

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2005

TITLE OF PAPER : **PHENOMENOLOGY OF RELIGION**

COURSE CODE : **T1P2/IDE-T1P2**

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

TOTAL MARKS : **100**

INSTRUCTIONS : **1. ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS, AT LEAST ONE QUESTION MUST BE ATTEMPTED FROM EACH SECTION.**

2. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS.

THIS QUESTION PAPER MUST NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

SECTION A**QUESTION 1**

Write short notes on any **two** of the following approaches to the study of religion:

- (a) Theology
- (b) Sociology of Religion
- (c) Psychology of Religion

QUESTION 2

“What has no value ceases to exist. Religion exists. Therefore religion has value”. Discuss.

QUESTION 3

Discuss the importance of phenomenology in the study of religion.

QUESTION 4

“Myths serve a cosmological role of explaining why things are as they are”. Discuss the meaning of this statement using examples from **one** religious tradition.

SECTION B**QUESTION 5**

With examples, explain the main features of “revealed religions”.

QUESTION 6

“Africans are notoriously religious, and each people has its own religious system with a set of beliefs and practices” (Mbiti). Discuss this statement with particular reference to Swazi Traditional Religion.

QUESTION 7

Select **one** of the following religions and identify and discuss its unique features:

- (i) Hinduism
- (ii) Buddhism
- (iii) Judaism
- (iv) Islam
- (v) The Baha'i Faith

QUESTION 8

How do the religions of the world deal with the universal human need for "salvation"? Give examples from at least **four** different world religions.