

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
 DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES
 BA DEGREE PROGRAMME IN SOCIAL SCIENCES – (2016/2017)
 FINAL EXAMINATION – LEVEL IV (SEMESTER I)
 RELIGION, SOCIETY AND CULTURE – SSU2155



DURATION: THREE HOURS (03 HOURS)

Date: 2016.11.08

Time: 1.30 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.

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

1. Do you think that the modern urban person is rational and religions do not play a decisive role in shaping his/ her social life? Discuss.
2. “Today people talk more about religious movements rather than regarding religions as static organizations.” Discuss this statement citing examples from contemporary religious practices.
3. Are religious syncretism and religious pluralism same concepts? Compare and contrast these concepts highlighting relevant examples.
4. Discuss the social, cultural and economic reasons contributing to the religious revival movements in Sri Lanka.
5. Compare and contrast any **two (2)** selected theoretical perspectives on religions.
6. Discuss the similarities and differences of religious affiliations and political party loyalties among Sri Lankans.
7. Can we remove “rituals” from religions? Critically discuss.
8. Write short notes on any **four (4)** of the following:
 - (i) History of the link between the state and religion
 - (ii) Radical Islam, Radical Buddhism or radical Hinduism
 - (iii) Religious competitions
 - (iv) Religious leaders and civil right movements
 - (v) Religious practices among youth in Sri Lanka
 - (vi) Religious pluralism in northern and eastern provinces in Sri Lanka
 - (vii) Religious coexistence in post-war Sri Lanka