



education

Department:
Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE

GRADE 12

RELIGION STUDIES P2

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2010

MEMORANDUM

MARKS: 150

This memorandum consists of 10 pages.

QUESTION 1

- 1.1 1.1.1 Christianity
The nature of divinity
- Christians believe in one Supreme God.
 - God manifests himself as three persons: The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit.
 - This doctrine is called the Holy Trinity.
 - God the Father sent his Son, Jesus into the world.
 - The Holy Spirit in turn sent the church into the world to continue God's missionary work. (10)
- 1.1.2 The nature of humanity, with reference to community and the individual
- In the creation story found in Genesis, God created humanity.
 - The creation of humanity is seen as the climax of the manifestation of God's glory.
 - Humans were found in the likeness of God and were infused with the breath of God, unlike animals.
 - God created Adam and Eve for companionship.
 - The Three Persons of the Holy Trinity communicate and consult among each other in the same way individuals have to look after one another and protect one another.
 - In the Christian view no person should dominate and exploit any other. (10)
- 1.1.3 The origin of and the nature of evil
- In the Christian view, God did not create evil.
 - He created a perfect world and a perfect human being.
 - Evil was introduced later, when Adam and Eve disobeyed God's command.
 - The Christians call that 'sin', and evil comes from sin.
 - Christians believe that evil is often used by Satan. (10)
- 1.1.4 Life after death
- The Christians believe that humans were created immortal.
 - This means that they were created to live for ever.
 - Adam and Eve disobeyed God's command.
 - The penalty for this sin was death, not just for Adam and Eve, but for all humans.
 - Jesus came to earth to die for the sins of humans.
 - As a result Christians will only suffer physical death.
 - Christians envisage a new community that will be marked by love. (10)

- 1.2
- Grammar and historical context
 - Clearest meaning – Original language
 - Plan, purpose and context
 - Meaning of words
 - Figurative language
 - Use of other related sacred texts
 - Other hermeneutical principles applied to other religions.
 - Allegorical, Metaphorical and Mystical methods.

(10)
[50]

QUESTION 2

2.1 The impact of the problem

- It results in high stress levels
- There is loss of productivity.
- Tourism to S.A. is negatively affected, resulting in job losses and poverty.
- Property prices in high crime areas loses value, and the area becomes a slum.
- Crime levels lead to disinvestment. .
- High crime results in "brain drain" -highly skilled people emigrating.
- Security forces are under severe strain
- There is a booming security industry

(6)

2.2. The viewpoints of any TWO RELIGIONS on the issue of crime

Islamic perspective:

- Islamic law (Shariah) values the community over the individual.
- A person who has committed a crime against the community is tried in court, and punished according to the law if found guilty.
- There is great emphasis placed on authenticity of witnesses and other evidence.
- The concept of Qisas (blood money, applies in the event of accidental death. This is payable by relatives if the accused is poor.
- The death penalty applies in the case of murder, rape or witchcraft.
- For habitual thieves, their limbs are amputated.
- The harsh punishment serves as a deterrent.
- A person who has paid his/her debt to society is assimilated back into society.

ATR

- Crime can be described as a wilful disturbance of communal order
- A fundamental principle of existence in ATR is "I am related, therefore I am" (Ubuntu)
- This guarantees security to an individual within the ATR community
- An individual is bound to protect and promote life
- This is so because in ATR life is considered to be good
- The perpetrator of crime is either reconciled or is ostracised from the community, depending on the nature of the crime

Hinduism

- In Hinduism, any injustice to another being is considered evil or criminal
- Vices such as greed, lust etc are the causes of crime
- In terms of the Law of karma, one reaps as one sows
- Every person is regarded as potentially divine
- Therefore an injustice to any being is regarded as injustice against the Creator
- Each crime is judged according to its circumstances (10 x 2) (20)

2.3 Practical steps that religious organisations can take to address the problem

- Religious organisations should focus on moral regeneration (love thy neighbour, law of karma, etc)
- Quote examples from religious sources to illustrate high levels of morality-how spiritual leaders controlled temptation
- Define good and evil impact of actions on oneself and others
- Praise good conduct
- Point out the negative impact of the media in glorifying crime
- Encourage charity, and caring for one another
- Increase community responsibility in preventing crime-(CPF)
- Report criminal activity to police
- Hold police and government accountable
- Inter-faith co-operation should have joint strategies to address crime
- Skills development programmes should target out-of-school youth
- Such programmes should be non –denominational and open to non-religious persons.
- Organise sporting and cultural events
- Make representations to government,
- Recognise traditional law and penal code.
- Visit prisons to address spiritual needs of inmates (14)

