DURATION – THREE (03) HOURS

Date: 06th July 2008   Time: 1.30 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.

Answer three (03) questions only.

1. "Applying the hypothetical original position described by John Rawls in "A Theory of Justice" has a role in enhancing the deliberations concerning the principles which should regulate the basic structure of society". Do you agree that the above statement is relevant to your own society? Discuss with reference to economic and social development in Sri Lanka since independence. Would your answer be different if you apply the concept of 'Overlapping Consensus' that Rawls discusses in Political Liberalism?

2. "In Butler, resistance is always imagined as personal, more or less private, involving no organized public action for legal or institutional change. Butlerian feminism is in many ways easier than the old feminism". Critically discuss the above statement in light of the views expressed by Judith Butler on gender and the impact of the concept of the "performitivity" of gender.

3. "At the heart of Nussbaum's Liberal Theory of Justice and Human Rights is Amartya Sen's concept of substantial freedoms or capabilities". Discuss.

4. Discuss and analyse the evolution of Isaiah Berlin's concept of pluralism and critically evaluate its value for dealing with problems of identity and conflict.

5. Critically analyse Dahrendorf's ideas on conflict in modern society.

6. Discuss how Hannah Arendt conceptualized politics as an empowering and enabling dimension in social life.

7. Outline the salient features of Gandhi's views on caste and how they developed over the period of his public life in India. Who was Dr. Ambedkar, and in what respect did his approach to caste differ from that of Gandhi?

8. What is the Prisoner's Dilemma? Give illustrations of
    (a)   two Persons Prisoners' Dilemma
    (b)   multi Party Prisoners' Dilemma