

UNITED SERVICE INSTITUTION OF INDIA

‘Lt Gen SL Menezes Memorial Indian Military History Essay Competition’

RULES

1. Competition is open to all, irrespective of nationality. This includes all members of the Armed Forces of India, the Territorial Army and the Senior Division of National Cadet Corps, and personnel of the Paramilitary Forces, Police and Civil Administration in India including retired personnel.
2. The essay must be on a topic relating to Indian military history. The subject can be from any era, relating to any aspect of India’s military past, on ground, sea or air.
3. Essay may vary in length between 3,500 to 4,500 words (including footnotes). The word length should be shown in brackets at the end of the essay. **Entries violating the length are liable to be rejected.**
4. Essays should be written in the English language and printed on one side of the paper in double space. Hardcopies only should be submitted in TRIPLICATE. Essays are NOT to be sent by email.
5. Entries will be strictly ANONYMOUS. No detail pertaining to the author is to be mentioned on the essay or in the covering letter. One sealed envelope is to accompany the essay with a paper indicating the author’s name, address, email. Service officers are to indicate their personal number, rank, date of commission, unit, address and e-mail. On the outside of the envelope, only the title of the essay is to be written. These envelopes will be opened during the USI Council meeting, after the judges have given their decision. Essays violating the anonymity rule will be rejected.
6. The essay must be an author’s personal and original effort. Sources are to be cited in the laid down format. Jointly written essays are not accepted.
7. Three judges chosen by the USI will adjudicate. Marks will be given on the basis of the following:-
 - a. The extent to which the contribution throws fresh light on the subject.
 - b. Whether in the whole or in large part it is in a form suitable for publication.
 - c. Understanding of the subject.
 - d. Thought, logic, development of theme.
 - e. Language / expression.
8. The award of the judges will be final. They may recommend the first prize to the winner (a certificate and cash prize of Rs.10,000/-), as well as a certificate only to the runners-up. The names of the winner(s) of the essay competition, along with the winning essay, if recommended for publication by the judges, will be published in the USI Journal.
9. The Institution reserves the right not to make an award, if none of the essays submitted are of a standard which the judges consider adequate. Cases of plagiarism will invite disqualification.
10. Copyright of all essays submitted will be reserved by the United Service Institution of India.
11. All essays should be sent to the Director, United Service Institution of India, Rao Tula Ram Marg, Post Bag No.8, Vasant Vihar PO, New Delhi-110 057, to be received not later than 15 August annually. The envelopes should be marked as follows:-
 - ‘Lt Gen SL Menezes Memorial USI Essay Competition’
12. All essays must conform to the CAFHR style sheet, available at <http://usiofindia.org/CAFHR/Guidelines/>