

ORIENTAL STUDIES TRIPOS Part II

Wednesday 8 June 2011 09.00 – 12.00

IS.22 MIDDLE EASTERN AND ISLAMIC HISTORY, 6

Answer **three** questions, at least **one** from each Section.

All questions carry **equal** marks.

Write your number **not** your name on the cover sheet of **each** answer book that you use.

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

Answer **three** of the following questions, at least **one** from each Section:

SECTION A

1 There are different kinds of political Islamic groups, with different reasons for their emergence. Explain the differences between **two** of the following: Liberation and anti-colonial movements; social forces driven by domestic pressure; identity and cultural responses to westernisation; spiritual and salvationist organisations; or violent and terrorist groups.

2 Salafism is a problematic term which is used by various Islamist movements in different ways in order to justify their means and ends. Discuss how Salafi justification is employed by the official religious establishment in the Gulf countries to encourage people to obey their rulers, and how Salafi justification is also used by Al-Qaeda and other groups to justify violence against the same rulers.

3 In Turkey and Morocco there are two parties with Islamist roots that use the same name: the Justice and Development Party. Identify the main similarities and differences between the two.

4 The Muslim Brotherhood is the largest Islamist movement founded in the Arab, and possibly the Muslim, world, with branches in many countries. In your view, what have been the main successes and failures of this movement?

SECTION B

5 Many Islamists argue that Islam and democracy are compatible, saying that there could be an 'Islamic democracy'. Discuss this argument with reference to specific examples.

6 Islamist movements in the Arab world are the product of national, regional and international, historical and political contexts. Discuss the impact of the **regional** and **international** context on the emergence of these movements.

7 Islamists have shown ambivalent attitudes towards nationalism and nation-states. In theory they criticise these concepts as un-Islamic, but in practice many Islamists and Islamist parties draw on nationalist concepts. Discuss.

8 Based on what you have studied in this course, could the revolutions in Tunisia and Egypt in early 2011 lead to Islamist states similar to Iran? Explain your answer focusing on **either** Tunisia **or** Egypt.

END OF PAPER