



basic education

Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE

GRADE 12

RELIGION STUDIES P1

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2014

MEMORANDUM

MARKS: 150

This memorandum consists of 11 pages.

SECTION A (COMPULSORY)**QUESTION 1**

- | | | | |
|-----|-------|--|-----|
| 1.1 | 1.1.1 | Hermeneutics | (2) |
| | 1.1.2 | Apocrypha | (2) |
| | 1.1.3 | Theravada | (2) |
| | 1.1.4 | Talmud | (2) |
| 1.2 | 1.2.1 | Golden rule | |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a universal ethical rule. • This is the rule that is found in nearly all religious and other ethical systems. | (4) |
| | 1.2.2 | Divinity | |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This concept refers to a divine being or Supreme Being. • It also means 'god-like'. | (4) |
| | 1.2.3 | Mishnah | |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mishnah refers to the oral Torah that was transmitted from one generation to the next and that was later committed to writing. • The Mishnah also simply means 'teaching.' | (4) |
| | 1.2.4 | Comparability | |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Means to be able to compare two things e.g. to be able to compare two religions. • Comparisons can either be explicit or implicit. | (4) |
| | 1.2.5 | Uniqueness | |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uniqueness is the quality of being unique or unusual. • In Religion Studies it means that each religion is unique or remarkable. | (4) |
| 1.3 | 1.3.1 | False | |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Eucharist is a sacrament that is held in memory of Christ by the Christians. • The Eucharist does not apply in ancestral worship. • Ukulanda/Umbuyiso is a ritual that is held in memory of the ancestors. | (4) |
| | 1.3.2 | False | |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The interpretation of normative sources applies to all religions. | (4) |
| | 1.3.3 | False | |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The philosophy of Karl Marx is a secular worldview (communism) opposed to religion. | (4) |

1.4	1.4.1	E		
	1.4.2	G		
	1.4.3	D		
	1.4.4	C		
	1.4.5	F	(5 x 2)	(10)

TOTAL SECTION A: 50

SECTION B

QUESTION 2

- | | | | | |
|-----|-------|---|--|-----|
| 2.1 | 2.1.1 | Moksha | | |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The spiritual goal of humans to free the soul. • The spiritual goal of humans towards rebirth from the body so that its oneness with Brahmin can be realised. • The supreme state in which humans can reach consciousness. • The state of knowing God. | | (4) |
| | 2.1.2 | Canon | | |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The determination of books which have authority in a religion. • This is because they are believed to be inspired or revealed, or because they are so designated. • The word originally referred to Christian and Jewish scripture, but now refers to collections of holy or sacred texts in other religions as well. | | (4) |
| | 2.1.3 | Myth | | |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The word means 'fable'. • Reference to religious stories in which deep truths about life are revealed. • Myths do not necessarily try to make a moral point. • Myths can be the basis of teaching and dogma in some religions | | (4) |
| | 2.1.4 | Parable | | |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parable refers to a story that is told to illustrate a religious principle or to answer a religious question. • It is usually very short and contains a definite moral. • It contains religious beliefs, ideas, morals and warnings. • It is set within the cultural and social environment of the people who produce it. | | (4) |
| | 2.1.5 | Identity | | |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Means the religion has individuality or a certain personality that distinguishes it from other religions. • Means the affirmation of dignity and value of a religion. • Acknowledging who I am, we are and who others are. • Means an exclusive religious identity in which one identifies strongly with the beliefs and doctrines of the religion and sees these as defining one's life | | (4) |

