

General Certificate of Education
June 2006
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



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

Thursday 8 June 2006 1.30 pm to 2.30 pm

For this paper you must have:

- 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.
Answer **the first** question **and one other** from your chosen section.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 60.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers. All questions should be answered in continuous prose. Quality of Written Communication will be assessed in all answers.

SECTION A BUDDHISM

Answer **Question 1** and **one** other question.

1 Read this passage and answer parts (a) and (b) which follow.

‘There are many different types of Buddhism around the world but most scholars recognise the main division between Mahayana Buddhism and Theravada Buddhism. In practice, there could be said to be more similarities than there are differences between the two.’

(a) Outline the key features of Mahayana Buddhism. *(10 marks)*

(b) Outline the similarities between Mahayana Buddhism and Theravada Buddhism. *(10 marks)*

2 (a) Explain what Buddhism teaches about kamma (karma). *(15 marks)*

(b) Outline Buddhist teachings on rebirth, and assess the view that rebirth is a sensible solution to the issue of life beyond death. *(25 marks)*

3 (a) Examine the key features of life in a Theravada Buddhist monastery. *(15 marks)*

(b) Outline the relationship between lay and monastic communities in Theravada Buddhism, and assess the claim that monastic life will always have a higher status than lay life in Theravada Buddhism. *(25 marks)*

SECTION B CHRISTIANITY

Answer **Question 4** and **one** other question.

4 Read this passage and answer parts (a) and (b) which follow.

‘Christian belief found its traditional expression in the Nicene Creed. This attempted to define the belief of the Church at the time when the Creed was written, and has influenced thinking during the centuries since then. The Creed describes God in terms of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This belief in ‘three in one’ is known as the Trinity.’

(a) Outline what Christianity means by describing God as ‘Father’. *(10 marks)*

(b) Outline Christian beliefs about the Holy Spirit. *(10 marks)*

5 (a) Examine the main differences in styles of worship between Orthodox and Protestant Churches today. *(15 marks)*

(b) ‘The most important factor leading to the differences in worship between Orthodox and Protestant Churches is the view of authority within these traditions.’

Outline the different views of authority which are found in these traditions, and assess how far this claim is true. *(25 marks)*

6 (a) Examine what may be known of worship in the Christian Church in the 1st century. *(15 marks)*

(b) Explain why the eucharist is important as an aspect of worship in Christianity today, and assess the view that it is the most important aspect of worship in Christianity today. *(25 marks)*

Turn over for Section C

SECTION C HINDUISM

Answer **Question 7** and **one** other question.

7 Read this passage and answer parts (a) and (b) which follow.

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- (a) Describe the main actions performed at household shrines as part of puja in the home. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Explain the purpose of puja in the home. *(10 marks)*
- 8 (a) Examine those features of Hinduism which led to the modern reform movements of the 19th and 20th centuries. *(15 marks)*
- (b) Outline the work of Vivekananda and the Ramakrishna mission, and assess how successful they were in 'modernising' Hinduism. *(25 marks)*
- 9 (a) Examine the Hindu understanding of the relationship between atman and Brahman. *(15 marks)*
- (b) Explain why Shiva is an important god in Hinduism, and assess the view that for most Hindus, devotion to a personal deity is more important than becoming one with Brahman. *(25 marks)*

SECTION D ISLAM

Answer **Question 10** and **one** other question.

10 Read this passage and answer parts (a) and (b) which follow.

‘Muhammad was an ordinary man who Muslims believe was chosen as a Prophet of God to bring the Qur’an, the greatest miracle from God. The status of Muhammad in Islam continues to be seen through the importance for Muslims today of his teachings and actions.’

- (a) Explain what Muslims understand to be special about the role of Muhammad as a Prophet of God. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Explain how the life of Muhammad continues to have importance for Muslims today. *(10 marks)*

11 (a) Explain what is meant by the hijra and why it is important for Muslims. *(15 marks)*

- (b) Explain the main features of the practice of Islam in Madinah (Medina), and assess the claim that Islam began in Madinah (Medina). *(25 marks)*

12 (a) Explain the importance of public prayer in Islam. *(15 marks)*

- (b) Outline the regulations regarding the month of fasting in Islam, and assess the claim that the demands of modern life make these regulations too difficult to fulfil. *(25 marks)*

Turn over for Section E

SECTION E JUDAISM

Answer **Question 13** and **one** other question.

13 Read this passage and answer parts (a) and (b) which follow.

‘As humanity responded to the revelation from God, so different ideas developed about the meanings and instructions found in the revelation. These different ideas soon became recognised as different movements or denominations.’

(a) Outline the central beliefs and practices of Orthodox Judaism. *(10 marks)*

(b) Outline the ways in which the beliefs and practices of the Reform movement are different from those of Orthodox Jews. *(10 marks)*

14 (a) Explain how the idea of the covenant underlies most Jewish practice. *(15 marks)*

(b) Outline Jewish beliefs about the nature of God, and assess how far these beliefs are easily acceptable for Jews today. *(25 marks)*

15 (a) Explain how Jews observe Yom Kippur. *(15 marks)*

(b) Examine the teaching about Yom Kippur, and assess how significant Yom Kippur is for 21st century Jews. *(25 marks)*

SECTION F SIKHISM

Answer **Question 16** and **one** other question.

16 Read this passage and answer parts (a) and (b) which follow.

‘Sikhs will gather at the gurdwara on a regular basis. There they will prostrate before the Guru Granth Sahib and they will meditate on the name of God. They will also share in the langar, a meal which is open to everyone.’

(a) Outline the importance of worship in the gurdwara for Sikhs. *(10 marks)*

(b) Explain why the practice of langar in the gurdwara is important for Sikhs. *(10 marks)*

17 (a) Explain the meaning of the word Guru and its different uses in Sikhism. *(15 marks)*

(b) Explain what it means for a Sikh to be a member of a Guru Sangat, and assess the claim that one cannot be a Sikh without being a member of a Guru Sangat. *(25 marks)*

18 (a) Examine the contribution of Guru Nanak to Sikhism. *(15 marks)*

(b) Examine the contribution of Guru Tegh Bahadur to Sikhism, and assess the claim that both Guru Nanak and Guru Tegh Bahadur taught Sikhs to follow a spiritual path and not to use violence. *(25 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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