Cambridge International AS Level

Cambridge International Examinations
Cambridge International Advanced Subsidiary Level

ISLAMIC STUDIES **8053/12**

Paper 1 **October/November 2018**

3 hours

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

2139600696

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 are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in 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.

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You must answer **five** questions in all, **one** question from **each** Section and **one** other question.

Section A

1 **(a)** Give an outline of the tribal and clan system in and around Mecca in the years leading up to the coming of Islam. [12]

(b) How far did this tribal and clan system contribute to the success of Islam during the Prophet Muhammad's lifetime? [8]

2 **(a)** Outline the main stages in the Prophet's public career in Mecca and Medina. [12]

(b) How is the term 'success' to be understood with respect to the Prophet's career? [8]

3 Outline the main difficulties faced by the Caliph ʿUthman, and explain why there was division and fighting among Muslims during his caliphate. [20]

Section B

4 The concepts of *tawhid* (oneness of God) and *risalah* (prophetic messengers) are central to the Qur'an. Which of these, if either, is more fundamental, and why? [20]

5 **(a)** What do the surahs set for special study tell about the prophets Moses and Jesus? [12]

(b) In what ways do the accounts of these prophets' lives resemble the life of the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)? [8]

6 'There has often been disagreement among Muslims over the relationship between the authority of the Qur'an and the importance of human reason.' Give reasons to agree or disagree with this claim. [20]

Section C

7 With particular reference to any **three** of the Five Pillars, explain how observance of them strengthens the sense of community in Islam. [20]

8 **(a)** Outline the main features of a Muslim wedding. [12]

(b) Explain the features that make this a distinctively Muslim celebration. [8]

9 God sends angels, and he also sends revealed books. Explain the different functions of God's angels and his books. [20]

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Section D

10 Is the Qur'an alone sufficient as a source of guidance for Muslims' lives in the world today? Give reasons for your answer. [20]

11 How is the Prophet's Sunnah used together with the Qur'an to give guidance to Muslims? Give at least **two** examples of the use of the Qur'an and Sunnah together in your answer. [20]

12 The principle of *ijtihad* (individual endeavour) has often proved useful in Islam, though it has never gained complete acceptance. Explain the reasons for this. [20]

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