

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS

GCE O Level

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## MARK SCHEME for the November 2005 question paper

### 2058 ISLAMIYAT

2058/02

Paper 2 maximum raw mark 60

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1 Comment on the meaning and importance of any **seven** of the words or phrases underlined in the following passages. [14]

**(a) Sura 1**

*In the name of God, most gracious, most merciful.*<sup>(1)</sup>

*Praise be to God, the Lord of the worlds,*<sup>(2)</sup>

*Most gracious, most merciful,*

*Master of the day of judgement.*<sup>(3)</sup>

*You do we worship, and your aid we seek.*<sup>(4)</sup>

*Show us the straight way,*<sup>(5)</sup>

*The way of those on whom you have bestowed your grace,*

*Not those whose portion is wrath,*

*Nor those who go astray.*

*In the name of God, most gracious, most merciful*

- This phrase gives valuable insights into the nature of God as a compassionate being.
- The repetition of al-Rahman and al-Rahim emphasizes this nature.
- The phrase opens every Sura of the Qur'an except Sura 9.
- This is recited whenever a Muslim begins an action.

*Lord of the Worlds*

- God is Lord of all that exists.
- He is Lord of this world and the world to come.

*Master of the day of judgement*

- God has decreed a day when all will be judged.
- On that day he alone will decide between the righteous and unrighteous.
- For he alone is Master of that day.
- Belief in resurrection and judgement is an article of faith.

*Your aid we seek*

- Muslims should always turn to God for help.
- They should seek his help before any other source.

*The straight way*

- This is the path, based on the Qur'an, that all Muslims should follow.
- It is the path followed by Abraham and earlier believers in one God.

**(b) Sura 97**

*We have revealed it*<sup>(6)</sup> *on the Night of Power.*<sup>(7)</sup>

*And what will explain to you what is the Night of Power?*

*The Night of Power is better than a thousand months.*

*The angels and the Spirit come down in it,*<sup>(8)</sup>

*By the permission of their Lord, on every errand.*

*Peace it is until the rise of dawn.*

*We have revealed it*

- This refers to the Qur'an.
- It is God who sent it down to the world.
- It contains teachings that human minds cannot grasp alone.

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the Night of Power

- This is the night on which the Prophet experienced his first revelation
- It is the night on which the Qur'an *began* to be revealed.
- It is thought to occur on one of the odd nights at the end of Ramadan.
- Many Muslims observe it on 27 Ramadan.

The angels and the Spirit come down in it

- Angels come to earth with messages from God.
- The Spirit is Jibril who brought the Qur'an to the Prophet.

**(c) Sura 114**

Say: I seek refuge with the Lord of mankind,<sup>(9)</sup>

The King of mankind,

The God of mankind,

From the evil of the whisperer who withdraws,<sup>(10)</sup>

Who whispers in the hearts of mankind,

Among jinn and mankind.

I seek refuge with the Lord of mankind

- God is the proper refuge from danger and evil.
- He is the Lord of all and can help those who turn to him.

the whisperer who withdraws

- This is often understood as Satan, or other people.
- These individuals put bad thoughts in people's minds almost without their noticing.

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2 Comment on the teachings in **seven** of the following Hadith about what Muslims should believe and how they should act.

(a) *A Muslim is one from whose tongue and hands Muslims are safe.*

- True Muslims do not threaten danger to other Muslims.
- Muslims should show loyalty to others in both words and deeds.

(b) *The world is a cultivating ground for the hereafter.*

- This life is a time of testing.
- Reward and punishment at the judgement depend on conduct in this life.

(c) *Paradise is at the feet of mothers.*

- Instructions from mothers can influence children to lead lives worthy of reward.
- They should be respected because of this important task they perform.

(d) *Be compassionate to those on earth and he who is in heaven will be compassionate to you.*

- A Muslim's conduct towards others influences his treatment by God.
- When dealing with others Muslims should remember how God might treat them.

(e) *To obtain knowledge is obligatory for all Muslim men and women.*

- Muslims must always be ready to learn.
- Knowledge of all things teaches them about God's way.
- Education is open to women as much as to men.

(f) *For whoever asks blessings on me once God will open a door of safety.*

- Muslims should always remember the importance of the Prophet in their belief.
- They should constantly pray for him to God.
- God will give his blessings to those who pray for the Prophet.

(g) *Sincerity leads to godliness, and godliness leads to paradise.*

- Being sincere in relationships with people is an act of piety.
- Acting sincerely can bring the reward of paradise.

(h) *People have never gathered in the house of God to read the Book of God and study it together without peace descending upon them.*

- Those who study the Qur'an together are blessed by God.
- Muslims should study the Qur'an in order to obtain God's blessing.

(i) *Not one of you believes until he desires for his brother what he desires for himself.*

- A Muslim's conduct is part of his faith.
- Part of a Muslim's faith is to work for the good of other Muslims.

