

University of Eswatini
Faculty of Humanities &
Institute of Distance Education
Department of Theology & Religious Studies

2018/2019 Main Examination Paper (First Semester) December 2018

Course code : TRS 404
Course title : Religion & Ideology in Contemporary Africa I
Duration : 2 (Two) Hours

Instructions

- a. Answer three questions.
- b. Your answer to each question must be structured and consistently focused on the subject matter at hand.
- c. Indicate on the front cover of your answer script the name of your programme of study.

NB: All questions are worth 20 marks.

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TRS 404: Religion and Ideology in Contemporary Africa I (M) December 2018

Question 1

Write a brief critical synthesis of Kempkey's (2008) argument that religion has historically been linked to the formation of the modern African state and society rather than being a recent development occasioned by religious radicalization.

Question 2

Explain why defining religion from the combined substantive and functionalist approach is particularly apt for examining the interplay between religion and ideology in post-colonial Africa.

Question 3

Using Antonio Gramsci's theory of hegemony, analyse the appropriation of religion for political ends by General IK Acheampong's military administration in Ghana from 1972 to 1978.

Question 4

Explain the role of regional politics in fomenting inter and intra-religious conflict in Nigeria.

Question 5

Write a response to the observations made by Vanderpoel (2012) in her analysis of the Kenyan High Court ruling of 2010 that declared Kadhis' Courts as unconstitutional and a violation of state secularism.

Question 6

Explain the ironic fact that religion has not become a force for political mobilisation in Tanzania despite evidence that since the beginning of the 1990s religion emerged as a foremost category of social identity.
