
ISLAMIC STUDIES

8053/12

Paper 1

October/November 2015

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, glue or correction fluid.

DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

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) Write about the status of women in pre-Islamic Arabia. [10]
 (b) Explain why the pre-Islamic period in Arabia is called the 'time of ignorance' (*jahiliyyah*). [10]
- 2 Explain why the first Muslims suffered persecution in Mecca before the time of the *hijrah*. [20]
- 3 (a) Give a descriptive account of the capture of Mecca by the Muslim army led by the Prophet. [8]
 (b) What lessons can be learnt by political leaders from the Prophet's treatment of the Meccans after he captured their city? [12]

Section B

- 4 Write an account of the teachings of the Qur'an about the role and status of Messengers sent by God. [20]
- 5 (a) Outline the main themes of Surat al-Baqarah. [12]
 (b) Explain why Surat al-Ikhlās is regarded as equal in value to one third of the whole Qur'an. [8]
- 6 'The first Muslim community was built entirely on the Qur'an.' How far was this the case? [20]

Section C

- 7 (a) Describe how Muslims perform their daily prayers. [12]
 (b) How important are the Friday congregational prayers in the life of the Muslim community? [8]
- 8 Which is more important for maintaining the strength of the Muslim community, 'Id al-Fitr or 'Id al-Adha? [20]
- 9 'In this day and age, belief in a final Resurrection and Judgement can no longer be accepted.' How might Muslims respond to this opinion? [20]

Section D

- 10** Would it be possible for Muslims to base their beliefs and actions on the Qur'an alone? [20]
- 11** Give concrete examples to show how the Prophet's Sunnah is used to interpret the Qur'an for legal purposes. [20]
- 12** Explain the relevance of consensus (*ijma'*) and analogy (*qiyas*) in Muslim legal thinking in today's world. [20]

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