

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

### **Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) in the UK and USA**

With effect from the June 2003 examination Cambridge International Examinations will only accept entries in the UK and USA from students registered on courses at CIE registered Centres.

UK and USA private candidates will not be eligible to enter CIE examinations unless they are repatriating from outside the UK/USA and are part way through a course leading to a CIE examination. In that case a letter of support from the Principal of the school which they had attended is required. Other UK and USA private candidates should not embark on courses leading to a CIE examination after June 2003.

This regulation applies only to entry by private candidates in the UK and USA. Entry by private candidates through Centres in other countries is not affected.

Further details are available from Customer Services at Cambridge International Examinations.

# ISLAMIC RELIGION AND CULTURE

## GCE Ordinary Level

### Syllabus 2056

Available worldwide from 2003

Available in the October/November examination session only

## AIMS

---

The aims of the syllabus are to:

1. develop an interest and enthusiasm for the study of Islam
2. introduce candidates to the basic teachings of the Qur'an and Hadith, and to pre-Islamic and Islamic religious life
3. help candidates identify and explore the religious and ethical issues raised in the Qur'an and by Prophet Muhammad (pbuh).

## ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

---

The examination will assess the candidate's ability to:

1. demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the major themes of the syllabus and of the specified texts
2. apply historical and other relevant knowledge — for example, in explaining the development of Islam and its beliefs, practices and traditions
3. demonstrate the effects of Islam on the behaviour of believers.

## ASSESSMENT SCHEME

---

There will be one question paper of two and a half ( $2\frac{1}{2}$ ) hours' duration, comprising two parts, Part I and Part II. Candidates will be required to answer **five** questions in all, from a total of 12 questions, choosing at least two from each part.

# SYLLABUS CONTENT

---

## Part 1

### Section A : Arabia in the Pre-Islamic Period

- (a) Tribal and political organisations
- (b) Social conditions and economic system
- (c) Religious beliefs

### Section B : Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)

- (a) Life before prophethood
- (b) Muhammad (pbuh) as the final messenger of Islam
- (c) Problems faced in Mecca
- (d) Success and achievements in Medina
- (e) Reasons, descriptions and consequences of the following battles fought during the Medinan Period: Bedr, Uhud and Trench
- (f) Conquest of Mecca and the farewell address

### Section C : The Caliphate Period/The Four Pious Caliphs

- (a) The power of the Caliphs and their position in the community
- (b) Ways of electing the Caliphs
- (c) The conquests and achievements of the Caliphs

## Part II

### Section D : The Holy Qur'an

- (a) The structure and evolution of the Qur'an
- (b) Candidates are expected to have a general knowledge of the following Suras:
 

(i) Fateha - Opening Chapter	Chapter 1 verses 1 to 7
(ii) Alaq - Clot of Blood	Chapter 96 verses 1 to 5
(iii) Zilzal - Convulsion	Chapter 99 verses 1 to 8
(iv) Quraish - Custodians of the Ka'ba	Chapter 106 verses 1 to 4
(v) Kauthar - Abundance	Chapter 108 verses 1 to 3
(vi) Ikhlas - Purity (of Faith)	Chapter 112 verses 1 to 4

**Recommended reading:** A Yusuf Ali; *An English interpretation of the Holy Qur'an with full Arabic Text*; Muhammed Ashraf Publisher and Bookseller; 1982

- (c) The following Qur'anic stories are to be studied:
 

(i) Prophet Adam (AS)	(ii) Prophet Ibrahim (AS)
(iii) Prophet Nuh (AS)	(iv) Prophet Musa (AS)

- (d) The following Qur'anic beliefs, practices and rituals are to be studied:
- (i) Five pillars
  - (ii) Articles of faith
  - (iii) Id-ul-Fitr, Id-ud-Doha
  - (iv) The birth, marriage and funeral rites

**Section E : Hadith**

- (i) The meaning of Hadith
- (ii) The importance of Hadith in Islam
- (iii) The classification of Hadith SAHIH (very sound), HASSAN (good), DAIF (weak), MAUZU (suspect/false)
- (iv) Relations between Qur'an and Hadith
- (v) Candidates are expected to have a general knowledge of the following Hadith:

No. 11	Doubt
No. 13	Love
No. 15	Generosity
No. 16	Tolerance
No. 34	Evil
No. 39	Forgiveness

**Recommended reading:** Ezzedin Ibrahim and Denys Johnson-Davies (translators); *An-Nawawi's Forty Hadith*; The Holy Koran Publishing House (1977)

**Other recommended books**

P K Hitti; *History of the Arabs*; Macmillan International College Editions; 1993

Dr Majid Ali Khan; *Muhammad The Final Messenger*, Muhammed Ashraf, Publishers and Booksellers, Lahore, Pakistan; 1983

Prof. Fazl Ahmad; *The Four Caliphs of Islam*; Taj Company, Delhi, India; 1983

Sayyid Qutb; *In the shade of the Holy Qur'an (Vol. 30)*; translated by Salahi & Shamis; Delhi Publications; 1979

Gulam Sarwar; *Islam - Beliefs and Teachings*; Markazi Maktaba Islami, Delhi, India; 1997

Abdullah Usuf Ali; *The Message of Islam*; The Wisdom of the East Series; John Murray London; 1949

Syed Ali Ashraf; *Islam*; Stanley Thornes

Rosalyn Kendrick; *Islam*; Heinemann

Farkhanda Noor Muhammad; *Islamiyat for Students*; Ferozsons, Lahore

Victor W. Watton; *Islam*; Hodder and Stoughton

**CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS**

General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level

**ISLAMIC RELIGION AND CULTURE**

**2056/01**

**Specimen question paper A**

**2 hours 30 minutes**

Additional materials: Answer 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 on both sides of the paper. Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **five** questions in total.

