

ORIENTAL STUDIES TRIPOS Part I

Japanese Studies

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Monday 8 June 2009      09.00 – 12.00

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**J.4    MODERN JAPANESE HISTORY**

*Candidates should answer **THREE** questions, at least **ONE** from each section.*

*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

- 1 If the passport had been introduced in East Asia prior to 1868, how might that have changed the development of the region's history?
- 2 What drives modern Japanese history? Provide three examples and discuss.
- 3 What is Japanese imperialism? When did it start and stop?
- 4 Why are Korea and China important to Japan in the period 1868-1926?
- 5 Did Taisho Democracy exist and how does the category of gender aid us in explaining what occurred during that era?
- 6 How was the articulation of a 'healthy body' tied to a national agenda in modern Japan? Discuss with examples.

## SECTION B

- 7 What role, if any, did the military play in the Japanese modernization programme up to the present?
- 8 From the 1950s to the 1970s, what made Japan democratic? What forces worked against this orientation?
- 9 Why did Japan go to war in 1895, 1904, and 1931? Compare and contrast.
- 10 What role did the emperor play in modern Japan (1868 to the present)? How has that position been transformed over time?
- 11 Is it legitimate to characterise Japanese efforts to import and appropriate Western science, technology and medicine during the Meiji era as 'westernization'?
- 12 Discuss issues Japan faced during the 1940s-1950s by linking at least three of the following terms: atomic bombs, cold war, memory, suffering and victimisation.

**END OF PAPER**