## **HOLY WAR**

### Theme D Religion, peace & conflict

1. Which of the following acts of Jesus has been interpreted by some, as violent?

[1 mark]

A)Healing the man with leprosy B) clearing the temple C) calling the disciples D) calming the storm

2. Name two aspects of a potential 'holy war'? [2 marks]

Fighting for a religious cause/ fighting for God/ initiated by an official religious authority

3. Explain two religious teachings about an appropriate use of violence. [4 marks]

Just War theory allows warfare if it meets a set criteria > e.g. proportionate use of weapons. Corporal punishment can be condone for disciplining children > "spare the rod..."

Some religions permit violence for self defence, e.g. Sikhism and Islam. Islam> lesser jihad> fighting a holy war

Explain two religious beliefs about holy war.

[5 marks]

No war is acceptable. Pacifism is the correct stance for religious people. "turn the other cheek"Holy war is incompatible with Christianity as it goes against the teaching and example of Jesus.

In Islam: the lesser jihad. In Judaism: acceptable if defending Israel/Judaism. In Sikhism: acceptable if defending the religion

## JUST WAR THEORY

# Theme D Religion, peace & conflict

5. 'God would not want his children to go to war over religion.'

[12 marks]

#### Some Christians agree:

War goes against the teaching of Jesus: "turn the other cheek." "love your enemies" "put away your sword"

It goes against the example of Jesus the role model> Did not use violence/ died to complete his mission – not fought/ did not fight his arrest

God loves us all and wants "none to perish"

Fighting for religion not compatible with Just War Theory

### Some Christians disagree:

It has been said that for evil men to accomplish their purpose it is only necessary that good men should do nothing> if religious believers are not prepared to fight, evil may prosper.

Jesus said "the truth will set you free" Christians should fight for the truth of Christianity to be known if it is in danger of being oppressed In Islam, the lesser jihad is to fight in a holy war. The reward for dying during this is eternity in paradise so God must condone holy war