

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES
SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER, JULY 2005

TITLE OF PAPER : **AFRICAN TRADITIONAL RELIGIONS**

COURSE CODE : **T3P2/IDE-T3P2**

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

MARKS : **100**

INSTRUCTIONS : **1. ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS.**
2. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS.

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

Course Code: T3P2/IDE-T3P2 (S) 2005

QUESTION 1

“It is quite evident that African Religion plays an important role in shaping the character of African society and culture” (Olopona, J.K.). Comment on this claim, giving pertinent examples where applicable.

QUESTION 2

What do we mean by the term “African Worldview”? Identify and discuss at least two common features of African worldviews.

QUESTION 3

Would you agree with Mbiti (1989) that in many African societies “diviners are regarded as friends of their communities”? Provide sufficient evidence in support of your views.

QUESTION 4

Identify and discuss the main socio-ethical teachings of African Traditional Religions with special reference to Swazi Religion.

QUESTION 5

Examine some of the ways in which traditional African religions have adapted to the pressures of modernity.

QUESTION 6

Describe a typical Swazi traditional marriage and comment on its wider implications for gender relations in Swazi society.

QUESTION 7

Explain and evaluate the contributions made by the following scholars to the study of African indigenous religions:

- (a) E.G. Parrinder
- (b) E.E. Evans-Pritchards
- (c) J.S. Mbiti
- (d) G.M. Setiloane

QUESTION 8

Show how African Traditional Religions relate to Christianity and Islam in contemporary African societies.