

B.A / B.ED IV / IDE

TITLE OF PAPER: RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD I

COURSE CODE: TRS400

TIME ALLOWED: TWO HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: 1. ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS

2. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS.

TOTAL MARKS : 60

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based on a false presumption that humankind's perfect happiness or satisfaction can be attained in this world and this state of being" (Francis Rakotsoane and Joseph Omoregbe). Write a critique of this statement with reference to theories of religion as a projection of human needs.

3. "World history would be incomplete without reference to religion, nor can the history of any nation be written without reference to it" (Joseph Omoregbe). Do you agree with this writer? How would you describe the role of religion in world history? Cite relevant examples representing at least three different religious traditions to illustrate your views.

4. "Traditional religions continue to be of importance to many both at the level of meaning and function and it would, therefore, be premature to predict their demise" (Peter Clarke). Write an evidence-based critique of this claim, paying particular attention to Native American Religion.

5. "That Hinduism has shared her land for centuries with Jains, Buddhists, Parsees, Muslims, Sikhs and Christians may help explain a final idea that comes out more clearly through her than through other great religions: namely, her conviction that the various major religions are alternate paths to the same goal" (Huston Smith). What is the ultimate spiritual goal in Hinduism? Illustrate your answer with clear and specific examples.

6. "Gandhi's life and thought are instructive in showing the extent to which many central Hindu ideas have persisted into the twentieth century" (David Kinsley). Explain this observation and indicate influence of Hindu religious heritage in the life and thought of Mahatma Gandhi.