

AET2

Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Tripos, Part II

Monday 4 June 2018 9 to 12 pm

Paper C20

Contemporary Chinese society

Answer all questions.

Write your number <u>not</u> your name on the cover sheet of **each** answer booklet.

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS

20 page answer booklet Rough Work Pad

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS TO BE SUPPLIED FOR THIS EXAMINATION

Xiandai hanyu cidian

You may not start to read the questions printed on the subsequent pages of this question paper until instructed to do so.

Part I (15 marks)

1. Summarise the following passage in approximately 150 words and then write a short essay (approximately 350 words) identifying at least two key features of China's official discourse on human rights. Both parts of your answer should be in English.

当前,人权已成为国际社会普遍关心的重大问题之一。联合国通过的有关人权的宣言和一些公约,受到许多国家的拥护和尊重。中国政府对《世界人权宣言》也给予了高度的评价,认为它"作为第一个人权问题的国际文件,为国际人权领域的实践奠定了基础"。但是,人权状况的发展受到各国历史、社会、经济、文化等条件的制约,是一个历史的发展过程。由于各国的历史背景、社会制度、文化传统、经济发展的状况有巨大差异,因而对人权的认识往往并不一致,对人权的实施也各有不同。对于联合国通过的一些公约,各国基于本国的情况,态度也不尽一致。人权问题虽然有其国际性的一面,但主要是一个国家主权范围内的问题。因此,观察一个国家的人权状况,不能割断该国的历史,不能脱离该国的国情;衡量一个国家的人权状况,不能按一个模式或某个国家和区域的情况来套。这是从实际出发,实事求是的态度。

中国人民从自己的历史和国情出发,根据长时期实践的经验,对人权问题 形成了自己的观点,并制定了相应的法律和政策。《中华人民共和国宪法》规 定,中华人民共和国的一切权力属于人民。中国的人权具有三个显著的特点:一 是广泛性。享受人权的主体不是少数人,也不是某些阶级和阶层的一部分人,而 是全体中国公民。中国公民享受的人权范围是广泛的,不仅包括生存权、人身权 和政治权利,而且包括经济、文化、社会等各方面的权利。国家不仅十分注重保 障个人人权,而且注重维护集体人权。二是公平性。中国实行社会主义制度,消 灭了剥削制度和剥削阶级,各项公民权利不受金钱和财产状况以及民族、种族、 性别、职业、家庭、出身、宗教信仰、教育程度、居住期限的限制,为全社会的 公民平等地享有。三是真实性。国家为人权的实现从制度上、法律上、物质上给 予保障。宪法和法律中规定的各种公民权利,同人们在现实生活中报享受的权利 是一致的。中国的人权立法和政策,受到全国各民族各层人民和各党派、各团体 以及实会各界的拥护和支持。

Excerpted from the preface of "Human Rights in China" (White Paper of the Information Office of the State Council: Beijing, 1991).

Part II (15 marks)

2. Summarise the following passage in approximately 150 words and then illustrate (in approximately 350 words) what the passage tells us about Mao Zedong's political priorities on 1 October 1949 when he gave this speech. Both parts of your answer should be in English.

诸位代表先生们:我们有一个共同的感觉,这就是我们的工作将写在人类的历史上,它将表明:占人类总数四分之一的中国人从此站立起来了。中国人从来就是一个伟大的勇敢的勤劳的民族,只是在近代是落伍了。这种落伍,完全是被外国帝国主义和本国反动政府所压迫和剥削的结果。一百多年以来,我们的先人以不屈不挠的斗争反对内外压迫者,从来没有停止过,其中包括伟大的中国革命先行者孙中山先生所领导的辛亥革命在内。我们的先人指示我们,叫我们完成他们的遗志。我们现在是这样做了。我们团结起来,以人民解放战争和人民大革命打倒了内外压迫者,宣布中华人民共和国的成立了。我们的民族将从此列入爱好和平自由的世界各民族的大家庭,以勇敢而勤劳的姿态工作着,创造自己的文明和幸福,同时也促进世界的和平和自由。我们的民族将再也不是一个被人侮辱的民族了,我们已经站起来了。我们的革命已经获得全世界广大人民的同情和欢呼,我们的朋友遍于全世界。

我们的革命工作还没有完结,人民解放战争和人民革命运动还在向前发展, 我们还要继续努力。帝国主义者和国内反动派决不甘心于他们的失败,他们还要 作最后的挣扎。在全国平定以后,他们也还会以各种方式从事破坏和捣乱,他们

(TURN OVER)

将每日每时企图在中国复辟。这是必然的,毫无疑义的,我们务必不要松懈自己的警惕性。

Excerpted from "The Chinese People Have Stood Up!", Volume 5 of the Selected Works of Mao Zedong.

Accessed at: https://www.marxists.org/chinese/maozedong/marxist.org-chinese-mao-19490921.htm

Part III (35 marks)

Write an essay in ENGLISH on **ONE** of the following topics.

- 1. "A murky blend of Marxism, nationalism and pragmatism". To what extent does this accurately describe Mao's political thought and practice?
- 2. To what extent was the failure of the Great Leap Forward beyond the control of the CCP?
- 3. What were Mao Zedong's motivations and justifications for launching the Cultural Revolution?
- 4. Account for the fluctuations in Chinese foreign policy during the Mao Zedong era (1949-76).
- 5. How do we judge the success or failure of Deng Xiaoping's reforms?

Part IV (35 marks)

Write an essay in ENGLISH on **ONE** of the following topics.

- 1. How has the CCP responded to criticism of its human rights record both in its rhetoric and in practice?
- 2. To what extent has China democratised since the death of Mao Zedong?
- 3. "The CCP has stayed in power for nearly 7 decades because it is legitimate in the eyes of the Chinese people". Discuss.
- 4. Why has nationalism been so important to the CCP since the early 1990s and has it made the party more or less popular?
- 5. Can we trust China to behave responsibly as a major international power?

END OF PAPER