

CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS

Cambridge Ordinary Level

MARK SCHEME for the May/June 2015 series

2058 ISLAMIYAT

2058/21

Paper 2, maximum raw mark 50

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Page 2	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
	Cambridge O Level – May/June 2015	2058	21

You must answer **Question 1**, **Question 2** and **two** other Questions.

1 Choose any **two** of the following Hadiths, and:

(a) describe their teachings about what Muslims believe; [4]

(b) explain how Muslims can put these teachings into action. [4]

Hadith No 2

None of you believes until he wants for his brother what he wants for himself.

Hadith No 8

The Messenger of Allah (May Allah bless him and give him peace) said: 'Whom do you count to be a martyr among you?' They said: 'O Messenger of Allah, whoever is killed in the way of Allah is a martyr.' He said: 'In that case the martyrs of my community will be very few! He who is killed in the way of Allah is a martyr, he who dies a natural death in the way of Allah is a martyr, he who dies in the plague in the way of Allah is a martyr, he who dies of cholera in the way of Allah is a martyr.'

Hadith No 10

One who manages the affairs of the widow and the poor man is like the one who exerts himself in the way of Allah, or the one who stands for prayer in the night or fasts in the day.

Hadith no 14

May God show mercy to a man who is kindly when he sells, when he buys, and when he demands his money back.

- (a) (i) Concern for the well being of others is an important aspect of faith and the core teaching of this Hadith. Islam is a religion of social justice and asks its followers to practice their faith by putting the values of social justice it teaches them into action. Belief can only be sincere when put into action and this Hadith is asking all Muslims to show sincere faith by wanting the best for others.
- (ii) This Hadith of the Prophet gives the important teaching that all those who live righteous lives and spend their lives in the way of God will be regarded as martyrs. Martyrdom is not just the prerogative of those who fight in the way of God on the battle field but all practicing Muslims engaged in mental or spiritual *jihad* are regarded as martyrs according to the teaching of this Hadith and will be thus rewarded.
- (iii) Islam strongly encourages its followers to care for the needs of others especially the vulnerable in society. Candidates could go on to develop their answer by discussing the broader meaning of *ibadah* which includes the care of others, and say that the teachings of this Hadith promotes the concepts of social and economic welfare in society.
- (iv) The basic teaching of this Hadith is that a Muslim must act kindly towards his fellows at all times. God is the most merciful and He wants His creation to be gentle with others. To get God's mercy one has to be merciful towards others.
- (b) (i) Muslims should always respond to the need of others. Here the candidates can give examples from the Prophet's life or from their own lives to show how the teaching of this Hadith can be put into action.

Page 3	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
	Cambridge O Level – May/June 2015	2058	21

- (ii) A Muslim who wants to attain the status of a martyr must always be busy in doing things that will please God. Examples of leading a righteous life could be given. Some answers may well write about the different forms of *jihad* or say that a Muslim must always strive in the way of God so that whenever death occurs the Muslim will get the status of a martyr.
- (iii) Helping others in need is as meritorious as fighting a *jihad* or practicing a pillar of Islam. Providing resources to those in need and looking after the vulnerable are worthy acts which are rewarded by God and must be practiced by Muslims. Candidates could give examples to substantiate their answers.
- (iv) Candidates can give examples from the Prophet's life or everyday life highlighting how mercy can be practiced in the community and the joys it brings to everyone including the person who practices it.

- 2 (a) **Write an account of the parts that make up a Hadith, and describe the checks made by the collectors of the Hadiths to ensure the accuracy of their collections.** [10]

Hadiths consist of two main parts, the chain of narrators (*isnad*) and the text (*matn*). Candidates need to give a detailed account of them. Candidates need to also describe in some detail how the compilers of Hadiths compared *matn* of the Hadith with reason, the Qur'an and other authentic Hadiths to ensure that it agreed with the main Islamic principles. The fact that *isnads* were closely checked as well as the credentials of the narrator when selecting a Hadith for the authentic collections could also be mentioned in the answer. How the compilers went about collecting and authenticating the Hadiths could also be given in the answer.

- (b) **Why was it important to check the accuracy of Hadiths?** [4]

The Prophet was sent as a guide and is a role model for all Muslims to follow in order to lead a good Muslim life. Candidates could say that Muslims need to know what the Prophet said as his words also elaborate the teachings of the Qur'an and help not only in daily life but in formulating laws etc. If authentic Hadiths were mixed up with the weak or fabricated Hadiths than the Muslims would be led astray. It was therefore important to verify the authenticity of the Hadiths so that Muslims could live their lives in line with the correct teachings of the Prophet.

- 3 (a) **Give an account of the conditions required for ablution (*wudu*) and the method of performing it.** [10]

Wudu is the foremost requisite before prayers and the Prophet's *sunnah* gives Muslims the details of the conditions and method of *wudu* to follow. Candidates could give the following in their answer.

