

COURSE CODE TRS303 (M) 2012

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

B.A. /B.ED III/IDE

MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER, DECEMBER 2012

TITLE OF PAPER: AFRICAN TRADITIONAL RELIGIONS I

COURSE CODE: TRS303

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: (1) ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS  
(2) ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS

TOTAL MARKS:60

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

1. "African Religion, including the worldview it gives rise to and incorporates, is entirely a live religion, not a doctrinal one" (Magesa 1997). Explain the author's observation and indicate the extent to which his view is correct, drawing examples from at least two African indigenous religions other than Swazi Religion.
2. Using Swazi Religion as a case study, discuss the fundamental rituals, values, beliefs and institutions of African Religion.
3. "Modimo: A Celestial or Subterranean Being?" (Rakotsoane 2002). Write a brief critical comment on this question, and compare and contrast at least two different images of God that prevail in two distinct African indigenous religions.
4. Which approach to the study of African Religion do you prefer? Explain its strengths and weaknesses.
5. Discuss Mbiti's (1989) observation that the indigenous African "concept of time is a key to the understanding and interpretation of African religions and philosophy".
6. Explain the place, if any, of indigenous African worldviews, beliefs and values in the globalized world.