

General Certificate of Education
June 2005
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



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

Thursday 9 June 2005 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.

“Buddhists live their lives according to the principles of Dhamma. Ever since the beginning of Buddhism, this has been the way for the Sangha, based upon the timeless guidance of the Buddha. To fail to live a life according to Dhamma would have a negative effect on personal kamma.”

(a) Explain the meaning of the term Dhamma. *(10 marks)*

(b) Explain what Buddhism teaches about kamma. *(10 marks)*

2 (a) Explain the ways in which Mahayana Buddhism is different from Theravada Buddhism. *(15 marks)*

(b) (i) Outline Buddhist teaching on the first Holy Truth.

(ii) “Mahayana Buddhism offers a more effective response to suffering than Theravada Buddhism because of its focus on compassion.”

Assess this claim. *(25 marks)*

3 (a) Outline the **three** different forms of Buddhist meditation that you have studied. *(15 marks)*

(b) Explain the significance of the Sangha as a refuge, and assess the claim that meditation is far better for a Buddhist when it is practised with other members of the community. *(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.

“Many different styles of worship can be found in Christian churches today, and visitors to these churches may see people involved in doing very different things as part of their worship. The activities which are found may range from very formal liturgies to dancing and banner-waving.”

- (a) Briefly outline the range of activities which may be found in Christian worship today. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Explain why there is such a variety of activities in Christian worship. *(10 marks)*

5 (a) Christianity has certain traditional views on what people are like, or the nature of the human condition. Explain what Christianity teaches about the human condition. *(15 marks)*

(b) Explain the ways in which Christian teaching understands the connection between salvation and baptism, and assess how far this connection is the main reason for people to be baptised today. *(25 marks)*

6 (a) Describe the ways in which the eucharist (Lord’s Supper) may be celebrated in a Baptist church. *(15 marks)*

(b) Outline the main differences in practice which there would be between the eucharist in a Baptist church and in an Anglican church, and assess the claim that despite the differences in practice, the meaning for the individual Christian remains the same. *(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 avatar is the descent of the Divine into the world. This concept is particularly applied to Vishnu who has taken various forms to conquer evil. Of all the avatars of Vishnu, Rama and Krishna are the most popular and have become the object of devotion and worship.”

Sharada Sugirtharajah Picturing God in *Themes and Issues in Hinduism* edited by P. BOWEN, Cassell, 1998

- (a) Identify the main symbols associated with Krishna and explain their meaning. (10 marks)
- (b) Explain how a story associated with Rama reveals his importance for Hindus. (10 marks)

- 8 (a) Describe how puja is performed in the home, explaining the meaning of each part of the ritual. (15 marks)
- (b) Explain the role of temple priests within Hinduism, and assess the view that the Hindu way of life is based in the home rather than the temple. (25 marks)

- 9 (a) Examine the principle of non-violence as taught by Gandhi. (15 marks)
- (b) Explain how and why Gandhi campaigned for the untouchables (Daljits), and assess how far he was successful in creating a new form of Hinduism in which untouchability had no part. (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.

“Central to Islam is the belief that there is only one God, that God created angels and human beings, and that from among human beings he chose certain people to have the role of Prophet of God.”

(a) Summarise the teaching of Islam about angels. *(10 marks)*

(b) Explain what Islam means by “Prophet of God.” *(10 marks)*

11 (a) Explain why Muhammad moved from Makkah (Mecca) to Madinah (Medina). *(15 marks)*

(b) “The example of the Muslim community in Madinah (Medina) can provide a complete guide to life for Muslim today.”

Explain the reasons for this claim, and assess how far you agree. *(25 marks)*

12 (a) Examine the ways in which the Qur’an is used both in everyday life and during the month of fasting (Ramadan). *(15 marks)*

(b) Explain what is meant by the term Muslim, and assess the view that recitation of the Qur’an is the most important act of worship for Muslims. *(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.

“There are a number of different expressions of Judaism in the 21st century. For some this is quite acceptable, whilst for others it is not, because they believe that there can only be the one true form of Judaism, which is living according to the Law of God.”

- (a) Outline the central differences in belief and worship between Orthodox and Reform Jews today. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Explain what makes Hasidism distinctive within Judaism. *(10 marks)*

- 14** (a) Explain how Orthodox Jews observe Yom Kippur, both at home and in the synagogue. *(15 marks)*
- (b) Explain what Jews believe about the covenant today, and assess the significance of the covenant relationship for 21st century Jews. *(25 marks)*

- 15** (a) Explain how Rosh Hashanah is observed by Jews today. *(15 marks)*
- (b) Explain what Judaism teaches about the nature of God, and assess how far the observance of Rosh Hashanah is related to Jewish ideas about God. *(25 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.

“I saw Sikhs entering the gurdwara bowing down and touching the ground with their hand and then putting their hand to their forehead. They then took off their shoes and covered their heads unless they were wearing turbans. They then went into the diwan hall, bowed before the Guru Granth Sahib and made an offering.”

- (a) Explain the ways in which the gurdwara is the ‘gateway to the Guru’. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Explain the meaning of Waheguru and its importance for Sikhs. *(10 marks)*

- 17** (a) Outline the contributions of Guru Tegh Bahadur and Guru Gobind Singh to the Sikhism of their time. *(15 marks)*
- (b) Examine the continuing importance of each of these Gurus, and assess which of them is more important for Sikhs today. *(25 marks)*

- 18** (a) Explain the concept of sewa. *(15 marks)*
- (b) Explain the reasons why Guru Nanak introduced the practice of sewa, and assess the view that sewa is less important for Sikhs today than it was at the time of Guru Nanak. *(25 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

THERE ARE NO QUESTIONS PRINTED ON THIS PAGE