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# basic education

Department:  
Basic Education  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

## **NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE**

**GRADE 12**

**RELIGION STUDIES P1**

**NOVEMBER 2023**

**MARKS: 150**

**TIME: 2 hours**

**This question paper consists of 12 pages.**

## **INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION**

1. This question paper consists of SECTION A and SECTION B.
2. SECTION A: COMPULSORY  
SECTION B: Answer any TWO questions in this section.
3. Read ALL the questions carefully.
4. Start EACH question on a NEW page.
5. The length of your answers must be in accordance with the marks allocated to each question.
6. Number the answers correctly according to the numbering system used in this question paper.
7. Write neatly and legibly.

**SECTION A (COMPULSORY)****QUESTION 1**

- 1.1 Various options are provided as possible answers to the following questions. Choose the answer and write only the letter (A–D) next to the question numbers (1.1.1 to 1.1.10) in the ANSWER BOOK, e.g. 1.1.11 D.

1.1.1 Conservatism is ...

- A a declaration of the World Parliament of Religions.
- B holding on to traditional, conventional values.
- C the protection of human rights.
- D the way that someone or something typically behaves. (1)

1.1.2 Followers of Hinduism call their divinity ...

- A Shema.
- B Ishwara/Ishvara.
- C Gandhi.
- D Dharma. (1)

1.1.3 Concerned with promoting unity among Christian churches:

- A Reformers
- B Missionaries
- C Eucharist
- D Ecumenical (1)

1.1.4 Someone who belongs to or follows a particular religion:

- A Adherent
- B Successor
- C Liberal
- D Harbinger (1)

1.1.5 The rebirth of the soul or spirit in a new body is called ...

- A karma.
- B reincarnation.
- C evolution.
- D regression. (1)

1.1.6 A belief that people are expected to accept without any doubts:

- A Dogma
- B Creed
- C Ideology
- D Doctrine (1)

- 1.1.7 In African Traditional Religion, the first-born male (inkulu) is the ...  
A person who oversees the serving of food in a ritual.  
B leader in ritual performances.  
C person responsible for slaughtering an animal.  
D person responsible for throwing bones in the performance of certain rituals. (1)
- 1.1.8 The head of Tibetan Buddhism is ...  
A David Suzuki.  
B Siddhartha Gautama.  
C Tenzin Gyatso.  
D Imam Bukhari. (1)
- 1.1.9 On the Bahá'í calendar, the Nineteen Day Feast is held on the ... day of each month.  
A last  
B nineteenth  
C first  
D seventh (1)
- 1.1.10 Muslims observe a month-long fast during ...  
A Hajj.  
B Zakat.  
C Muharram.  
D Ramadan. (1)
- 1.2 Complete the following sentences by filling in the missing word(s). Write only the word(s) next to the question numbers (1.2.1 to 1.2.6) in the ANSWER BOOK.
- 1.2.1 ... is a concept in Hinduism that says to never harm any living thing. (1)
- 1.2.2 A collection of sacred texts and stories of Buddhist origin is the ... (1)
- 1.2.3 The science of interpreting religious texts is called ... (1)
- 1.2.4 Religious observances intended to remind people of sacred occasions are called ... (1)
- 1.2.5 In African Traditional Religion, showing deep respect or reverence for the ancestors is referred to as ... (1)
- 1.2.6 A person who can enter Nirvana on his own merit is known as ... (1)

- 1.3 Choose a term from COLUMN B that matches the description in COLUMN A. Write only the letter (A–H) next to the question numbers (1.3.1 to 1.3.6) in the ANSWER BOOK. Do NOT use an answer more than once.

COLUMN A		COLUMN B	
1.3.1	Books which have absolute authority in a religion	A	Age of Aquarius
1.3.2	Reform Jews subscribe to this teaching	B	moksha
1.3.3	They believe that in the distant future, theirs will be the only religion in the world	C	canon
1.3.4	A time will come when humanity will be morally perfect	D	myth
1.3.5	A state of supreme spiritual liberation	E	Bahá'i faith
1.3.6	Religious stories in which deep truths about life are revealed	F	tikkun olam
		G	Messianic Age
		H	reincarnation

(6 x 1) (6)

- 1.4 Choose the word(s) in EACH list below that do(es) NOT match the rest. Write down the word(s) next to the question numbers (1.4.1 to 1.4.5) in the ANSWER BOOK. Give a reason why the answer does NOT fit.

