



AET0

Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Tripos, Part IA

Tuesday 31 May 2016 9 to 12.00 pm

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 following questions:

1. Discuss the role of poetry in Awlad Ali's social life.
2. Discuss the significance of the French occupation of Egypt (1798-1801) for the introduction of new methods of organization and new ways of thinking to the Middle East.
3. How is it possible to have different levels of politeness and how does it lead to flattery? Support your idea with examples of pronouns and noun phrases in Persian.
4. Based on readings and lectures, discuss the development of either the Hebrew or Arabic perfect (qatal/qatala) verbal endings from a historical perspective. Please cite concrete examples of processes and phenomena.
5. Discuss some of the ways that Iranian culture was affected by its encounter with European modernity in the Pahlavi period.
6. Compare the responses of writers and thinkers in Iran with their contemporaries in Israel and the Arab World to social change in the Middle East in the twentieth century.
7. The development of Modern Hebrew literature at the beginning of the nineteenth century led to Jewish nationalism – Zionism – at the end of that century. Discuss.
8. Discuss three elements of tradition and modernity (convention and revolt) in Modern Arabic poetry, with particular reference to al-Sayyab's "Rain Song".

END OF PAPER

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