2.4 Conclusion and personal view on the issue

- Religious organisations should focus on moral regeneration (love thy neighbour, law of karma, etc)
- Quote examples from religious sources to illustrate high levels of morality-how spiritual leaders controlled temptation
- Define good and evil-impact of actions on oneself and others
- Praise good conduct
- Point out the negative impact of the media in glorifying crime
- Encourage charity, and caring for one another
- Increase community responsibility in preventing crime-(CPF)
- Report criminal activity to police
- Hold police and government accountable
- Inter-faith co-operation should have joint strategies to address crime
- Skills development programmes should target out-of-school youth
- Such programmes should be non denominational-open to non-religious persons.
- Organise sporting and cultural events
- Make representations to government,
- Recognise traditional law and penal code.
- Visit prisons to address spiritual needs of inmates

(10)
[50]

QUESTION 3

- 3.1.
- The relationship between religion and the natural sciences, has not always been one of conflict.
 - Science is something human beings have done in all cultures for centuries and so is religion.
 - It is an old relationship ,e.g. astronomy was a science in which religion and daily human needs were almost impossible to separate.
 - Religious festivals celebrated the summer and winter solstices in many cultures.
 - During the lifetime of Copernicus, astronomers were having problems with the geocentric and Christian view.
 - The Catholic Church was relatively silent about the new theory at first.
 - Trouble began as evidence grew against old theories.
 - Both Copernicus and Galileo dedicated their books to Popes.
 - The new ideas seemed to challenge the Christian view of God's perfection and his reason for creation.
 - A period of conflict arose with the view that traditional religious views are true while much of science is untrue and dangerous.
 - Many people predicted that Darwin's ideas about evolution would mean the end of religion.
 - Science is about facts ; religion about values. Science is about how things happen; religion is about why things happen.
 - The present relation between science and religion is becoming one of sharing knowledge and respect.
 - Religious people can use many strategies to harmonise science and religion positively.
 - It seems that science and religion, rather than competing with each other, in fact complete each other.
- (30)

3.2 Hindu view compared to the Middle-Eastern view

- To Hindus, the universe is the Creator.
- The Creator has existed and will exist for all time.
- The Creator has no limitations and therefore is not a he, a she.
- The Creator exists in either an active or a passive state.
- The Middle Eastern view, the Creator is male.
- At first only the Creator exists.
- The Creator then makes the universe from nothing.
- The universe is a separate thing, it can go back to being nothing if the Creator wants.
- The Hindu view, is that creation took a long time and is continuously happening.
- Creation moves from the passive to the active state.
- The Middle Eastern view is , that the process of creation took six days.

- Humans were made on the sixth day.
- The first two humans were Adam and Eve.
- In the Middle Eastern view, human history is about trying to reconnect with the will of the Creator so that life can be lived in line with the Creator's laws.
- At the end of time the universe that we see will be replaced by paradise.
- Hindu scriptures explain how humans can go about purifying themselves so that they will eventually recognise the God within themselves

(20)
[50]

QUESTION 4

4.1. The historical relationship between different religions.

- Every religion has perceptions about other religions
- However inter-religious relationship refers to organisations that foster co-operation among religions of the world
- One such body is the WCRP (World Conference on Religion and Peace)
- Another is the World Council of Churches (WCC)
- In addition , in South Africa, there is the National Religious Leaders' Forum as well as the South African Council of Churches.
- In 1893, the World's Parliament of religions was held in Chicago
- Both Western and Eastern religions were represented
- Swami Vivekananda's speeches introduced Hindu thought to the Western world, so that in future it would not be easily misunderstood
- There were no representatives of ATR or native American religions

(10)

4.2 The development of inter-religious dialogue.

- Humanity is divided by nationalist, ethnic and religious differences
- These rivalries are written into history books and passed on to future generations
- Discriminatory practices are also perpetuated by government policies
- There is an urgent need to develop education programmes to promote inter-faith dialogue
- Our mixed societies need to develop respect, tolerance and understanding of differences
- Many religious communities have taken the initiative in promoting peace and resolving conflict
- Religions for Peace, has led the way for developing a curriculum to promote tolerance and peace
- Peace educators help learners to develop a strategy for tolerance, based on their own belief systems
- Peace education has been successful in Israel, Thailand and Japan
- The African Council of Religious Leaders (ACRL) was held in Nigeria in 2003. This initiative aims to improve relationships between Islam and Christianity.