You should answer **two** questions from Part I and **two** questions from Part II, and **one** other question.

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.

[Turn over

**SPECIMEN QUESTION PAPER A**  
**2056 Islamic Religion and Culture**

**Part I**

- 1 (a) Describe the tribal form of life in Arabia in the pre-Islamic period. [10]  
(b) Do you think the Arabs were a particularly religious people before Islam? [10]
- 2 (a) When and how did the Prophet Muhammad receive the first revelation given to mankind? [10]  
(b) Why is revelation given to mankind? [10]
- 3 (a) In what ways did the Meccans react to the new Muslim converts? [10]  
(b) Why did they oppose the teachings of the Prophet Muhammad? [10]
- 4 Describe:  
(a) The events leading up to the Hijrah [10]  
and (b) The consequences of the Hijrah. [10]
- 5 (a) What problems arose on the death of Muhammad? [10]  
(b) Assess Abu Bakr's success in dealing with these problems. [10]
- 6 (a) In what circumstances did Umar embrace Islam? [10]  
(b) Assess the achievements of Umar as Caliph. [10]

**Part II**

- 7 (a) Describe the various stages by which the Qur'an was collected and preserved in its present form. [10]  
(b) Why is it useful for believers to have written scripture? [10]
- 8 (a) Give an account of the tasks carried out by angels. [10]  
(b) What are the main differences between angels and prophets? [10]
9. (a) What does Zakat mean, and what are the regulations concerning it? [10]  
(b) In what ways does Zakat benefit the community at large? [10]
- 10 (a) What does Islam teach about the Final judgement, and Heaven and Hell? [10]  
(b) Why do Muslims think it is important to believe in these doctrines? [10]
- 11 (a) What does Sura Fateha teach about the Oneness of God? [10]  
(b) Referring as far as possible to Sura Kauthar, write on the importance of sacrifice. [10]
- 12 (a) Referring to Hadiths you have read, discuss the Islamic teachings on either generosity or tolerance. [10]  
(b) In what ways could these teachings be relevant to modern society? [10]

**CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS**

General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level

**ISLAMIC RELIGION AND CULTURE**

**2056/01**

**Specimen Question Paper B**

**2 hours 30 minutes**

Additional materials: Answer 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 on both sides of the paper.

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

Answer **five** questions in total.

You should answer **two** questions from Part I and **two** questions from Part II, and **one** other question.

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.

[Turn over

**SPECIMEN QUESTION PAPER B**  
**2056 Islamic Religion and Culture**

**Part I**

- 1 (a) What features of Pre-Islamic Arabia did Muhammad like? [10]  
(b) How did these features later help the spread of Islam? [10]
- 2 (a) Give an account of the Prophet Muhammad's life from the time of his employment by Khadijah until his vision on Mount Hira. [10]  
(b) Explain why Muhammad had been dissatisfied with the religious state of Arabia in the year before his Mount Hira vision. [10]
- 3 Describe the conquest of Mecca, and comment on the way in which Muhammad treated those he had conquered. [20]
- 4 (a) Write briefly on the Prophet Muhammad's relationship with the Jews in Medina. [10]  
(b) What were the reasons behind the expulsion of the Jews from Medina by the Prophet Muhammad? [10]
- 5 (a) How was Umar chosen as Caliph? [10]  
(b) Assess the importance of Umar to the Muslim community from his conversion until he became Caliph. [10]
- 6 (a) What problems did Ali face when he became Caliph? [10]  
(b) How successful was Ali in solving these problems? [10]

**Part II**

- 7 "The story of the Prophet Nuh is the story of a disobedient people and their punishment by Allah." Discuss. [20]
- 8 (a) What does the Qu'ran teach about divorce? [10]  
(b) Why do Muslims regard divorce as the least desirable of the permitted things? [10]
- 9 Referring as far as possible to the specified texts, describe and explain the teaching found in **either** Sura Quraish **or** Sura Ikhlas. [20]
- 10 (a) What are the rules governing fasting in Islam? [10]  
(b) How does fasting help the Muslim become a better Muslim? [10]
- 11 (a) What characteristics must a Hadith possess in order to be regarded as genuine? [10]  
(b) Why did Muslims think that it was important to preserve Hadiths? [10]
- 12 (a) Giving examples from the Hadiths you have studied, write briefly on the Islamic teachings on **either** forgiveness **or** love. [10]  
(b) In what ways could these teachings be applied to modern society? [10]