(j) *One who goes out in the pursuit of knowledge is on the path of God until he returns.*

- Gaining knowledge is one of the major duties for Muslims.
- This is a duty which God blesses.

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3 Explain what Muslims mean when they say they should be modest towards:

- (a) God;
- (b) members of the opposite sex;
- (c) friends at school or work.

[Look for points in which the understanding that modesty means treating others with respect is brought out. These will include the following - not an exhaustive list, so look out for other valid points:]

(a)

- Muslims should have faith in God alone.
- This means acknowledging his authority and associating nothing with him.
- They should follow his guidance as it is given in the Qur'an.
- They should worship him by offering the prayers and other acts.
- They should be prepared to put God before all other beings.
- [Allow **1 mark** for relevant references to the Qur'an or Hadith.]

(b)

- Unmarried Muslims should refrain from close relationships with the opposite sex.
- They should ensure that in the way they dress and act in their presence they do not cause offence.
- Men should cover at least the central parts of their bodies.
- Women should cover the important parts of their bodies.
- Married Muslims should keep themselves to their partners.
- They should treat each other as equals.
- [Allow **1 mark** for relevant references to the Qur'an or Hadith.]

(c)

- They should be considerate towards the feelings and needs of others.
- They should try to act truthfully towards others.
- They should not use abusive language to others.
- They should try to promote friendship and mutual help.
- They should respect the differences in opinion of others.
- [Allow **1 mark** for relevant references to the Qur'an or Hadith.]

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4 In this question you should answer part (a) and **either** part (b) or part (c)  
 (a) Write an account of the life of `Ali ibn Abi Talib, paying particular attention to:

- (i) his companionship of the Prophet;
- (ii) his caliphate.

**Either (b)** Explain why `Ali was opposed by Mu`awiya during his rule as caliph.

**Or (c)** Explain why `Ali's leadership of the community is regarded as important by Shi`i Muslims.

(a) (i)

- He was close to the Prophet from childhood.
- He became one of the first Muslims.
- He married the Prophet's daughter Fatima.
- He took the Prophet's place in his bed at the time of the *hijra*.
- He was taken by the Prophet as his brother when pairing Ansar and Muhajirun.
- He was one of the foremost warriors of the Islamic community.
- He offered to fight single-handedly before a number of battles.
- [1 mark for details, e.g. his feats at the battle of Hunayn.]
- He was a scribe of the Prophet.
- He wrote the Treaty of al-Hudaybiya.
- [Shi`as believe the Prophet designated him as his successor.]

(ii)

- He became caliph after the murder of `Uthman.
- He did not immediately take steps to punish `Uthman's killers.
- For this Talha and Zubayr, supported by `A'isha, opposed him.
- They fought him at the battle of the Camel.
- [+1 for a full account of this opposition and its outcome.]
- `Uthman's nephew Mu`awiya also opposed him.
- They fought at the battle of Siffin.
- This was indecisive so they agreed to arbitration.
- [+1 for a full account of this opposition and its outcome.]
- Some of `Ali's supporters disagreed with this and abandoned him.
- He defeated them at the battle of Nahrawan.
- He was killed by one of these while at prayer.

(b)

- `Ali ordered Mu`awiya to surrender his position as governor of Syria.
- Since Mu`awiya would not accept `Ali as caliph he did not do this.
- `Ali refused to take steps against the killers of Mu`awiya's uncle `Uthman.
- Mu`awiya insisted that `Ali should punish them before he would obey him.
- Mu`awiya's opposition was a combination of personal ambition and desire for justice.

(c)

- The Prophet designated `Ali his successor at Ghadir Qumm.
- He also showed `Ali other unique signs of recognition.
- E.g. he said: I am the city of knowledge and `Ali is the gate.
- `Ali was married to the Prophet's daughter Fatima.
- The Qur'an gives special recognition to him as one of the five members of the Prophet's family.
- He was the father of the only descendants of the Prophet Hasan and Husayn.

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5 (a) Identify the Ten Blessed Companions.

(b) Explain why they were known by this name.

(c) Write brief notes about the lives of any three of these Companions who **did not** become caliphs. [3 x 2]

(a) These are:

- Abu Bakr - caliph
- `Umar - caliph
- `Uthman - caliph
- `Ali – caliph - **2 maximum for all four Caliphs' names**
- `Abd al-Rahman ibn `Awf
- Abu `Ubayda
- Talha
- Zubayr
- Sa`d ibn Abi Waqqas
- Sa`id ibn Zayd – **6 maximum**

(b)

- On one occasion when they were all with the Prophet he promised them that they would all enter paradise directly.
- Since they were spared the final judgement, they were called the Ten Blessed Ones, *`Ashara mubashshara*.

(c)

[In each case look for two clear comments.

Do not credit general remarks such as, He was a good Muslim, but look for definite biographical comments.

Most answers will probably refer to Talha and Zubayr, and one other.]