

AET1
Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Tripos, Part IB

Wednesday 7 June 2017 9 to 12.00 pm

Paper C7

History of dynastic China

Candidates should answer **three** questions, **one** from each section (A, B, C). All questions carry **equal** marks.

Write your number **not** 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

None

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

A. Early Imperial China

1. What role did writing play in the Qin and Han empires?
2. Why were ritual and cosmology so vital to the imperial enterprise in Early China?
3. Discuss the family and kinship structures of the Qin and Han empires.
4. How did relations with its neighbours shape the Han empire?
5. Analyse a specific aspect or model of the imperial enterprise in Early China.

B. Medieval China

1. In what ways did Buddhism influence the culture and society of the Medieval empires?
2. Is it fair to refer to the Medieval empires as 'cosmopolitan'?
3. What was the role of history in the imperial enterprise in Medieval China?
4. Why were foreign relations strongly emphasised in the Tang empire?
5. What were the effects of the An Lushan rebellion on the Tang and how did this change the imperial enterprise?

C. Late Imperial China

1. How would you define elite culture of later empires? Explain your answer.
2. Discuss how 'Confucianism' developed in the later empires. How did this influence these empires?
3. In what ways did foreign relations influence the Ming or Qing empires?
4. Was the imperial enterprise different in the Late Imperial China when compared with the empires of earlier periods? Explain your answer.
5. How and why did literacy 'transform' in the Late Imperial period? How did this impact this period?

END OF PAPER