



AETO  
ASIAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES TRIPOS PART IA

Middle Eastern Studies

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Tuesday 3 June 2014 09.00 – 12.00

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**Paper MES 7**

**Introduction to the Contemporary 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 Book x 3  
Rough Work Pad

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

None

**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.**

Answer **three** of the questions below

- 1 Why did some Arabs remain committed to the Ottoman Empire to the very end?
- 2 To what extent did the Mandate system mark a break with older forms of imperialism?
- 3 What was the cumulative outcome of the Iranian Oil Crisis of the early 1950s and the 'White Revolution' in Iran a decade later?
- 4 How does the ethnographies you have studied complicate the idea that "honour and shame" is a Mediterranean morality code?
- 5 Give a brief survey of the Semitic languages that are currently spoken in the Middle East and their genetic relationships.
- 6 Discuss the meaning of diglossia in the Arabic-speaking world and the principles that are used to describe it?
- 7 Why was the first Iranian Academy formed? What are the similarities and differences among all three Academies? How successful have they been?
- 8 In what sense can it be claimed that the Hebrew language created modern Hebrew culture from scratch? Describe the process and give examples.

**END OF PAPER**