EXAMPLE: Red, Yellow, Circle, Blue

ANSWER: Circle

REASON: The other three are colours.

1.4.1 Bahá'i faith, Judaism, Buddhism, Islam (2)

1.4.2 Talmud, Lao-tzu, Book of Mormon, Vedas (2)

1.4.3 Sanskrit, Shaktism, Shaivism, Vaishnavism (2)

1.4.4 Qur'an, Shabbat, Shahadah, Hadith (2)

1.4.5 Modimo, Hajj, Ubuntu, Ancestors (2)

- 1.5 Indicate whether the following statements are TRUE or FALSE. Write 'true' or 'false' next to the question numbers (1.5.1 to 1.5.6) in the ANSWER BOOK. Give a reason if the answer is FALSE.

1.5.1 According to the Taoist view, all of the world processes originate from ten thousand things. (2)

1.5.2 A Sufi leads congregational prayers in Islam. (2)

1.5.3 Pluralism is the mixing of different religious beliefs, resulting in a new belief system. (2)

1.5.4 The term 'smriti' in Hinduism means what is heard. (2)

1.5.5 Halakhah is the Jewish way of life set out in the Mitzvot. (2)

1.5.6 The Buddhist religion originated in China. (2)

- 1.6 In the context of religion, write TWO facts about EACH of the following:

1.6.1 Ubuntu (2)

1.6.2 Ramakrishna (2)

1.6.3 Monotheistic (2)

**TOTAL SECTION A: 50**

**SECTION B**

Answer any TWO questions in this section.

**QUESTION 2**

- 2.1 In the context of religion, give a brief explanation of EACH of the following concepts:
- 2.1.1 Identity (4)
  - 2.1.2 Difference (4)
  - 2.1.3 Ideology (4)
- 2.2 State any TWO unique features of EACH of the following religions:
- 2.2.1 Islam (4)
  - 2.2.2 Christianity (4)
  - 2.2.3 Taoism (4)
  - 2.2.4 Hinduism (4)
- 2.3 Explain the relationship between *religious teaching* and *religious belief*. (6)
- 2.4 What does African Traditional Religion teach about ancestors? (8)
- 2.5 Name the FOUR Noble Truths from the core teachings of Theravada Buddhism. (8)
- [50]**



**QUESTION 3**

3.1 Read the article below and answer the questions that follow.

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH VOTES TO KEEP BAN  
ON GAY CLERGY ORDINATION**

Philadelphia, PA USA, 26 February 2019

By Emmanuel Abalo

The United Methodist Church (UMC) at a Special Session in Missouri, the United States, on Tuesday voted to maintain its stance against lesbians, bisexuals, gays, transgenders and gay clergy\*. Reports of proceedings monitored by African Star say delegates at the Special Session of the second largest Protestant denomination of about 12,6 million people worldwide voted at the end of their meeting to maintain their opposition to same-sex marriage and gay clergy.

The decision is a victory for the conservative wing of the Church which drew support from the African Conference which is opposed to any liberalisation of Church doctrine to allow for ordination of gay clergy and performing marriage of same-sex couples. Vocal delegates from conservative areas in and out of the US played a pivotal role in defeating the 'One Plan' stream which was supported by the Council of Bishops as a way to sidestep the gay issue and leave it up to local dioceses to decide on them. Delegates instead opted to approve the 'Traditional Plan' which maintained a ban on the ordination of gay clergy and clergy performing wedding ceremonies of same-sex couples.

Following the vote, a delegate from the United Methodist Church in Liberia, West Africa, Reverend Jerry Kulah, said, 'The progressive groups are loud, but they don't have the numbers,' adding that, if the United Methodist Special Conference had voted to accept LGBT\*\* inclusion, it would have become a 'laughing stock' in Africa. 'I'm happy to go back to old ladies and old men in villages who received the Bible from missionaries and let them know that the Bible hasn't changed,' the Liberian Methodist prelate\*\*\* said.

The General Conference and Methodists worldwide had been dealing with this contentious issue which has threatened to divide the Church. Methodists now have to work to heal the hurt and divisions and reconcile from the bruising fight on gay issues.

