



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
General Certificate of Education Advanced Subsidiary Level

**ISLAMIC STUDIES**

**8053/01**

Paper 1

**October/November 2010**

**3 hours**

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.

Answer at least **one** question from **each** Section.

You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.

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.



You must answer **five** questions in all, **one** question from each section and **one** other question.

### Section A

- 1 (a) Explain the significance of the Ka'ba in pre-Islamic Arabian beliefs. [10]
- (b) Why, according to traditional Muslim accounts, did the Prophet Muhammad seek to 'cleanse' the Ka'ba? [10]
- 2 (a) Write brief accounts of the following:
- (i) the Prophet Muhammad's first experience of revelation [4]
- (ii) the first migration to Abyssinia [4]
- (iii) the Charter of Medina. [4]
- (b) Explain the significance of any **two** of these for Muslim reflection about relations with other faiths. [8]
- 3 Explain why the Caliph 'Ali was compelled to fight against
- (a) Talha and Zubayr [10]
- (b) Mu'awiya. [10]

### Section B

- 4 (a) Describe the part played by Zayd ibn Thabit in the process of compiling the Qur'an. [10]
- (b) Explain the differences between the revelations delivered in Mecca and Medina. [10]
- 5 How do the experiences of the prophet Moses as they are recounted in *Surat al-qasas* (ch 28 of the Qur'an) relate to the experiences of the Prophet Muhammad? [20]
- 6 Why do many Muslims attach as much importance to memorising the Qur'an as to studying its meaning? [20]

**Section C**

- 7 In what ways do the observances of prayer (*salat*), almsgiving (*zakat*) and fasting (*sawm*) strengthen ties within the Muslim community? [20]
- 8 How do the various ceremonies carried out each year in the Islamic world remind Muslims of the life and example of the prophet Abraham? [20]
- 9 In the Qur'an the Prophet Muhammad is given the title 'seal of the prophets'. Explain the meaning and the significance of this title. [20]

**Section D**

- 10 In what main ways have Muslim legal experts made use of the Prophet Muhammad's Sunnah in order to interpret the Qur'an? [20]
- 11 Why was it thought necessary to make use of consensus (*ijma'*) and analogy (*qiyas*) by early Muslim legal experts? [20]
- 12 In a rapidly changing world, can the Qur'an continue to form the basis of belief and action in the Muslim community? [20]

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