the east, the islands of Japan to the north, and the east coast of Africa to the west.
- (ii) Proper codes of conduct of trade were laid by the head of trade guilds, known as Sarthavaha or Srenipramukha. The codes were called Samay and Srenidharma. Taxila, Pushkalavati, Kapisa and Vidisha prospered as trade centres, under the Indo-Greek rulers.

- (iii) The rulers got the forests cut, roads built and secured the traders from the danger of bandits. This helped the traders and their commercial caravans to move from one market place to another. (1 × 3 = 3)

18. Activities of Virasaiva Movement:

- (a) Against religious rituals and idol worship.
 (b) Equality of all human beings.
 (c) Against Brahmanical ideas of caste and poor treatment of women. (1 × 3 = 3)

19. Three features of mixed economy :

- (i) **Co-existence of Private and Public Sector :** Under this system, there is co-existence of public and private sectors. In public sector, industries like defence, power, energy, basic industries etc., are set up. On the other hand, in private sector, all the consumer goods industries, agriculture, small-scale industries are developed. The government encourages both the sectors to develop simultaneously.
- (ii) **Private Property is allowed :** In a mixed economy, private property is allowed. However, here it must be remembered that there must be equal distribution of wealth and income. It must be ensured that the profit and property may not concentrate in a few pockets.
- (iii) **Economic Planning :** In a mixed economy, the government always tries to promote economic development of the country. For this purpose, economic planning is adopted. Thus, economic planning is very essential under this system.
- (iv) **Check on Economic Inequalities:** In this system, government takes several measures to reduce the gap between rich and poor through progressive taxation on income and wealth. The subsidies are given to the poor people and also job opportunities are provided to them. Other steps like concessions, old age pension, free medical facilities and free education are also taken to improve the standard of poor people. Hence, all these help to reduce economic inequalities. (Any three) (1 × 3 = 3)

20. Features commonly found in the upper course of rivers:

- (i) As the river moves through the upper course, it cuts downwards. The gradient here is steep and the river channel is narrow.
- (ii) Vertical erosion in this highland part of the river helps to create steep-sided V-shaped valleys, interlocking spurs, rapids, waterfalls and gorges.
- (iii) As the river erodes the landscape in the upper course, it winds and bends to avoid areas of hard rock. This creates interlocking spurs, which look a bit like the interlocking parts of a zip.
- (iv) When a river runs over alternating layers of hard and soft rock, rapids and waterfalls may form. (1 × 4 = 4)

21

Part A	Part B
Kalhana	Rajatarangini
Surdas	Sursagar
Tulsidas	Ramacharistramanas
Amoghavarshan	Kaviraja Margam

(1 × 4 = 4)

22. Occupational groups of medieval Kerala:

By the end of the 19th century, a number of plantations, which was completely a new venture, was started in Malabar. For this, planters obtained large areas for long term. This provided employment to many, and in return, wages in cash. The receipt of cash, the realization of importance of cash, thoroughly affected the thinking of the people. The colonial notion of economy started percolating to all levels. Malabar also began to produce for the world market. Plantations and cultivation of cash crops expanded. Colonial ideas and perceptions brought forth conspicuous changes. The complete shattering of caste-wise occupation was the result of new trends of industry, commerce and plantations. A group of ryots was becoming the rightful owners of landed property by purchase. A gradual process was bringing forth at least a few Nairs to the position of landlords. By 19th century, this small section who paid rent to the Janmi and at the same time received rent from cultivators emerged as a socio-economic force since they extracted a higher rent from the actual cultivators than what they paid to Janmi.

23. Consequences of migration:

- (i) Emigration leaves noticeable gaps in the countries of origin. The loss of well-trained and experienced specialists reduces a nation's chances of building up workable economic structures by its own efforts.
- (ii) Migration of large numbers of people exacerbates the economic and political problems in their native countries.
- (iii) Loss of young workforce; those with skills and those with entrepreneurial talents move, slowing economic development. Loss of labour may reduce inward investment by private companies, increasing the dependency on government initiatives.
- (iv) Migration of men and young families can cause a loss of cultural leadership and traditions.
- (v) Lots of young people migrating out of the country can increase the dependency ratio.

(Any four) (1 × 4 = 4)**24.**

S.No	Single Majority System	Proportional Representation
1.	A simple majority is a vote taken by an organization where at least 51% of the members must vote in favour to approve a bill before it is accepted.	An electoral system in which parties gain seats in proportion to the number of votes cast for them.
2.	A simple majority means more votes in favour than against.	The basic principal under lying is that everyone should have the right to fair representation.
3.	They require candidates in single-member district elections to garner a majority of the votes to win the legislative office.	Instead of electing one person in each district, several people are elected.
4.	A voting requirement of simple majority system is more than half of all ballots cast.	They divide up the seats in these multi-member districts according to the proportion of votes received by various parties or groups running candidates.

