

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
 DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES
 BA DEGREE PROGRAMME IN SOCIAL SCIENCES – (2018/2019)
 FINAL EXAMINATION - LEVEL III (SEMESTER II)
 DSU3552/SSU1252 – UNDERSTANDING SRI LANKAN SOCIETY & CULTURE
 DURATION: THREE HOURS (03 HOURS)



Date: 20.07.2019

Time: 9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

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

1. Why it is so important in explaining Sri Lankan society and culture through a sociological perspective? Discuss.
2. "Caste and class still determine human interactions among the Sri Lankans who live in very much internationally connected world". Examine this statement.
3. What are the differences between Sinhalese Buddhism and Protestant Buddhism? Explain.
4. "Today's Muslim identity is an outcome of historical Muslim revival movement shaped by inter-ethnic competition for state power". Examine this statement.
5. Discuss the effectiveness of various development schemes introduced by different governments of the post-independent Sri Lanka in addressing the socio-economic problems of the peasants?
6. How do studies (including action research) on women in Sri Lanka help to explain Sri Lankan society and culture? Discuss.
7. Describe the relationship between the war/internal riots and displacement with reference to examples from Sri Lanka.
8. Discuss the social and cultural dimensions connected with rebuilding communities after a disaster.
9. Write short notes on any FOUR (04) of the following:
 - (i) The cultural underpinnings of mob violence
 - (ii) Caste and class relationship
 - (iii) The culture of checkpoints
 - (iv) Collective trauma
 - (v) Inter-ethnic marriages in Sri Lanka
 - (vi) "Tamilness"/ "Muslimness"/ "Sinhaleseness"
 - (vii) Politicisation of Sri Lankan society and culture

(5 marks x 4=20 marks)