Conditions of *wudu*:

- Intention should be made.
- Entire *wudu* should be in a continuous process without a break, no part should be allowed to dry before the other is washed.
- It should be done in the prescribed order.
- Washing should start from the right side then left.
- No part should remain dry.
- It is recommended to brush ones teeth or use *miswak* before or after *wudu*.

Page 4	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
	Cambridge O Level – May/June 2015	2058	21

Method of wudu:

- Wash both hands up to wrist.
- Gargle three times.
- Sniff in water with nostril using right hand, use left hand to clean nose.
- Wash the whole face with both hands from the forehead to the chin and from lobe of one ear to the other.
- Wash the right arm then the left arm up to the elbow.
- Wet the hand and perform *masah* by wiping hand on one fourth of the head, both ears are cleansed inside and outside, the thumb is used to wipe the back of the ear and the index finger is used for the inside, and the back of the two hands are passed on the nape of the neck.
- The right then the left foot is washed up to the ankle.

Allow for variations according to the different schools of legal thinking.

(b) Why is ablution (wudu) given so much importance in your view? [4]

Purity is given utmost importance in Islam. Candidates could in their answers say that God has repeatedly enjoined people to purify themselves in *Al-Baqarah* 2:222 God says, 'Allah loves those who repent and purify themselves'. The Prophet said 'purity is half of faith'. Another reason that can be put forward is that the Prophet said that *wudu* removes the sins of a person and that purifying oneself allows one to focus on God when in prayer. Candidates could discuss one or more reasons to answer this question.

4 (a) What acts do pilgrims (hajjis) perform on the 10th of Dhu al-Hijja and how does the rest of the Muslim community (umma) celebrate this day? [10]

The focus of this answer has to be events that take place on the 10th of *Dhu al-Hijja* for pilgrims (*hajjis*) performing *hajj* and the rest of the Muslim community celebrating *Eid al-Adha*. Candidates could say that the 10th of *Dhu al-Hijja* is known as *Yawm-al-Nahr* (The Day of Sacrifice), as it is on this day that Muslims all over the world offer an animal sacrifice to remember the great sacrifice Ibrahim was willing to make for the almighty and celebrate the festival of *Eid al-Adha*. Some candidates could go on to give details about how Muslims not on *hajj* start their day with Eid prayers and then go on to describe how the day is spent in making the sacrifice, distributing the meat and could give proportions that it is distributed in between the needy and the poor and family and friends etc. Details of how the day is spent in meeting family and friends and hosting parties etc. could also be given.

This day also marks the completion of *hajj*. Those on pilgrimage will on this day firstly perform *rammi*. Having spent the previous night in Muzdalifa they reach Mina on the 10th and go to *Jamara tul Aqaba* and throw seven pebbles at it. The throwing of the stones is symbolic and is done to show rejection of the devil and obedience to God. Here the candidates can write about how Ibrahim stoned the devil three times when he tried to misguide him and remained steadfast in his decision. Immediately after *rammi* the *talbiya* is stopped. The pilgrims then offer sacrifice and then go on to shaving/cutting their hair after which they can come out of *ihram*. The pilgrims then go on to Makka to perform *Tawaf al-Ifada* (*Tawaf Ziara*). After the *tawaf* they perform two *rakkah* at the station of Ibrahim, and then run between *Safa* and *Marwa* hills. *Tawaf Ifada* is an indispensable part of *hajj* and though it is best to perform it on 10th *Dhu al-Hijja* it is permissible to perform it later during the next three days.

Page 5	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
	Cambridge O Level – May/June 2015	2058	21

- (b) What in your opinion are Muslims reminding themselves of when they celebrate *Eid al-Adha*? [4]

In answering this part of the question candidates could say that the animal sacrifice performed on *Eid al-Adha* is a symbolic gesture and by performing it Muslims are reminding themselves of the great sacrifice that Ibrahim was prepared to make for the almighty when he was ready to sacrifice his son for God's sake. Thus reminding themselves that nothing is of greater importance than obeying the command of God. By distributing the meat of the sacrificed animal Muslims again remind themselves that charity and care are integral components of Islam and need to be practiced in everyday life.

- 5 (a) Write about any two major events that took place during the caliphate of Abu Bakr [10]

Many important events took place during the caliphate of Abu Bakr. Expedition to Syria, the wars with the false prophets, the apostasy movement (the *rida* wars) as well as the conquests of Persia and Byzantine, and of course the compilation of the Qur'an. Candidates need to choose any two events and give an account of them. The mark is not divided 5 + 5 between the two events but the answer as a whole is to be read and a global mark should be given.

- (b) In your opinion which of the two events you have written about in Part (a) was the more significant and why? [4]

From the two events the candidate has chosen to write about in **Part (a)** he/she needs to choose one and say why that one event is more significant than the other e.g. if it is the compilation of the Qur'an which has been selected as the most significant event then the candidate has to back up his/her answer by saying that if the compilation had not taken place what could have happened etc. All valid responses must be credited.