

AET2

Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Tripos, Part II

Tuesday 04 June 2019 13.30-16.30 pm

Paper C20

Contemporary Chinese society

Answer all questions.

Write your number <u>not</u> your name on the cover sheet of **each** answer booklet.

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS

20 page answer booklet Rough Work Pad

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS TO BE SUPPLIED FOR THIS EXAMINATION

Xiandai Hanyu cidian dictionary

You may not start to read the questions printed on the subsequent pages of this question paper until instructed to do so.

Part I (15 marks)

Summarise the following passage in approximately 150 words and then write a short essay (around 350 words) explaining the significance of this speech by Mao within the context of the Great Leap Forward. Both parts of your answer should be in **English**.

我有两条罪状:一个,一千零七万吨钢,是我下的决心,建议是我提的。结果 九千万人上阵,补贴四十亿,"得不偿失"。第二个,人民公社,我无发明之权,有推 广之权。北戴河决议也是我建议写的。我去河南调查时,发现碴岈山这个典型,得了 卫星公社的一个章程,如获至宝。你讲我是小资产阶级狂热性,也是有一点,不然为 什么如获至宝呢?要上《红旗》杂志呢?我在山东,一个记者问我,"人民公社好不 好?"我说"好",他就登了报。这个没关系,你登也好,不登也好,到北戴河我提议要 作决议的。小资产阶级狂热性有一点,你们赞成了,也分点成。但始作俑者是我,推 不掉。人民公社,全世界反对,苏联也反对。中国也不是没有人反对,照江西党校这 样看,人民公社还有什么意思。还有个总路线,是虚的,实的见之于农业、工业。至 于其他一些大炮,别人也要分担一点。你们放大炮也相当多,如谭老板(谭震林), 放的不准,心血来潮,不谨慎。关于共产要共得快呀,在河南讲起,江苏、浙江的记 录传的快,说话把握不大,要谨慎一点。你说我不放大炮吗?我也放了三个:一个人 民公社;一个大炼钢铁;一个总路线。彭德怀同志讲的,张飞粗中有细,他说他粗中 无细: 我说我也是张飞, 粗中有点细。公社我讲集体所有制、到全民所有制要有个过 程。当然那个过程,现在看起来,可能过于短了一点,我讲大体两个五年计划。要进 到全民所有制,现在看来,可能要大大的延长,不是两个五年计划,而是二十个五年 计划也难说。要那么久?还是不要那么久?

要快之事,马克思也犯过不少错误。我搬出马克思来,使同志们得到一点安慰。这个马克思,天天想革命快,一见形势来了就说欧洲革命来了,无产阶级革命来了,后头又没有来;过一阵又说要来,又没有来。总之,反反复复。马克思死了好多年,列宁时代才来。那还不是急性病?小资产阶级狂热性?马克思也有呵!(刘少奇插话:列宁也有,讲世界革命很快就要来了。)世界革命,那个时候他希望世界革命

来援助,他也搞和平民主新阶段,后头不行了,搞出一个一国可以建设社会主义,泽和在以前也讲过吧? (刘:是一国可以胜利,一国可以建成社会主义没有讲。)一国可以胜利,到这个时候,不建怎么办?只有一国。

Excerpted from Speech at the Lushan Conference July 23, 1959, Volume 8 of the Selected Works of Mao Zedong. Accessed at

https://blog.boxun.com/hero/mao/19 1.shtml

Part II (15 marks)

Summarise the following passage in around 150 words. Explain the sociopolitical and cultural factors that contribute to the seeming obsession with money and wealth in contemporary China (around 350 words). Both parts of your answer should be in **English**.

中国式婚恋"拜金主义"横行

双节长假,迎来结婚高潮,"剩男剩女"们免不了参加各种相亲活动。不过,中国社会工作协会婚介行业委员会日前发布《2011 中国人婚恋状况调查报告》显示,近8成女性认为,男性月收入超过4000元才适合谈恋爱;90后大学生多认为"无房不婚"。同时,各种名目的彩礼钱以及一些人在相亲中对物质条件的过分强调,也成为外媒热议的话题。像美国《纽约时报》以《中国式相亲胜似一桩买卖》为题,批评"拜金主义"横行的中国式婚恋。

耶鲁大学社会学家德博拉·戴维斯的分析说,随着中国富裕起来,一些年轻人的物质需求逐步上升,中国人现在常见的择偶要求是对方必须有房。而中国快餐式的都市生活方式、社会变革热潮、蓬勃壮大的富豪阶层以及较为开放的性观念,也导致中国人的择偶过程变得复杂起来。

在韩国,相亲是一件非常慎重的事情,可马虎不得。今年 33 岁的韩国记者康女士,目前仍未婚。对于未来的老公,她有自己的想法,她觉得交往和结婚不一样,只 凭互相喜欢不足以构成结婚的条件,必须在经济、文化和家庭等各个方面都合适才

(TURN OVER)

行。康女士介绍,在韩国,择偶标准很重要的一点是看对方的职业。"男方如果做医生,女方如果做教师,就会格外受欢迎,大家都想找一个受人尊敬的伴侣。"相似的亚洲文化圈,形成了相似的婚恋文化,韩国人在择偶和结婚过程中也不乏攀比的风气:不仅见面前的中介费要交足,媒人的答谢费也要给够;见面时的衣着打扮也是要大方得体,见面的场所更是经过精挑细选的;而结婚过程中的聘礼准备、婚礼筹备等,更是越有钱越讲究排场。

北京大学社会学系夏教授指出,在中国社会的转型期,随着市场经济的发展,拜金主义思潮涌动,当代中国青年的婚恋价值观也在发生着转变,他们告别传统的婚恋模式和价值观,择偶条件不断向物质化、功利化的倾斜。而欧美婚恋观对当代的中国青年有借鉴意义,以感情为基础、不夹杂社会、经济条件的婚恋价值观值得提倡。

Excerpted from online article http://news.sohu.com/20120930/n354230862.shtml

Part III (35 marks)

Write an essay on **ONE** of the following topics.

- 1. To what extent is China's stance on human rights nothing more than a tool of diplomacy for the purposes of the CCP?
- 2. How has the CCP used the 'century of humiliation' as a means of legitimising its monopoly on power? How effective has this method been?
- 3. 'Peaceful coexistence' is this an accurate way to describe China's relationship with other countries in East Asia and South East Asia?
- 4. 'It was all Mao's fault' assess this statement in relation to the failure of **EITHER** the Great Leap Forward **OR** the Cultural Revolution.
- 5. To what extent was Marxism at the forefront of foreign policy during the Mao era (1949-76)?

Part IV (35 marks)

Write an essay on **ONE** of the following topics.

- 1. 'The lively ritual and religious scene in contemporary China is a result of the revival of the petty capitalist mode of production.' Discuss.
- 2. Who are the elites in contemporary China? Explain the processes through which these elites became elites.
- 3. In what ways and to what extent is the body (male, female or generally) a subject of state control and regulations in contemporary China? Have these controls and regulations been successful?
- 4. How do reform-era spaces and their uses exemplify processes of social transformation?
- 5. In what ways is language linked to power in the Maoist and reform eras?

END OF PAPER