South Asian Studies

Friday 6 June 2008  09.00 – 12.00

Sa.27  THE SOCIOLOGY AND POLITICS OF SOUTH ASIA

Answer three questions.
All questions are of equal value.

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

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS
20 Page Answer Book x 1
Rough Work Pad

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.
1 Did Indian nationalism between 1885 and 1920 develop in response to British policies of ‘native representation’?

2 To what extent has Gandhi’s role in the development of popular nationalism in India been exaggerated?

3 Why and how did the British seek to hold on to power in India between 1920 and 1945, and to what extent did they succeed?

4 Why did the Muslim League perform so much better in the 1946 elections than they had done in those of 1937?

5 **EITHER**: (a) Has the role of Hindu communalism in India’s partition been underestimated?

   **OR**: (b) Did partition create more minority problems than it solved?

6 **EITHER**: (a) What has been distinctive about movements of Islamic resurgence and reform in the twentieth century? Answer with reference to one or more South Asian countries.

   **OR**: (b) To what extent have Islamic movements in South Asia since 1947 accepted or opposed the notion of a secular state? Answer with reference to one or more South Asian countries.

7 To what extent was one-party dominance in India between 1947 and 1967 based on consensus inside the Congress party?

8 What role did economic planning play in shaping India’s polity between 1947 and 1967?

9 To what extent has India’s development been hampered by over-centralisation?

10 Why did the question of a national language pose such serious challenges to either India or Pakistan between 1947 and 1970?

11 Did the Emergency, paradoxically, strengthen democracy in India?

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12 To what extent have the imperatives of the ‘Great Game’ remained pertinent to South Asia since 1947?

13 Have Indo-Pakistani wars been essential to the respective national identities of their participants?

14 Why did the consensus about positive discrimination on the basis of caste in India break down in the 1980s?

15 To what extent has the Bharatiya Janata Party succeeded in becoming India’s ‘second party’?

16 Were the Taliban simply Pashtun chauvinists who dressed themselves in the rhetoric of Islamic fundamentalism? Discuss with regard to the period 1992 to 2001.

17 Discuss why martial rule has been such a feature of the history of either Pakistan or Bangladesh since 1971.

18 To what extent is the Government of India responsible for the continued lack of resolution of the Kashmir conflict?

19 Are better forms of resource allocation and more targeted social programmes likely to improve India’s social indicators?

20 Why have the communist parties of India enjoyed strong support in particular regions and not in others?

21 To what extent have women been integrated into the structures of power in independent India?

END OF PAPER