

**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY
FIRST YEAR EXAMINATION: SUMMER 2003
HI 100: HISTORY, PAPER 2**

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**Answer four questions, one from each section.
Use a separate answer book for each section.**

Time Allowed: Three hours

SECTION A:

1. ENCOUNTERS WITH ISLAM

"The Turks come together for war as if they had been invited to a wedding; I think there is no prince in the world who has his armies and camps in better order, both as regards the abundance of victuals and other necessities, and as regards the beautiful order and manner they use in encamping without any confusion. The Turks surpass our soldiers for three reasons; they obey their commanders promptly; never show the least concern for their lives in battle; they live a long time without bread and wine, content with barley and water; Peace and silence reign in a Turkish camp – such is the result produced by military discipline. In truth, the discipline could not be better, or the obedience greater."

Ogier Ghislain de Busbecq (1522-1592), *Embassy into Turkey*

What were the chief reasons for Ottoman military success, according to de Busbecq?

2. EUROPEANS AND AFRICA

Pity the market is not supplied with English manufactures in exchange for the legitimate products of the country. If English merchants would come up the Zambesi during the months of June, July and August the slave trader would very soon be driven out of the market....

Mr O [swell] thinks that agents or commissioners situated in different parts in that region would in the course of ten years extirpate the slave trade....If it is profitable for those who are engaged in the coast trade to pass along in their ships and pick up ivory, bees wax & c., those who may have enterprise enough to push into the interior and recieve [*sic*] the goods at first hand would surely find it more

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profitable. The returns of the first year might be small, but those who for the love of their species would run some risk would assuredly be no losers in the end. The natives would readily acquire the habit of saving for a market....Give the people the opportunity they will civilise themselves, and that more effectually than can be done by missionary societies.

D. Livingstone, *Private Journals, 1851-53*, ed. I Schapera, Chatto & Windus 1960, pp. 43-4, from 'First Journey to Sebitoane's Country.'

What does this passage tell us of Livingstone's understanding of 'civilising' the native Africans?

3. WOMEN & PUBLIC LIFE – IRELAND, 1850-1937

You have told us [that the choice] is between the acceptance of that document and war. If it were, with every sense of deep responsibility, I say then let us take war. I am not speaking as a young, ardent enthusiast. I am speaking as a woman who has studied much, who realises, as only a woman can, the evils of war and the sufferings of war. Deputy Milroy yesterday in a speech to which I shall not allude, for it made me ashamed to think the public was listening to it, acknowledged that the women are the greatest sufferers of the war. I would ask him, if it were a democratic proposition, to let the women of Ireland judge this, and I have no doubt what the issue would be.

Mary McSwiney, T.D., Dáil Debates, 21st December 1921.

Comment on the above passage.

SECTION B: ENCOUNTERS WITH ISLAM

1. "Military excellence combined with religious devotion". Does this explain Ottoman expansion prior to 1566?
2. What differentiated the Ottoman ruling class from that of western European countries?
3. Muslim society was "different from any other; it is the chosen, the holy people to whom is entrusted the furtherance of good, and the repression of evil; it is the only seat of justice and faith upon earth, the sole witness for God among the nations, just as the Prophet had been God's witness among the Arab people."

Evliya Çelebi, *Seyahatnâme*

Why did the Ottoman, Safavid and/or Mughal empires see themselves as comparatively 'better' or 'more advanced'?

SECTION C: EUROPEANS AND AFRICA

1. What prompted the European states to embark on a 'scramble for Africa' during the closing decades of the 19th century?
2. What was the particular perspective of either religious missionaries or entrepreneurs on the European 'encounter' with Africa in the period 1870-1914?
3. With what success did Africans offer resistance to European claims to political control in Africa in the period 1870-1914?

SECTION D: WOMEN & PUBLIC LIFE – IRELAND, 1850-1937

1. Why did so many women opt for the religious life in Ireland, 1850-1900?
2. Which kind of organization did most to strengthen women's political power in the years 1850-1937 – those exclusively for women, or those in which women worked alongside men? You can take one political movement (nationalism, unionism, the suffrage, the labour movement) and discuss it in detail, or you can do a comparative survey of women in all the different movements.
3. 'A graveyard for women's rights'. Is this an accurate description of the Irish Free State 1922-1937?