

ASIAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES TRIPOS, PART 1B

Japanese Studies

Monday 2 June 2014 09.00 – 12.00

J.10 JAPANESE POLITICS

Answer **THREE** questions.

All questions are of **equal** value.

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

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** out of the following ten questions.

- (1) Is Abe Shinzō a revisionist or a pragmatist?
- (2) What does the execution of Jang Song-Taek tell us about the nature of power in North Korea and the durability of the country's political system?
- (3) Can constitutional reform solve Japan's national identity crisis?
- (4) In what sense is it fair to attribute the 'miracle on the Han river' to President Park Chung-hee?
- (5) To what extent does the Okinawa issue or the debate over nuclear power provide an opportunity for the revitalization of local government in Japan?
- (6) 'US-Japanese-South Korean trilateralism has been more an aspiration than a reality.' Discuss.
- (7) Which polity is the more convincing example of democratic success: South Korea or Japan?
- (8) To what extent does Japan's electoral system explain the rise and fall of the Democratic Party of Japan?
- (9) 'Laws and institutions matter less than culture when explaining political behaviour.' Discuss with reference to BOTH Japan AND Korea.
- (10) To what extent is history (for example the experience of World War I) a useful lens through which to analyse the current strategic challenges of Northeast Asia?

END OF PAPER