



**HISTORY OF THE ISLAMIC WORLD
HIGHER LEVEL
PAPER 3**

Monday 5 November 2001 (morning)

2 hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer three questions:
 - one from Section A;
 - one from Section B;
 - one from either Section.

SECTION A

The Fatimids 909–1171 AD / 297–567 AH

1. “Many people believed al-Hakim was mad.” Evaluate his performance as caliph in the light of this statement.
2. Assess the reasons that led to the downfall of the Fatimids in Egypt.

The Ottomans 1400–1566 AD / 802–973 AH

3. To what extent was the concept of *jihad* a motivating factor in the establishment of the Ottoman empire?
4. Evaluate the career of Sulayman the Magnificent.

The Mughals of India

5. Assess the career of Babur.
6. To what extent did the Mughals create an Islamic civilisation in northern India?

Warfare in the medieval Islamic world

7. Assess the role of the camel in the success of the early Islamic conquests.
8. How did medieval Muslim leaders conduct sieges? Illustrate your answer with examples from at least one siege you have studied.

SECTION B

Muslim rule in Spain 711–1492 AD / 93–897 AH

9. Was Muslim Spain as religiously tolerant as is generally believed?
10. “The bride of al-Andalus” - how valid is this description of Islamic Cordoba?

The Islamic city 650–1600 AD / 30–1009 AH

11. What were the characteristic features of the garrison towns in early Islamic history?
12. Trace the development of the city of Cairo until 1517AD / AH 922.

The intellectual legacy of Islam

13. Assess the contribution of medieval Muslim scholars to the transmission of classical scholarship to Europe.
14. “Islam has no place for philosophy.” Discuss this statement in relation to the career of al-Farabi or Ibn Sina.

Islamic art and architecture

15. “Calligraphy is the supreme art of the Islamic world.” To what extent do you think this is an accurate statement?
 16. Assess the role of the garden in Islamic architecture. Illustrate your answer with examples from the monuments you have studied.
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