



**HISTORY OF THE ISLAMIC WORLD
HIGHER AND STANDARD LEVEL
PAPER 2**

Tuesday 14 November 2000 (afternoon)

2 hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer three questions:
 - one from Section A;
 - one from Section B;
 - one from either Section.

SECTION A

ORIGINS

Topic 1: Arabia on the eve of the emergence of Islam

1. Assess the significance of the Ka‘ba for the Arabs of pre-Islamic Arabia.
2. To what extent did the outside world influence the Arabian peninsula in pre-Islamic times?

Topic 2: The life of the Prophet Muhammad

3. Explain the circumstances which led to the Hijra.
4. ‘The capitulation of Mecca was certainly a great victory for Muhammad but it was not the end of his problems.’ Discuss.

Topic 3: The expansion of the Islamic community

5. How and for what reasons did Abu Bakr become the first Caliph of Islam?
6. What problems did Uthman face during his caliphate and how effectively did he deal with them?

Topic 4: The Caliphate and the Imamate

7. Analyse the reasons for the rise of the Kharijites.
8. How did the institution of the caliphate evolve under the Four Rightly Guided Caliphs?

SECTION B

DEVELOPMENTS

Topic 5: The Umayyad Dynasty 661–750 AD

9. To what extent did Mu‘awiya lay the foundations of the Umayyad dynasty?
10. “The Umayyads were accused by their enemies of ruling like kings and not like caliphs.” How justified is this accusation?

Topic 6: The Abbasid dynasty 750–861 AD

11. Explain the consequences of the shift of political power from Syria to Iraq.
12. Compare the aims and achievements of al-Mansur and al-Ma‘mun.

Topic 7: The Crusades; the threat from the West 1096–1291 AD

13. To what extent was the Battle of Hattin a turning point in the history of the Crusades?
14. Compare and contrast the concepts of Crusade and Jihad.

Topic 8: The Mongols 1200–1405 AD

15. Discuss the reasons for the success of the Mongol campaigns in the Islamic world up to 1260 AD.
 16. Compare and contrast the achievements of Hülegü and Baybars.
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