



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED
General Certificate of Education
2014

Religious Studies

Assessment Unit A2 8

assessing

Islam: Law, Tradition and Practice

[AR281]

FRIDAY 6 JUNE, MORNING



TIME

2 hours.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate 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) With reference to relevant Surahs, outline and discuss the teaching of the Qur'an on war. [30]
- (b) "Interpreting and applying the Qur'an is the greatest problem facing the Muslim community today." Critically assess this claim. [20]
- 2 (a) Outline and examine the significance of Islamic rituals connected with birth and marriage. [30]
- (b) Critically evaluate the claim that religious rituals have less importance for Muslims in the modern world. [20]
- 3 (a) Identify and discuss the distinctive beliefs and practices of Shia Islam. [30]
- (b) "The first four Caliphs were responsible for dividing the Muslim community." Critically assess this claim. [20]
- 4 (a) Outline and explain the Islamic understanding of Allah and Angels. [30]
- (b) Critically evaluate the claim that believing in Allah and Angels are the least controversial articles of faith for Muslims. [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 key ideas which have provided a basis for orthodoxy. [30]
- (b) Critically assess the claim that conflicting ideas about orthodoxy are the greatest challenge for religious communities. You should refer to other aspects of human experience in your answer. [20]

