



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level

**ISLAMIC RELIGION AND CULTURE**

**2056/01**

Paper 1

**October/November 2012**

**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.

Choose any **two** questions from Part 1 and any **two** questions from Part 2 and **one** other question from either Part 1 or Part 2.

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 **five** questions in total.

Choose any **two** questions from Part 1 and any **two** questions from Part 2, and **one** other question from either Part 1 or Part 2.

### Part 1

- 1 (a) Describe the social conditions of the Arabs during the Age of Ignorance [*jahiliya*]. [10]  
 (b) Explain the significance of the change in social conditions with the coming of Islam. [10]
- 2 (a) What was the importance of  
 (i) Bahira, **and**  
 (ii) Waraqah bin Nawfal in the early years of the Prophet's life? [10]  
 (b) How did the experiences of the Prophet's early life mould his character? [10]
- 3 (a) Describe what happened the night the Prophet migrated [made *hijrah*] to Medina **and** the behaviour of the Quraish at this time. [10]  
 (b) Why do you think the Prophet was more successful in Medina as compared to the years he lived in Mecca? [10]
- 4 (a) What were the reasons for the battle of Uhud? [10]  
 (b) Was the outcome of Uhud a defeat for the Muslims and what were the consequences for both sides? [10]
- 5 (a) Describe how  
 (i) Abu Bakr and later  
 (ii) Umar were elected Caliph [*khalifa*]. [10]  
 (b) Why was the relationship between the Prophet and Abu Bakr special? [10]
- 6 (a) What common characteristics did the four Rightly Guided Caliphs possess? [10]  
 (b) Reflecting on the years they ruled discuss any **two** aspects of their administration that may have lessons for Muslim rulers today. [10]

## Part 2

- 7 (a) What role did Zayd bin Thabit play in the collection of the Qur'an? [10]  
(b) There has been a tradition of reciting the Qur'an. Why has it been important to Muslims through the ages? [10]
- 8 (a) Describe what you know and understand about Sura Kauthar [108]. [10]  
(b) What is the importance of Sura Fateha [1:1-7] for Muslims? [10]
- 9 (a) Relate the story of Prophet Nuh from the Qur'an. [10]  
(b) What lessons could Muslims learn from this story? [10]
- 10 (a) What are the daily features of observing the fast in Ramadan? [10]  
(b) Why is this month considered special in the Muslim calendar? [10]
- 11 (a) Write what you know about the first pillar of Islam, the Declaration of Faith [the *kalimah*]. [10]  
(b) Choose **one** of the following: obligatory prayer [*salat*], fasting [*sawm*], Zakat or Hajj and consider how important it is to a Muslim. [10]
- 12 (a) What rules were followed by Hadith scholars/collectors in deciding which Hadith were *sahih*? [10]  
(b) Why do Muslims need to know about the Prophet's Hadith and his actions [*sunnah*]? [10]

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