



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level

HINDUISM

2055/01

Paper 1

October/November 2007

2 hours 30 minutes

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

Answer **five** questions.

Answer at least **one** question from **each** Section.

You should read the questions **carefully**. Try to understand exactly what is being asked of you, and **then** write your answers.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

This document consists of **3** printed pages and **1** blank page.



Answer any **five** questions, choosing at least **one** from each section.

Section A

- 1 Using **two** examples from the set text, explain what Svetaketu learned about the nature of Atman. [20]
- 2 Explain
(a) what Krishna taught Arjuna about nishkama karma [10]
and (b) why this teaching is important for Hindus today. [10]
- 3 'The Ramacharitamanas stories about Kewat and Shabari show Hindus what true devotion means.' Discuss. [20]

Section B

- 4 Explain, giving examples, why many Hindus use icons (murtis) in their worship,
(a) in their homes [10]
and (b) at festival times. [10]
- 5 What can Hindus learn from the different image-forms of Shiva about the god's power in the universe? [20]
- 6 Which of the avatars you have studied do you consider most important for Hindu belief and practice? [20]

Section C

- 7 (a) Describe the traditional duties of **one** of the Hindu varnas. [10]
and (b) Explain why Hindus emphasise the distinction between 'varna' and 'jati'. [10]
- 8 Discuss reasons why moksha is regarded as the goal of life in Hinduism. [20]
- 9 'The Hindu religion upholds the values of marriage and parenthood.' Discuss with reference to the samskaras you have studied. [20]

Section D

10 Explain

(a) why the Brahmo Samaj was founded

[1]

and (b) why it was less successful in India than later reforming movements.

[10]

11 'Swami Dayananda Saraswati paved the way for modern education in India.' Discuss.

[20]

12 In what ways did M.K. Gandhi's own example show what he understood to be the best way to live?

[20]

