

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS  
General Certificate of Education Advanced Level

**ISLAMIC STUDIES**

**9013/02**

Paper 2

October/November 2004

**3 hours**

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 on both sides of the paper.  
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.

**Section A**

- 1 Most of the later Umayyad caliphs are considered to be weak rulers. How far does this explain the overthrow of the dynasty? [20]
- 2 How far can purely religious factors explain the success of the `Abbasid dynasty in coming to power in the eighth century? [20]
- 3 It is often said that al-Ma'mun and al-Mutawakkil had completely opposite religious policies. How far do you consider this view true? [20]

**Section B**

- 4 (a) What was al-Shafi'i's teaching about the relationship between the Qur'an and Sunnah in developing Islamic law? [12]  
(b) How did these teachings differ from those of Malik and Abu Hanifah? [8]
- 5 All Muslims believe in the unity of God, *tawhid*. What was distinctive about the teachings of the Mu'tazilah on this principle of belief? [20]
- 6 Give reasons to explain why al-Ash'ari is regarded as one of the most influential thinkers of early Islam. [20]

**Section C**

- 7 Discuss the importance of the line of Imams in early Shi'i Islam. [20]
- 8 Explain why Sufi teachers were often regarded as a threat to orthodox Islamic believers. [20]
- 9 Some of the great theologians of Islam condemned the thinking of the philosophers as inconsistent. Explain why Islamic theologians were usually very hostile towards philosophy. [20]

## Section D

- 10 Explain the main differences between the thought of the modernist Islamic scholar Sayyid Khan, and the thought of traditionalist scholars of the Salafi movement.
- 11 'Unto you your religion, and unto me my religion' (*Surah* 109.6)  
To what extent does the Qur'an accept the value of faiths other than Islam? [20]
- 12 (a) Outline the teachings of Islam about the place of women, [12]  
and (b) show how this teaching is put into practice among Muslims in a country you know. [8]

