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World religions
Standard level
Paper 2

16 May 2023

Zone A afternoon | **Zone B** morning | **Zone C** afternoon

1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Section A: answer one question.
- Section B: answer one question.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[30 marks]**.

Section A

Answer **one** question from this section. Each question is worth [15 marks].

Hinduism

1. Examine the importance of undertaking yatra (pilgrimage) to sacred rivers, shrines and kumbha-melas (special bathing fairs) in Hinduism.
2. “No two Hindu philosophical systems interpret sacred texts in the same way.” To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Buddhism

3. Discuss the nature and role of sacred texts in Buddhism.
4. Examine Buddhist belief in the Three Marks of Existence: anicca/anitya, dukkha/duhkha and anatta/anatman.

Sikhism

5. Discuss the importance of the Guru Granth Sahib for the ethics and moral conduct of Sikhs.
6. Examine the links between Sikh rituals in the gurdwara (any place where the Guru Granth Sahib is installed) and Sikh doctrine.

Open-ended question

7. With reference to **one** religion—Hinduism **or** Buddhism **or** Sikhism—discuss the importance of meditation and worship.

Section B

Answer **one** question from this section. Each question is worth [15 marks].

Judaism

8. Discuss Jewish practices regarding divorce.
9. “It is always wrong to interpret the Torah.” Discuss.

Christianity

10. Discuss diverse Christian understandings of baptism and its relationship to becoming a Christian.
11. “The incarnation is the most important doctrine in Christianity.” Discuss.

Islam

12. Examine the relevance of shari’ah (divine law) and qanun (secular law) for the ethics and moral conduct of Muslims.
13. Examine Sufi religious experiences in Islam.

Open-ended question

14. With reference to **one** religion—Judaism **or** Christianity **or** Islam—discuss the importance of rituals associated with the dying and the dead.
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