



TEMASEK JUNIOR COLLEGE  
JC2 PRELIMINARY EXAMINATIONS 2015  
HIGHER 2

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**HISTORY**

**9731**  
**Thursday, 17 September 2015**  
**3 hours**

Paper 2 History of Southeast Asia, c.1900-1997

No Additional Materials are required.

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**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

Write your name and CG on all the work you hand in.  
Write in dark blue or black pen on both sides of the paper.  
Start each answer on a fresh piece of writing paper.

**Section A**

Answer **Question 1**.

**Section B**

Answer **3 Questions**.

All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

You are reminded of the need for good English and clear handwriting in your answer.

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This question paper consists of 4 printed pages.

**SECTION A**

You must answer Question 1.

1 Read the sources and then answer the question.

**Source A**

Since 1967 no ASEAN member has engaged a fellow ASEAN member in major armed confrontation. ASEAN was also instrumental in bringing the decade-long VietnameseCambodian conflict to the negotiating table in 1989 and in reaching a peace agreement in 1991. Vietnam, then seen as an obstacle to regional stability, is now a valued member of the organization. Finally, as the Cold War ended, it was ASEAN which provided the platform for building broader regional institutions that would engage a rising China and other major players in East Asia. Without ASEAN's neutral facilitating role, China might not have joined the ASEAN Regional Forum, established in 1994 as East Asia's only official multilateral security forum. ASEAN commands attention and respect from regional organizations in other parts of the developing world. It acts as the hub, if not the leader, of regional multilateral forums for East Asia. The fact that the region's most powerful players -- including China, India, and the United States -- show deference to ASEAN by participating in these forums demonstrates that ASEAN still matters

*Extract of an article published during the 40th anniversary of ASEAN*

**Source B**

ASEAN, as it has been functioning, is fast becoming irrelevant. During its first thirty-three years, ASEAN has been operating as a set of nation-states, each jealous of its sovereignty but trying to come to an agreement on a few issues that made as little a dent on each other's national sovereignty as diplomatically possible. For all its economic pretensions, ASEAN has been mainly about political issues, defined and worked on by the ministries (departments) of foreign affairs. It thrived on the basis of protocol and consensus rather than of substance and firm resolutions. It cared more about agreements on paper than results in the field. It grew more out of words uttered in meetings than out of actions taken after the meetings.

*Article by a professor at a Filipino university in 2001*

**Source C**

ASEAN has contributed much more to conflict avoidance among members than to conflict resolution. Indeed, many of the conflicts between ASEAN members that originally threatened its survival remained unresolved. Significantly, however the dispute provisions in the 1976 Bali Treaty of Amity and Cooperation—ASEAN's touchstone—has never been invoked. Instead bilateral disputes have been dealt with through bilateral negotiations and joint commissions. ASEAN thus escapes responsibility for the delays and failures of the bilateral process.

*From an article by an American Political Science Professor, published in 1998.*

**Source D**

The Paris Peace Agreement on Cambodia was greeted by the ASEAN states with a strong sense of euphoria and self-congratulation. Speaking at the concluding session of the Paris conference...Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus of the Philippines, “acknowledge[d] with pride...the successful contribution of ASEAN to the process that produced this triumphal event.” Malaysia’s Foreign Minister reminded the conference delegates that ASEAN had “always, despite the many obstacles, persisted in its search for a peaceful and comprehensive settlement of the Cambodian conflict” and should therefore be entitled to “a sense of fulfilment and achievement”. Tommy Koh, Singapore’s former Ambassador to the UN, put it differently: “Without ASEAN there would have been no Cambodia issue. Because if we had not taken up the cause of Cambodia in early 1979, and steadfastly championed it, it would have disappeared.”

*An excerpt from a book about Southeast Asia, written by a historian in 2001.*

**Source E**

The Asian economic crisis of 1997-1998 has had profound implications for Southeast Asian security. ASEAN political cohesion, armed forces modernization and the quest for greater security autonomy have all been challenged by the region’s most serious economic crisis. The economic crisis and its effect on defense budget and arms modernization have threatened members’ ability to participate in joint military exercises with US. With ASEAN armed forces modernization programmes essentially stagnant, there could be serious implications for the protracted dispute among the Spratly Island claimants. In strategic terms, they reveal an Association unable to create a common external security front even as China continues to upgrade its installations in the Spratlys. Beijing may be taking advantage of what it perceives to be a period of ASEAN weakness to expand and strengthen its presence in the South China Sea.

*Extract from Asian Research Study published in 1998*

**QUESTION**

Now answer the following question

***How far do Sources A-E support the view that ASEAN’s efforts at fostering regional security have largely failed.***

**SECTION B**

You must answer **three** questions from this section.

- 2      How successful were the colonial powers in controlling the nationalist menace in Southeast Asia before World War 2?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 3      Examine the view that the decolonisation process after the Second World War was dictated by the colonial powers.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 4      “Communism exerted a significant influence on the politics of independent Southeast Asian states.” Discuss.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 5      “Strong governments played a key role in the successful development of independent Southeast Asian economies.” Discuss
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 6      “In independent Southeast Asia, inter-state tensions had become so deeply entrenched that it was impossible to resolve them.” How far would you agree with this statement?