

General Certificate of Education
June 2008
Advanced Level Examination



HISTORY

Unit 6W

HS6A

Alternative A: Medieval Heresy, 1160–1242

Thursday 12 June 2008 9.00 am to 10.30 am

For this paper you must have:

- a 12-page answer book.

Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is HS6A.
- Answer **all** questions.
- In answering the questions you must use your own knowledge and understanding of the period.

Information

- The maximum mark for this paper is 40.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- You will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise relevant information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

- You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on part (c).

Answer **all** questions.

- 1 Study the following source material and then answer the questions which follow.

Source A Contemporaries believed that Catharism was strongest in Languedoc, especially in the County of Toulouse, for it was against this region that the Albigensian Crusade was directed from 1209, and it was in this region that the most systematic operation of the Inquisition can be seen from the 1230s. Catharism evidently
5 found much support in Languedocian towns. But Catharism in the south was not exclusively urban, for it had very firm roots in rural and even isolated areas. What is clear is that the lesser nobility, which was both stable and rural, lent much support to the Cathar *bonhommes* who, in times of trouble, often found shelter in their castles and protection through the network of relatives created by noble
10 intermarriage.

Adapted from M BARBER, *The Two Cities: Medieval Europe, 1050–1320*, 1993

Source B Adapted from *Sermon against the Cathars*, written by Eckbert of Schonau, 1163

In August 1163 some heretics of the sect called Cathars came to Cologne from Flanders, and stayed secretly in a barn near the city. But when they did not go to church on Sunday they were found out by their neighbours. They were brought before the church court and thoroughly examined about their sect. When they
5 would not be corrected by sound arguments and stubbornly maintained their position, they were expelled from the Church and handed over to the lay court. On 5 August, four men and a girl were taken outside the city and burned.

Source C

A brief text extract adapted from M COSTEN, *The Cathars and the Albigensian Crusade*, 1997, discussing some of the reasons for the decline in Catharism in France during the second half of the thirteenth century. Not reproduced here due to third-party copyright constraints.

Source D When it fell, the significance of Montsegur for Catharism became very evident. Over half the population were *perfecti* or *perfectae*, that is 210 of the 415 persons who were in the castle, including Bertrand Marty, Bishop of Toulouse, and Raymond Agulher, Bishop of the Razès. The presence of the Bishop of Toulouse
5 is a measure of the pressure which had been exerted upon the Cathar Church since 1229. Montsegur therefore represents the type of lordship which had been common in Languedoc in the past, controlled by powerful but local lords, little concerned by outside authority. As at Lavaur, these lords favoured heretics, allowed them to live and preach within the enclosure, and had several family
10 members who were ‘clothed heretics’.

Adapted from M BARBER, *The Cathars*, 2000

- (a) Use **Source A** and your own knowledge.

Assess the validity of the views in **Source A** about the popularity of Catharism.
(10 marks)

- (b) Use **Source B** and your own knowledge.

How useful is **Source B** as evidence of the growth of Catharism?
(10 marks)

- (c) Use **Sources A, B, C** and **D** and your own knowledge.

‘Popular heresy was crushed in southern France by the early 1240s due to the effectiveness of military repression.’
Assess the validity of this statement.
(20 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page

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Question 1 Source A: *The Two Cities: Medieval Europe, 1050–1320*, M BARBER, Routledge, 1993. Reproduced by permission of Thomson Publishing Services, North Way, Andover, Hants., SP10 5BE.

Source C: M COSTEN, *The Cathars and the Albigensian Crusade*, Manchester University Press, 1997.

Source D: M BARBER, *The Cathars*, Longman, 2000.

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