THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

EXAMINATIONS OF ..............................................

CODE AND NAME OF COURSE: GT26B - Modern Political Thought

DATE AND TIME: ..........................................................

DURATION: 2 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES: This paper has 2 page(s) and 9 questions.

ANSWER TWO (2) QUESTIONS. ONE (1) FROM SECTION A AND ONE (1) FROM SECTION B.

SECTION A

1. How valid is the assertion that Bentham’s Utilitarianism succeeds in demarcating the role and responsibilities of government but fails in advancing the liberty of the individual?

2. “The threat to liberty which J.S. Mill chiefly feared was not government, but a majority that is intolerant of the unconventional, that looks with suspicion on divergent minorities, and is willing to use the weight of numbers to repress and regiment them” (G.H. Sabine and T.L. Thorson). Discuss this comment with reference to Mill’s modernisation of the liberalism of early 19th Century Utilitarians.

3. Critically discuss the logical relationship between dialectical materialism and Marx and Engels’ theory of historical materialism, class struggle and theory of the state.

4. The Lenin-Luxembourg disagreements and the Stalin-Trotsky debates were essentially arguments between practical and revisionist Marxism on one hand and theoretical and orthodox Marxism on the other. Critically discuss.

5. “A Communist is a Marxist internationalist, but Marxism must take on a national form before it can be applied. There is no such thing as abstract Marxism but only concrete Marxism. What we call concrete Marxism is Marxism that has taken on a national form, that is Marxism applied to the concrete conditions prevailing in China and not Marxism abstractly used” (Mao Tse-Tung). To what extent does the political thought of Mao Tse-Tung contribute to resolving the problem of revisionism versus orthodoxy and theory versus praxis in 20th Century Marxism?

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SECTION B

6. "The UNIA was before Mussolini and Hitler were ever heard of... We were the first Fascists" (Marcus Garvey). Does a comparison of Garvey’s nationalist thought with that of Nazism justify Garvey’s assertion?

7. Illustrate the specific areas of emphasis highlighted by Kwame Nkrumah, Amilcar Cabral and Frantz Fanon in their attempts to describe and categorize post-World War II decolonisation as "false". How relevant are the concerns of these theorists in advancing the anti-colonial project in the era of globalisation?

8. "The modern state, no matter what its form, is essentially a capitalist machine" (C.L.R. James). How does this assertion by C.L.R. James, validate the view of Immanuel Wallerstein that 20th Century nationalist and socialist movements were nothing more than anti-systemic movements exhibiting degrees of "false consciousness"? Discuss in light of the current theoretical efforts at rethinking anti-colonialism in the face of globalisation.

9. Highlight and critically discuss the main distinctions between ideology and scientific method in Political Science.

END OF EXAMINATION PAPER