\*clergy: designated religious leader by means of ordination

\*\*LGBT: lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender

\*\*\*prelate: a church official of higher rank

[Source: <http://www.africanstar.org>, February 2019]

3.1.1 With reference to the article, what does 'gay clergy ordination' mean?

(2)

- 3.1.2 Give the views of the following groups in the Conference:
- (a) 'One Plan' (2)
  - (b) 'Traditional Plan' (2)
- 3.1.3 Give possible reasons why Africa was in favour of the 'Traditional Plan'. (6)
- 3.1.4 Do you think the decision taken by the United Methodist Special Conference is in line with human rights? Give reasons for your answer. (8)
- 3.1.5 Do you think Emmanuel Abalo is biased in his report? Give FOUR reasons to support your answer. (8)
- 3.2 In what ways has the South African media changed its coverage of religion after the 1994 democratic elections? (10)
- 3.3 The Baha'i faith and Taoism are two religions which receive minor or no coverage in South African mainstream media. Give SIX possible reasons for this. (12)
- [50]**

**QUESTION 4**

4.1 Read the extract below and answer the following questions.

**NORTHERN IRELAND CONFLICT**

By Michael Hirst  
BBC News  
Published 14 April 2021

Nearly 90 police officers have been hurt in Northern Ireland's worst street violence for years, after sporadic rioting in several towns and cities since the end of March. The governments in Belfast, London and Dublin have condemned the unrest, with the US calling for calm as police used water cannons for the first time in six years. Eighteen people have been arrested and 15 charged after crowds of predominantly loyalist youths attacked lines of riot police officers and vehicles with bricks, fireworks and petrol bombs.

Violence involving gangs of youths started on 29 March in an area of Londonderry that is loyalist – in favour of keeping Northern Ireland as part of the United Kingdom. On the night of 7 April, the fighting spilled over a so-called peace wall in west Belfast that divides predominantly Protestant loyalist communities from predominantly Catholic nationalist communities who want to see a united Ireland. A gate that divides the two was smashed open and, during several hours of disorder, police officers and a press photographer were attacked and a bus was hijacked and burned.

The clashes raised concerns of escalating sectarian tensions. Parts of Northern Ireland are still split along sectarian lines, 23 years after a peace deal largely ended the Troubles in Northern Ireland – which lasted almost 30 years and cost the lives of more than 3 500 people.

While there are no clear indications that the unrest is being orchestrated by an organised group, the violence has been concentrated in areas where criminal gangs linked to loyalist paramilitaries have significant influence.

[Adapted from <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-56664378>]

- 4.1.1 On which continent is Northern Ireland located? (2)
- 4.1.2 Name TWO parties that are involved in this conflict. (4)
- 4.1.3 Briefly explain the cause of division between the two warring parties. (4)
- 4.1.4 This conflict may be described as intra-religious. What does *intra-religious* mean? (2)
- 4.1.5 To what extent is religion part of this conflict? Substantiate your answer. (8)

- 4.2 What practical steps can religious organisations follow to resolve religious conflicts? (10)
- 4.3 With reference to any ONE religion you have studied, discuss its teachings about war. (10)
- 4.4 State FIVE possible reasons why South Africa has no interreligious conflict. (10)
- [50]**

**QUESTION 5**

Read the article below and answer the questions that follow.

**THE RELIGIOUS BASIS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, TOLERANCE AND RESPECT**

In the early 2000s, there was an uproar in France when young Muslim girls tried to attend schools wearing traditional Muslim dress. The French say, 'You are free to practise your religion in religious or private buildings, but not on government property'. Yet, this very law is forcing traditional Muslims to 'sin' against their religion, in France.

[Source: *Shuters Top Class Religion Studies*, page 206]

- 5.1 What type of government does France have? (2)
- 5.2 Briefly explain the concept *religious freedom* AND give an example. (4)
- 5.3 Why do you think religious practices are not allowed on French government properties? (4)
- 5.4 The scenario above indicates a period of religious intolerance in France.  
  
Explain how religious communities can respond to these government restrictions. (6)
- 5.5 Do you think religion should be regulated by the state? Substantiate your answer. (6)
- 5.6 Do you think that a secular state has greater respect for human rights than a religious state? Motivate your answer. (6)
- 5.7 Briefly discuss the issue of human rights with specific reference to freedom of expression. (6)
- 5.8 State TWO possible disadvantages of EACH of the following:
- 5.8.1 A country that has a state religion (4)
- 5.8.2 A country that promotes freedom of religion (4)
- 5.9 As a youth leader, what practical suggestions can you give the youth of South Africa in order to build religious tolerance? (8)
- [50]**

**TOTAL SECTION B: 100**  
**GRAND TOTAL: 150**