

ASIAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES TRIPOS PART 1B
East Asian Studies

Monday 7 June 2010

09.00 – 12.00

J.6 MODERN JAPANESE HISTORY

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

*All questions are of **equal** value.*

*Write your number **not** your name on the cover sheet of **each** Section booklet.*

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

SECTION A

- 1 Explain, based on the lectures and readings, some of the changing attitudes of the late Tokugawa and early Meiji Japan toward the West and toward science.
- 2 What are three key moments in Japanese history that define the shift from the early modern to modern periods? Be clear to cite ample support for your argument and demonstrate how these elements helped shape the nation.
- 3 Explain how perceptions of technology informed Meiji government policies.
- 4 Some late Tokugawa intellectuals hoped to have a society with 'Western science and technology and Eastern morality'. In what way did this come true?
- 5 Did the era of Taisho fundamentally alter the socio-economic structure of Japan and Japanese imperialism?
- 6 How was the articulation of a 'healthy body' tied to a national agenda in modern Japan?

SECTION B

- 7 20th century Japan has been described as the result of a struggle between military and political imperialists. Discuss three episodes from the last century.
- 8 Postwar Japan emerged from the ashes of WWII as a broken country yet today it is the world's second largest economy. How did this occur? Discuss with specific examples of people and events.
- 9 What did the Cold War mean to the Japanese and how did it influence (for good or bad) the development of the country?
- 10 Explain the roles of science and technology in the First and Second World Wars in East Asia.
- 11 Describe and discuss Japan's view of Taiwan, China, and Korea over the last century. In what way did these images change over time and why?
- 12 In 1942, a group of Japanese intellectuals held a conference in which they aimed at 'overcoming modernity'. Explain (in your own words) what the problem was for these intellectuals and what they aimed to do.

END OF PAPER