education

Department:
Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE

GRADE 12

RELIGION STUDIES P1

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2009

MEMORANDUM

MARKS: 150

This memorandum consists of 14 pages.

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QUESTION 1 (COMPULSORY)

1.1. From each group of words below, write down the word that does NOT fit. Write only the word that does not fit next to the question number (1.1.1 – 1.1.5) in the ANSWER BOOK. Give a reason for your answer in EACH case.

1.1.1 African Traditional Religion: The others are from the cluster of Abrahamic religions while African Traditional Religion is indigenous to Africa. (2)

1.1.2 Qur'an: Qur'an is an Islamic scripture while the others are Hindu scriptures. (2)

1.1.3 Baha'u'llah: Baha'u'llah is the founder of the Baha'i Faith while the others are linked to Islam. (2)

1.1.4 English: English is the modern day language while the others are ancient languages in which sacred scriptures were writen. (2)

1.1.5 Judgment Day: Judgment Day is a belief of Abrahamic Faiths while the others are beliefs of Eastern religions. (2)

1.2 Choose the correct word(s) from those given in brackets. Write only the word(s) next to the question number (1.2.1 – 1.2.5) in the ANSWER BOOK.

1.2.1 **African Traditional Religion** states that 'when a human being dies, he/she departs to the land of the spirits'. (2)

1.2.2 Catholicism and Protestantism are the two main dIvisions of **Christianity**. (2)

1.2.3 **Parables** are used by religious adherents to bring across a moral or philosophical idea. (2)

1.2.4 Jewish worship takes place in a **synagogue**. (2)

1.2.5 Baha'u'llah's oldest son is **Abdu'-Baha**. (2)

1.3. Define the following concepts in the context of religion:

1.3.1 Dogma: a principle or tenet, particularly as laid down by a collective religious authority, or a doctrine which is accepted without questioning. (2)

1.3.2 Ideology: a set of principles with religious undertones about how a society should be ordered. (2)

1.3.3 Doctrine: a systematic religious teaching. (2)

1.3.4 Comparability: the fact that two things (e.g. religions) may be compared as far as similarities and differences are concerned. (2)

1.3.5 Belief: a conviction that something is true. (2)

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1.4 Briefly explain the concept of the *Supreme Being* as understood in African Traditional Religions.
- ATR argues that the Supreme Being cannot be known, described or defined, as one knows a particular animal or a human being. God is not knowable in this sense. God is always the object of belief. (2)

1.5. What is the meaning of *Tawhid*?
- It is divine unity, and affirms the oneness of God. *Tawhid* is the basis of all religious knowledge, history, metaphysics, aesthetics and ethics in Islam. (2)

1.6. Name the TWO parts that make up the Christian Bible.
- Old Testament – (39 books).
- New Testament – (27 books). (4)

1.7. Name the FOUR goals to be achieved by Hindus.
- *Dharma*
- *Artha*
- *Karma*
- *Moksha* (8)

1.8. What is a *Sutta*?
- In Buddhism, it refers to the words of the Buddha. (2)

1.9. Explain the term *Kosher*.
- That which is permissible in the Jewish religion. (2)

TOTAL SECTION A: 50

SECTION B

Choose any TWO questions from the FOUR given below.

QUESTION 2

2.1 With reference to the internal differentiations in Islam, answer the following questions:

2.1.1 Give a brief explanation of what caused the division of Islam into two main groups.
- After the death of the prophet one group of Muslims elected the prophet's close friend Abu Bakr to be the next leader.
- The group that supported Abu Bakr became known as Sunni.
- The other group believed that the leadership of the Muslim community should remain within the prophet's family.
- They believed that Ali (the cousin and son-in-law of Muhammad) held the divine right to his position.
- This group of Muslims became known as Shi'ah. (10)

2.1.2 The two groups of Islam share a common set of beliefs. List ANY FOUR beliefs.

- They believe that there is only one God and His name is Allah.
- They believe in his Angels.
- They believe in his Books.
- They believe in his messengers.
- They believe in Judgment day.
- They believe in divine Decree, positive or negative. (8)

2.2 Briefly discuss the internal differentiations that exist within the Christian religion.

- The Christian religion consists of three (3) main branches, namely Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, and Protestant.
- The Catholic Church claims to be the original Christian church founded by Jesus Christ, built on the authority of St Peter.
- They teach that God consists in three distinct yet equal Persons, namely the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
- The Eastern Orthodox Church claims that it is a continuation of the original church founded by Jesus Christ.
- The reasons for the split between the Eastern and the Western churches were political and doctrinal.
- The Western Church taught that the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son. The Eastern (Orthodox) Church did not agree.
- Eastern Orthodox Churches are different from Catholicism in that there is no single leader.
- In the Eastern Orthodox Church authority is in the hands of a group of bishops.
- Clergy need not be celibate and are allowed to marry.
- Protestantism did not believe that salvation is something that had to be earned. It is a free gift from God, by the grace of God.
- John Calvin, John Wesley and others founded a variety of other Protestant churches. (12)

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2.3 From the list given below, select ANY TWO religions and discuss the uniqueness of each.

- African Traditional Religion
- Hinduism
- Judaism

The following grid may be used as a guide for marking purposes:

Criteria	Max. Mark	Learner's Mark
Unique features of Judaism		
• Judaism is a monotheistic religion, when most other religions of the time were polytheistic. • God is righteous and at work in the natural and social order. • God is seen as having human qualities – a father, king, shepherd, as well as wrathful and judging; God is loving. • God entered into a covenant with the people of Israel. • God revealed Himself and His Law to the Jews. • God chose Jews as bearers of "the special light", so that in their history the world can see the presence of their God.	(10)	
Unique features of African Traditional Religion		
• African religion has no founder, but elders are the leaders. • All African religions believe in God as Creator. • God gave the first generation of humans all the laws and taboos of how to live in harmony. • They also believe in ancestors and rituals. • Ancestors play an intermediary role between God and the living. • Ancestors are in spirit form and are everywhere. • Izangoma/amagqirha have ancestral powers to heal the living. • Ancestors look after the welfare of the living, mainly through the elderly, who orally transmit rituals and values to the youth. • Many African religions are clan-based. • There is no special day of worship. Rather, rituals themselves are regarded as holy. • There is no written sacred text, but focuses on moral teachings and ritual practice. • Individualism is discouraged, and the communal way of life is the most important aspect of *ubuntu*.	(10)	

(20)
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QUESTION 3

3.1

> The first World Parliament of Religions was held in Chicago in 1893. Representatives came from all over the world, from both Western and Eastern religions. The most enduring legacy of the 1893 parliament was the speeches given by Swami Vivekananda. These speeches marked an important introduction of Hindu thought to the Western world.
>
> *[Steyn et al 2007: 29]*

3.1.1 In the light of the above quotation, discuss the role/contribution of ANY ONE religious leader/organisation who promoted inter-religious dialogue. (10)

The following grid may be used as a guide for marking purposes. For the purpose of this memorandum, only one organisation is dealt with as an example.

Criteria	Max. Mark.	Learner's Mark
Select leader or organisation and provide brief background, e.g. organisation. • The World Conference on Religion and Peace convened in Kyoto, Japan, in October 1970. • It was established in 1961 when a handful of senior leaders from the world's major faith traditions explored organising a religious summit towards achieving peace.	4	
Discuss the role/contribution of the leader of an organisation, e.g. • The vision of World Conference on Religion and Peace started in the 19th century when a World Parliament of Religions was held in Chicago in 1893. • Religious leaders arranged two conferrences in the USA. • The resolution was taken in Kyoto to form an inter-religious body. • The last conference in Cape Town in 1999 attracted 7000 people. • Mediation between groups at war with each other in countries such as Siera Leone. • Helping with reconstruction. • Has a programme to help children in Africa who are affected by HIV and Aids. • Has a programme to address poverty and illness.	6	

(10)

3.1.2 Draw up a proposal to host an inter-religious conference for women in South Africa. Clearly state your objectives in terms of:

- Historical perspective (10)
- Aims of the conference (10)
- Recommendations (10)

The following grid may be used as a guide for marking purposes. For the purpose of this memorandum, only one organisation is dealt with as an example.

Criteria	Max. Mark.	Learner's Mark
Historical Perpective: State clearly the status of women in South African society throughout the ages. The role of women in the freedom struggle. Leadership role of women in religious institutions. Discrimination and gender bias issues.	10	
Aims of the conference: To create a forum for women from all religions to meet. To open dialogue on common issues affecting women. To address gender bias issues. To search for religious solutions to the vices affecting society. To raise the status of women in society.	10	
Recommendations: Future conferences. Decentralised structures for regular communication. Open channels of communication with government and business. Creation of women empowerment programmes. Leadership roles in religious movements and organisations.	10	

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3.2 List FIVE suggestions that will bring about harmony among various religions.

The following is a model answer.

- Stress the commonalities and similarities in various religions, e.g. a common set of core values is found in the teachings of religions.
- Stress the practical implications of religious faith. The truth ot religious faith must be lived in heart and actions.
- All religions are concerned with the same areas of life. The unconditional norms of each religion apply to families and communities, races, nations and religions.
- All religions are historically and socially interdependent.
- Individuals from various religions may need to co-operate outside the official religious structures.

(10)

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QUESTION 4

4.1 Consider the following statements and answer the questions that follow.

1. Satyagraha literaly means 'holding on to Truth' and it therefore means truth force...it excludes the use of violence (Gandhi) - Hinduism.
2. Love your neighbour like you love yourself. Judaism and Christianity.
3. I am because you are (uBuntu) - African Traditional Religion.
4. A person is not a believer until he loves for his brother what he loves for himself (Hadith) - Islam
5. You should extend loving kindness to all creatures. - Buddhism.
6. God created a perfect world – Baha'i.

In the light of the above statements briefly discuss the notions of human rights and responsibilities, in the context of various religions. (15)

Human Rights:

- The concept of human rights has been in existence for centuries.
- The basis for human rights lies in religious ideas.
- Jewish and Christian scriptures read that Adam was made in the image of God.
- The Qur'an: “surely we have accorded dignity to the sons of man”.
- Bhagavad Gita: the idea that God dwells in every creature is of prime importance.
- Buddhism sees being born as a human as rare and very precious.
- All of these give a high value to human beings.
- Such ideas emphasise the equality of all persons before God/Ultimate Reality.
- They promote the equality of all before the law.

Responsibilities:

- All religions, however, impose limitations on their followers, and although their tenets give high status to human beings they also impose restrictions on humans.
- The concept of responsibility is given equal status to that of human rights.

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4.2 Read the following extract taken from the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (Act No. 108 of 1996) and answer the question that follows.

Freedom of religion, belief and opinion

15 (1) Everyone has the right to freedom of conscience, religion, thought, belief and opinion.

(2) Religious observances may be conducted at state or state-aided institutions, provided that
those observances follow rules made by the appropriate public authorities;
they are conducted on an equitable basis; and
attendance at them is free and voluntary.

(3) This section does not prevent legislation recognising marriages concluded under any tradition, or a system of religious, personal or family law; or systems of personal and family law under any tradition, or adhered to by persons professing a particular religion.

How does religion contribute to this basic human right of freedom of religion, belief and opinion? Discuss this with reference to ANY ONE religion.

The following is a model answer to this question. For the purpose of the memorandum only one religion is dealt with as an example.

- Religious pluralism, toleration of different modes of worship, and respect for the followers and the prophets of other religions are the constant feature of 'Hinduism'.
- Hinduism has never made any attempt to spread or impose itself on others by taking recourse to sword or persecution.
- This resilience stems from the accommodative nature of Hindu thought, based on the firm belief and knowledge that the ultimate Truth is one, and all the religious denominations are but different paths to reach and realise that Truth.
- In this age, Hinduism argues that there is a tendency to pass comments and judgments on the basis of immense information available with speedy ease, but without in-depth and sincere study of a particular phenomenon or a religious branch.
- According to Hinduism, such an attitude easily creates misgivings and misunderstanding, bordering on cynicism, about a particular religion, and even about religion as such!
- Believers of one denomination easily brush aside the claims of greatness and truth made by the followers of other denominations.

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- However, Hinduism argues that no single religion encompasses all truth, although whatever each represents, is true.
- But when related to the totality, Hinduism says, one finds that such an emphasis is but a means to reach the goal. (15)

4.3. Read the passage below and answer the question that follows.

RELIGION IN THE MEDIA AGE

Today religion and the media are linked in powerful and profound ways.

Religion is very important. Yet it is little understood. On the other hand, the media are the context of conversations about religion. They are also the central source of our information about religions other than our own. Yet the media often seem ill-prepared for the role they play.

In the media age, religion can no longer control its own story or its own symbols. In times past, the authority of clerics could more or less dictate where, when and how religious ideas, symbols and claims would surface.

Today, no one can control what the news media will cover and how they will cover it. Once there was a bright line drawn around religion, shielding it from the scrutiny of the world at large. That line has now been blurred by universal, instantaneous and increasing experience of the visual media.

[Adapted from: *Denver Post:* Sunday 16 November 2003, Stewart M Hoover- Editor's Page]

Do you agree with the views expressed above? Discuss, using actual events as examples to support your position. (20)

The following grid may be used as a guide for marking purposes.

Criteria	Max. Mark.	Learner's Mark
The introduction should state the position of the learner on the above statement and give a brief explanation. *Coverage of religious issues has increased over time.* *Theological and spiritual questions are rarely presented as newsworthy.*	5	
The learner must present examples to support the position taken. E.G. *In September 2005 a Danish newspaper called Jyllands-Posten published a series of cartoons depicting the Prophet Muhammed.* *The Danish Muslim organisation protested.* *As the controversy grew, other printed media reported on the incident.* *Islam does not allow pictorial art.* *The above newspaper asked 40 cartoonists to draw the Prophet.* *More than 12 people died during the protests.* *The media seem not to be sensitive to religious beliefs.* *Freedom of expression came under focus.* *The question of responsibility also came under the spotlight.* *Religious opinion was not given equal coverage.* *Media accused of selective reporting.* *Acussations made of deliberate attempt to influence public opinion.* *Theological and spiritual views rarely presented as newsworthy.*	15	

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QUESTION 5

5.1 Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.

> Ever since Darwin first published *The Origin of Species*, people have endlessly debated the implications of the theory of evolution for traditional religious beliefs. Many people, both past and present, have assumed that evolution would destroy all of religion's claims to validity. Many feared this idea. A few welcomed it. Still others have spent many hours speculating on the relationship between evolution and religion, but only came up with very shaky attempts to harmonise the two. Others have given up, saying that the problem cannot be solved.
>
> *[Adapted from: Oracle Education Foundation* Website*]*

5.1.1 What do you understand by the concept *belief*?

- The word 'belief' is sometimes used as a synonym for the word 'religion'.
- Belief may refer to a firm opinion.
- The concept belief may also refer to the acceptance of the teachings of a particular faith in the religious context.
- Belief may include normative (prescribed) acceptance of teachings. (5)

5.1.2 Analyse the above quotation and select ANY ONE religion and discuss its response to the theory of evolution. (20)

The following is a model answer to this question. For the purpose of the memorandum only one religion is dealt with as an example.

Introduction:

- In the middle of the 19th century, biologist Charles Darwin published his theory of evolution in his book *Origin of Species*.
- This was the first non-religious explanation of how the world was created and where humans came from.
- Darwin's theory, then postulates that human life is continous with other forms of life.
- In Hinduism, the theory of evolution is supported in that the cycle of life is taken to promote progression.
- Hinduism says that life started in the water and then evolved to higher being.
- The concept of evolution in Hinduism is not just a physical transformation but a spiritual one also.
- This is supported by the theory of *Karma* and reincarnation which means that the spiritual evolution of the soul will require a physical body that is congruent to its development.

- Thus we can conclude that biological evolution in Hinduism is supported with a spiritual element.

Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow:

5.2

The global public believes that tensions between Islam and the West arise from conflicts over political power and interests and not from differences of religion and culture, according to a BBC World Service poll across 27 countries.

While three out of ten people believe religious or cultural differences are the cause of tensions, a slight majority say tensions are due to conflicting interests.

The poll also reveals that most people see the problems arising from intolerant minorities and not the cultures as a whole. While some people believe fundamental differences in cultures are to blame, most say intolerant minorities are causing the conflict. A significant number belief that the intolerant minorities are on both sides.

The idea that violent conflict is inevitable between Islam and the West is mainly rejected by Muslims, non-Muslims and Westerners alike. While more than a quarter of all respondents (28%) think that violent conflict is inevitable, twice as many (56%) believe that 'common ground can be found'.

[Adapted from: *BBC World Service poll report]*

5.2.1 In the light of the findings above, briefly discuss in what ways religion can play a part in bringing about peace in society. (10)

The following is a model answer for this question.

- Creation of forums for dialogue.
- Making use of multi-religious models used, e.g. in South Africa.
- Recognition of and respect for the different religions and cultures.
- Educational programmes for schools and colleges.
- Religious leaders and communities promoting understanding and respect.

5.2.2 Discuss any area of conflict where religion is perceived to play a part. Use the following sub-headings to answer the question: (15)

- Identify the area of conflict.
- Analyse the situation.
- In what ways is religion part of the problem and cannot take up the role as an agent of peace?

The following is a model answer to this question.

Identify the area of conflict.

- Africa: Sudan

Analyse the situation.

- The civil war in Sudan has a significant religious component, although racial and language differences also play a part.
- Since early in 1989 Sudan has been under the control of a military regime lead by Omar el-Bashir of the National Islamic Front.
- Sudanese people living in the south, lead by the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, have been fighting for independence.
- Organisations and communities that the government sees as a threat are usually attacked by military.

In what ways is religion part of the problem?

- The government targets people of different religions that are tolerant towards each other and do not support dialogue.
- The World Conference on Religions and Peace (WCRP) has spoken out against the government of Khartoum for what it is doing to the Sudanese people.
- The WCRP has successfuly brought together a group of Sudanese religious leaders for inter-faith dialogue.
- They wish to build a society in Sudan that is peaceful, free and just.

TOTAL: 50

GRAND TOTAL: 150

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