



*Rewarding Learning*

**ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)**  
**General Certificate of Education**  
**January 2014**

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## **Religious Studies**

### **Assessment Unit AS 8**

*assessing*

**An Introduction to the Study of Islam**

**[AR181]**

**MONDAY 27 JANUARY, MORNING**

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#### **TIME**

1 hour 20 minutes.

#### **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.  
Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

#### **INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

The total mark for this paper is 100.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in **all** questions.

Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages indicate the marks awarded to each question or part question.

#### **ADVICE TO CANDIDATES**

You are advised to take account of the marks for each question or part question in allocating the available examination time.

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## Section A

Answer **one** question from Section A

- 1 (a) Explain why the design of a mosque is important for the worship of Allah. [35]
- (b) Explore the view that Imams play a vital role for the whole of the Muslim community. Justify your answer. [15]
- 2 (a) Explain the key features of life and religion in pre-Islamic Arabia. [35]
- (b) Comment on the claim that the city of Mecca occupies a central place in the Islamic faith. Justify your answer. [15]

## Section B

Answer **one** question from Section B

- 3 (a) Describe and explain the major themes contained in the Qur'an. [35]
- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, explore the view that religious belief would be impossible without a sacred text. Justify your answer. [15]
- 4 (a) Explain the pillar of Hajj and consider how it reminds Muslims of their religious history. [35]
- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, comment on the claim that for religious believers pilgrimages are unnecessary to faith. Justify your answer. [15]

