



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

HINDUISM

8058/01

Paper 1

October/November 2010

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.

Fill in the grid on the front page of the answer booklet to show which questions you have answered.

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.

Every question is marked out of 20.

Read the questions **carefully**. Try to understand exactly what is being asked of you.

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.

All questions in this paper carry equal marks.



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



Answer any **five** questions, choosing at least **one** from each section.

Section A

- 1 'The Vedic hymns are evidence of a religion far more profound than simple nature worship.'
Discuss.
- 2 Explain the relationship between sacrifice and creation in Hindu teaching.
- 3 'The wisdom of the Upanishads challenges Hindus to reject the temptations of materialism.'
Discuss, with reference to the texts you have studied.

Section B

- 4 'Yudhistira never fails to uphold his own high moral standards.'
Discuss with reference to the religious and ethical ideas of the Mahabharata.
- 5 '... a leaf, a flower, fruit or water ...' (Bhagavad Gita 9.26)
Explain the significance of these simple offerings in the context of Krishna's teaching about bhakti.
- 6 'Take the course of sense and wisdom, cast all idle faith aside.' (Ramayana Book 4)
Comment on the Brahmin Jabali's sceptical views **and** Rama's reply.

Section C

- 7 'Immersed in the experience of God . . .'

In what ways did the Alvar saints influence Hindu thought and worship in the medieval period?

- 8 'Great as it is, the Ramacaritamanasa is a human creation, not the word of God.'

How far do you agree with this opinion?

- 9 'This maya
mighty and bewitching
coaxes my mind and soul to sin.'

According to Surdasa, what is the remedy?

Section D

- 10 'The Indian reformers achieved change by reminding Hindus that a woman had rights as a human being as well as traditional duties.'

Discuss.

- 11 On what grounds did Swami Dayananda Saraswati believe that the Vedas were the key to reforming Indian society?

- 12 Discuss the attitude of Indian reformers towards Western culture and scientific education in the period you have studied.

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