THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES
BA DEGREE PROGRAMME IN SOCIAL SCIENCES - (2025/26)
FINAL EXAMINATION - LEVEL - IV (SEMESTER - I)
DSU4353: KINSHIP, FAMILY AND MARRIAGE
DURATION: THREE HOURS (03 HOURS)

Date: 02nd May 2026 **Time: 1.30 pm - 430 pm**

Answer only five (05) questions.
Each question carries equal marks (20 Marks).
Write legibly.

1) Why was the study of kinship historically central to the discipline of anthropology? Explain.

2) "Kinship is a cultural construct rather than a biological fact." Discuss this statement with appropriate theoretical insights and examples.

3) Critically examine how descent and alliance theories of kinship differ in explaining social organization?

4) How does "Role theory" explain the necessity of the incest taboo? Explain.

5) How did colonialism and the Buddhist revival transform marriage practices in Sri Lanka? Discuss with examples.

6) Examine the feminist critique of the family as a social institution.

7) Critically discuss whether companionate marriage necessarily enhance women's agency. Provide examples.

8) Evaluate how modern reproductive technologies have influenced kinship connections and family structures. Provide appropriate examples.

9) Write short notes on any four (04) of the following topics.
    a) Kinship diagrams
    b) Decent systems
    c) Marriage types
    d) Marriage rules
    e) Family types

*****Copyrights Reserved*****