



*Rewarding Learning*  
ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)  
General Certificate of Education  
2009

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## Religious Studies

Assessment Unit AS 8

*assessing*

Module 8: An Introduction  
to the Study of Islam

[ASR81]

THURSDAY 18 JUNE, MORNING

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### TIME

1 hour 20 minutes.

### INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.  
Answer **two** questions.

### INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 90.  
Quality of written communication will be assessed in **all** questions.  
Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages indicate the marks awarded to each question or part question.

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- 1 (a) Outline your knowledge and understanding of the reasons for the spread of Islam in the first two centuries. [30]
- (b) Explore the claim that Muhammad was at all times, a powerful and highly successful leader. Justify your answer. [15]
- 2 (a) Outline your knowledge and understanding of the Islamic duty of Hajj (pilgrimage). [30]
- (b) Comment on the claim that Hajj is the most important pillar of Islam. Justify your answer. [15]
- 3 (a) Outline your knowledge and understanding of the key differences in belief and practice between Sunni and Shia Muslims. [30]
- (b) Explore the view that there were many issues that caused the Muslim community to split. Justify your answer. [15]
- 4 (a) Outline your knowledge and understanding of the main beliefs taught in the Qur'an. [30]
- (b) Comment on the view that submission to the Qur'an is extremely challenging for Muslims. Justify your answer. [15]

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**THIS IS THE END OF THE QUESTION PAPER**

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