

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES & INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES
SECOND SEMESTER MAIN EXAMINATION MAY, 2014

COURSE CODE: TRS 405

COURSE TITLE: RELIGION & IDEOLOGY IN CONTEMPORARY AFRICA II

DURATION: 2HRS

INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Choose and answer three (3) questions in all.
- b. Write in clear and grammatically correct sentences.
- c. Your answer should not exceed two and a half pages.

**DO NOT OPEN THIS EXAMINATION PAPER UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR
GRANTS YOU PERMISSION TO DO SO.**

Question 1

Explain the necessity to intellectualise religion in contemporary Africa. [25]

Question 2

Elaborate on the views expressed in the following extract taken from one of our readings on the church's involvement in the 1994 genocide in Rwanda.

To understand how Rwanda's churches became so profoundly implicated in the 1994 genocide requires, I contend, analyzing Christian churches as inherently political institutions. Rather than treating the state as the center of all political action and assessing only the role that the churches played in influencing state policies (or being influenced by them), churches should be understood as political institutions in their own right." (Longman 2001: 167)

[25]

Question 3

Mwono and Buitendag (2010:5) observe that the declaration of Zambia as a Christian nation became a weapon in the hands of former President Chiluba's government to hound and silence political opposition instead of being a basis for uprooting corruption and fraud in government. Elaborate on this observation and critically comment on it especially in view of the interplay between religion and ideology.

[25]

Question 4

Discuss President Jacob Zuma's frequent incorporation of Christian rhetoric into a number of his public speeches which have been chronicled by the print media in South Africa and dubbed "The Ten Commandments According to Jacob Zuma". [25]

Question 5

Explain the relevance of the policy on the teaching of Religious Education in South Africa. [25]

Question 6

Analyse the Imbokodvo National Movement's provision on the religious rights of Swazi citizens as articulated in paragraph 104 of the party's manifesto.

The Imbokodvo national Movement believes firmly in the freedom of the worship. Every citizen is entitled to his beliefs and the Imbokodvo will do nothing to interfere with religion or religious practices so long as the individual or group of worshipers recognise and respect the institutions, customs, and conventions of other individuals or groups.

[25]

Question 7

Discuss the views expressed by Vilakati (1998) on the way the question of religious plurality is currently being addressed in public discourse in Swaziland. [25]
