

Part II EXAMINATION OF THE ORIENTAL STUDIES TRIPOS

Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies

Friday 28 May 2010

13.30 – 16.30

**Is. 21 MIDDLE EASTERN AND ISLAMIC HISTORY, 5;
THE RISE AND FALL OF THE MONGOL WORLD EMPIRE**

*Candidates should attempt **three** questions.
All questions carry **equal** marks*

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS

*20 page Answer Book x 1
A Rough Work Pad*

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

None

<p>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</p>
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Answer **three** of the following questions:

- 1 How was the political geography of the Mongol Empire transformed by the Toluid coup?
- 2 What were the issues at stake in the conflict between Ariq Böke and his brother Qubilai and what were the consequences of Qubilai's victory?
- 3 Who ran the Mongol Empire?
- 4 Why did Chinggisid rule in Central Asia last so much longer than in the other Khanates?
- 5 Why did the Golden Horde not convert to Christianity?
- 6 How much common ground can be identified in the experience of the Mongols in China and in Iran?
- 7 What was the significance for the Mongols of their failure to overcome the Mamluk Sultanate?
- 8 To what extent can the Il-Khans be credited with the florescence of Persian culture in Iran in the Mongol period?
- 9 "Pro-Mongol Muslim sources succeeded in making the Great Khan a highly honorable figure in the Turco-Persian Muslim collective memory." (Biran). Compare this image of Chinggis Khan with the viewpoints found in *either* Chinese *or* Russian historiography.

END OF PAPER