



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

**ISLAMIC STUDIES**

**8053/01, 9013/01**

Paper 1

**October/November 2008**

**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.



**Section A**

- 1 (a) Why is the period leading up to the Prophet's birth in Arabia often described as *jahiliyyah* [period of ignorance]? [12]
- (b) To what extent is this description justified? [8]
- 2 Discuss the ways in which the *Hijrah* enabled the Prophet to put into practice the teachings he had received at Mecca. [20]
- 3 (a) Give an outline of the expansion of the Islamic empire in the period of the Rightly Guided Caliphs. [12]
- (b) Why did the Islamic empire expand so rapidly in this period? [8]

**Section B**

- 4 In what different ways is *Surat al-Fatihah* used in the religious life of Muslims? [20]
- 5 Referring to the *surahs* you have especially studied, outline and discuss the main teachings of the Qur'an about God. [20]
- 6 (a) What are the basic teachings of the Qur'an about other revealed Books? [12]
- (b) Why, according to general belief, was the Qur'an revealed to the Prophet over a period of time? [8]

**Section C**

- 7 (a) Outline the Muslim teachings about *Zakat*. [12]
- (b) How does *Zakat* differ from *Sadaqah*? [8]
- 8 (a) Give an account of the main features of the Muslim observance of Ramadan. [12]
- (b) Explain why this observance is important to the individual and the community as a whole. [8]
- 9 Explain how belief in the Life Hereafter influences the behaviour of a Muslim in this life. [20]

**Section D**

- 10 (a)** What traditional methods are used to relate the Qur'an to changing conditions in society? [12]
- (b)** Giving **three** examples, discuss how legal experts have actually done this in practice. [8]
- 11** 'The Sunnah of the Prophet is a human implementation of the revealed word of God.' To what extent is this claim accurate? [20]
- 12** How relevant is the *Shari'ah* to Muslim individuals and communities in the modern world? [20]

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