



AET1

Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Tripos, Part IB

Tuesday 31 May 2022 09.00am-12.00pm

Paper J10

Japanese politics

Answer **three** questions, including at least **one** from **each** section. All questions carry **equal** marks.

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

Write your number **not** 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

None

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

1. How might culture and emotion be applied as variables in making sense of politics in Japan and South Korea? Illustrate your answer with reference to both countries.
2. “Kishida’s success in the 2021 Lower House election is proof that there is no meaningful political opposition in contemporary Japan.” Discuss.
3. Why is Japan’s 1947 Constitution still a contested document in contemporary Japan? Why has it endured unchanged for so long?
4. To what extent is it fair to explain Japan’s rapid postwar economic growth as a product of “strategic capitalism”?
5. Is the strength of the Japanese Prime Minister’s office a function of institutions, personalities, changing cultural norms, or chance?
6. What role has the Gwangju Uprising played in shaping political change in post 1948 South Korea?
7. Does local politics matter in either Japan or Korea?
8. How did the post 2012 Abe administration transform Japan’s foreign policy and were the changes that occurred under his leadership a continuity from the past or a qualitative change?
9. Does the Japanese legal system adequately protect the rights of the individual?
10. Do the failures of the Moon administration to restrain North Korea demonstrate that “engagement” is a flawed policy?

END OF PAPER

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