

Cambridge International Examinations

Cambridge International Advanced Subsidiary Level

ISLAMIC STUDIES 8053/12

Paper 1 October/November 2017

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.



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

Section A

- 1 (a) Outline the main religious beliefs and practices associated with Mecca in pre-Islamic times. [12]
 - (b) Explain why the early Muslim community destroyed traces of these beliefs and practices. [8]
- 2 The author of a well-known biography of the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) gave his work the title 'Prophet and Statesman'. How far do you think this sums up the significance of the Prophet (pbuh)? [20]
- Which of the Rightly Guided Caliphs was most beneficial for the future of Islam in the measures he took? Give reasons to support your answer. [20]

Section B

- What characteristics distinguish the parts of the Qur'an revealed in Mecca from the parts revealed in Medina?
- Two of the major themes of the Qur'an are the oneness of God (*tawhid*) and the messengers sent with his revelations (*risalah*). How are these two themes connected together in the Qur'an? [20]
- Abu Bakr was reluctant to have the Qur'an written down, though this was nevertheless done. Why did the early Muslim community regard it as important to have a written Qur'an? [20]

Section C

- 7 The Five Pillars are central to Islam. Explain why observance of them is so important in the Muslim community.
 [20]
- 8 (a) Give an outline of the celebration of 'ld al-Adha. [12]
 - (b) Explain its importance in the history and beliefs of Islam. [8]
- **9** (a) Write an account of the teachings in the Qur'an about angels. [12]
 - **(b)** What is the importance of angels to Muslims today? [8]

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Section D

- 10 In a world that is very different from seventh-century Arabia, how can the Qur'an continue to form the foundation of the Muslim community? [20]
- **11** (a) Give an outline of the legal principles of consensus (*ijma'*) and analogy (*qiyas*). [12]
 - (b) Explain how either of these can be used in Islamic legal practices today. [8]
- 12 'The legal teachings of the Qur'an could not be understood without the Prophet's Sunnah.' Give reasons to agree or disagree with this statement. [20]

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