

General Certificate of Education  
Ordinary Level

**Syllabus**

ISLAMIC RELIGION AND CULTURE 2056

For examination in November 2011

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**Note for Exams Officers:** Before making Final Entries, please check availability of the codes for the components and options in the E3 booklet (titled "Procedures for the Submission of Entries") relevant to the exam session. Please note that component and option codes are subject to change.

# ISLAMIC RELIGION AND CULTURE

GCE Ordinary Level

Syllabus 2056

Available in the October/November examination session only

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### Exclusions

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

2058 Islamiyat



## 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

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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

Dr D. Thomas and Dr M. Draper; *Islamiyat: A Core Text for O Level*; Oxford University Press; Pakistan; 2004; ISBN 0195977831