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CHRISTIAN SERVICE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
KUMASI -GHANA
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY
END OF FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS, 2019/2020 ACADEMIC YEAR
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN THEOLOGY WITH ADMINISTRATION
LEVEL 100
CSUC 105: RELIGION MORALITY AND SOCIAL VALUES IN AFRICA

January, 2020

[50 marks]

Time: 2 Hours, 15 Minutes

SECTIONS B & C

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

- Answer TWO from Section B and ALL the Questions in Section C
- Write your answer in the Answer Booklet provided
- *Please present your answer in essay form*
- Note: Marks will be awarded for correct grammar, clarity of expression and logical presentation of facts.
- Write your index number clearly at the top of the question paper and every page of the answer booklet used.

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SECTION B

Answer TWO Questions (for 30 marks)

Question 1:

“African social order is Amphibious”. This is illustrated by an Akan proverb, *Abusua tese kwae ...* which literary means that the clan is like the forest. Discuss the concept of African social order. [15 marks]

Question 2:

“If there is anything the Ghanaian cannot stand, especially in public, it is insulting him ...” (Peter Sarpong, 1976). With reference to the insults by Rev Obofour on a member who was being delivered from the spirit of witchcraft in his church (17th January 2019 edition of *yen.com*), examine the use of abusive speech in the Ghanaian media today. What can be done to promote decency in public speech? [15 marks]

Question 3:

“In olden times there were no police men and no need of them; the gods were the policemen.” What role did supernatural agents play in the enforcement of morality in a typical traditional African society like yours? [15 marks]

Question 4:

Explain FOUR social and moral values entrenched in African societies. [15 marks]

SECTION C – CASE STUDY

Read the passage below and answer ALL the questions that follow for 20 marks

The Story of the Discovery of Peace

I spent about a week in a certain village called *Azondwole* ten years ago. Whiles in the village I realized that everybody wanted me to come to his or her house to eat and the people were giving me food items to use at home. This gesture was so wide spread that I tried to find out the reason from an old man who I met and he gave his name to be *Nyilale*. The man told me a story that about two hundred years ago, this man *Azondwole* was the first man to live there with his wife and two sons. This man stood for peace and was believed to be an architect for peace as his name means in Nzema. He trained his children to be kind as he was to everyone and accommodated others who wanted a place for farming.

When that place of *Azondwole* became a community some jealous surrounding people came to attack the people at *Azondwole* village and this old man led the people to defeat the attackers. The man *Azondwole* and his children continued to feed people who had nothing and this man’s kindness gained him and his household the popularity and that were also a source of jealousy from the surrounding villages. In the last year when the old man *Azondwole* perceived that he could die at any time he called his household every morning and pronounced blessing on them. One day early in the morning *Azondwole*’s children woke up and

found out that their father *Azondwole* had died in his sleep. The whole community helped the children to give the man a befitting burial according to their custom.

So many years after the *Azondwole* man died, his children became blessed and they also imparted the blessing to their children till the fourth generation. When the *Azondwole* village became a bigger community, the people became traditional who believed that the man *Azondwole* became commendable to the extent that they prayed through him and his children through libation for protection and guidance. According to *Nyilale* the old man I met, anybody who does good to strangers sees blessing in whatever he or she does due to the blessings from the spirit of *Azondwole* and his children that is why everybody who saw me was trying to do good to me. This old man further explained that a time came in the history where someone secretly murdered one of their people at the farm and the people prayed to the spirit of *Azondwole*, the first old man and the culprit was seen running mad in the street until the family of the culprit had to offer sacrifices in the form of compensation to the bereaved family before the culprit was set free.

QUESTIONS

- a. According to the story, why were the people praying through *Azondwole* and his children? **(3 marks)**
- b. Why was *Azondwole* pronouncing blessing on his children especially at the last year before his death? **(2 marks)**
- c. What was the belief system of the people that made them pray through *Azondwole* and his children? **(1 mark)**
- d. Give at least four moral criteria that qualified *Azondwole* to be selected to be petitioned in prayers. **(4 marks)**
- e. When *Azondwole* and his children died what roles did their spirits play in the community? **(4 marks)**
- f. Define the kind of spirits *Azondwole* and his children became when they died. **(2 marks)**
- g. Explain why if the culprit who secretly murdered someone had died during his affliction he could not have attained the same status as *Azondwole* and his children. **(2 marks)**
- h. Mention at least two moral values that can be identified with *Azondwole* **(2 marks)**