

ORIENTAL STUDIES TRIPOS Part I

Japanese Studies

Friday 6 June 2008 09.00 – 12.00

J.7 MODERN JAPAN, 1

*Answer **three** questions. 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

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.**

- 1 In recent years, more and more Japanese people are marrying late or not at all. Discuss the reasons for this phenomenon and the impact this has on the society as a whole.
- 2 What does *frūtā* mean? Discuss the phenomenon in the context of the 'educationally credentialized society' (meritocracy, *gakureki shakai*) and the seniority principle.
- 3 How have Japanese notions of motherhood changed over time and how are these notions (re)inforced and (re)created today in everyday reality?
- 4 How do you assess current Japanese anthropological debates concerning masculinity and models of identification for men?
- 5 Discuss some of the ways in which children learn to become mature members of Japanese society.
- 6 It has been claimed in recent years that there seems to be an unprecedented increase in deviant behaviour among young people in Japan. Characterize and evaluate debates about the issue.
- 7 Discuss differences and similarities in the *ie* and postwar nuclear family (*kaku kazoku*) in view of the various functions of a family.
- 8 Discuss what notions of time and diligence can be assessed through the study of Japanese sleeping behaviour.
- 9 Explain notions of impurity/purity and hygiene and their relevance in contemporary Japanese society.
- 10 Discuss the concept of 'invention of traditions', based on ethnographic examples from Japan.

END OF PAPER