



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2016/2017

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS

ARE 104: INTRODUCTION TO WORLD RELIGION

DATE: Tuesday, 22nd November 2016

TIME: 8.00 a.m. - 10.00 a.m.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer **Three** Questions; at least **One** from each **Section**

SECTION 1:

1. EITHER

- (a) (i) Define the term Religion and explain why it is difficult to arrive at a universal definition of religion.
- (ii) Discuss the common characteristics of religion

OR

- (b) Using relevant examples discuss the characteristics of religion as illustrated by Ninian Smart.

2. EITHER

- (a) Explain why there is need to study World Religions in the 21st Century.

OR

- (b) Discuss any Two of the following ancient religions and show how they influenced Christianity and Islam.
 - I. Egyptian religion
 - II. Roman religion
 - III. Greek religion
 - IV. Mesopotamian Religion.

3. **EITHER**

(a) Analyze the following concepts of Religion

- I. Fetishism
- II. Magic
- III. Ancestor
- IV. Worship
- V. Animism.

OR

(b) Evaluate the manifestations of African Traditional Religion despite modernity, Islam and Christianity in Africa.

SECTION II:

4. **EITHER**

(a) Discuss Gautama Buddha's philosophy and show how it contributed to the history of religions.

OR

- (b) (i) Identify and explain important factors which contributed to the rise of Sikhism.
- (ii) Examine the concept of God as taught in Sikhism.

5. Analyze the ethical, material and spiritual dimension of any **two** of the following religions

- I. Islam
- II. Christianity
- III. Hinduism
- IV. Taoism

6. Discuss how interfaith Dialogue can help deal with negative ethnicity and religious extremism in your country.