(1 × 4 = 4)**25. Changes that occurred in India as a result of liberalisation:****(i) Visible changes –**

- (a) Better services are available in the communication sector, such as telephone, LED television and other electronic goods, at low price.
- (b) Many food processing companies have taken over the market, such as Coca-Cola, Pepsi and other food products.

(ii) Invisible changes –

- (a) The share of India in trade and services in the world has increased.
- (b) Foreign direct investment in India has increased.
- (c) Foreign exchange reserves have increased.
- (d) Price rise in terms of percentage have declined.
- (e) Marginal growth in industry and increase in employment opportunities is visible. **(Any four) (1 × 4 = 4)**

26. Circumstances leading to increase in number of old age homes in India:

- (i) Sometimes, grown-ups fail to realize their duty and are so much engrossed in their personal lives that they feel it a burden to keep their parents along with them. They feel it as an interference in their personal lives and eventually tell their parents that they cannot keep them.
- (ii) The ego clash between mother-in-law and daughter-in-law causes too much stress in the house and the situation becomes such that they can not live together.

- (iii) The new generation is becoming more materialistic and their attitude towards the parents is changing. They seem to have lost their patience.
- (iv) Most of the Indian families take good care of their elders, but unfortunately, there are people who treat their parents as liabilities, making them feel neglected.
- (v) Most children reside outside India or in another city for work purpose and the ageing parents are left all alone with no one to look after them. An old age home offers the opportunity to live as a community, giving the feeling of an extended family.
- (vi) A constant cause of tension regarding senior citizens include health related issues and medical emergencies. Since old age homes are exclusively for senior citizens, medical help is always available and they are better equipped to handle emergencies.
- (vii) It has become a common occurrence nowadays of crimes being committed against senior citizens, as they are easy targets. Living in an old age home provides protection and security to them because of constant screening of visitors. Also, gadgets like CCTV offer constant surveillance and video intercoms make sure that it is possible to monitor the visitors. (Any four) (1 × 4 = 4)

27. Guidelines for free trade agreements formed by WTO :

- (i) Non-discrimination among trading partners is one of the core principles of the WTO.
- (ii) The organization also provides a forum for discussions on the implications of Regional Trade Agreements for the wider multilateral trading system.
- (iii) Almost all RTAs show an inherent dynamism towards greater liberalisation and open market. For instance: European Union (EU), where a single market and a common currency have been introduced to strengthen internal competition and external competitiveness.
- (iv) Open regionalism, i.e. agreements with low external trade barriers, service markets and a dominant focus on reducing transaction costs at borders, help get around the complexity of the international trading system. (1 × 4 = 4)

28. Reasons for juvenile crime:

- (i) **Illiteracy:** If children have poor academic performance, poor attendance, face expulsion or drop out from school, their probability of committing crime is magnified. Leaving school early reduces the chance that juveniles will develop the social skills that are gained in school, such as learning to meet deadlines, following instructions, and being able to deal constructively with their peers. A child without a proper education will eventually learn that he or she is at a disadvantage in the workforce. This feeling of hopelessness, exacerbated by the national media's emphasis on low employment numbers and fiscal crises, can create an environment ripe for juvenile crime.
- (ii) **Peer Pressure:** Adolescence can be a painful time of growing into oneself and seeking acceptance from peers and social groups. Wanting to fit in and be accepted often serves as motivation for teens to succumb to peer pressure. In a recent survey on nearly 1,000 teenagers, only 10% said that they had not been influenced by peer pressure. Young people cite peer pressure as one of the major reasons they engage in risky behaviour, such as teen sex, reckless driving, alcohol, drug and tobacco-use, crime and gang activity.
- (iii) **Substance abuse:** Substance abuse on its own can affect cognitive development, lowering a young person's inhibitions and ability to assess risks. It is also a powerful contributor to crime when combined with other factors mentioned here.
- (iv) **Lack of strong moral guidance:** Children learn right or wrong by following adult examples throughout childhood—from their parents, if parents are present in the family, from grandparents, nuclear family members, social groups, and other authoritative influences. In the absence of these concerned adults and positive influences, a child may suffer from "moral poverty" which has the capacity to follow a child into adolescence and young adulthood and hence lead them towards committing crime. (1 × 4 = 4)

29. Steps to be followed in the event of earthquake:

- (i) If you are indoors, stand against a wall near the center of the building, stand in a doorway, or crawl under heavy furniture (a desk or a table). Stay away from windows and outside doors.
- (ii) If you are outdoors, stay in the open away from power lines or anything that might fall. Stay away from buildings (stuff might fall off the building or the building could fall on you).

- (iii) Don't use matches, candles, or any flame. Broken gas lines and fire don't mix.
 (iv) If you are in a car, stop the car and stay inside the car until the earthquake stops.
 (v) Don't use elevators (they may get stuck).

