



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

ISLAMIC STUDIES

8053/01

Paper 1

October/November 2011

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 Write about the significance of the following four aspects of pre-Islamic Arabian society:
- (a) tribal and clan loyalties [6]
 - (b) the deities of the Meccan cult [4]
 - (c) the Hanifs [4]
 - (d) links with the wider world. [6]
- 2 (a) Write brief accounts of the battles of Badr and the Trench. [12]
- (b) Explain their significance in the political development of early Islam. [8]
- 3 (a) Why was Abu Bakr called 'the Saviour of Islam'? [10]
- (b) Why was 'Uthman ibn 'Affan assassinated? [10]

Section B

- 4 'Do not move your tongue with it to hasten it;
With Us lie its collection and reciting'. (Surah 75:16-17)
- In what different ways was the Qur'an revealed to the Prophet? [20]
- 5 By referring particularly to the Surahs set for detailed study, show how the theme of messengerhood (*risalah*) is portrayed in the Qur'an. [20]
- 6 Why do you think the Prophet considered Surah al-Ikhlās as equal in value to one third of the whole Qur'an? [20]

Section C

- 7 How is observance of the Five Pillars intended to bring a Muslim closer to God? [20]
- 8 (a) Describe how the following are celebrated among Muslims:
- (i) Jum'ah (Friday) prayers
 - (ii) 'Id al-Adha. [12]
- (b) Explain the importance of 'Id al-Adha as a Muslim festival. [8]
- 9 (a) What does the Qur'an teach about earlier revelations? [12]
- (b) What is the significance of these revelations in Muslim beliefs? [8]

Section D

- 10 (a) What use is made of individual endeavour (*ijtihad*) in legal practice? [12]
- (b) Some legal experts have doubted the value of *ijtihad*. Explain why. [8]
- 11 Explain the importance of the Prophet's Sunnah in legal thinking, and describe how it is used in establishing legal teachings. [20]
- 12 Choosing four examples from your own experience or of people you know, explain how the Qur'an affects and influences Muslims in their day to day living. [20]

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