

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For The Following Qualification:-

B.A.

Hebrew & Jew. Studs. B122: Jews and the Classical World

COURSE CODE : **HEBRB122**

UNIT VALUE : **1.00**

DATE : **27-MAY-03**

TIME : **10.00**

TIME ALLOWED : **3 Hours**

HEBR B122: The Jews and the Classical World

*Answer **FOUR** questions, at least one from each of the three sections. All questions carry equal marks.*

SECTION A

1. Discuss the impact of the diffusion of the Aramaic language through the Levant on Jewish religious literature and culture in the Persian and Hellenistic periods.
2. Examine the accusations levelled against the Jews and Judaism by some leading Greek intellectuals.
3. Demetrius, Eupolemus and Philo Epicus were ancient Jewish authors writing in Greek. Discuss the nature of their writings and how they show the influences of Greek classics.
4. Name four noteworthy Alexandrians of Jewish origin and discuss their claims to fame.

SECTION B

5. The Jews of Judaea fared better under Ptolemaic rule than they did under the Seleucids. Discuss this proposition.
6. Argue the case for the Hasmonaean kings as effective agents of Greek culture, citing literary and material evidence.
7. Discuss Herod the Great's conduct in relation to the Jews and Judaism.
8. Was Simon bar Kochba a leader in the mould of Jewish messianic figures who flourished in the first century CE? Answer this question with reference to the historical evidence.

TURN OVER

SECTION C

9. Review the earliest archaeological and literary evidence of the contact between Jews and Greeks before 250 BCE.
10. Discuss the influence of Greek philosophy on Philo of Alexandria's analysis of Biblical texts.
11. What were the main differences in belief between the Pharisees, Sadducees and Essenes? Discuss with reference to the description of these sects given by Josephus.
12. What role do you believe the Fourth Philosophy and its leading figures (as described by Josephus) played in the outbreak of the First Revolt against Rome?

END OF PAPER