(20)

4.3 The situation between religions in today's world as a global village

- Population migration has reached unprecedented levels in the 20th and 21st centuries as a result of global trade, wars and natural disasters
- Increasing migration of the world's population creates a mix of diverse religions and cultures in nearly all parts of the world
- This can create suspicions and tensions among different religions
- A shift to democratic forms of government requires all religions to be represented in government structures
- The WCRP and other such organisations are playing a significant role in addressing social challenges such as HIV/AIDS, and poverty
- The World Parliament of Religions had a second event in 1993.
- This had greater representation of the world's religion
- It issued and approved a document called "Towards a Global Ethic". It emphasises interdependence, respect and individual responsibility for world peace
- The 1999 Parliament was held in Cape Town, and was attended by some 7000 delegates
- While there are most global conflicts involve people of different faiths, these are not religious wars
- The major cause of conflict is political in nature, and religion is exploited for political gain.

(20)
[50]

QUESTION 5

5.1. Examples-Christianity and ATR

Intro:

- Normative means that which creates standards or tending to lay down standards
- The Christian Bible (Old and New Testaments) was once only orally transmitted, passed from one generation to another
- This is known as oral tradition
- Early Christians would tell about events and instructions from the past generations from a stock of oral memory
- This would happen within Christian circles who adhered to their religion
- Efforts were made to commit these events and instructions (as told) to writing, as in the New Testament at a later date.
- Today Christians generally use the Bible (Old and New Testaments) as their normative sources.
- On the other hand ATR only has oral tradition as a normative source
- Like in early Christianity, ATR religious events and instructions are carried down from one generation to the other by word of mouth
- The difference is that ATR has not committed these to writing.
- Apart from being oral, the central teachings of ATR remains unchanged

- The elders in the family are responsible for transmitting information to the next generation
- This is not done in strictly formal settings like a church, as in Christianity
- It is done through daily life practices, as in the past
- The myths, legends, stories, folk tales, songs and dances reflect religious norms and practices that the next generation copy and practice as they live
- There are recent attempts to commit ATR oral normative sources into writing
- This is done by way of recording basic beliefs of the religion, rites of passage, survival of religion under colonial rule, history of resistance, etc. (30)

5.2 Eg.1: Buddhism

Introduction

- To a Buddhist, the world is one of millions of worlds
- In each of these worlds, a Buddha will rediscover the true nature of reality
- The nature of the world in Buddhism is a cycle of being born and reborn

Nature of divinity

- Divinity in Buddhism is not eternal
- It eventually dies and is reborn
- The new divinity will then have its own Buddha
- Lay Buddhists pray to local gods to be enlightened, following Buddha's instructions
- The cycle is repeated

Nature of the community and the individual

- Humans have no special status—they are mortal, like all other creatures
- However, they have higher intelligence than other creatures
- If they reach nirvana, they may be reborn as gods
- Gods may be born as humans
- The cycle of reality starts again

The place and responsibility of humanity

- Being born a human is rare and precious
- Humanity is the only condition in which enlightenment is possible
- Human reincarnation is also rare and precious
- However, recent Buddhist teachings engage with the here and now
- This is to reduce suffering in the world that renews itself in the cycle of born and reborn

The origin and role of evil

- In Buddhism ignorance is the cause of evil
- Evil, in Buddhism, has no origin, because reality itself has no origin
- Universes arise, last for a while, and they disappear. so do ignorant inhabitants
- Ignorance wins over truth until Buddhism disappears
- Buddhism eventually reappears with a new reality and its Buddhas

Eg.2 Christianity

Intro

- Prior to creation, there was chaos
- To Christians, creation (world) was brought into being in six days ,by the power of God
- The world was a perfect place, and God was in charge
- Humans were given responsibility for the world
- Humans play an important role in the ongoing process of creation

Nature of divinity

- God is experienced in Christianity as three persons
- God the (father) ,as Creator:
- God the Son as saviour, and
- the Holy Spirit, to sustain creation

Nature of the individual and the community

- In Christianity, humanity is created in the likeness of God
- It has the responsibility of caring for the world and creation
- For humanity to maintain the perfect world, it needs to have mutual love
- Humanity can only do this in consultation with the Trinity

Place and responsibility of humanity in the world

- God created a perfect world
- Humanity,s role was to maintain this perfect world
- Humanity is only accountable to God, for whatever happens in the world

The origin and role of evil

- Evil was not created by God
- It was introduced by Satan
- Satan wanted to defile God's perfect world
- Evil causes dissention and strife in the world

(20)
[50]**TOTAL: 150**