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

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. 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**