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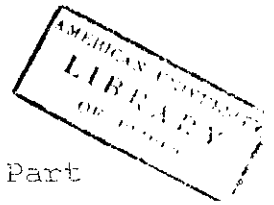
Not To Be Taken Out
Reserve Reading Room

History 258M

Time: 3 hours

FINAL EXAM

June 28, 1996



Instructions: Answer ONE question from Part I and TWO from Part II, a total of THREE. I want ARGUMENTS not stories.

Part I. Questions on Mamluk history in general

1. Contemporary Arab historians are, on the whole, very critical of the Mamluks. They describe them as "exploiters" and "tyrants". How would one begin to amend such a viewpoint?
2. From what we know of Mamluk cities, describe the broad structure of a "typical" Mamluk city and analyse the social, political and economic forces that could alter this structure.
3. How useful is Ibn Khaldun's theory of the rise, decline and fall of states when applied to Mamluk history?

Part II. Questions on the Burji period

1. "At Marj Dabiq, the Mamluks not only lost a battle: their system also collapsed". Discuss.
2. What was old and what was new in the Burji system?
3. How was commerce connected with diplomacy in the Burji period?

