



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)
General Certificate of Education
January 2014

Religious Studies

Assessment Unit AS 8

assessing

An Introduction to the Study of Islam

[AR181]

MONDAY 27 JANUARY, MORNING



TIME

1 hour 20 minutes.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.
Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 100.
Quality of written communication will be assessed in **all** questions.
Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages 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.

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Section A

Answer **one** question from Section A

- 1 (a) Explain why the design of a mosque is important for the worship of Allah. [35]
- (b) Explore the view that Imams play a vital role for the whole of the Muslim community. Justify your answer. [15]
- 2 (a) Explain the key features of life and religion in pre-Islamic Arabia. [35]
- (b) Comment on the claim that the city of Mecca occupies a central place in the Islamic faith. Justify your answer. [15]

Section B

Answer **one** question from Section B

- 3 (a) Describe and explain the major themes contained in the Qur'an. [35]
- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, explore the view that religious belief would be impossible without a sacred text. Justify your answer. [15]
- 4 (a) Explain the pillar of Hajj and consider how it reminds Muslims of their religious history. [35]
- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, comment on the claim that for religious believers pilgrimages are unnecessary to faith. Justify your answer. [15]

