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Paper VIII

North American Studies

(Special Paper)

First Half

USA : 1945-2000

Unit I : The Emergence of the USA as a Super Power, 1945-58

The Growing Public Expectations; the Streamlining of the economy; the Truman Presidency; the Instruments of the Cold War — Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan; the Concept of Limited War; Korea, Vietnam and its aftermath; the differences between the Republicans and the Democrats; Dwight Eisenhower and the Domino Thesis; the beginning of Military Pacts.

Unit II : The Kennedy Years, 1958-1963

Reasons for the Popularity of JFK; the Challenges before JFK — the school curriculum and the Birth Pill Controversy; the Short bonhomie between the USA and USSR; the American involvement in Vietnam; the Cuban Missile Crisis, the end of a dream.

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Unit III : Appropriating Nationalities, 1950-1980.

The US Immigration Policy; the Salad Bowl Model; Oscar Handlin and his later day critics; the new explanations of the 1980s; the autonomy of the private and public space.

Unit IV : Blacks in Protest

Black Christianity and the Issue of Social Equality; Martin Luther King and his agenda of peaceful Change; the March to Mississippi; the Radical Trends-Emamu Amiri Barakka (Leroy Jones), Stokely Carmichael and Malcolm X; Black is Power, Blacks and Vietnam; Black Civil Right Legislation.

Unit V : Women and Empowerment

From Silent Spectators to Equal Partners; the New Woman; the issue of Liberation; the Challenge to patriarchy; the Beginning of Organised Protest; Women and Affirmative Action Programmes.

Unit VI : Students and the Vision of A New Social Order

The emergence of radicalism in US University Campuses, Vietnam and the Impact of the New Left Movement, stins as a new form of protest; flower power and alternate youth cults.