

559/01

RELIGIOUS STUDIES RS 9
Religion and Human Experience

A.M. MONDAY, 25 June 2007

(1 hour 30 minutes)

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

In addition to this examination paper, you will need a 12 page answer book.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer **one** question.

Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

All questions carry 50 marks. The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

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

All questions should be answered in continuous prose. Quality of Written Communication will be assessed in all questions.

The use of a Bible is not permitted in this examination.

Answer one question.

1. Religious Authority

You must explain, exemplify and comment on **three** differing forms of religious authority from **at least two** different areas of study and assess the importance of individual experience, conscience, values and beliefs compared with other forms of religious authority.

- (a) Examine in detail **three** different forms of religious authority for religious believers. [30]
- (b) 'There can be no greater religious authority than that which comes from within the individual.'
Consider critically this contention. [20]

2. Religious Experience

You must explain, exemplify and comment on **three** differing types of religious experience from **at least two** different areas of study and assess how far religious experiences can be distinguished from other human experiences.

- (a) Examine in detail **three** different types of human experience which have been described as 'religious'. [30]
- (b) Determine to what extent it is valid to make a distinction between 'religious' and 'ordinary' experiences. [20]

3. Life, Death and Life after Death

You must explain, exemplify and comment on **three** differing religious beliefs about life after death from **at least two** different areas of study and assess how far belief in an after-life is based on convincing evidence.

- (a) Examine in detail **three** religious beliefs about life after death. [30]
- (b) 'Evidence for life after death is unconvincing.'
Evaluate this claim. [20]