

COURSE CODE T3P2 (M) 2012

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

B.A. /B.ED III/IDE

MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER 2012

TITLE OF PAPER: AFRICAN TRADITIONAL RELIGIONS

COURSE CODE: T3P2

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: (1) ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS

(2) ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS

TOTAL MARKS: 100

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

1. "African Traditional Religions are studied as a subject alongside Christianity and Islam as one of the three major religious traditions which have for centuries influenced and have continued to influence the thinking, beliefs, attitudes and lives of millions of Africans" (Ikenga-Metuh, E. 1987). Would you agree with Ikenga-Metuh that African indigenous religions continue "to influence the thinking, beliefs, attitudes and lives of millions of Africans"? In your answer you should draw examples from a few African Religions of your choice.
2. Write short critical notes on following features of African worldviews: (i) causation (ii) time (iii) ethics.
3. "The Karanga people strongly believe that their health and welfare are matters of prime importance which largely depend on the patterns of interactions with guardian spiritual entities which control their day to day affairs". (Shoko, T., 2007). Explain Shoko's observation and indicate the extent to which the stated Karanga belief is similar to that of other African peoples.
4. "The unique feature of the Swazi sacred kingship is the dual monarchy in which the roles and duties of the King and the Queen Mother are complementary" (Ndlovu, H. L., 2007). Comment on the above assertion, citing relevant examples for comparative purposes.
5. Can or do prevalent indigenous puberty rites play any significant role in the war against the HIV and AIDS pandemic? Support your position by citing recent and reliable sources.
6. What do we learn, if any, from indigenous African Religions about ideal gender relations? In your answer you should cite examples from at least three African Religions.
7. "Any meeting between two different realities incurs the risk of conflict. We do, in fact, observe at times conflict between the cultural heritage of black Africa and Christianity" (Mulago, V., 1987). Do you agree? Give relevant examples to illustrate your views.
8. Discuss some of the ways in which traditional African beliefs and practices have found new forms of expression and new avenues of survival in the modern world.