



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level

HINDUISM

2055/01

Paper 1

October/November 2013

2 hours 30 minutes

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

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 should read the questions **carefully**. Try to understand exactly what is being asked of you, and **then** write 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.



Answer any **five** questions, choosing at least **one** from each section.

Section A

- 1 Describe and explain how each of the gods Indra, Agni and Vayu came to recognise a power greater than his own. [20]
- 2 Explain
- (a) why Arjuna felt unable to do his duty as a Kshatriya on the battlefield [10]
- and (b) why Hindus today might try to follow the advice of Krishna his charioteer. [10]
- 3 'Tulsidasa shows how God can be worshipped by all, whatever their birth or status.'
- Discuss with reference to the passages of the Ramcaritamanasa which you have studied. [20]

Section B

- 4 Explain why the god Ganesha inspires his worshippers to ask for his help in their personal, business and social lives. [20]
- 5 'The festival of Divali/Deepavali reminds Hindus of their duties to God and to each other.'
- Discuss. [20]
- 6 (a) Describe ways in which worshippers show respect before the murti of a Hindu god or goddess. [10]
- and (b) Do you agree with those who say that idols and icons are unnecessary in worship? Give reasons to support your views. [10]

Section C

- 7 'Without the goals of kama and artha, no human society can make true progress.'
Discuss with reference to your study of the Hindu purusharthas. [20]
- 8 (a) What were the duties and responsibilities of the student in the traditional Brahmacharya ashrama? [10]
and (b) Do you think the values of the Brahmacharya ashrama are important for Hindu students today? Give reasons to support your views. [10]
- 9 'People should not be valued according to their name or their birth.'
Discuss with reference to your study of the varna system in Hinduism. [20]

Section D

- 10 Give reasons why the experiences and teachings of Ramakrishna Paramhansa led his followers to recognise him as a saint. [20]
- 11 Outline the moral and social principles which led the Hindu reformers to campaign for
(a) banning the practice of sati [10]
and (b) improving the lives of widows in India. [10]
- 12 'My life is my message.'
Give reasons why this saying of their 'Bapu' was important for the followers of M.K.Gandhi. [20]

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