UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EX
General Certificate of Education Advanced Level

**ISLAMIC STUDIES**

Paper 2

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

*8544827075*

**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, highlighters, glue or correction fluid.

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.

This document consists of **3** printed pages and **1** blank page.


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You must answer **five** questions in all, **one** question from each sec

## Section A

**1** Who would you say was the greater caliph, ‘Abd al-Malik or ‘Umar
answer.

**2** Explain why the Umayyads were generally condemned as un-Isla

**3** The ‘Abbasids were able to overthrow the Umayyads with relative ease. Explain why. [20]

## Section B

**4** Explain the main differences between Malik ibn Anas and al-Shafi’i in their understanding of the concept of customary practice (*Sunnah*). [20]

**5** **(a)** Explain the significance of the *matn* (the actual saying of the Prophet) in deciding the authenticity of a Hadith. [8]

**(b)** Outline the major stages in collecting the Prophet’s Hadiths in the early Muslim era that led up to the six canonical collections in the 9th century. [12]

**6** By referring to Abu al-Hasan al-Ash’ari’s attacks upon the teachings of the Mu’tazilah, explain why al-Ash’ari is often regarded as one of the most important Muslim theologians. [20]

## Section C

**7** **(a)** Why was the death of al-Husayn at Karbala important in the development of early Shi’i Islam? [12]

**(b)** Explain the meaning of the title ‘Imam’ in a Shi’i context. [8]

**8** When the Sufi Abu Mansur al-Hallaj declared ‘I am Truth’ (*Ana al-Haqq*), he was arrested and executed. Explain why a declaration such as this should provoke such a powerful reaction among Muslims in general. [20]

**9** What are the main similarities and the main differences between Muslims who called themselves theologians and Muslims who called themselves philosophers? [20]

## Section D

**10** How far does the Qur'an provide a basis for cooperative relations of other religions?

**11** **(a)** 'The Qur'an provides a manifesto for the liberation of wo disagree with this statement.

**(b)** To what extent are the teachings of the Qur'an about wom community that you know?

**12** Increasing numbers of Muslims live in non-Muslim societies. What major principles of Islam can they employ to help them in their day to day living? [20]

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