



**ISLAMIC HISTORY  
HIGHER LEVEL  
PAPER 3**

Thursday 10 November 2005 (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. “Al-Muizz was the real founder of the Fatimid empire.” To what extent do you agree with this judgment?
2. Compare and contrast the religious policy of the Fatimids and the Abbasids.

**Option 2 – The Ottomans AH680–1342 / AD1400–1566**

3. Analyse the factors that led to the rivalry between the Ottomans and the Safavids.
4. Assess the contribution of the reign of Mehmet II to the development of the Ottoman Empire.

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

5. Account for the astonishing spread of the Mongol empire under Genghis Khan.
6. Discuss the role of jihad in Muslim warfare in medieval times.

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

7. How did the three religions of Muslim Spain interact?
8. What were the reasons for the Christian reconquest of Spain in 1492?

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

9. “Al-Ghazali was the greatest intellectual of the medieval Islamic world.” To what extent do you agree with this judgment?
10. What was the contribution of the medieval Muslims to the field of mathematics **or** medicine?

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

11. “The so-called ‘minor arts’ of Islam-pottery, textiles, carpets, metalwork – are in fact of major importance.” Evaluate this statement.
  
  12. Assess the importance of **either** Baghdad **or** Cairo as a medieval Islamic city.
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