MARK SCHEME for the October/November 2008 question paper

2058 ISLAMIYAT

2058/02

Paper 2, maximum raw mark 60

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UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE International Examinations

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- 1 Comment on the meaning and importance of any seven of the words or phrases underlined in the following passages. [14]
 - (a) Sura 1

In the name of God, most gracious, most merciful.¹ Praise be to God, <u>the Lord of the worlds</u>,² Most gracious, most merciful, <u>Master of the day of judgement</u>.³ You do we worship, and <u>your aid we seek</u>.⁴ Show us <u>the straight way</u>,⁵ The way of those on whom you have bestowed your grace, Those whose portion is not wrath, And those who go not astray.

- 1. In the name of God, most gracious, most merciful
 - This phrase gives valuable insights into God's nature.
 - The repetition of al-Rahman and al-Rahim emphasizes the merciful character of his nature.
 - This is recited whenever a Muslim begins an action.
- 2. Lord of the Worlds
 - God is Lord of all that exists.
 - He is Lord of this world and the world to come.
 - Everything is under God's control.
- 3. Master of the day of judgement
 - On judgement day God will decide between the righteous and unrighteous
 - For he alone is Master of that day.
- 4. Your aid we seek
 - Muslims should always turn to God for help.
 - They should seek his help before any other source.
 - God can help us because he is the Creator of all.
- 5. The straight way
 - This is the path, based on the Qur'an, that all Muslims should follow.
 - It is the path followed by Abraham and earlier believers in one God.

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(b) Sura 8.44-5

<u>And remember when you met</u>,⁶ he showed them to you as few in your eyes, <u>and made you appear as contemptible in their eyes</u>;⁷ so that God might accomplish a matter already enacted. For to God all matters go back.

O you who believe! When you meet a force, Be firm, and <u>remember God much, so that you may prosper</u>.⁸

- 6. And remember when you met
 - This refers to the battle of Badr.
 - The mention of it in the Qur'an shows that it was part of God's plan.
- 7. and made you appear as contemptible in their eyes
 - The Muslim force at Badr was made to appear as insignificant.
 - God performed this miracle in order to make the Makkans overconfident.
- 8. <u>remember God much, so that you may prosper</u>
 - In the Battle of Badr the Muslims won by depending on God.
 - All Muslims should follow this example and they will prosper against any odds.
- (c) Sura 114

Say: <u>I seek refuge with the Lord of mankind</u>,⁹ The King of mankind, The God of mankind, From the evil of <u>the whisperer who withdraws</u>,¹⁰ Who whispers in the hearts of mankind, Among jinn and mankind.

- 9. <u>I seek refuge with the Lord of mankind</u>
 - God is the proper refuge from danger and evil.
 - He is the Lord of all and can help those who turn to him.
- 10. the whisperer who withdraws
 - This is often understood as Satan, or other people.
 - These individuals put bad thoughts in people's minds almost without their noticing.

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2 Comment on the teachings in seven of the following Hadiths about what Muslims should believe and how they should act. [14]

(a) Actions are judged by intentions.

- A person's action depends on what is meant behind it.
- He should be judged by what he intended rather than what he did.

(b) A Muslim is one from whose tongue and hand Muslims are safe.

- Muslims believe they can trust and rely on other Muslims.
- Muslims should show loyalty to others in both words and deeds.
- (c) Each of you is a custodian, and each of you will be held responsible for those in your care.
 - Muslims believe they should care for those around them.
 - Believers should look after those for whose welfare they are accountable.

(d) One who cheats is not among us.

- Cheating involves treating others unfairly.
- People who do this cannot be part of the believing community.

(e) The best among you is the one who has learnt the Qur'an and teaches it.

- It is important to believe that the teachings of the Qur'an are central to life.
- Learning and sharing these teachings is important [both elements for a mark].

(f) To obtain knowledge is obligatory for Muslim men and women.

- Muslims must always be ready to learn.
- Education is open to women and men equally.

(g) For whoever asks blessings on me once God will open a door of safety.

- Muslims should always remember the importance of the Prophet in their belief.
- They should pray for him to God.

(h) Sincerity leads to godliness, and godliness leads to paradise.

- God rewards people who are sincere.
- Acting in a way that people can trust increases a Muslim's faith.

(i) Purity is half of faith.