- 2.2 2.2.1 • Communication with the ancestors through the ritual of animal sacrifices is a unique feature of African Traditional Religion.
- Ancestors have the power to bring about illness or misfortune, good luck and health.
- When people die, it is believed they join the spirit world.
- The sharing of a communal meal, so that the living can communicate with the ancestors.
- It does not have a sacred text. Teachings and rituals have been passed down from one generation to another through the spoken word.
- There is no special day of worship. Instead, rituals themselves are recorded as holy.
- Many are clan-based.
- Elderly people, both men and women (oogogo, nomkhulu) are the major leaders in African Religion.
- African Traditional Religion places more emphasis on community than the individual. (10)
- 2.2.2 • While African religions share some core beliefs, they differ according to geography and local culture.
- The Aka religion is practised in Central Africa. Among the Aka tribes themselves there is a great variance of belief although a few patterns bind the religions of the various tribes together.
- While the Aka followers believe in the creator spirit, Bembe, they also believe that Bembe retired from creation soon after the act of creation.
- They believe in reincarnation, but only within human form.
- The AmaZulu religion acknowledges the existence of a Supreme Being, called uMvelinqangi.
- Umvelinqangi is exalted such that he is not directly approached; all communication is done with the ancestors.
- In the Aka religion dances and singing are performed in honour of Dzengi to ensure successful hunting.
- The Yoruba acknowledge the existence of a Supreme God. However, they also believe in deities (gods) and the ancestors.
- They also have secret societies organised to remember the ancestors. (8)
- 2.3 • Followers of the Baha'i faith believe that Baha'u'llah is the most recent of God's messengers.
- His coming is seen as the beginning of a new age – one of peace, justice and equality.
- They do not have a scripture from divine inspiration.
- Baha'u'llah wrote many books in his lifetime. They are collectively known as *Tablets*.
- They believe that there is only one God, and that all religions worship the one God in different ways.
- They recognise all religions.
- Their organisation and administration is uniquely democratic.

- Affairs of this community are handled, not by a clergy, but by elected councils .
- There are no internal differences within this religion.
- They believe that in the distant future, theirs will be the only religion in the world.

(12)
[50]**QUESTION 3**3.1 **I agree.**

- Statistics worldwide show that attendance at religious functions is declining.
- The greatest decline has been in Ireland.
- Followers of atheism and secular worldviews are increasing worldwide.
- There is a greater observance of culture than religious belief. Holy Days are observed as ritual only.
- The attendance at funerals and weddings (both religious rituals) is far greater than prayer meetings.

OR**I do not agree.**

- In light of the various social ills we face today, there is a new search for spirituality, especially among the youth.
- This is evident in the various youth camps organised by faith-based organisations.
- Parents who are religious predispose their children to adopt the same faith.
- Certainly in Africa religion is seen as an important part of life.
- This is clear from the numerous city centre buildings rented as churches.

(10)

3.2 3.2.1 **Separation of church and state**

- This is seen as a major step towards freedom of intellect.
- Dominance of any one religion in the state results in suppression of other opinions.
- Religious influence over the state is seen as a cause of conflict
- Wars are often waged by theocratic states e.g. Iran/Iraq war, the Crusades, etc.
- In most modern societies, religious institutions do not have the same power and influence that they had hundreds of years ago.

(4)

3.2.2 **Religious scepticism**

- Secular humanists do not accept claims about the supernatural.
- They question the traditional beliefs of God and divinity, as there is no scientific proof.
- These traditional beliefs of God appeal only to a small minority of society. The majority remain unconvinced.
- The variety of religious interpretations brings about much confusion.

(4)

3.2.3 **Ethics based on critical intelligence**

- Secular humanism recognises the central role of morality in human existence.

- Ethics and morality exist independently of religious norms.
- One can practise religion and still be unethical, while a person having a secular worldview can follow the highest ethical principles. (4)

3.2.4 **Free inquiry**

- This is seen as the first principle of secular humanism.
- It is essential in order to address the challenges humanity faces today.
- Man's knowledge has no limits, and limitations placed by religion, politics, culture, etc will not be tolerated.
- People who hold a secular world view are not bound by religious or spiritual beliefs.
- There is democratic decision making, based on majority rule.
- This implies that the majority of humans are rational people. (4)

3.2.5 **Science and technology**

- Scientific method and scientific reasoning are seen as the most reliable way of understanding the world.
- Knowledge of man's place in the universe is determined through scientific study.
- Man is often seen as nothing more than a sophisticated animal. (4)

- 3.3
- South Africa is a secular country.
 - South Africa is governed on the basis of the Bill of Rights.
 - The South African Constitution allows for freedom of religion.
 - All religions are allowed to practise their religions freely without the fear of being coerced by the state.
 - There is freedom of religious observance.
 - During state functions, no particular religion dominates.
 - In state schools there is freedom of religious observance. (10)

- 3.4
- The first characteristic of dogma is that it has two shades of meaning.
 - Its first meaning is a principle, tenet or system of these, particularly as laid down by a collective religious authority.
 - A dogma is presented by the collective religious authority as founded in divine revelation.
 - Where there are dogmas there are heretics.
 - Dogma can be challenged and changed if necessary. This can be done only after sound theological debate.
 - A dogma is a core or fundamental teaching, but not all teachings are dogmas.
- Examples
- In the Christian faith, the Roman Catholic Church adopted the Immaculate Conception as her dogma in 1859.
 - There is no God besides Allah – Islamic religion.

