

General Certificate of Education
June 2007
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



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

Thursday 7 June 2007 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 will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

SECTION A BUDDHISM

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

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

‘Theravada Buddhism is the closest that we have to the original form of Buddhism that emerged in India. It is the ‘tradition of the elders’ and firmly grounded in the teachings of Dhamma as discovered by the Buddha.’

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

(b) Explain **three** ways in which Mahayana Buddhism is different from Theravada Buddhism. *(10 marks)*

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

(b) Examine the religious factors leading to the emergence of Buddhism in India, and assess the claim that Buddhism was no different from other religious movements of the time. *(25 marks)*

3 (a) Explain the nature and purpose of Vipassana meditation. *(15 marks)*

(b) Outline the importance of meditation for the lay community, and assess the claim that, in Buddhism, only monks can achieve enlightenment. *(25 marks)*

SECTION B CHRISTIANITY

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

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

‘Christianity appears in a variety of denominational forms, and these have many different bases for belief and practice. One of the main differences between the Roman Catholic Church and the Protestant Churches lies in their views of their sources of authority.’

- (a) Explain the sources of authority in the Roman Catholic Church. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Explain the sources of authority in the Protestant Churches. *(10 marks)*

5 (a) Examine what may be known of the organisation and sense of mission of the Church in the 1st century. *(15 marks)*

- (b) ‘Organisation, worship and a sense of mission were all important in the Church in the 1st century, but worship was the most important element for the survival of the Church.’

Outline what may be known of the worship of the Church in the 1st century, and assess the claim made in the statement. *(25 marks)*

6 (a) Examine the traditional Christian beliefs about the human condition. *(15 marks)*

- (b) Outline the traditional Christian views about the ‘means of salvation’, and assess the view that the language of salvation is outdated in the 21st century. *(25 marks)*

Turn over for SECTION C

SECTION C HINDUISM

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

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

‘A perfect vision of Truth can only follow a complete realisation of Ahimsa (non-harm). To see the universal and all-pervading spirit of truth face-to-face, one must be able to love the meanest and smallest of living beings as oneself. Any person who aspires to do this cannot afford to keep out of any field of life. That is why my devotion to truth has drawn me into the field of politics.’

Source: *Selected works of Mahatma Gandhi*, Volume 11, pages 752 – 3, Ahmedabad: Navajivan Publishing House (1969)

(a) Outline Gandhi’s teachings on non-violence. (10 marks)

(b) Explain why Gandhi campaigned on behalf of the dalits (untouchables). (10 marks)

8 (a) Examine the Hindu concept of God with reference to both the impersonal Brahman and the Trimurti. (15 marks)

(b) Explain the concept of the self (atman) in Hinduism, and assess the view that most Hindus understand God through personal deities rather than through realisation of the true self. (25 marks)

9 (a) Explain how sannyasins and gurus preserve the traditions of Hinduism. (15 marks)

(b) Explain the role of the temple priest within Hinduism, and assess the view that Hindus are totally dependent upon holy men in order to practise their religion. (25 marks)

SECTION D ISLAM

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

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

‘The Islamic community was founded by the prophet Muhammad. He led this community until his death in 632CE. However, on his death there were differences of opinion concerning who should lead the community and with what authority. This led to differences in Islam between Sunni and Shi’i Muslims.’

(a) Explain what is meant by ‘Islam’. *(10 marks)*

(b) Explain how the death of Muhammad led to the origins of Shi’i Islam. *(10 marks)*

11 (a) Explain what is meant by ‘shirk’, and why shirk is considered to be a sin in Islam. *(15 marks)*

(b) Outline what Muslims believe about judgement, and assess the claim that to believe in God is all that is needed to be considered a good Muslim on judgement day. *(25 marks)*

12 (a) Outline the main features of prayer in Islam, and explain how prayer is believed to bring Muslims closer to God. *(15 marks)*

(b) Outline the practice of fasting in Muslim life, and assess the claim that it is no longer necessary to observe the month of the fast (Ramadan) to be a good Muslim. *(25 marks)*

Turn over for SECTION E

SECTION E JUDAISM

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

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

‘Jews believe that the covenant provides them with a special relationship with God. Jewish ideas about God’s justice and about God as one who works through history are ideas which often arise from the covenant concept.’

(a) Outline Jewish ideas about God’s justice. *(10 marks)*

(b) Explain what Jews mean when they refer to God as one who works through history. *(10 marks)*

14 (a) Explain how Shabbat is observed in the synagogue. *(15 marks)*

(b) Outline how Jews keep Shabbat in the home, and assess the value of Shabbat for Jews today. *(25 marks)*

15 (a) Identify and explain the distinctive practices of Hasidic Jewish movements. *(15 marks)*

(b) Outline the distinctive teachings of Hasidic Jewish movements, and assess the claim that the Hasidic movements will always be a minority within Judaism. *(25 marks)*

SECTION F SIKHISM

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

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

‘In 1999, Khalsa Aid was started in the West London area to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the founding of the Khalsa, and as a way of practising sewa today. Khalsa Aid is an humanitarian relief organisation that helps people in different countries, no matter what their religion, who have been affected by natural disasters.’

(a) Explain the reasons why Guru Gobind Singh founded the Khalsa in 1699. *(10 marks)*

(b) Explain the importance of sewa for Sikhs today. *(10 marks)*

17 (a) Examine the various ways in which Sikhs show respect to the Guru Granth Sahib in the gurdwara. *(15 marks)*

(b) (i) Explain what is meant by Guru Sangat.

(ii) ‘Although the Guru Granth Sahib is the ‘living Guru’, it is better for Sikhs today to ask advice from another Sikh.’

Assess this claim. *(25 marks)*

18 (a) Describe the religious and social context in which Guru Nanak began his teachings in the 15th century Punjab. *(15 marks)*

(b) Outline the main teachings of Guru Nanak, and assess the claim that his teachings were a total rejection of the religious and social context of his day. *(25 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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