



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level

**HINDUISM**

**2055/01**

Paper 1

**October/November 2010**

**2 hours 30 minutes**

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

**READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST**

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **five** questions.

Answer at least **one** question from **each** Section.

You should read the questions **carefully**. Try to understand exactly what is being asked of you, and **then** write your answers.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

The number of marks is given in brackets [ ] at the end of each question or part question.



This document consists of **3** printed pages and **1** blank page.



Answer any **five** questions, choosing at least one from each section.

### Section A

- 1 'They thought, ours, indeed, is this victory and ours, indeed, is this greatness.'  
(Kena Upanishad 3.1)  
Explain
- (a) how three Vedic gods found out that they were mistaken [10]
- and (b) why this story is called an allegory. [10]
- 2 In what ways can Krishna's advice to Arjuna on the battlefield help modern Hindus to make the right moral decisions? [20]
- 3 'In the Ramacharitamanas, Tulsidas's aim is to show that Rama is God and should be worshipped with sincere devotion (bhakti).'
- Discuss, giving examples from the text you have studied. [20]

### Section B

- 4 (a) Describe and explain the significance of **three** iconographic features of the god Shiva. [10]
- and (b) Explain why the presence of an image (murti) in homes and mandirs (temples) is important to many Hindus. [10]
- 5 'Festivals exist to remind the community of its past and inspire it for the future.'
- Discuss this view, referring to the celebration of **one** Hindu festival as it is held today. [20]
- 6 'Devotion to God can give the worshipper courage in times of difficulty.'
- Discuss with reference to the qualities of **either** the god Ganesha **or** the goddess Durga. [20]

### Section C

- 7 'All sections of Hindu society depend on the grihastha (householder).'  
To what extent do you agree, and why? [20]
- 8 Explain Hindu teaching on  
 (a) moksha as the final goal of human life [10]  
 and (b) right action as dependent on dharma. [10]
- 9 Discuss the significance for modern Hindus of the ceremonies  
 either (a) when a marriage takes place  
 or (b) when someone dies. [20]

### Section D

- 10 Explain why Swami Dayananda Saraswati wanted to change Hindu thinking about  
 (a) idol worship [10]  
 and (b) the caste system. [10]
- 11 'Hindu women in modern times owe much to the achievements of Rammohan Roy.'  
Discuss. [20]
- 12 'The way to social justice is through service (seva) to humanity.'  
Illustrate how this belief was shown in the life of **either** Ramakrishna Paramahansa **or** M.K. Gandhi. [20]

**BLANK PAGE**

---

Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (UCLES) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

University of Cambridge International Examinations is part of the Cambridge Assessment Group. Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is itself a department of the University of Cambridge.