



THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
MA DEGREE IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AND PUBLIC POLICY
2013/2014

MARGA – THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA COLLABORATIVE
PROGRAMME

FINAL EXAMINATION 2014 – LEVEL VII

SSP1225/1218 – POLITICAL FUNDAMENTALS OF DEVELOPMENT

DURATION: THREE (03) HOURS

Date: 06th April 2014

Time: 9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

Answer four (04) questions only. Each question carries 25 marks.

1. As recognized by Aristotle, the formation of any community requires a common good and the objective of the political community is good actions. Discuss.
2. Discuss the following with special reference to the article on ‘Social Contract’ authored by Stanford Political Scientist Williamson M Evers (1977).
 - (a) Position of Locke that the human will is governed by a person's judgment and understanding
 - (b) The arguments/key positions rooted in Paul Beaird's work that a government derives its just powers from the consent of the governed
3. Explain the significance of the Ten-fold virtues of the rulers known as ‘Dasavidha-rajadharna’ derived from Emperor Ashoka in the context of developing countries like Sri Lanka

Or

Explain the significance of the Concept of 'Amanah' or 'Trust to fulfill' explained in the article titled, Qur'anic Guidance on Good Governance authored by Ibrahim M. Zein

4. The security impact of ‘Weak and Failed States’ is now globally felt. Hence, critically explain five major pathologies identified by Edward Newman in his article ‘Failed States and International Order’

Or

Discuss the Major attributes identified with the 'Nation State' as an ideal.

5. Discuss five essential elements of Democracy adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2004 and discuss them with reference to the Sri Lankan democratic system.
6. Explain the special significance of the Indian Model of Secularism highlighted by Rajeev Bhargava.
7. Critically discuss the following positions:
 - (a) Strong civil society ensures democracy, and
 - (b) A democracy ensures a strong civil society
8. Discuss 'power' as a concept in human empowerment in the developing world.
9. Fascism is certainly one of the most controversial and misused terms in the history of the modern world. Discuss.

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