

AET1

Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Tripos, Part IB

Easter 2021

Paper C7

History of dynastic China

Candidates should answer **three** questions, **one** from each section (A, B, C).
All questions carry **equal** marks.

The **word limit** for each question is **1500** words.

Write your number **not** your name as well as the paper code (C7) 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 C7_[your number].

Upload a completed student declaration form as a separate file.

RESOURCES PERMITTED FOR THIS EXAMINATION

This is a 6-hour open book exam. Your exam answers must be entirely your own new and original work.

Section A.

1. Outline early Chinese theories on world order and explain their influence on the formation of Han policies in relation to non-Han peoples.
2. Discuss to what extent the Han empire represented a compromise between Qin centralized bureaucracy and Zhou feudalism.
3. What role did the merit system play in the development of Han statecraft?

Section B.

4. What was the impact of Buddhism in China during its first centuries there?
5. In what sense was Tang a “multicultural” era?
6. Discuss three developments (social, religious, or technological) that occurred during the Song Dynasty and explain their significance in Chinese history.

Section C.

7. What can we learn about family life, and particularly the lives of women, from the novel *Jin Ping Mei*?
8. What can we learn about Chinese perceptions of death and the afterlife from the episode of Taizong’s journey through the netherworld in the *Xiyouji*?
9. What role did Manchu ethnic identity play in the establishment of the Qing and its rule over China?

END OF PAPER

Page 2 of 2