

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2006

TITLE OF PAPER **SOCIOLOGY OF RELIGION**

COURSE CODE **T2P3/IDE-T2P3**

TIME ALLOWED: **THREE HOURS**

TOTAL MARKS: **100**

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. ANSWER ANY FOUR QUESTIONS**
- 2. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS**

T2P3 (MAIN), 2006

1. "Religion is indisputably a social phenomenon and a such is in a continual ... interactive relationship with other social phenomena" (Johnstone , R.I. *Religion and Society in Interaction*. Prentice Hall, 1975; pages 3-4). Discuss.
2. With examples explain the differences between the Church, Denomination, Sect and Cult.
3. Discuss the functionalist views of the role of religion in society.
4. "Max Weber suggested that there was a relationship between religion and economic enterprise". Discuss this statement with specific reference to the Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of Capitalism.
5. Explain the social and religious meaning of either *Incwala* or the Reed Dance or *Umcwasho* in the context of Swaziland.
6. "Women are now equal to men in society". Evaluate this statement.
7. How much evidence is there that religion continues to be important in our contemporary society? What reasons can you give for the continuing importance of religion in Swaziland?
8. "To be sure, the doctrine of a personal God interfering with natural events could never be refuted, in the real sense, by science, for this doctrine can always take refuge in those domains in which scientific knowledge has not yet been able to set foot" (Einstein, 1941). Examine the relationship between religion and science.