



AET1

Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Tripos, Part IB

Monday 3 June 2019 09.00 to 12.00

Paper MES19

The formation of the modern Middle East

Answer **three** questions. All questions carry **equal** marks.

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

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS

20 page answer booklet

Rough Work Pad

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS TO BE SUPPLIED FOR THIS EXAMINATION

None

You may not start to read the questions printed on the subsequent pages of this question paper until instructed to do so.

Answer **three** of the following questions:

1. Why did Qajar rulers grant concessions during the nineteenth century, and what impact did these concessions have?
2. “The Tanzimat reforms have often been seen as a result of Western influences on the Ottoman legal and political establishment. Alternatively, many scholars have preferred to see them as belonging to an indigenous Islamic and/or Ottoman tradition of reform.” Discuss.
3. Assess the role of the Shi‘i *‘ulamā*’ in nineteenth-century Iranian politics and society.
4. Do you agree that the creation of the Mandate system was the most significant change the First World War brought to the Middle East?
5. Is Israel more a “Jewish” or an “Israeli” state? Consider the origins of this differentiation and its effects on the debates over the identity of Israel in the wake of its establishment and in subsequent years.
6. To what extent was the Suez Crisis a turning point in the relationship between Western powers and the Middle East?
7. What were the main factors that led to the revolution in Iran in 1979?
8. Why did so many Arab countries witness massive popular uprisings in 2011-2013?

END OF PAPER