UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

UNIVERSITEITSEKSAMENS

UNISA university of south africa

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HUMAN RIGHTS, VALUES AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

Duration 2 Hours

100 Marks

EXAMINERS

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Closed book examination

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Instructions:

Answer FOUR questions from the six questions below Each question counts for 25 marks.

Please fill in on the front cover of your answer book the number of each question that you have answered.

Question One

Topic: The historical development of Human Rights

The Universal Declaration of Human rights was the first comprehensive pronouncements on Human Rights of the UN in 1948, but in principle it was not a new concept It developed over centuries together with the progressive understanding of human dignity.

In this essay you are requested to briefly trace the historical development of Human Rights from before the Christian era up to the present era By so doing identify the most important legal instruments that ultimately gave rise to the Universal Declaration of Human rights in 1948

Question Two

Topic: The African human rights system.

The year 2007 marked the launching of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) Roundtable discussions reviewed the impact the Universal Declaration of Human Rights had on Africa Achmat Dangor (CEO of the Nelson Mandela Foundation) said "Human Rights do not translate into a reality in Africa" He also referred to the African Charter of Human and People's Rights

You are requested to reflect on the statement "Human Rights do not translate into a reality in Africa" In other words Human Rights are violated in Africa Please discuss this view and substantiate your answer with factual information Guard against generalization

Question Three

Topic: The South African Bill of Human Rights: Derogable Rights and non Derogable Rights.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights does not just consists of a list of human rights, it has been categorized into different kinds of rights, or generations of rights

Provide a theoretical distinction between **Derogable and non Derogable Rights. Write in detail** on **four non derogable rights** and **four derogable rights.** Reflect on the practical implications of these rights for the people in your home country

Question Four

Topic: The Generations of Human Rights

Write on the FOUR Generations of Human Rights:-

- Civil and Political Rights,
- Economic, Social and Cultural rights,
- Solidarity Rights,
- Ecological Rights

Discuss each generation of human rights

- Indicate the number that identifies the particular generation of human rights
- Indicate the colour code of the generation of rights
- Explain the particular rights that fall under the different generation of rights
- Explain the meaning, relevance and practical applications for people living in South Africa, Africa, or your own country

Question Five

Topic: The Human Rights of Children

Children are the most vulnerable group of the human population and for this reason a special section of rights is allocated to them in the Bill of Human Rights Children are meant to be protected and respected by these rights so as to grow into adults who will respect the rights of their children and peers

Examine the importance and reasons behind the rights of Children What do the rights entail and how are these rights violated even by certain cultural and social practices

Question Six

Topic: Culture and Human Rights

Culture is so basic to humans that it impacts heavily on how we see ourselves and other people Culture is also a prerequisite for a human rights society

Reflect on what culture is and the importance of culture for the development of a human society At the same time spend time on how certain cultural practices violate human rights, and the human dignity of people Use your own culture or examples of other cultural practices known to you to support your answer

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