NOTE: The candidate may use other similar examples, and should be credited for these.

(10)
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QUESTION 4**4.1 Yes**

- South Africa is a secular state. All religions enjoy equal status.
- This is also reflected in the media.
- Religious observances such as Ramadaan, Christmas, Diwali, Yom Kippur are given recognition in the South African media.
- Television programmes such as 'Issues of Faith' on SABC 2 cover all religions in South Africa.
- Prior to the first TV news bulletin, each religion in turn is allowed to share an inspirational message.
- In Radio Ukhozi FM, all differing parties are allowed to express their religious differences.
- The Broadcasting Complaints Commission of South Africa (BCCSA) investigates complaints of religious or other bias.

OR**No**

- Often the media articles are not 'important public issues' but mere sensationalism.
- In addition, coverage is not equal across the various religions in South Africa.
- Christianity gets far more coverage than other religions.
- This is also borne out by special television programmes on Christmas and Easter.
- This is not done for Eid or Diwali. Observances of other religions are given far less coverage.
- In religious conflicts, the media presents a biased view. (10)

4.2

- It is the peripheral and negative issues that get religions the most coverage.
- Controversial issues get more airtime (or space) than spiritual matters.
- The political aspects of religious ideas and institutions receive the most coverage.
- Theological and spiritual questions are rarely presented as newsworthy.
- If religious leaders are accused of any wrongdoing, they make headline news.
- On the contrary, if religious leaders go about their duty clothing and feeding the poor, it is not seen as newsworthy.
- The exception is dedicated religious TV and radio channels such as Radio Veritas, TBN, Rheema Church, Islam TV, God's TV, etc.

NOTE: Other similar arguments must be credited. (12)

4.3**4.3.1 Christianity**

- Beliefs assist the Christian believers to acknowledge and affirm the existence of God.
- Belief also helps the Christians to live in accordance with God's will.
- Belief helps the believer to be able to read the divinely-revealed scriptures with understanding.
- Belief helps the believers to observe and reflect on nature and to endeavour to understand their creator, God.

- Belief assures the believers about God's love and mercy, which are emphasised in the Bible.
- Belief brings hope for life after death, eternal life. (4)

4.3.2 **Hinduism**

- Hinduism includes a vast array of beliefs and practices.
- Beliefs promote peaceful co-existence among human beings.
- Beliefs encourage the Hindus to live according to acceptable moral values.
- Karma (The life you live presently will bring the results – Cause and Effect).
- The final goal in Hindu thought is moksha or release from suffering, old age and ultimately, death itself.
- Belief makes Hindus aware of the supreme state that human consciousness can reach.
- Belief instils trust and hope for life after death. (4)

4.4 They all believe that:

- God is the Lord of all that exists.
- In His Angels
- In sacred books
- In His Messengers
- In Judgement Day
- In Divine Decree, good or bad. (10)

4.5

- Buddhism can be divided into three main branches.
 - The three branches are Theravada Buddhism, Mahayana and Vajrayana Buddhism.
 - Theravada Buddhism is the oldest school of Buddhism.
 - The ideal in Theravada Buddhism is for the individual to lead a life of meditation.
 - The Mahayana Buddhism developed because the people found the teachings of Theravada Buddhism too difficult to follow.
 - The Vajrayana Buddhism teaches that we attain enlightenment through patient meditation.
 - The Mahayana does not form a single group. (10)
- [50]**

QUESTION 5

5.1 **Sudan**

- In the Sudan, the conflict is not religious in nature, as most of the people of the Sudan are Sunni Muslims.
- However, the government has its own interpretation of Sharia law.
- The Khartoum government is strong, and it is led by the National Islamic Front (NIF).
- This party uses military force to impose Islamic Sharia law on all of Sudan, including non-Muslims.
- This could be seen as religious nationalism, as politics is used to strengthen a particular religious interpretation.

