ORIENTAL STUDIES TRIPOS Part II

Hebrew Studies

Wednesday 3 June 2009  09.00 – 12.00

H.14  POST-BIBLICAL JEWISH TEXTS

Candidates should answer all sections.
All questions carry equal weight.

Write your number not your name on the cover sheet of each Answer Book.

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS
20 Page Answer Book x 1
Rough Work Pad

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.
SECTION A

ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN THIS SECTION

1. Translate the following seen passage into English and comment on the halakhic issues involved:

T-S Misc.35.17, recto, ll. 5–11 (edited by S. Assaf 1942 p. 114, and corrected from the ms)

2. Translate the following passage into English and comment on its historical background:


3. Translate the following seen passage into English and comment on any points of interest:

Ibn ZABARA, Sepher Sha’ashu’im ed. I. Davidson (1914), pp. 46–7
4. Translate the following seen passage into English and comment on any points of interest:

MISHNAH, Sanhedrin 4.5, Mishnayot, 1959, vol. 2, p.47

5. Translate the following seen passage into English and discuss the author’s use of biblical allusions and philosophical ideas:


(TURN OVER)
SECTION B

6. Translate the following unseen passage into English:

MAIMONIDES, M. D. Rabinovich, ed., Moses Maimonides: Introductions to the Commentary on the Mishnah, 1961, pp. 9-10
SECTION C

ANSWER ONE OF THE FOLLOWING TWO QUESTIONS:

7. Translate the following unseen Hebrew passage into English:

אספר רעיון תודיך על חטיה של תבון שנמצאה ואשרilihan חלקל בלשון ת畛 חותם החתיו ילבד ו
הותח להתחדיש כי שתווחי ת ניתך בכל ארבעת됩니다 פ' 초 יבש תני גב התוית הקטנה
ואין למולחת מתפוררת על קסמתו ואמוקさせる על הגולה ונענת על הגולה ולאו על הגולה ובישה והשאר
עשיש בתוכך הח裟 שניהם לינשהו והיה ראי לכל חלקל של[ר] חלקים בא收受 חטבון ומועלה עבורי
כי היאשה חביבת בנהת להניקה

ות ‘to sustain, feed’

T-S 18J4.21, recto, II. 5–11 (unpublished; transcribed from ms)

8. Translate the following English passage into Medieval Hebrew:

The house was pleasantly situated by the roadside in a little village named Finden. Opposite stood the church, a plain, low, square-towered building. As it was cattle-market to-day in the town of Wattleborough, droves of beasts and sheep occasionally went by, or the rattle of a grazier’s cart sounded for a moment. On ordinary days the road saw few vehicles; and pedestrians were rare.

Mrs Milvain and her daughters had lived here for the last seven years, since the death of the father, who was a veterinary surgeon. The widow enjoyed an annuity of two hundred and forty pounds, terminable with her life; the children had nothing of their own. Maud acted irregularly as a teacher of music; Dora had an engagement as visiting governess in a Wattleborough family. Twice a year, as a rule, Jasper came down from London to spend a fortnight with them; to-day marked the middle of his autumn visit, and the strained relations between him and his sisters which invariably made the second week rather trying for all in the house had already become noticeable.

GEORGE GISSING, New Grub Street

END OF PAPER