

**PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part IB**

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Friday 29 May 2009

09.00 to 12.00

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Paper 7

POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

Answer **three** questions only.

*Write the number of the question at the beginning of each answer. If you are answering an either/or question, indicate the letter as well.*

**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     **Either**    (a) 'Egalitarianism is fundamentally misguided because it commits us to making better-off people worse-off, to no one's advantage.' Discuss.
- Or**       (b) Do defenders of distributive equality unfairly neglect social equality?
- 2     Can legitimate political authority be established by tacit consent?
- 3     Is political philosophy applied ethics?
- 4     **Either**    (a) What is the strongest argument in favour of negative rather than positive liberty?
- Or**       (b) 'Those who are poor, just like those who only have many trivial options, are unfree.' Discuss.
- 5     **Either**    (a) What are Rawls's two Principles of Justice? Are Rawls's arguments in their defence convincing?
- Or**       (b) What ethos should guide the private decisions of citizens in a society regulated by Rawls's principles of justice?
- 6     Critically assess Nozick's claim that taxation is on a par with forced labour.
- 7     Is paternalism wrong? If so, why? If not, why not?
- 8     What's wrong with a tyranny of the majority?
- 9     Can I have political obligations to a group that is not organized as a state?
- 10    What is the strongest argument in favour of democracy? Does it work?

END OF PAPER