



GCE A level

559/01

RELIGIOUS STUDIES RS 9
Religious and Human Experience

A.M. THURSDAY, 19 June 2008

1½ hours

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

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

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

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.

Answer one question.

1. Religious Authority

You must state, explain, exemplify and comment on the range of differing sources of religious authority from **at least two** different areas of study and assess to what extent such sources are still authoritative.

- (a) Examine the diversity of religious authority. [30]
- (b) Determine how far all forms of religious authority have lost their authority. [20]

2. Religious Experience

You must state, explain, exemplify and comment on personal and shared forms of religious experience from **at least two** different areas of study and assess how far such experiences constitute a sound foundation for religious belief.

- (a) Examine individual and communal aspects of religious experience. [30]
- (b) Consider to what extent religious experience is a valid basis for religious belief. [20]

3. Life, Death and Life after Death

You must state, explain, exemplify and comment on differing beliefs about the distinctive features and meaning of human life from **at least two** different areas of study and assess how far belief in an after-life affects religious believers' understanding of human life.

- (a) Examine different beliefs about the nature and purpose of human life. [30]
- (b) Consider how far religious beliefs about human life are determined by belief in life after death. [20]