

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA  
 DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES  
 BA DEGREE PROGRAMME IN SOCIAL SCIENCES – (2021/2022)  
 FINAL EXAMINATION - LEVEL III (SEMESTER II)  
 DSU3552 – UNDERSTANDING SRI LANKAN SOCIETY & CULTURE  
 DURATION: THREE HOURS (03 HOURS)



Date: 19.02.2023

Time: 9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

Answer five (05) questions only. Each question carries 20 marks.

1. Explain the concepts of culture and society with relevant examples from Sri Lankan society and culture?
2. Can there be a link between the kinship and the land tenure system in Sri Lanka? Discuss with reference to the sociological and anthropological studies conducted in Sri Lanka.
3. "Sri Lanka is a stratified society where caste and class play a key role in grouping people." Discuss the contribution of concepts such as caste and class in the formation of Sri Lankan society and culture.
4. How can we analyse the role played by religious leaders such as Buddhist monks, Catholic and Muslim priests in the protests organized by the common people in Sri Lanka? Explain your answer citing relevant examples.
5. Describe the nature of ethno-religious nationalism in Sri Lanka in the post-struggle (struggle or *aragalaya* happened in front of the Presidential Secretariat last year) period.
6. What are the features of a militarised society? Prepare a list of characteristics of a militarised society and write short notes on any **three (03)** from your list.
7. Does war necessarily cause displacement of people both nationally and internationally? Explain your answer giving relevant Sri Lankan examples.
8. Prepare a list of recently completed sociological and anthropological research in Sri Lanka. Briefly describe any **two (02)** research of your choice.
9. Write short notes on any **FOUR (04)** of the following:
  - (i) Emile Durkheim's explanation on deviance.
  - (ii) Sri Lankan culture and peoples protests or "*aragalaya*" in Sri Lanka.
  - (iii) Religious syncretism and religious pluralism.
  - (iv) Hindu and Muslim revival in Sri Lanka.
  - (v) *Lajja/ awamanam* (shame) and *baya/ payam* (fear) as a social control mechanism.
  - (vi) Corruption as a major problem in all levels in Sri Lanka.
  - (vii) Constructing "Tamilness" and "Muslimness".

