

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON**

University of London

**EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS**

For The Following Qualification:–

*B.A.*

**Hebrew & Jew. Studs. C39: History of the Jews in Poland**

**COURSE CODE : HEBRC039**

**UNIT VALUE : 1.00**

**DATE : 18–MAY–06**

**TIME : 10.00**

**TIME ALLOWED : 3 Hours**

## HEBR C039: HISTORY OF THE JEWS IN POLAND

*Attempt four questions. All questions carry equal marks.*

1. A Polish commentator, writing in the early modern period, claimed that Poland was "Heaven for the *szlachta*, purgatory for the townspeople, hell for the peasantry, and paradise for Jews." What considerations underlay this claim?
2. Compare and contrast Jewish economic and communal life in the Polish ethnic heartland and the Grand Duchy of Lithuania (including the Ukraine) prior to 1648.
3. Discuss and evaluate the historiography devoted to the short and long-term impact of the uprising of Bohdan Chmielnicki/Bogdan Khmel'nitsky) on the Jews of the Ukraine.
4. Discuss the extent to which EITHER Frankism OR Hasidism was symptomatic of a religious crisis among Polish Jews in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.
5. Choose ONE of the partitioning powers and discuss the impact of its "Polish politics" on the position of Polish Jews.
6. What were the cultural choices available to acculturating Jews in the lands of partitioned Poland in the 19<sup>th</sup> century?
7. Choose TWO of the following dates and explain their significance for the history of Polish Jewry: 1815, 1830, 1846, 1848, 1863, 1867, 1871, 1905.
8. Explain the rise of a specific variety of modern Polish Antisemitism in the period before 1914.
9. Assess the impact of the Great War on Polish Jewry.
10. To what extent were the Minorities Treaties following World War I either helpful or harmful to the Jews of inter-war Poland.

TURN OVER

11. Assess the role of Antisemitism in the outlook of EITHER National Democracy OR the Roman Catholic Church in interwar Poland.
12. Explain why the events that occurred at Jedwabne in 1941 are so crucial for an interpretation of Polish-Jewish relations at the time of the Holocaust.
13. In an evaluation of the activities of the Judenrat in the Warsaw ghetto, assess what activities could be termed "collaboration," and which could be called "resistance." In your answer, consider whether or not these are useful distinctions.
14. Was the state Antisemitism that appeared in Communist Poland a new phenomenon, or was it linked to past traditions of Polish hostility towards Jews?

END OF PAPER