

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION FOR PART I OF THE HISTORICAL TRIPOS

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Wednesday 22 April 2015

9 to 12

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Paper 16

EUROPEAN HISTORY, 1450–1760

Answer *three* questions.

Write your *number (not your name)* on the cover sheet of each answer 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 'Historians have exaggerated the extent to which Renaissance culture was shaped by the influence of classical antiquity.' Discuss.
- 2 Which did more to revolutionize European knowledge: humanism or the printing press?
- 3 To what extent do preaching and the printing press offer us explanatory keys to understand the success of the Reformations?
- 4 What role did the laity play in bringing about Catholic renewal?
- 5 Why did so many citizens of Calvin's Geneva go into exile?
- 6 'In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, Ottomans interacted with Europeans primarily through warfare.' Discuss.
- 7 How important was patronage in seventeenth-century French state-building?
- 8 Compare European travels in the New World with those in the Old.
- 9 What role did religion play in shaping society and politics in the early modern Netherlands?
- 10 Should historians think of the witch-craze as an outcome of collective psychosis or neighbourly feuds?
- 11 'Despite the profound changes witnessed by early modern Europeans, the structures of patriarchy remained remarkably secure.' Discuss.
- 12 'Ideas of the early modern self were chiefly shaped by religion.' Discuss.
- 13 When and why did a new consumer society arise in early modern Europe?
- 14 Who contributed to the development of early modern science?
- 15 'However important long-distance trade may have become, agriculture remained the basis of the early modern European economy.' Discuss.
- 16 How important were the actions of powerful individuals in causing and shaping the course of the Thirty Years' War?
- 17 'Given their isolation, early modern peasants were largely sheltered from political and economic change.' Discuss.
- 18 Were the revolts against Castile a symptom of Spanish imperial decline?
- 19 How did urbanization affect early modern society and culture? Answer with reference to **either** Italy **or** the Low Countries **or** both.

- 20** Was the empire of Charles V more than the sum of its parts?
- 21** How and where did the Enlightenment diverge from the Republic of Letters?
- 22** To what extent did the growth of European economies between 1450 and 1750 depend on colonial exploitation?

**END OF PAPER**