



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Level

ISLAMIC STUDIES

8053/01

Paper 1

October/November 2009

3 hours

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **five** questions.

Answer at least **one** question from **each** Section.

You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.



This document consists of **3** printed pages and **1** blank page.



Section A

- 1 (a) Examine the main religious beliefs and practices of the people of Mecca at the time the Prophet was born. [12]
- (b) Explain how the Qur'anic teachings criticise any **two** of these beliefs and practices. [8]
- 2 Discuss the significance of the event of the Hijra to Medina in the development of Islam. [20]
- 3 Give a critical assessment of the main events in the caliphates of:
- (a) Abu Bakr [12]
- and either**
- (b) 'Uthman ibn 'Affan [8]
- or**
- (c) 'Ali ibn Abi Talib. [8]

Section B

- 4 Present and explain the main themes of Surat al-Qadr. [20]
- 5 Discuss the significance of the Qur'an in the beliefs and practices of Muslims today. [20]
- 6 With reference to parts of the Qur'an you have studied, explain why Tawhid is often thought to be the main theme of the Qur'an. [20]

Section C

- 7 Discuss the historical, social and religious significance of the annual pilgrimage [*Hajj*]. [20]
- 8 Explain the main teachings of Islam about:
- (a) God's predestination of all events [10]
- and any two** of the following:
- (b) angels [5]
- (c) revealed books other than the Qur'an [5]
- (d) the Prophet as a model of behaviour. [5]

9 Explain how the following Pillars of Islam promote communal solidarity amongst Muslims:

Shahadah
Salah
Zakat
Sawm.

[20]

Section D

10 How can the teachings of Islam be made relevant in new situations? Give examples to illustrate your answer. [20]

11 Discuss the relationship between the four bases of the Shari 'ah. [20]

12 Define and explain the place of

(a) Sunnah

and

(b) Ijtihad

in Islamic legal method.

[20]

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