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University of Eswatini
Faculty of Humanities
Department of History
Semester 1 Examination Paper
December 2018

Course name: History of Swaziland from Earliest times to 1900

Course Code: H211/His 211

Time Allowed: 2 Hours

Instructions:

- 1. Choose and answer two (2) questions**
- 2. All questions carry equal marks [25]**
- 3. Write your programme on the cover page of the answer booklet**

This paper is not to be opened until permission has been given by the invigilator.

1. Examine the contention that King Somhlolo's (Sobhuza 1) domestic and foreign policies were characterised by shrewdness, diplomacy and precaution that saw him survive the Mfecane diaspora.
2. Critically consider the factors that prompted King Mswati 11's wide ranging administrative and cultural changes he introduced upon his ascent to power between the years 1839 to 1865.
3. To wholly blame King Mbandzeni for the loss of 2/3 of the land of Swazi during his reign is failure to appreciate and understand the historical context of the times. Do you agree?
4. Analyse the contention and validity of the contention that the current map of the Kingdom of Swaziland was a product of the imperialistic ambitions of the British, Portuguese, and Boers of the Transvaal.
5. Provide a detailed analysis of the reasons why the Swazi were vehemently opposed to the 1895 Convention signed by the British and the Boers of the Transvaal that saw their country being given to the latter to administer.