

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE &
PLANNING

FINAL EXAMINATION, MAY 2007

B.A., B.ED.

TITLE OF PAPER: SPECIAL AREA STUDIES

COURSE CODE: GEP 432

TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS

**INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS INCLUDING
QUESTION ONE (1) WHICH IS COMPULSORY**

**MARKS ALLOCATION: QUESTION ONE (1) CARRIES 40 MARKS. THE
REST OF QUESTIONS CARRY 30 MARKS EACH**

**THIS QUESTION PAPER SHOULD NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION
HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.**

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**Section: A
Compulsory Question**

Question 1

“Despite the relative decline in the percentage of GDP accounted for by agriculture, this sector was a critical component of Malaysia’s economic take off in the 1970s and continues to be an important generator of national wealth today” (Thomas & Richard 2000:353). Discuss the validity of the statement. **(40 Marks)**

**Section: B
Answer Two Questions from This Section**

Question: 2

Discuss the socio-economic changes which have taken place in Thailand since 1980. **(30 Marks)**

Question: 3

‘Rapid economic development has transformed the face of Singapore’. Discuss. **(30 Marks)**

Question: 4

Compare and contrast the approach of national government towards development of the rural sector in South East Asia and that of Southern Africa. **(30 Marks)**

Question: 5

‘Environment is emerging as an important concern in Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos’. Discuss the validity of this statement. **(30 Marks)**