



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED  
General Certificate of Education  
2013

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## Religious Studies

Assessment Unit A2 8

*assessing*

Islam: Law, Tradition and Practice

[AR281]

THURSDAY 6 JUNE, MORNING

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### 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 in allocating the available examination time.

## Section A

Answer **two** questions from this section.

- 1 (a) Explain the Muslim beliefs concerning Risalah (Angels and Prophets) and the Qur'an. [30]
- (b) Critically assess the claim that obeying the teaching of the Qur'an is extremely challenging for Muslims today. [20]
- 2 (a) Outline the possible sources of Shariah and consider how these are used by the Law Schools. [30]
- (b) Critically evaluate the claim that when it comes to respect for life issues, Shariah Law provides clear moral guidance. [20]
- 3 (a) Explain the origins and spiritual practices of Sufism. [30]
- (b) Critically assess the claim that Sufism forced the Muslim community to focus on issues which were of central importance in the Islamic faith. [20]
- 4 (a) Outline and explain the Qur'anic teaching on the role and status of women. [30]
- (b) "Islam has much to teach the non-Islamic world about honouring women, wives and mothers." Critically evaluate this view. [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 some major issues which have arisen from orthodoxy. [30]
- (b) Critically assess the claim that orthodoxy is problematic because it depends on the interpretation and application of a sacred text. You should refer to other aspects of human experience in your answer. [20]

