

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
 DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES
 BA DEGREE IN SOCIAL SCIENCES – LEVEL 4
 FINAL EXAMINATION – 2024/2025 (Semester I)
 DSU4641 - LIVING POLITICAL IDEAS
 DURATION: THREE (03) ONLY



Date: 30.03.2025

Time: 1.30 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.

Instructions:

- There are Nine (09) questions in this paper.
- Answer ONLY Five (05) questions.
- Each question carries Twenty (20) marks.

1. Examine the significance of the existence of diverse political ideas in society.
(20 marks)
2. "Citizens do not always obey the state". Discuss with examples.
(20 marks)
3. How do governments restrict the freedoms and liberties of their citizens? Analyze with examples from **two (02)** different political systems of your choice.
(20 marks)
4. Discuss the gap between the aspirations and the realities of human rights functioning in contemporary society.
(20 marks)
5. Analyze the main arguments against democracy, considering both its strengths and weaknesses.
(20 marks)
6. "In multi-ethnic societies like Sri Lanka, majoritarian democracy can often result in the political exclusion of minority groups". Discuss this statement.
(20 marks)
7. "Social discrimination is aggravated by economic inequality". Discuss with examples.
(20 marks)
8. Explain the role of violence in politics, focusing on the arguments presented by Niccolò Machiavelli and Thomas Hobbes.
(20 marks)

P.T.O

9. Write short notes on any **two (02)** of the following topics.

- a. John Rawls' Theory of Justice.
- b. Class struggle in Marxism.
- c. Socialist critique of Liberal Democracy.
- d. Radical Democracy.
- e. Republicanism.
- f. Democracy to come.

(10 marks each)

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