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Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Tripos, Part IA

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Wednesday 07 June 2017 9 to 12.00 pm

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### **Paper MES7**

#### **Introduction to the contemporary Middle East: Languages and Literatures of the Modern Middle East**

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

Answer **each** question in a **separate** answer booklet.

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

#### **STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS**

*8 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 questions below

1. What do you think 'Arabness' meant to Arabic-speaking inhabitants of the Middle East in the first decades of the twentieth century?
2. How do dynamics of domination and resistance shape Awlad Ali social life?
3. Discuss the relationship of individual to community in al-Sayyāb's 'Hymn of the Rain' and/or al-Muwayliḥī's "A Period of Time".
4. How does the Haskala literature reflect its different stages of development?
5. How did modernity influence the concept of Jewish "nationality"?
6. How do humility and the level of power and solidarity affect politeness in the Persian language? Please support your answer with examples.
7. Why was the Iranian Academy formed? Discuss the success, similarities and differences among all three Persian Academies.
8. In light of lectures and readings, compare and contrast the effects of modernity on language and language use in the case of Arabic, Hebrew, and Persian. Be sure to highlight and discuss parallels, similarities, and differences.

**END OF PAPER**

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