

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**

**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES**

**DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE**

**SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION 2009**

**TITLE OF PAPER: TRADITIONAL/ORAL LITERATURE 1**

**COURSE CODE : AL 203 / IDE-AL 203**

**TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS**

- INSTRUCTIONS :**
- 1. ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS, CHOOSING ONE (1) FROM EACH SECTION.**
  - 2. EACH QUESTION SHOULD BE COMMENCED ON A SEPARATE PAGE.**
  - 3. CANDIDATES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BRING ANY READING MATERIAL INTO THE EXAMINATION HALL**
  - 4. IN THE ASSESMENT OF THIS PAPER, CORRECT USAGE OF ENGLISH, THE QUALITY OF EXPRESSION AND THE PRESENTATION OF ANSWERS WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUT**

**THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.**

## **TRADITIONAL/ ORAL LITERATURE 1**

**INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER THREE QUESTIONS, CHOOSING AT LEAST ONE (1) FROM EACH SECTION.**

### **SECTION A: General Theory of Oral Literature**

1. With relevant examples, discuss three main occasions on which Oral Literature is performed in Swaziland. (20 Marks)
2. Comment on five important functions of Oral Literature in contemporary Swaziland today? ( Marks)

### **SECTION B: Oral Poetry**

3. Discuss the various categories of Oral Poets in traditional Swazi Community and the role they perform. (20 Marks)
4. Compare a domestic topical poetry of your choice with a contemporary public song, discussing their point of differences from the thematic and stylistic point of view. ( 20 Marks )
5. Discuss the relevance of Lullabies in children's development and acquisition of the traditional Swazi Oral art. (20 Marks)
6. Critically analyze the following dirge paying particular attention to "style" and "the theme of transition". (20 Marks)

O-o-o-o-o-o.-o-OOO

The pillar of our house has fallen  
The father of my children is no more.  
Who will shield us from our enemies?  
Who will clear the bush for us to farm?  
Who will provide me with cooking oil?  
When he was alive  
The children were strong and healthy,  
Now that he is dead,  
They will suffer from hunger and thirst.  
O death, why did you choose this moment to  
Knock at my door?  
Merciless death, why did you only  
Decide to put off the fire that burns in my hut?