

OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS

Advanced GCE

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

2776

Eastern Religions 2

Wednesday

14 JUNE 2006

Morning

1 hour 30 minutes

Candidates answer on the separate answer paper provided.

Additional materials:

Answer paper

TIME 1 hour 30 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Write your name, Centre number and candidate number in the spaces provided on the answer paper/answer booklet.
- Answer **two** questions from **one** alternative.
- Write your answers, in blue or black ink, on the separate answer paper provided.
- If you use more than one sheet of paper, fasten the sheets together.
- Write the number of each question attempted in the grid on the front of the answer booklet.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- Each question carries 45 marks.
- The total number of marks for this paper is 90.
- You will be awarded marks for the quality of your written communication in both answers.

This question paper consists of 2 printed pages.

Answer questions from one alternative only.

Alternative A – Buddhism

Answer two questions.

- 1 Assess the importance of the Lotus Sutra.
- 2 Assess the importance of the Buddha for Mahayana Buddhism.
- 3 Compare and contrast the differing practices found in Zen Buddhism.
- 4 'Actions are neither good nor bad in Buddhism — it is intention which counts.' Discuss.

Alternative B – Hinduism

Answer two questions.

- 5 'It is impossible to seek liberation while practising the life of a householder.' Discuss
- 6 To what extent does renunciation make jnana more important than karma?
- 7 'In the Samkhya system liberation is the understanding that the Self is identical with Brahman.' Discuss.
- 8 Assess the importance of the Ramakrishna Mission for Hinduism.