

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
INSTITUTE OF POST-GRADUATE STUDIES
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2007

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.**

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PERMISSION.**

QUESTION ONE

Basing your discussion on Orlando Patterson's *Slavery and Social Death*, critically examine his "constituent elements of slavery". To what extent does he help us comprehend slavery as a world-wide phenomenon?

QUESTION TWO (ANSWER EITHER A OR B)

- A. In what ways did Greek and Roman slavery lay the foundation for slavery subsequently practised elsewhere in the world?
- B. Compare and contrast the New World Slavery of the period c.1600 – 1860 with classical world slavery.

QUESTION THREE

With reference to the effects of the Atlantic Slave upon African societies, critically assess the merits and demerits of the "transformation thesis" in the historiography of the trade.

QUESTION FOUR

Why did the study of the Indian Ocean slave trade lag behind that of its Atlantic counterpart for so many years?

QUESTION FIVE

Would you accept the view that domestic slavery in Africa was comparatively "mild"?

QUESTION SIX

In late 2006 the British Prime Minister Tony Blair was reported by the BBC to have expressed his "deep sorrow" over Britain's role in the slave trade, describing it as "profoundly shameful". From an historian's point of view, do you think the West should apologize for the Atlantic slave trade? Explain.