

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF POST-GRADUATE STUDIES
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
FINAL EXAMINATIONS, MAY 2005

TITLE OF PAPER : **COMPARATIVE HISTORY OF SLAVERY IN THE WORLD**

COURSE CODE : **H 505**

TIME ALLOWED : **THREE (3) HOURS**

INSTRUCTIONS :

1. **ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS.**
2. **ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS.**

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

QUESTION 1

Basing your discussion on such works as Orlando Patterson's *Slavery and Social Death*, Leonie Archer's *Slavery and Other Forms of Unfree Labour*, and S. Miers and I. Kopytoff's *Slavery in Africa*, show why it is neither possible nor necessary to arrive at a universally accepted definition of slavery.

QUESTION 2

Compare and contrast New World slavery and forms of slavery elsewhere.

QUESTION 3

To what extent does George Fredrickson's book contribute to a better understanding of the study of slavery in the Cape region of South Africa and in the American South?

QUESTION 4

Either A or B:

- A. With reference to the effects of the Atlantic Slave Trade upon African societies, critically assess the merits and demerits of the "transformation thesis" in the historiography of the trade.
- B. Write a critical review of Walter Rodney's contribution to the study of the theme 'West Africa and the Atlantic Slave Trade'.

QUESTION 5

Why has the historiography of the Indian Ocean slave trade been so under-developed in comparison with that of its Atlantic counter-part?

QUESTION 6

'The West must pay reparations for 400 years of African slavery and the 139 million Africans who died in the trade' (Chief Moshood Abiola). How convincing is the case from an historian's point of view?