

Cambridge
O Level

Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge Ordinary Level

HINDUISM

2055/01

Paper 1

October/November 2014

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, glue or correction fluid.

DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

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 In the Upanishads, parables are sometimes used to help people understand the meaning of 'Brahman'.

Give **two** examples of such parables. In each case explain what the parable is teaching. [20]

- 2 'I will take you on board, but I will not accept any toll.'

(a) Explain why the ferryman in this story was unwilling to accept payment. [10]

and (b) Describe how he was finally rewarded for his goodness. [10]

- 3 From your study of the Bhagavad Gita, explain why both *jnana* (knowledge) and *karma* (work) are important in Krishna's advice to Arjuna. [20]

Section B

- 4 'Durga is worshipped for her creative as well as her destructive power.'

Discuss with reference to the attributes and images of this goddess. [20]

- 5 Describe the main features and attributes of the god Kartikeya (Murugan) **and** how his worshippers show their devotion at festival times. [20]

- 6 Explain the religious significance for Hindus of the god Shiva

(a) seated on Mt Kailash [10]

and (b) performing his cosmic dance. [10]

Section C

- 7 It is often said that 'people today are only interested in money (*artha*).'
In what ways do Hindu teachings about purusharthas point to more worthwhile goals? [20]
- 8 (a) Describe the ideals for the life of an elderly person in the traditional system of Hindu ashramas. [10]
and (b) Can these aims be adapted to promote a good life for older people today? Give reasons to support your views. [10]
- 9 'The way people behave is more important than their social origins.'
Discuss this opinion with reference to *varna* and *jati*. [20]

Section D

- 10 Explain why the Arya Samaj disapproved of devotion to images and of other traditional Hindu practices. [20]
- 11 Explain how M.K.Gandhi worked to spread his message by
(a) non-violent resistance towards opponents [10]
and (b) establishing his own ashram. [10]
- 12 Give reasons why the 19th and 20th century Indian reformers emphasised the need for improved education and outline their main achievements in educational reform. [20]

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