- This is not permissible under Islamic teaching, as the Quran states there 'there is no compulsion in religion'.
- The narrow interpretation of religious teachings is an example of how fundamentalism fuels conflict.
- The conflict is rather ethnic in nature.
- The conflict is over territory and oil.
- Even with the split into North and South Sudan, border conflicts and ethnic rivalry continue.
- Religion, therefore, is not the cause of the Sudan conflict.

The Israeli-Palestine Conflict

- After World War Two, Jews were determined to establish a homeland of their own.
- The conflict began with the establishment, in what was then Palestine, of Israel in 1946.
- Through a number of wars with the Arabs, the Jews extended the boundaries of what they called Israel.
- Palestinians claimed that they were dispossessed of their land by terror attacks by Jewish gangs.
- Thousands of Palestinians live in exile in many parts of the world. They also live in refugee camps in Gaza and the West Bank.
- Israel has continued to build settlements on land it has forcibly taken from Palestinians.
- Hard-line Israelis and Zionists claim that, according to their scriptures, Palestine rightfully belongs to the Jews.
- They thus use religion as a basis for their claim to the land.
- This is an example of religious nationalism as the Likud party came to power by promoting extremist views.
- Fundamentalism also plays a part as it is an extreme interpretation of the Jewish scriptures that is used to justify the Jews' claim to Palestine.
- Palestinians formed the PLO (Palestinian Liberation Organisation) under Yasser Arafat.
- In the early nineties, a split occurred in the PLO, and two political parties—the Palestinian Authority and HAMAS were formed.
- Hamas was formed through religious nationalism. Their spiritual leaders were also political advisors.
- There is no evidence of fundamentalism among the Palestinian political parties.
- This conflict is an example of how fundamentalism and religious nationalism can perpetuate a conflict.

Northern Ireland

- Northern Ireland is governed by the United Kingdom.
- Its population comprises both Catholics and Protestants.
- For many years, some Catholic groups gave fought for independence from Britain.
- One of them is Sinn Fein.
- They preferred unification with Ireland.
- However, the Protestants in Ireland resisted.

- This resulted in a civil war that has only recently been resolved.
- This conflict can be seen as religious nationalism, as the Catholics wanted religious unity with Ireland.
- It can also be seen as fundamentalist, as there was a desire not to accept Protestants into the resistance.

(20)

5.2 **Buddhism**

- They promote shared humanness.
- There is a shared aspiration of gaining happiness and avoiding suffering.

Christianity

- Love thy neighbour as you love yourself: This teaching encourages treating everyone equally.
- Thou shalt not kill: This refers to the sanctity of human life.

Islam

- There is no compulsion to convert to Islam-That is, proclaiming one's faith should be voluntary and sincere.This allows for freedom of religion.
- The institution of zakaat (charity) ensures that basic needs of food, shelter and clothing are satisfied.

African Traditional Religion

- The principle of ubuntu encourages helping one's community.
- The practice of Ilima is one in which the community provides help to those of its members who are indigent.

NOTE: Other teachings that relate to human rights must also be credited.

(20)

5.3. For the purpose of the memorandum, teachings from two religions are discussed. However, the learner must be credited for discussion of similar teachings from any religion.

Buddhism

- It promotes a shared humanness (unselfishness).
- There is a shared aspiration of gaining happiness, and avoiding suffering for all living things.
- A credo of Buddhism is 'There must be no harm to living creatures, including humans.'
- Buddhism has therefore never waged war to spread its teachings, as this would be a violation of basic human rights.
- The religion is propagated by service to humanity (clinics, schools, etc.).
- Buddhism allows freedom of choice in social relationships: one may practise rituals of other religions, but one's personal beliefs must remain Buddhist.

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Christianity

- 'Love thy neighbour as you love yourself.'
- This teaching encourages selflessness/treating everyone equally.
- 'Blessed is the hand that giveth.'
- This teaching encourages charity, which addresses basic human rights of food and shelter.
- 'Thou shalt not kill.'
- This refers to the sanctity and sacredness of human life.
- 'Love your wife as you love your own body.'
- This emphasises gender equality.

(10)
[50]

TOTAL SECTION B: 100
GRAND TOTAL: 150