

ASIAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES TRIPOS, PART II

Chinese Studies

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Date 2013

Time

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**C.20 CONTEMPORARY CHINESE SOCIETY**

*Answer three questions. All questions are of equal value.*

*Write your number **not** your name on the cover sheet of **each** Section booklet.*

**STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS**

*20 Page Answer Book x 1*

*Rough Work Pad*

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

*None*

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

Answer **three** of the following questions:

1. Explain some of the continuities and changes between the Maoist and reform periods in relation to social control.
2. In what ways does gender provide a good lense through which to look at rural, urban and migrant lives in the reform era?
3. What are the most prominent themes in studies on Chinese minority nationalities as well as their relationship with the Han majority and the Chinese state?
4. Compare and contrast the political aims, the processes of implementation and larger consequences of the 1950s Land Reform and the early 1980s Household Responsibility System.
5. Was Mao more a nationalist than a Marxist?
6. 'A tragedy of good intentions.' To what extent does this characterisation provide an accurate evaluation of the Great Leap Forward?
7. Assess Deng Xiaoping's decision to launch the economic reforms in light of both the political context in which the decision was made and the consequences of the reforms.
8. To what extent has China's record of human rights improved during the Reform Period according to Chinese *and* Western standards?
9. How is Chinese religious life embedded in the broader social structure and how does this embeddedness affect religion's potential in asserting social influence?
10. In what way is the body (including bodily practices, the uses of the body and its components, and conceptions of the body) a good window for understanding social and cultural change in China?

END OF PAPER