



**ISLAMIC HISTORY**  
**HIGHER LEVEL**  
**PAPER 3**

Wednesday 14 November 2007 (morning)

1 hour 30 minutes

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer two questions, each chosen from a different option.

**Option 1 – The Fatimids AH297–567 / AD909–1171**

1. “Ismaili ideology was central to the Fatimid state.” To what extent do you agree with this judgment?
2. In what ways did the Fatimids challenge the Abbasids as the leaders of the Umma?

**Option 2 – The Ottomans AH680–974 / AD1281–1566**

3. To what extent were the Ottomans successful in governing a large empire between AH680-974 / AD-1281-1566?
4. “I am God’s slave, and sultan of this world... I am head of Muhammad’s community...” To what extent is this description applicable to any **one** of the following: Mehmet II, Selim I, Sulayman the Magnificent?

**Option 3 – Warfare in the medieval Islamic world**

5. Is military jihad defensive or offensive? Discuss.
6. “Battles were major turning points in Islamic history.” With reference to the conduct and impact of **two** battles that you have studied, how justified is this claim?

**Option 4 – Muslim rule in Spain AH92–897 / AD711–1492**

7. Analyse the reasons for the establishment of Muslim rule in Spain.
8. Assess the contribution of al-Andalus to Islamic civilisations.

**Option 5 – The intellectual contribution of Islam**

9. Discuss Islamic views on the ideal state and justice.
10. Discuss the origins and evolution of Islamic law.

**Option 6 – The Islamic city, and Islamic art and architecture**

11. Discuss the purpose and function of calligraphy in Islamic societies.
  12. “Interiors and gardens play a significant role in Islamic societies.” How justified is this claim?
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