



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

ISLAMIC STUDIES

8053/12

Paper 1

October/November 2013

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.



You must answer **five** questions in all, **one** question from each section and **one** other question.

Section A

- 1 (a) What does the Qur'an tell us about the beliefs and practices of the people of pre-Islamic Arabia? [10]
- (b) What are its main criticisms of these beliefs and practices? [10]
- 2 When he was in Medina, why did the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) regard the defeat of the people of Mecca as a primary aim? [20]
- 3 (a) Why did the caliph 'Uthman encounter hostility from Muslims in Egypt? [10]
- (b) Why did the caliph 'Ali and Mu'awiyah meet in battle at Siffin? [10]

Section B

- 4 (a) Give a detailed account of the steps taken to make a collection of the Qur'an under the caliph 'Uthman. [10]
- (b) Why was this important for the early development of Islam? [10]
- 5 With particular reference to Surat Al 'Imran, give an outline of what the Qur'an teaches about the unique characteristics of the prophet Jesus ('Isa), compared with other prophets. [20]
- 6 'Without the Qur'an there would be no Islam.' Explain and evaluate this statement. [20]

Section C

- 7 Outline the ways in which performing the ceremonies of the annual pilgrimage (*hajj*) reminds pilgrims of the prophet Abraham (Ibrahim). How are they likely to be affected by these reminders of him? [20]
- 8 (a) What are the distinctive features of the Friday communal prayers that are not shared by prayers at other times? [12]
- (b) How do these features influence solidarity in the community? [8]
- 9 (a) Outline the main ways in which Muslims believe God acts and has acted within the created world. [12]
- (b) What do Muslims mean when they call God the All-knowing and All-powerful (*al-'Alim al-Qadir*)? [8]

Section D

- 10** When the Qur'an appears to be silent on an issue, what methods are used to decide whether this issue is acceptable in Islam? [20]
- 11** Giving examples from specific Hadiths, explain how Muslim individuals put the Prophet Muhammad's (pbuh) Sunnah into practice today. [20]
- 12** Write a detailed account of the way in which the principle of analogy (*qiyas*) is used, providing at least one example to illustrate your explanation. [20]

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