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International Baccalaureate®
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**WORLD RELIGIONS
STANDARD LEVEL
PAPER 2**

Thursday 8 May 2014 (morning)

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 *[40 marks]*.

SECTION A

*Answer **one** question from this section. Each question is worth [20 marks].*

Hinduism

1. To what extent does varnashramadharma determine the ritual life of a Hindu?
2. Assess the significance of non-violence (ahimsa) to understanding Hinduism.

Buddhism

3. To what extent is meditation an essential part of the spiritual experience of all Buddhists?
4. Examine the relevance of the Five Precepts for the contemporary world.

Sikhism

5. To what extent could it be argued that the Sikh Gurus were primarily concerned with religious experience of the divine?
6. To what extent is the Guru Granth Sahib central to Sikhism?

Open-ended question

7. With reference to **one** religion, **either** Hinduism **or** Buddhism **or** Sikhism, discuss whether women can play as important a role as men in the rituals and worship.

SECTION B

Answer **one** question from this section. Each question is worth [20 marks].

Judaism

8. To what extent is Shabbat (Sabbath) more important than any other festival?
9. Discuss Jewish teachings and practices in relation to conversion.

Christianity

10. Examine how personal revelation, through experience of God, has led some people to convert to Christianity.
11. To what extent does Christianity teach pacifism? Your response should draw from a full range of sources of Christian teaching.

Islam

12. The Qur'an explicitly states that wine/intoxicating liquor and gambling are "abominations devised by Satan" (5:90) and are therefore prohibited (haram) by divine law (sharia). Discuss some possible reasons for these prohibitions with reference to individual moral conduct and the greater good of the community of Muslim believers (umma).
13. "Worship your guardian Lord ... who has made the earth your couch, and the heavens your canopy, and sent down rain from the heavens ..." (Qur'an 2:21–2) and "He adds to creation as He pleases, for Allah has power over all things" (Qur'an 35:1). Starting from these passages, examine some of the purposes of creation.

Open-ended question

14. With reference to religious teachings on abortion, justify **one** specific position in favour **or** against it in **either** Judaism **or** Christianity **or** Islam. When providing your example, specify the religious tradition (Catholic Christianity, Reform Judaism, Sunni Islam, *etc*).