



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED
General Certificate of Education
2011

Religious Studies
Assessment Unit A2 8

assessing

Islam: Law, Tradition and Practice

[AR281]



THURSDAY 26 MAY, MORNING

TIME

2 hours.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Candidate Number and Centre Number on the answer booklet provided.
Answer **two** questions from Section A and answer the compulsory question in Section B.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 150.
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.

ADVICE TO CANDIDATES

You are advised to take account of the marks for each question or part question.

Section A

Answer **two** questions from this section.

- 1 (a) Outline and examine the teaching of the Qur'an on war. [30]
- (b) Critically evaluate the claim that in the modern world the concept of jihad is irrelevant. [20]
- 2 (a) Explain the different ways in which the concept of Shariah can be understood within Islam. [30]
- (b) Critically evaluate the view that living by the rules of Shariah is vital to the survival of Islam. [20]
- 3 (a) Outline and explain the role of birth rituals within the Islamic faith. [30]
- (b) Critically assess the claim that Islamic rituals ensure the passing on of the faith. [20]
- 4 (a) Identify and discuss the nature and practices of Sufism. [30]
- (b) Critically assess the view that Sufism corrected serious weaknesses in the Islamic faith. [20]

Section B

Synoptic Assessment

Theme: Orthodoxy

You **must** answer this question.

- 5 (a) With reference to at least **two** different areas of study, examine key ideas in relation to orthodoxy. [30]
- (b) Critically assess the claim that the role of religion is to enforce orthodoxy. You should refer to other aspects of human experience in your answer. [20]

