

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
 POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AND PUBLIC
 POLICY (2007-2008)
 (A COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMME OF THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF
 SRI LANKA AND MARGA INSTITUTE)
 FINAL EXAMINATION – 2008
 SSP 1218 – POLITICAL FUNDAMENTALS OF DEVELOPMENT



DURATION: THREE (03) HOURS

Date: 22nd November 2008

Time 9.30 a.m. — 12.30 p.m.

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

1. “From ancient Greece to the modern period the political philosophers highlighted ethical principles to be incorporated into the political system of a country”. Discuss.
2. Write short notes on the following:
 - (a) Aristotle’s view of human nature
 - (b) Natural Law
3. Write a brief essay on the European social contract theory.
4. “Democracy refers to the idea that political rule should, in some sense, be in the hands of ordinary people” – Identify the elements that could translate this idea into practice of institutionalized popular rule.
5. Examine any three (03) of the following
 - (a) Formal Democracy
 - (b) Liberal Democracy
 - (c) Representative Democracy
 - (d) Social Democracy
6. What is “civil society”? Examine the importance of civil society in the functioning of democracy.
7. Briefly describe Robert Dhal’s “fundamentals of democracy”. Comment upon the importance of these principles.
8. How do you define the welfare state? Distinguish between different types of welfare states in modern democratic societies and examine whether Sri Lanka possesses all the features that characterise the modern welfare state.