

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**

**DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

**MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2017**

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TITLE OF PAPER : RELIGIOUS CULTURE AND IDENTITY

COURSE CODE : TRS 217

TIME ALLOWED : TWO (2) HOURS

MARKS : 75

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

- 1. CHOOSE AND ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS.**
- 2. EACH QUESTION CARRIES 25 MARKS.**
- 3. BEGIN EACH QUESTION ON A NEW PAGE.**
- 4. CREDIT WILL BE GIVEN FOR CLARITY, ACCURACY AND GOOD THEOLOGICAL INSIGHT.**

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

### **QUESTION ONE**

Explain how the sociological approaches of religion have been influenced by the ideas of classical thinkers like Emile Durkheim and Max Weber.

[25]

### **QUESTION TWO**

To what extent would you agree with the notion that religion can be a force for both social stability and social change? Your answer should cite relevant examples.

[25]

### **QUESTION THREE**

Critically discuss the notion that Taliban's policies towards women are a form of 'gender apartheid'. Cite examples to support your standpoint.

[25]

### **QUESTION FOUR**

Explain how reggae music is a good example of the fusion between political, spiritual and personal identities.

[25]

### **QUESTION FIVE**

Critically discuss the relationship between self-identity and social identity within the context of religious culture.

[25]

**QUESTION SIX**

Define religious fundamentalism. Explain how either Islamic fundamentalism or Christian fundamentalism has shaped the contours of international politics.

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