

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2006

TITLE OF PAPER : **RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD**

COURSE CODE : **T4P1/IDE T4P1**

TIME ALLOWED : **THREE (3) HOURS**

MARKS : **100**

INSTRUCTIONS : **1. ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS.**
2. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS.

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

QUESTION 1

Discuss the theories of the origin of the religion that were advocated by following scholars: Karl Marx, Sigmund Freud, Edward Tylor, and James Frazer.

QUESTION 2

Describe the prominent features of the traditional religions of North America with those of Africa. Comment on the contributions of these religions, if any, to the universal human quest for salvation.

QUESTION 3

What is meant by the term "Bhuddha"? Describe the key tenets of Buddhism show how they differ from traditional Hindu values and beliefs.

QUESTION 4

Describe and comment on the roles of Confucianism and Taoism in contemporary Chinese society.

QUESTION 5

To what extent is Shintoism comparable to Swazi Traditional Religion? Give specific examples to illustrate your view.

QUESTION 6

According to the Shahadah "There is no other God but God and his prophet is Muhammad". Explain this doctrine showing the points of convergence and divergence between Islam and Christianity.

QUESTION 7

"Bahai's have inherited from Islam a view of history as a linear process directed by the divine will and marked by the periodic appearance of major and minor prophets, some of whom bring books and laws and found communities". Comment on this statement showing how the Baha'i Faith interprets the role of Baha'Ullah in our day and age.

QUESTION 8

Identify and discuss a suitable model (in your view) for relating the world's religions to each other.