



ANDERSON JUNIOR COLLEGE
JC2 PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION 2015
Higher 2

HISTORY

Paper 2 Southeast Asian History, 1900 - 1997

9731/02

No Additional Materials are required.

Wed 16 September 2015
3 hours

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

Write your name and PDG on all the work you hand in, including this cover sheet.

Write the question numbers of the questions attempted on this cover page.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Start each answer on a fresh piece of writing paper.

Section A

Answer **Question 1**.

Section B

Answer any **three** questions.

At the end of the examination, fasten the answer to each question separately, with this cover sheet attached on top of your answer to the first question.

All questions in this paper carry equal marks.

You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.

Name : _____

PDG : _____

Question No.	Marks
Section A	
1	/25
Section B	
	/25
	/25
	/25
Total Marks:	/100

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Section A

You must answer Question 1.

THE STRENGTHS AND LIMITATIONS OF ASEAN

- 1 Read the sources and then answer the question which follows.

When 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

By the 1990s, ASEAN's image had suffered a major setback. Many critics seized on the Asian financial crisis to highlight the inability of the organisation to provide a united front in dealing with the challenges of globalisation. They pointed to the persistence of intra-ASEAN disputes and the disagreements that had occurred among its members over how to deal with non-members and external powers, such as the differences over ZOPFAN in the 1970s and over Vietnam in the 1980s. ASEAN's tendency to deal with conflicts by 'sweeping them under the carpet' could be cited as further evidence of the limitations of the ASEAN Way. Moreover, in the late 1990s, ASEAN was criticised for not dealing effectively with transnational problems such as the forest fires in Indonesia that had caused severe air pollution in neighbouring states. On the whole, the ASEAN Way of soft institutionalism and dialogue processes seemed ineffective in laying the foundations of an Asia-Pacific regional order.

From a book by Amitav Acharya, a professor of international relations, 2009.

Source B

ASEAN does not have a common foreign policy, economic policy, or security policy. This is perhaps understandable given its history and the diversified political culture of its member countries. While the lack of a common policy may lead to the lack of a sense of ownership of ASEAN, it is perhaps this deficiency that has made it a strong, progressive and relatively cohesive association for the past 48 years. It is this perceived weakness of ASEAN that is perhaps its strength. Although the lack of enforced common policies can be seen as a welcome 'non-rigidity' within the organisation, it indicates a lack of putting the collective interests of ASEAN ahead of the interests of individual member states. There is no principle of 'ASEAN affairs come first'. In politics and security, this translates into a deficit in trust. Policymakers seek independence over interdependence. This limits ASEAN's ability to encourage cooperation.

From a speech by the President of an academic forum on Asia to mark ASEAN's 48th anniversary, 2015.

Source C

Southeast Asia is a strategic part of the world and whether we like it or not, external powers are interested in our region. We don't want to just follow big powers' agendas like we did with SEATO. It is important for us to be in control and have a say in the affairs of our region. To achieve this goal, we became rather creative in the use of multi-dimensional diplomacy. Our individual bilateral relations with external powers served as the foundation. To supplement that, we created a regional architecture, with ASEAN as a key player in regional groupings that engage external powers. To date, we are the only organization in the world where weaker countries host and set the agenda for more powerful countries to follow. All meetings are hosted and initiated by ASEAN, participants are selected by ASEAN, and ASEAN plays a central role in them.

From a speech at an overseas conference by a former Thai foreign minister, 2009.

Source D

ASEAN has turned a region beset by conflict and violent political upheavals into one striving toward the ASEAN Community 2015. So, even if the 21st ASEAN Regional Forum had a predictable feeling to it, it is worth remembering that the so-called 'talking shop' illustrates the commendable fact that former enemies now trade with one another, governments now talk with one another at the negotiating table and young men are now no longer being sent to pointlessly die on a battlefield. While there have been occasional outbreaks of violence in the region, including among member states themselves, ASEAN has always been consistent in its emphasis on dialogue, negotiation and non-violent means to resolve differences between states in the region. Enshrining this belief is its Treaty of Amity and Cooperation, which to date has 27 signatories including the United States, China, Russia and the European Union.

From an article in The Jakarta Post by an Indonesian professor of ASEAN studies, 2014.

Source E

While early efforts at economic integration initially brought the organisation global renown, the 1997 Asian financial crisis exposed ASEAN's underlying institutional weaknesses. ASEAN's response exposed it as an organisation unable to handle complex economic difficulties, undermining its image as the source of Southeast Asia's strength. In the early months of the crisis, ASEAN regarded the attacks on the baht as simply a domestic problem, and played no role when several Asian banks provided assistance to Thailand. Observers thus became skeptical that ASEAN could continue to provide effective regional leadership. Consequently, the member states were united in their belief that ASEAN would have to pursue integration more effectively if regional economic growth was to remain its reason for existence.

From an academic journal article, 2010.

Now answer the following question.

How far do Sources A-E support the view that ASEAN was characterised more by its limitations than its strengths?

Section B

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

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

- 2 'Only radical nationalist movements were a significant threat to colonial rule.' Examine the validity of this statement with reference to the period before World War II.
- 3 How important were colonial powers in the decolonisation process of Southeast Asia?
- 4 To what extent do you agree that democracy was unable to take root in independent Southeast Asia?
- 5 Why did the 1997 Asian Financial Crisis happen?
- 6 'Inter-state tensions in independent Southeast Asia arose largely because of racial and religious divisions.' How far do you agree with this view?