



AET2
Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Tripos, Part II

Easter 2021

Paper C20

Contemporary Chinese society

Answer **all** questions.

Write your number **not** your name as well as the paper code (C20) on each page of your submission.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS TO BE SUPPLIED FOR THIS EXAMINATION

Student declaration form

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Answers may be written by hand in **black ink** or typed.

If written by hand, upload your answers as a scan or image file.

If typed, upload them in a document, such as a Word document or PDF.

Files should be saved as C20_[your number].

Upload a completed student declaration form as a separate file.

RESOURCES PERMITTED FOR THIS EXAMINATION

<https://www.zdic.net/>

No other resources are permitted.

The exam will begin as soon as you open the file containing the questions. Once begun you will have three hours to complete the exam.

Part I (15 marks)

Summarise the following passage in around 200 words and then write a short essay (around 400 words) explaining some of the key factors that caused the Sino-Soviet split. Both parts of your answer should be in **English**.

从世界历史来看，二战后，对世界格局影响最大的一个国家关系就是中国和苏联的关系，这两个国力足可撼动世界的国家，关系走向了交恶，对世界格局产生了巨大的影响。正是因为中苏的交恶，才使得整个冷战的走向发生了根本的改变，从有利于苏联到有利于美国的转变，最终导致了整个苏联的解体，以及现代国际关系的形成。

二战后，其实中国和苏联的关系那是非常好的，当时我国管苏联叫做老大哥。而老大哥不光在半岛战争中支持我国，用核武力支持我国，威慑西方，还不断帮助我国建立现代工业。并且不断完善工业发展，直接援助了几百家的企业，帮助我国建立了初步的工业体系，可以毫不夸张的说，那是非常的密切，亲如兄弟。再加上两国制度的接近，更加让这种关系亲密无间，所以当时世界很多国家，包括西方，其实是认为中国和苏联关系会一直紧密下去的，一旦如此，苏联那是不可撼动的。但是到了 1959 年，中苏关系突然交恶，甚至演变成直接的边境战争。最终两国的走向那是一发不可收拾，最终苏联一分为十五，消失在世界上。为此，其实很多人对于中苏交恶的根本原因到现在还是无法搞清楚，当时到底是什么原因，让中苏交恶呢？其实原因就一条，那就是“苏联希望中国成为小弟”，也就是说，苏联希望我国成为苏联的小弟或者附属国，成为苏联领导下的服从国家。二战好不容易成功，结束了我国百年国耻，如果成为了苏联的小弟，那岂不是还是延续这个国耻？

Adapted from https://www.sohu.com/a/399107174_609645

Part II (15 marks)

Summarise the following passage in around 200 words. Then write an essay in around 400 words on the ways in which Chinese citizens form communities and networks independent of the state. Both parts of your answer should be in **English**.

新左派们讨厌市场，也同样讨厌市民社会。改革开放三十多年来，中国出现了一批 NGO(非政府组织)，在维护公民权益、公众慈善和公共服务等方面发挥着自己独特的作用。王绍光是较早对 NGO 有系统研究的学者，但他的研究结果证明的是，“近年来被一些人吹得神乎其神的‘公民社会’实际上是个无所不包的大杂烩”，“大量所谓‘市民社会组织’不过是些追求一己私利的利益群体或压力集团而已”。公民组织是志愿性、自主性的社会团体，包括政治、社会、福利、文化、娱乐、体育各个领域，它不是政府规划的结果，而是在社会中自发成长出来的，自然无所不包，关键是以什么眼光来看。若以大一统的尺度视之，NGO 的确是各色人等、参差不齐的“大杂烩”。但以现代社会的标准来看，正是社会多元、分化和活跃的表现。在王绍光看来，非政治的、休闲娱乐性的 NGO，要比政治性的公民社团可爱得多，他希望社会上的 NGO 都能够非政治化、乐乐呵呵、温和顺良，与政府保持和谐的互动。他一再强调：“一个有效的国家是市民社会的前提条件。……当国家相对强大并充满活力时，市民社会更有可能繁荣起来”。具有讽刺意味的是，在现实中的中国，当“当国家相对强大并充满活力时”，社会却发生了溃败，有市民而无市民社会，有公民却无公民组织。

Adapted from 许纪霖：近十年来中国国家主义思潮之批判。
https://www.gczw.me/indexnews/2011_08_04_59194.shtml

Part III (35 marks)

Write an essay on **ONE** of the following topics. Word limit: 1,500 words.

1. Identify some of the key features of Maoist thinking and give examples of how Mao put Maoism into practise with reference to **EITHER** the Great Leap Forward **OR** the Cultural Revolution.
2. Is China a threat to its neighbours in Southeast Asia? In what ways has China benefitted the region?
3. How has the CCP reacted to foreign criticisms of its human rights record?
4. Identify the key successes and failures of China's economic development in the post-Mao era.
5. 'The history of the CCP since 1949 has been characterised by a constant struggle for popular legitimacy.' Discuss.

Part IV (35 marks)

Write an essay on **ONE** of the following topics. Word limit: 1,500 words.

1. What are the many ways through which members of minority nationalities in China express their cultural identity and maintain solidarity (give examples from at least four different ethnic communities)?
2. Are language policies in China no longer necessary or effective in the era of mass communications, the internet and social media? Explain your answer.
3. Why does China have a vibrant religious life today despite the severe suppression during the Maoist era? Explain your answer.
4. Is law in the reform era an instrument of state power in China? Explain your answer.
5. How is sexuality linked to social transformations in reform-era China?

END OF PAPER