

**ISLAMIC HISTORY  
HIGHER LEVEL AND STANDARD LEVEL  
PAPER 2**

Tuesday 13 May 2003 (afternoon)

2 hours

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer three questions on at least two different topics.

**Topic 1: Pre-Islamic Arabia**

1. To what extent was the success of Mecca in pre-Islamic Arabia due to its commercial activities?
2. Assess the influence of the Byzantine and Sassanid Empires on the development of pre-Islamic Arabia.

**Topic 2: The life of the Prophet Muhammad**

3. “Muhammad was as much a military leader as a Prophet.” To what extent would you agree with this statement?
4. How far did the Constitution of Medina influence the establishment of the Muslim state in Medina?

**Topic 3: The period of the Rightly Guided Caliphs**

5. What were the challenges facing the Umma at the death of the Prophet?
6. “Umar Ibn al-Khattab was the true founder of the Islamic state.” Analyse the validity of this statement.

**Topic 4: The Caliphate and the Imamate**

7. Compare and contrast the various Shia views on the Imamate.
8. How effective was the reign of Uthman Ibn Affan in consolidating Muslim rule in Arabia?

**Topic 5: Islamic Dynasties AH41–247 / AD661–861**

9. To what extent did Muawiya lay the foundation for the Umayyad dynasty?
10. Examine the reasons for the success of the Abbasid revolution.

**Topic 6: The Crusades: the threat from the West AH489–690 / AD1096–1291**

11. Assess the Muslim response to the First and Second Crusades.
12. Evaluate the role of *jihad* in the Muslim reconquest of Jerusalem by Saladin.

**Topic 7: The Mongols: AH596–807 / AD1200–1405**

13. Identify the factors which made the Mongol armies so devastating.
  14. Assess the importance of the battle of Ayn Jalut in Mongol history.
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