



Cambridge International AS & A Level

HINDUISM

9487/01

Paper 1 Concepts in Hinduism

May/June 2024

1 hour 30 minutes

You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **two** questions in total:
 - Section A: answer **one** question.
 - Section B: answer **one** question.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

This document has **4** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Section A

Answer **EITHER** Question 1 **OR** Question 2.

EITHER

- 1 (a) 'Woman is a faithful companion of man and his life partner. She charms man with her beauty, sweet voice, grace and ingrained devotion and spirit of service. Married ladies should serve their husband by treating him like God, despite any abuses received from them or disabilities like sickness, poverty or impotency. They should not say harsh words to them. A woman's husband is her all-in-all. The ideal woman is one who manages the home efficiently, looks after and comforts her husband and serves him as her god, who trains her children to become good citizens, who leads a pure and virtuous life. As a widow she meditates upon her husband for the rest of her life.'

Summarise what the above passage says about sthri dharma. [5]

(b) Explain the relationship of dharma to moral behaviour. [10]

(c) 'Knowing about varnashramadharma tells Hindus everything they need to know about their svadharma.' Discuss. [15]

[Total: 30]

OR

2 (a) Outline the qualities of a dharmic society. [5]

(b) Explain the relationship between dharma and the cycle of the four ages (Mahayuga). [10]

(c) Assess the claim that 'varna' and 'caste' mean the same thing. [15]

[Total: 30]

Section B

Answer **EITHER** Question 3 **OR** Question 4.

EITHER

- 3 (a) 'It is bondage when the mind desires or grieves about anything, rejects or welcomes anything, feels angry or happy about anything. Liberation is reached when the mind does not desire or grieve or reject or accept or feel happy or angry. It is bondage when the mind is attached to any particular sense. It is liberation when the mind is not attached to any sense organ. When there is no 'I' there is liberation; where there is 'I' there is bondage.'

Summarise what the above passage says about how people remain trapped in samsara. [5]

- (b) Explain why sakama karma is not a path to moksha. [10]

- (c) 'To achieve moksha a Hindu must surrender fully to God, like a kitten being carried by its mother.' Discuss. [15]

[Total: 30]

OR

- 4 (a) Outline the difference between vikarma and akarma. [5]

- (b) Contrast the different expectations of the jnana marga and karma marga for an individual seeking liberation. [10]

- (c) Assess the claim that there is no way to know if a person is jivan mukti. [15]

[Total: 30]

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