

ANGLO-CHINESE JUNIOR COLLEGE
Preliminary Examinations
JC2

HISTORY

9731/02

Paper 2: History of Southeast Asia, 1900 – 1997

1 September 2014

3 hours

Additional Materials: Writing Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your class, index number and name on all the work you hand in.
Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper.
Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **four** questions.

You must answer **Question 1** (Section A) and **three** questions from Section B.

Begin each question on a **fresh sheet of paper**.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

This document consists of **4** printed pages.

[Turn over]

Section A

You **must** answer Question 1.

ASEAN AND ITS FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

- 1 Read the sources and then answer the question. While answering **Question 1** candidates are advised to pay particular attention to the interpretation and evaluation of the sources both individually and as a group.

Source A

Conventional ASEAN modalities have proved a severe disappointment. A proliferation of meetings and plans have produced little of consequence. The Indonesian regime has been unwilling or unable to put the interest of the neighbourhood ahead of those of its associates. The effect on the self-image of the group has been corrosive, and likelihood that these modalities will fail when tested by a crisis of a different has increased.

'The "Haze" over Southeast Asia: Challenging the ASEAN Mode of Regional Engagement'
by James Cotton, 1999

Source B

On another visit, in March 1995, First Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai led the discussions on economic reforms. He was reputed to want to move forward faster. I told Khai if he wanted to attract investors, he must make the early ones welcome. Their officials dealt with investors as they had lead dealt with American soldiers, as enemies to be led into ambush and destroyed. Instead investors should be treated as valued friends who needed guidance through the maze of their bureaucracy with its landmine and other traps. Feedback from foreign investors showed that my message did get through for Vietnamese officials became more helpful. The CEO of a large German company who visited Singapore after Vietnam told me that they had provided him with a guide. I smiled in satisfaction.

Lee Kuan Yew's view on Vietnam in his memoir, 2000

Source C

The financial crisis that Asia experienced in 1997 and 1998 posed a more significant challenge to the normative underpinnings of the ASEAN way. The crisis dealt a serious blow to ASEAN's rhetoric as the situation seemed to show that the ASEAN way was inadequate to organize a successful response. Pressures for adopting a different set of ideational principles increased. The consequences of the financial crisis drew attention to the unavoidable settings of a globalized economy and seemed to demonstrate that the cooperation model structured around a prioritization of national sovereignty was ineffective in coping with this interdependency. In the same year as the financial crisis, widespread atmospheric pollution resulting from the Indonesian forest fires posed another challenge to ASEAN's traditional stance on domestic affairs. Moreover, in the context of the growing international recognition of good governance norms centred around human security, the decision to include into the grouping other Southeast Asian countries in which considerable human rights violations took place, further undermined ASEAN's reputation on the global scene.

An academic piece written in 2012

Source D

We believe that support from ASEAN -- which comprises Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Singapore, Brunei, Laos and Vietnam and which Burma recently joined -- is crucial to our quest for democracy. If ASEAN can persuade or put pressure on the present regime to convene the Parliament that was elected by the people, this could be the first step towards democratisation. While some countries are very active in helping hasten this process, the ASEAN countries are not. Because of its policy of non-interference, ASEAN has rejected calls from other governments outside the region to nudge the Burmese government into allowing greater freedom for its people. Instead, it has opted for a non-confrontational "constructive engagement" stance in relation to Rangoon. This policy of non-interference is just an excuse for not helping. In this day and age, you cannot avoid interference in the matters of other countries. For example, many Asean countries are investing in Burma. Is that not interference in our internal affairs? How can they say they will get involved in economic matters but not in politics. Economics and politics are unquestionably closely related.

Aung San Suu Kyi's open letter to the leaders of ASEAN in The Nation in 1999

Source E

Yet, in truth, the unseemly charade over Cambodia's entry was merely symptomatic of other fault lines that have wracked the association over the past year. ASEAN's once-inviolable principle of non-interference in each other's affairs remains an issue causing much dissension and debate. The Crisis should have acted as a common foe for the members - but instead they have been going their own separate and often conflicting ways in search of a solution. Little wonder Malaysian PM Mahathir Mohamad remarked at the meet: "ASEAN's responses to the challenges confronting the region have created the impression of an ASEAN in disarray, its members at odds with one another."

It all began in July last year when Thailand's currency was depegged from the U.S. dollar and promptly went into free fall. The region's other currencies - and their economies - followed. That same month, plans to admit three new members to ASEAN hit a snag when one of the trio, Cambodia, erupted into violence during Hun Sen's putsch against his then fellow co-premier Prince Norodom Ranariddh.

An article from Asiaweek, 1998

Now answer the following question.

'The policy of non-interference in the domestic affairs of Southeast Asia states was the main reason for ASEAN's slow progress.' Using sources A-E, how valid is this statement?

Section B

Answer any **three** questions.

You must support each answer with examples drawn from **at least three** countries.

- 2 'The success of nationalist movements hinged on the role of ideologies.' Discuss
- 3 'Southeast Asian states would not have achieved independence without the Japanese Occupation.' How far do you agree?
- 4 Evaluate the role of Communism in independent Southeast Asian states.
- 5 Assess the view that democratic processes were more crucial to the attainment of national unity in newly-independent states compared to the role of state ideologies.
- 6 'Apart from the occasionally successful mediation by a statesman, inter-state conflicts between independent Southeast Asian countries had never been resolved.' To what extent is this statement true?