



Rewarding Learning

**ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)
General Certificate of Education
2016**

Religious Studies

Assessment Unit AS 8

assessing

An Introduction to the Study of Islam

[AR181]

MONDAY 27 JUNE, AFTERNOON



TIME

1 hour 20 minutes.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.
Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 100.
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.

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Section A

Answer **one** question from Section A

- 1 (a) Describe how the religious and social conditions in pre-Islamic Arabia influenced the work of the prophet Muhammad. [35]
- (b) Explore the view that the rapid spread of Islam was due to its unique religious appeal. Justify your answer. [15]
- 2 (a) Explain the significance of the call of Muhammad for his life and prophetic ministry. [35]
- (b) Comment on the claim that Muhammad's military activities take away from his success as a prophet. Justify your answer. [15]

Section B

Answer **one** question from Section B

- 3 (a) Explain the structure and themes of the Qur'an. [35]
- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, explore the view that for a life of faith, obedience to a sacred text is all that is required. Justify your answer. [15]
- 4 (a) Explain the importance of the pillar of Hajj (pilgrimage) and the festival of Eid ul Adha. [35]
- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, comment on the claim that religious festivals mean little in a secular age. Justify your answer. [15]

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