



**ISLAMIC HISTORY
HIGHER LEVEL
PAPER 3**

Tuesday 11 November 2008 (morning)

1 hour 30 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer two questions, each chosen from a different option.

Option 1 – The Fatimids AH297–567 / AD909–1171

1. “The Fatimid Empire demonstrated its greatness through its administrative structures.” Discuss.
2. Evaluate the distinctive features of Fatimid ideology.

Option 2 – The Ottomans AH680–974 / AD1281–1566

3. Evaluate the efficiency of the administrative structures of the Ottoman Empire.
4. Discuss the political achievements of either Selim I or Mehmet II.

Option 3 – Warfare in the medieval Islamic world

5. Assess the role of military technology in Islamic warfare.
6. “Jihad was the only motivating factor in Islamic warfare.” To what extent do you agree with this judgment?

Option 4 – Muslim rule in Spain AH92–897 / AD711–1492

7. Assess the role of the Berber dynasties in the development of Islamic Spain.
8. Discuss the contribution of the Umayyads to Islamic rule in Spain.

Option 5 – The intellectual contribution of Islam

9. Discuss the impact of Islamic law on the intellectual development of the Islamic world.
10. Analyse the role of Muslim intellectuals in contributing to and transmitting classical ideas to the West.

Option 6 – The Islamic city, and Islamic art and architecture

11. With reference to at least **two** Islamic cities discuss the role of the palace and the mosque in urban life.

 12. With reference to at least **one** of the following: metalwork, textiles or book production, discuss their role in the development of Islamic art.
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