

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

TRS 304 MAIN EXAMINATION, MAY 2019

TITLE OF PAPER : AFRICAN TRADITIONAL RELIGION II
COURSE CODE : TRS 304
DURATION : 2 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Answer three (3) questions in all.
2. Write in clear, grammatically correct sentences.
3. All questions carry equal marks.

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

Question 1

“Traditional medicine is being used in many countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America to help meet some of their primary health care needs” (Makhubu 2009). Drawing examples from recent empirical studies, explain how traditional medicine is used by many Africans “to help meet some of their primary health care needs”.

Question 2

What is the place of sacred monarchies in modern African societies? Draw specific examples from recent literature.

Question 3

“Much of what happens in [traditional] marriage has overtly religious characteristics and significance” (Magesa 1997). Drawing examples from recent studies, outline and explain the religious characteristics and significance of traditional African marriage rituals observed by at least two different ethnic groups.

Question 4

The enactment by the Kingdom of Eswatini of the *Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Act of 2018* was seen by many as a milestone in the fight against sexual and gender-based violence in the country. Identify and explain salient aspects of Eswatini traditional culture and religion that foster – covertly and/or overtly – the mistreatment of women in society. Support your answer with reliable sources drawn from recent literature.

Question 5

“Many Swazi Christians openly identify themselves with the main rituals of Swazi Religion while retaining their identity” (Ndlovu 2014). Critically examine this claim, and support your answer with reliable sources drawn from recent literature.

Question 6

“*Ubuntu* lies at the heart of the African ethical system and indeed of African religion” (Patrick and Bennett 2011). Critically examine this claim, and support your answer with reliable sources drawn from recent literature.