UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

BA EXAMINATION 2003

for Internal Students

This paper is also taken by Combined Studies Students

PHILOSOPHY

Optional subject (k): Indian Philosophy

Friday, May 9th, 2003, 10.00 am - 1.00 pm.

Answer THREE questions. Avoid overlap in your answers.

- 1. Evaluate the role of conceptual construction (kalpanā) in Dinnāga's theory of perception.
- 2. Comment on the significance of the second condition in Dinnaga's 'triple-condition' theory of inference. Is it redundant?
- 3. 'If such and such objects are established for you through the pramāṇas, tell me how those pramāṇas are established for you.' Identify the author and evaluate the Nyāya responses to this challenge.
- 4. Is Nāgārjuna's emptiness thesis (śūnyatā) self-refuting?
- 5. The Nyāya school claims that only a wise one (āpta) can deliver knowledge by means of words (śabda). Who is an āpta?
- 6. Is it intelligible to think that you are identical with God?
- 7. Critically examine the notion of duty (dharma) as it is presented in the Bhagavad Gītā.
- 8. Discuss the relationship between the understanding of self (ātman) and the doctrine of non-violence (ahiṃsā) with reference to some particular school.
- 9. Gandhi describes situations in which violence is acceptable. Discuss with reference to the concept of non-violence (ahimsā).
- 10. Discuss the notion of 'fullness' in the Upanisads.

END OF PAPER