

General Certificate of Education
June 2003
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



RELIGIOUS STUDIES **RS05**
Unit 5 An introduction to Aspects of a Major World Faith

Thursday 5 June 2003 Afternoon Session

In addition to this paper you will require:
an 8-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour

Instructions

- Use blue or black ink or ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is RS05.
- Choose **one Section** only.
Section A Buddhism page 2
Section B Christianity page 3
Section C Hinduism page 4
Section D Islam page 5
Section E Judaism page 6
Section F Sikhism page 7
Answer **two** questions: **the first question and one other** from your chosen section.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 60.
- Mark allocations are shown in brackets.
- You will be assessed on your ability to use an appropriate form and style of writing, to organise relevant information clearly and coherently, and to use specialist vocabulary, where appropriate. The degree of legibility of your handwriting and the level of accuracy of your spelling, punctuation and grammar will also be taken into account.

SECTION A BUDDHISM

Answer Question 1 **and either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

1 Read the passage and answer questions (a) and (b) which follow.

“The three refuges (triratna) or ‘jewels’ of Buddha, Dhamma and Sangha are the cornerstone of Buddhism. Their importance can be seen from the fact that they are always given great emphasis in Buddhist devotional chanting.”

(a) Explain what Buddhists mean by the term ‘Dhamma’. *(10 marks)*

(b) Explain what Buddhists mean by the term ‘Sangha’. *(10 marks)*

2 (a) Examine the historical and social factors leading to the emergence of Buddhism in India. *(15 marks)*

(b) Outline the religious factors leading to the emergence of Buddhism, and assess the claim that the Buddha founded a new religious tradition. *(25 marks)*

3 (a) Describe the main features of the life of a Buddhist monk in a Theravada Buddhist monastery. *(15 marks)*

(b) Explain the relationship between a monastery and its lay community, and assess the claim that dependence on the lay community weakens the traditional role of a Buddhist monk. *(25 marks)*

SECTION B CHRISTIANITY

Answer Question 4 **and either** Question 5 **or** Question 6.

4 Read the passage and answer questions (a) and (b) which follow.

“The Eucharist has always been the central sacrament of the Christian Churches, but its practice and frequency vary greatly. It has developed from a simple meal to a complex and highly symbolic ritual.”

- (a) Outline what may be known of the development of the Eucharist in the first century. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Explain the ways in which different Churches today understand the significance of the Eucharist. *(10 marks)*

- 5
- (a) Examine the main similarities and differences between Catholic and Protestant Churches today in their understandings of sources of authority. *(15 marks)*
 - (b) “To speak of ‘the Protestant Churches’ is to create a picture of uniformity between very different Churches.”

Examine the variety which may be found in the views of authority within ‘Protestant’ Churches, and assess how far it is possible to give a general picture of the sources of authority of the Protestant Churches. *(25 marks)*

- 6
- (a) Examine the basic Christian beliefs about the human condition and the means of salvation. *(15 marks)*
 - (b) Examine the ways in which the Christian practice of baptism reflects these beliefs about the human condition, and assess the claim that these views on the human condition are outdated in the 21st century. *(25 marks)*

SECTION C HINDUISM

Answer Question 7 **and either** Question 8 **or** Question 9.

7 Read the passage and answer questions (a) and (b) which follow.

The text extract, from 'A Dictionary of Hinduism' by M. and J. Stutley, Routledge (1977), is not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints. □
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- (a) What are the main functions of each of the three gods of the Hindu Trimurti? *(10 marks)*
- (b) Explain the functions of the avatars of Vishnu with reference to Rama and Krishna. *(10 marks)*
- 8 (a) Explain why puja is performed on a daily basis by the family in the Hindu home. *(15 marks)*
- (b) What is the role of gurus for Hindus, and to what extent is the continuation of Hindu religious practices dependent on Hindu holy men rather than daily religious rituals in the home? *(25 marks)*
- 9 (a) Explain the principles of non-violence as presented by Gandhi. *(15 marks)*
- (b) How did Gandhi apply these principles in his campaign for the untouchables, and to what extent was he successful in winning his campaign? *(25 marks)*

SECTION D ISLAM

Answer Question 10 **and either** Question 11 **or** Question 12.

10 Read the passage and answer questions (a) and (b) which follow.

“The time before Islam is known as ‘jahiliyya’. It is a time of ignorance of Islam and also known as a time of Shirk.”

(a) Examine what is meant by the term ‘jahiliyya’. *(10 marks)*

(b) Explain what Muslims understand by the concept of Shirk. *(10 marks)*

11 (a) Examine the message preached by Muhammad in Mecca (Makkah), and explain why there was opposition to it. *(15 marks)*

(b) Explain how Muhammad was successful as a prophet of God in Medina (Madinah), and assess the claim that Medina established the perfect example of Islamic life for Muslims today. *(25 marks)*

12 (a) Explain what Muslims believe about life after death. *(15 marks)*

(b) Explain how the act of prayer shows submission to God, and assess the claim that prayer has greater social than spiritual value for Muslims today. *(25 marks)*

SECTION E JUDAISM

Answer Question 13 **and either** Question 14 **or** Question 15.

13 Read the passage and answer questions (a) and (b) which follow.

“The Jewish home is the key to the survival of Judaism; at its centre are both religious teaching and religious practice.”

- (a) Outline how both religious teaching and religious practice are part of life in the Jewish home. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Examine the significance of the idea of a “chosen people” in both the teaching and practice in the Jewish home. *(10 marks)*

14 (a) Examine the main features of the Covenant relationship between God and his people. *(15 marks)*

- (b) How is this relationship understood and interpreted by Jews today, and to what extent are these views a major problem for Jews today? *(25 marks)*

15 (a) Outline how Shabbat might be observed by Orthodox, Reform and Hasidic Jews. *(15 marks)*

- (b) (i) Explain the teachings from all three traditions which provide reasons for differences in the observance of Shabbat. *(10 marks)*
- (ii) Assess the view that the different practices of Shabbat are more to do with culture than religion. *(15 marks)*

SECTION F SIKHISM

Answer Question 16 **and either** Question 17 **or** Question 18.

16 Read the passage and answer questions (a) and (b) which follow.

“Sikhs should get up before dawn and bathe, and then say their daily prayers. They should meditate on God’s name all through the day. They should also try to visit the gurdwara and be a member of the Guru Sangat.”

- (a) Examine the main features of Sikh worship in the home. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Explain the meaning of the Guru Sangat and examine why it is important for Sikhs to be a member of the Guru Sangat. *(10 marks)*

17 (a) Outline the importance of the Khalsa for Sikhs today. *(15 marks)*

- (b) “Without the contribution of Guru Har Gobind, Guru Gobind Singh would not have founded the Khalsa.”

Examine the contribution of Guru Har Gobind to Sikhism, and assess the claim in the statement. *(25 marks)*

18 (a) Why is the Guru Granth Sahib known as the ‘living Guru’ for Sikhs? *(15 marks)*

- (b) Examine the centrality of the Guru Granth Sahib during the worship service (diwan) in the gurdwara, and assess the relevance of the Guru Granth Sahib for Sikhs today. *(25 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS