



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
ARE 103: SOCIOLOGY OF RELIGION
SUPPLEMENTARY/ SPECIAL EXAMINATION

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer questions ONE and any other TWO questions.

1. (a) Define the term, “Sociology of Religion.” **(2 marks)**
(b) Give the importance of studying sociology of religion. **(5 marks)**
(c) Briefly explain the following with regard to sociology of religion:
 - Sacred and profane **(4 marks)**
 - Totem and taboo **(4 marks)**
 - Religion as collective conscience **(5 marks)**(d) Discuss the sociological functions of religion in a society **(10 marks)**
2. Using examples, discuss the Marxist perspective on the role of religion in society. **(20 marks)**
3. (a) Give the historical account of gender inequality in religion. **(5 marks)**
(b) Using examples, explain the role of religion as a contributing and impeding factor in social change. **(15 marks)**
4. (a) Explain how religion can foster social integration. **(8 marks)**.
(b) In what ways can religion emerge as a key factor in conflict situations **(12 marks)**
5. (a) Distinguish between church, denomination, sect and cult. **(4 marks)**
(b) Give the characteristics of sects **(6 marks)**
(c) Describe the causes of New Age Movements in Kenya **(10 marks)**