

**ISLAMIC RELIGION AND CULTURE 2056**  
**GCE O Level**  
**2007**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

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Further details are available from Customer Services at University of Cambridge International Examinations.

**Exclusions**

This syllabus must not be offered in the same session with the following syllabus:

2058 Islamiyat

**You can find syllabuses and information about CIE teacher training events on the CIE Website ([www.cie.org.uk](http://www.cie.org.uk)).**



# ISLAMIC RELIGION AND CULTURE

## GCE Ordinary Level

### Syllabus 2056

Available in the October/November examination session only

## AIMS

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The aims of the syllabus are to:

1. develop an interest and enthusiasm for the study of Islam
2. introduce candidates to the basic teachings of the Qur'an and Hadith, and to pre-Islamic and Islamic religious life
3. help candidates identify and explore the religious and ethical issues raised in the Qur'an and by Prophet Muhammad (pbuh).

## ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

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The examination will assess the candidate's ability to:

1. demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the major themes of the syllabus and of the specified texts
2. apply historical and other relevant knowledge – for example, in explaining the development of Islam and its beliefs, practices and traditions
3. demonstrate the effects of Islam on the behaviour of believers.

## ASSESSMENT SCHEME

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There will be one question paper of two and a half (2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>) hours' duration, comprising two parts, Part I and Part II. Candidates will be required to answer **five** questions in all, from a total of 12 questions, choosing at least two from each part.

# SYLLABUS CONTENT

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## Part 1

### Section A: Arabia in the Pre-Islamic Period

- (a) Tribal and political organisations
- (b) Social conditions and economic system
- (c) Religious beliefs

### Section B: Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)

- (a) Life before prophethood
- (b) Muhammad (pbuh) as the final messenger of Islam
- (c) Problems faced in Mecca
- (d) Success and achievements in Medina
- (e) Reasons, descriptions and consequences of the following battles fought during the Medinan Period: Bedr, Uhud and Trench
- (f) Conquest of Mecca and the farewell address

### Section C: The Caliphate Period/The Four Pious Caliphs

- (a) The power of the Caliphs and their position in the community
- (b) Ways of electing the Caliphs
- (c) The conquests and achievements of the Caliphs

## Part II

### Section D: The Holy Qur'an

- (a) The structure and evolution of the Qur'an
- (b) Candidates are expected to have a general knowledge of the following Suras:
 

(i) Fateha - Opening Chapter	Chapter 1 verses 1 to 7
(ii) Alaq - Clot of Blood	Chapter 96 verses 1 to 5
(iii) Zilzal - Convulsion	Chapter 99 verses 1 to 8
(iv) Quraish - Custodians of the Ka'ba	Chapter 106 verses 1 to 4
(v) Kauthar - Abundance	Chapter 108 verses 1 to 3
(vi) Ikhlas - Purity (of Faith)	Chapter 112 verses 1 to 4

**Specified text:** A Yusuf Ali; *An English interpretation of the Holy Qur'an with full Arabic Text*; Muhammed Ashraf Publisher and Bookseller; 1982

- (c) The following Qur'anic stories are to be studied:
 

(i) Prophet Adam (AS)	(ii) Prophet Ibrahim (AS)
(iii) Prophet Nuh (AS)	(iv) Prophet Musa (AS)

- (d) The following Qur'anic beliefs, practices and rituals are to be studied:
- (i) Five pillars
  - (ii) Articles of faith
  - (iii) Id-ul-Fitr, Id-ud-Doha
  - (iv) The birth, marriage and funeral rites

**Section E: Hadith**

- (i) The meaning of Hadith
- (ii) The importance of Hadith in Islam
- (iii) The classification of Hadith SAHIH (very sound), HASSAN (good), DAIF (weak), MAUZU (suspect/false)
- (iv) Relations between Qur'an and Hadith
- (v) Candidates are expected to have a general knowledge of the following Hadith:

No. 11	Doubt
No. 13	Love
No. 15	Generosity
No. 16	Tolerance
No. 34	Evil
No. 39	Forgiveness

**Specified text:** Ezzedin Ibrahim and Denys Johnson-Davies (translators); *An-Nawawi's Forty Hadith*; The Holy Koran Publishing House (1977); Islamic Texts Society (1997); ISBN 0946621659

**Resources for teachers**

P K Hitti; *History of the Arabs*; Palgrave Macmillan Ltd; 2002; ISBN 0333631420

Dr Majid Ali Khan; *Muhammad The Final Messenger*; Muhammed Ashraf, Publishers and Booksellers, Lahore, Pakistan; 1983

Prof. Fazl Ahmad; *The Four Caliphs of Islam*; Taj Company, Delhi, India; 1983

Sayyid Qutb; *In the shade of the Holy Qur'an (Vol. 30)*; translated by Salahi & Shamis; Delhi Publications; 1979

Gulam Sarwar; *Islam - Beliefs and Teachings*; Markazi Maktaba Islami, Delhi, India; 1997; Muslim Educational Trust; 2000; ISBN 0907261361

Abdullah Yusuf Ali; *The Message of Islam*; The Wisdom of the East Series; John Murray London; 1992; ISBN 0719551404

Syed Ali Ashraf; *Islam*; Nelson Thomas Ltd; 1991; ISBN 1871402107

Rosalyn Kendrick; *Islam*; Heinemann; 1989; ISBN 0435303147

Farkhanda Noor Muhammad; *Islamiyat for Students*; Ferozsons, Lahore; 2000; ISBN 9690101234

Victor W. Watton; *Islam*; Hodder and Stoughton; 1993; ISBN 0340587954

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Copies of syllabuses, past papers and Examiners' Reports are available on CD ROM and can be ordered using the Publications Catalogue, which is available at [www.cie.org.uk](http://www.cie.org.uk) under 'Qualifications & Diplomas' – 'Order Publications'.