- Purity of attitude is a large part of Muslim beliefs.
- Purity in actions towards others is a sign of being a Muslim/physical cleanliness is important at all times in Islam.

(j) Not one of you believes until he desires for his brother what he desires for himself.

- Concern for the welfare of others is an important part of faith.
- Acting with care for others is a sign of sincere belief.

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3 (a) Describe the teachings of Islam about the position of women as

- (i) wives,
 - Wives are equal to their husbands.
 - They are partners with their husbands in family life.
 - They have financial independence.
 - The have a right to financial support.
 - They are primarily responsible for the home.
 - They have a right to divorce.
 - [1 mark for use of quotations from the Qur'an and examples from the life of the Prophet, as long as they are used <u>to support points</u>]

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(ii) mothers,

- They have the main responsibility for bringing up children.
- They are the first teachers of faith and proper conduct.
- They deserve respect from their children because of what they have done for them.
- [1 mark for use of more than one quotations from the Qur'an and examples from the life of the Prophet, as long as they are used <u>to support points</u>.]

(iii) daughters.

- Daughters should be cared for as carefully as sons.
- They should always be allowed freedom in choices.
- They have a right to their parents' legacy.
- Daughters have as much right to an education as sons.
- [1 mark for use of one or more examples from the Qur'an and the life of the Prophet, as long as they are used <u>to support points</u>.]

(b) Explain the teachings of Islam about the relationship between men and women. [5]

- Men and women should be respectful in one another's presence.
- They should be modest in one another's presence.
- Unmarried men and women should not be alone together.
- unless they are close relatives.
- In marriage men and women should cooperate as partners.
- While husbands take initiatives in the marriage partnership, they should consult their wives' interests.

4 (a) Describe the main activities of 'Ali during the lifetime of the Prophet.

- He was brought up in the Prophet's house.
- He was among the first converts to Islam/the first child to become a Muslim.
- He lay in the Prophet's bed on the night of the *hijra*/He was entrusted by the Prophet to return the belongings of the Makkans.
- He married the Prophet's daughter Fatima.
- He fought in single combat before the battle of Badr.
- He fought fiercely during the capture of Khaybar.
- He wrote down the text of the Treaty of Hudaybiya.
- During the Tabuk expedition Ali was the Prophet's deputy in Madina and did not participate in the battle.

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(b) Describe the main events of 'Ali's rule as caliph.

- He was confronted with the decision of how to treat the assassins of 'Uthman.
- Talha and Zubayr, with the support of 'A'isha, opposed him.
- He defeated them at the battle of the Camel.
- Mu'awiya refused to give him allegiance or vacate his position as Governor of Syria.
- The armies led by the two met at Siffin.
- The battle proved indecisive.
- 'Ali agreed to arbitration.
- Some of his supporters deserted him.
- (c) Explain why close Companions of the Prophet opposed 'Ali, and why his supporters deserted him towards the end of his life. [2 × 2]
 - Talha and Zubayr thought he should punish 'Uthman's assassins as soon as possible.
 - This was the just action and they thought `Ali was wrong not to do it.
 - 'Ali's supporters at Siffin thought he was the leader of the community and those who opposed him were wrong.
 - So they thought he was wrong to arbitrate with sinners.

5 Explain the importance of the following during the lifetime of the Prophet:

(a) Abu Talib,

- He brought the Prophet up after his grandfather's death.
- He trained him as a merchant.
- He protected him against his enemies in Makka.
- As head of the Prophet's clan he had the power to do this.
- He supported the Prophet during the boycott and allowed the Muslims to stay at his gorge.

(b) Bilal,

- He was a slave who became one of the first Muslims.
- He was tortured mercilessly but never gave up his faith.
- This showed the depth of his loyalty to Islam.
- He was appointed as the first muezzin in Islam.
- This shows the equality of all believers according to Islamic teachings.

(c) Abu Sufyan,

- He was a merchant and one of the leaders of Makka.
- He became one of the Prophet's main opponents.
- He was involved/participated in the main battles against the Muslims of Madina.
- After much resistance to the Prophet he finally became a Muslim.
- This was a sign that Islam had triumphed over the people of Makka.
- The Prophet designated his house as a place of refuge at the capture of Makka.

(d) the Ansar.

- They were people of Madina who accepted Islam
- They helped the Muslim emigrants (muhajirun) when they came north
- · They shared their possessions with them/took them as brothers
- Their help enabled Islam to become established in the community of Madina

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