(Any four) (1 × 4 = 4)

30. (a) Warm current (b) Pacific Ocean
 (c) Warm current (d) Atlantic Ocean

(1 × 4 = 4)

31. Role of medieval literature in the growth of Malayalam language:

Malayalam belongs to the family of Dravidian languages. Tamil, Telugu and Kannada are the other cultivated languages belonging to this family. Of the four, Tamil is considered to be the oldest, the most cultivated and well-developed.

Malayalam is believed to be an offshoot of medieval Tamil of the 8th century AD, and this fact is proven by many inscriptions and other materials, now unearthed, belonging to the centuries successively following the period of medieval Tamil. However, it may be clearly stated that of all the four cultivated South Indian languages, modern Tamil is the closest to Malayalam.

Malayalam as a language got separated from its parental tongue – the medieval Tamil – due to many reasons; sociological, political, geographical, and to some extent, geological too. Among them, the most important is sociological.

It is often said that the Namputiri Brahmins and caste Hindus of Kerala got themselves allied; physically, spiritually and economically. In Kerala, they formed themselves into a separate community or nationality, who were socially and culturally cut off from the rest.

Sanskrit which was the spiritual and cultural language of the Brahmins made its way into the local language and a new hybrid language called "Manipravalam" (the coral-pearl combination of the local language and Sanskrit) was formed. Till the formation of Manipravalam, the then spoken and literary language of Kerala had been using loan words from Sanskrit in a Tamillised form; as an evident from the words written during those periods both in Kerala and in Tamilnad.

When Manipravalam began to make its influence felt on local language, the system of adoption of Sanskrit loan words underwent a change. Sanskrit words were used as they are, and there was a tendency on the part of a few writers to Sankritise even the local words. Such artificial forms are abundant in Manipravala works written during that period. By the 14th century, the entire nature of Kerala language was changed and a language worthy of being termed as "Malayalam", with all its modern characteristics, had been formed by the time. The literary works belonging to the 13th, 14th and 15th centuries bear ample testimony to this fact.

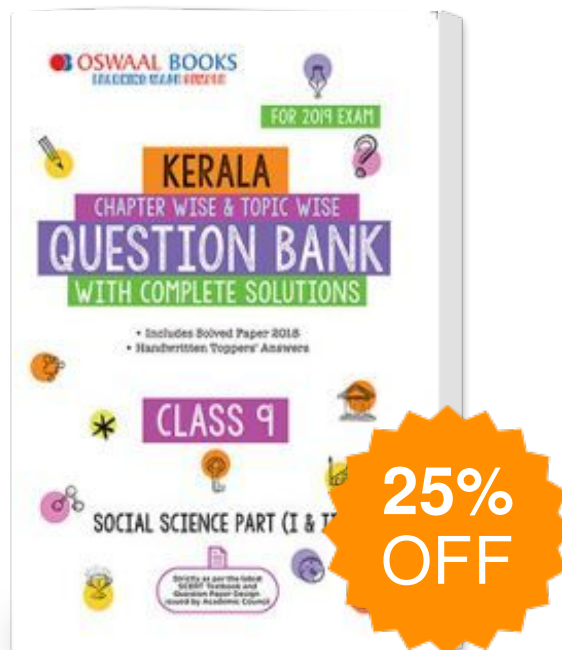
There were many literary works written during this formative period. They may be classified under two major groups according to the nature of languages and mode of literary styles used in them. They are known as "Manipravala" works and "Pattu" works. "Pattu" means "song", and the compositions which strictly followed the rules of the then Tamil poems were termed as "Pattu" works.

One speciality with Malayalam literature is that the Manipravala works written during the earliest literary periods – 12th, 13th, 14th & 15th centuries – are of purely non-religious nature. Poems of courtesans, their life and their activities were composed by many poets. Today, they are considered as the best sources for researchers to study the then existing social conditions of Kerala. Almost all Manipravalam works are replete with this sort of sensuous themes. Meanwhile, Pattu works are mostly on religious, mythological and ritual themes. Ramayana and Mahabharata were composed in Pattu styles during this period.

Tuncattu Eluttaccan, ascribed to 16th century is often called the Father of Modern Malayalam. It is in his Ramayana and Mahabharata we find the language of Kerala establishing itself in its modern form. There were many works written in imitation of Sanskrit literature. They come under the titles "Sandesa Kavya" (Messenger Poem) and "Champus". An indigenous literary branch known as "Attakkatha" written for the Kerala classical dance-drama Kathakali form the bulk of medieval literature of Malayalam.

Devotional poems and philosophical works were also written by many during this period. There were good prose works in Malayalam from kautilya's "Arthashastra", Called "Bhasa Kautaliyam", it is perhaps the earliest of Malayalam works now available. Thereafter appeared many prose works mainly describing the mode of acting

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