



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED
General Certificate of Education
2016

Religious Studies

Assessment Unit A2 8

assessing

Islam: Law, Tradition and Practice

[AR281]

FRIDAY 3 JUNE, MORNING

MV18

Time

2 hours, plus your additional time allowance.

Instructions to Candidates

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.

Answer **two** questions from Section A and answer the compulsory question in Section B.

Information for Candidates

The total mark for this paper is 150.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in **all** questions. Figures in brackets printed at the end of each question 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.

Section A

Answer **two** questions from this section

1 (a) With reference to relevant Surahs, outline and discuss the Qur'anic teaching on the role and status of women. [30 marks]

(b) Critically assess the view that obedience to the Qur'an poses many challenges for Muslims in the modern world. [20 marks]

2 (a) Analyse the importance and significance of rights of passage, with particular reference to birth and death rituals. [30 marks]

(b) "Preserving life is extremely important in the Islamic community."

Critically evaluate this view. [20 marks]

- 3 (a)** Outline and examine the events which led to the split between Sunni and Shia Islam. [30 marks]
- (b)** Critically evaluate the claim that Sunni and Shia Islam are so different that they appear to be different religions. [20 marks]
- 4 (a)** Analyse and discuss the importance of Islamic teaching on Angels and Prophets (Risalah). [30 marks]
- (b)** Critically assess the view that a single correct interpretation of the Qur'an is not possible. [20 marks]

Section B

Synoptic Assessment

Theme: Orthodoxy

You **must** answer this question

- 5 (a)** With reference to at least **two** different areas of study, examine the major issues which have arisen from debates relating to orthodoxy. [30 marks]
- (b)** Critically assess the view that debates over orthodoxy and orthopraxy are very damaging to religious faith. You should refer to other aspects of human experience in your answer. [20 marks]

