

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
&
INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES

MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER MAY 2011

TITLE OF PAPER : Religion and Ideology in Contemporary Africa
COURSE CODE : T4P8/IDE T4P8
DURATION : 3 Hours

THIS PAPER IS DIVIDED INTO **TWO SECTIONS**

INSTRUCTIONS : 1. Answer four questions in all.
2. Answer two questions from each section.
3. Write in clear, grammatically correct sentences.

All questions are worth 25 marks.

DOT OPEN THIS PAPER UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR GRANTS YOU PERMISSION TO DO SO

T4P8/ IDE T4P8 (M) Religion and Ideology in Contemporary Africa, May 2011
SECTION ONE

Question 1

Define the concept of post-colonialism in the contemporary African context. [25]

Question 2

Write a commentary on the following definition of religion.

“... sets of ideas by which men [sic] posit, explain and justify ends and means of organised social action, and specifically political action, irrespective of whether such action aims to preserve, amend or uproot or rebuild a given social order ” [25]

Question 3

With reference to specific cases in history, demonstrate the critical symbiosis between religion and ideology. [25]

Question 4

Nkrumah has been both vilified and lauded for his use of religion in his political theory and practice. Describe these two opposing opinions on Nkrumah's use or abuse of religion in his polity. [25]

Question 5

Write a critique of the implementation of the *Ujamaa* socialist programme of Julius Nyerere's government. [25]

Question 6

Discuss significant pointers to the manner in which Ethiopia has handled religious plurality. [25]

SECTION TWO

Question 7

Discuss that ideological function of the public baptism of former Zambian president Frederick Chiluba and his declaration of Zambia as a “Christian nation”. [25]

Question 8

Comment on the conversion of some Christians to Islam in Rwanda after the 1994 genocide in that country. [25]

Question 9

Give a nuanced analysis of the protracted violent clashes between Christian and Muslim populations in Nigeria. [25]

Question 10

Analyse the obtaining scholarly positions on the question of the source of the Sudanese conflict. Your analysis must lead to taking your stance in this debate and explaining it. [25]

Question 11

Comment on Itumeleng Mosala's (1990) view on the "missionlessness" of the South African church in post Apartheid national life? [25]

Question 12

Write a critique of the ideological view that "Swaziland is a Christian country". [25]