3.7 Corrupted Scriptures: Muslim Views on the Torah, Psalms and Gospel: 30-minute Pack

AQA 8062 · about 30 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

1 This question checks key vocabulary about Muslim beliefs on holy books: name and short definitions related to the Tawrat, Zabur, Injil and the Qur'an.

(a) State what is meant by the Tawrat in Islamic belief. **(1)**

(b) State what is meant by the Zabur in Islamic belief. **(1)**

(c) State what is meant by the Injil in Islamic belief. **(1)**

(d) State what Muslims mean when they say a text has been 'corrupted' (tahrif). **(1)**

(e) State one reason why the Qur'an is described as 'protected' in Islam. **(1)**

(Total for Question 1 is 5 marks)

2 Give two Qur'anic verses that are used to support the idea that people altered earlier scriptures, and for each briefly explain its point. (Give surah and verse numbers.)

(Total for Question 2 is 4 marks)

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3 Explain two reasons why many Muslims believe the texts of the Torah, Psalms and Gospel were corrupted over time.

(Total for Question 3 is 4 marks)

4 Explain two reasons why Muslims might still read or study parts of the Torah, Psalms or Gospel even if they believe those books were corrupted.

(Total for Question 4 is 4 marks)

5 Explain the importance of belief in the Qur'an's preservation for Muslim religious life today.

(Total for Question 5 is 6 marks)

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Mark scheme · 3.7 Corrupted Scriptures: Muslim Views on the Torah, Psalms and Gospel: 30-minute Pack

Question 1

(a) the name Muslims use for the Torah given to Moses, ie an revealed scripture from Allah, oe **B1**

(a) Answer: The Torah given to Moses, regarded by Muslims as a revealed scripture from Allah.

(b) the Psalms given to David, ie a revealed book of songs and praise from Allah, oe **B1**

(b) Answer: The Psalms given to David, regarded as a revealed book of songs and praise from Allah.

(c) the Gospel given to Jesus, ie a revealed message from Allah, not identical with the modern New Testament, oe **B1**

(c) Answer: The Gospel given to Jesus, regarded as a revealed message from Allah.

(d) the belief that the words or meanings of earlier revelations were altered or lost by people over time, oe **B1**

(d) Answer: That the words or meanings of earlier revelations were altered or lost by people over time.

(e) because Muslims believe Allah promised to guard the Qur'an from corruption, oe **B1**

(e) Answer: Because Muslims believe Allah promised to guard the Qur'an from corruption.

Question 2

verse 1: Qur'an 2:79 mentioned with explanation that it criticises those who write scripture and claim it is from Allah, indicating human alteration, oe **B1**

development 1: explains the verse suggests some people replaced or changed divine words for their own ends, oe **B1**

verse 2: Qur'an 3:78 mentioned with explanation that some distort the word from its right place, oe **B1**

development 2: explains the verse is read as evidence that meanings were hidden or altered, leading Muslims to doubt some later content, oe **B1**

Answer: Qur'an 2:79 criticises those who write scripture and claim it is from Allah, suggesting alteration; Qur'an 3:78 warns that some distort or hide the word, suggesting changes in meaning or presentation.

Question 3

point 1: the Qur'an criticises some people for altering scripture, eg Qur'an 2:79, which suggests human change of writings, oe **B1**

development: Muslims read such verses as evidence that parts of earlier texts were changed or misinterpreted, oe **B1**

point 2: historical observations of differing versions and translations support the idea of change, oe **B1**

development: copying, translation and interpretive traditions over centuries could introduce errors or additions, supporting the corruption claim, oe **B1**

Answer: E.g. Qur'anic criticism of people who change scripture (Qur'an 2:79) and historical evidence of variant versions and translations that could introduce changes.

Question 4

point 1: to find moral teachings and wisdom that match Islamic ethics, oe **B1**

development: these parts can reinforce values such as justice and mercy that Islam also teaches, oe **B1**

point 2: for interfaith understanding and dialogue, oe **B1**

development: studying shared texts can help build respect and identify common ground between Muslims and Jews or Christians, oe **B1**

Answer: E.g. to read moral teachings that align with Islamic ethics; to support interfaith understanding and find common ground.

Question 5

Level 3 A detailed, well-structured answer that explains several reasons why belief in the Qur'an's preservation matters, with clear supporting examples and links to practice. **5-6**

Level 2 An answer that explains some reasons with some supporting detail, though explanations may be limited or less developed. **3-4**

Level 1 One or two simple relevant points are made about importance, with little development. **1-2**

Level 0 No relevant material. **0**

Indicative content:

- If the Qur'an is preserved, Muslims can be confident in following its guidance for worship, law and morality.
- Belief in preservation supports memorisation practices and the role of hifz, making recitation central to worship and identity.
- The claim of divine protection underpins trust that the Qur'an contains the unaltered words of Allah, giving it unique authority over other texts.
- It affects legal and ethical decisions where certainty about the wording of revelation matters for rulings and community norms.
- Confidence in preservation strengthens communal unity around one fixed sacred text and standard recitation formats.

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