



AET1

Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Tripos, Part IB

Friday 27 May 2016

13.30-16.30

Paper MES20

Themes in the Anthropology of Islam

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 x 3

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 What is an anthropological perspective on Islam? Discuss using examples encountered on the course.
- 2 What does Edward Said mean when he writes that the Orient 'was almost a European invention'? Do you think Said's statement is still relevant today?
- 3 Is the Islamic discursive tradition opposed to modernity or a way of enacting it? Discuss using at least one ethnographic study.
- 4 Discuss the similarities and differences between at least two different methodological approaches to studying Islam that you have encountered on the course.
- 5 How far does Islam account for the moral dimensions of Muslims' lives in the ethnographies you have studied?
- 6 How have anthropologists sought to make sense of the salat prayer?
- 7 Has capitalism and/or neoliberalism shaped religious practice, and if so, how? Discuss using specific ethnographic examples.
- 8 What role does Islam play in the construction of masculinity in the ethnographies you have studied?

END OF PAPER