

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL EXAMINATIONS
General Certificate of Education Ordinary Level

HINDUISM

2055/01

Paper 1

October/November 2006

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

2 hours 30 minutes

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, choosing 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** question from each section.

Section A

- 1 Explain the meaning of the story in the Kena Upanishad in which only Uma can recognise Brahman. [20]
- 2 'In this world a two-fold way of life has been taught...' (Bhagavad Gita III.3)
Explain what Krishna teaches Arjuna about
- (a) the way of knowledge (jnana) [10]
- and (b) the way of works (karma). [10]
- 3 'Tulsidas aims to break down the barriers between God and his worshippers.'
Discuss this view with reference to the texts you have studied from the Ramacharitamana. [20]

Section B

- 4 Compare the differing features and attributes of the two brothers worshipped as
- (a) Ganesha [10]
- and (b) Kartikeya (Murugan). [10]
- 5 Describe the preparations for **one** Hindu festival you have studied, and explain the festival's significance for Hindu worshippers. [20]
- 6 Explain why devotees find inspiration in the avatar Krishna as a child and as a young man. [20]

Section C

- 7 'Old people no longer go to the forest.' In what ways can the ideals of the traditional Hindu ashramas help modern society to care for the elderly? [20]
- 8 'The varna system maintains an ordered community.' Discuss points **for** and **against** this opinion. [20]
- 9 Explain clearly why
- (a) artha [10]
- and (b) kama [10]
- are held by Hindus to be essential in a good life.

Section D

- 10** 'Ramakrishna Paramhansa challenged Hindus to think about religion in new ways.' Discuss. [20]
- 11** In what respects was the Arya Samaj a reforming movement in 19th century India? [20]
- 12** M.K. Gandhi taught that living by ahimsa was necessary for the Indian people. Explain clearly
- (a)** what ahimsa meant in his teaching [10]
- and (b)** the ways in which he tried to put ahimsa into practice. [10]

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