



**MASTERS OF ARTS IN DIPLOMACY, INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY STUDIES**  
**END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION**  
**MDIS 8214: CASE STUDIES IN INTELLIGENCE SUCCESS AND FAILURE**

**Date: 24<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

**Time: 18:00-21:00**

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**Instructions**

1. This examination consists of **FIVE** questions.
2. Answer **Question ONE (COMPULSORY)** and **THREE other** questions.

**QUESTION ONE**

The systematic assassination of Iranian nuclear scientists represents a unique paradigm in modern intelligence. Evaluate the success and failure of this paradigm for the antagonists. (20 marks)

**QUESTION TWO**

Critically evaluate the effectiveness of Western intelligence in predicting the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the impact on policy outcomes. (20 marks)

**QUESTION THREE**

The U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan in August 2021 is frequently characterized as a "catastrophic success". Discuss. (20 marks)

#### **QUESTION FOUR**

While many Global South nations faced systemic struggles during the initial 2020 COVID-19 waves, Kenya is often cited as a model of agile resilience, integrating intelligence into operational response measures across whole of government. Analyse this statement. (20 marks)

#### **QUESTION FIVE**

Examine the role of intelligence in the successful *Operation Neptune Spear*. (20 marks)