M. A. Examination – 2024

Semester – I

Comparative Religion

MACOMRCP103: Sociology of Religion

Time: 3 Hours **Full Marks: 60**

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin

Answer **any four** questions

1. "Feuerbach resolves the religious essence into the human essence. But the human essence is no abstraction inherent in each single individual. In its reality, it is the ensemble of the social relations." – Annotate. 15
2. How does the religion make the suffering sufferable? Explain it with reference to *Critique of Hegel's Philosophy of Right*. 15
3. How does Durkheim define religion? How does he explain the sacred and profane and their relation in the definition of religion? Elucidate. 3+12
4. Briefly explain Taylor's theory of Animism. How does Durkheim criticize it? 10+5
5. Critically evaluate the raise of religion in the writings of Max Weber with appropriate examples. 15
6. Write short note on any three of the following: 5 × 3 = 15

    a. Caste and Religion
    b. Class and Religion
    c. Non-privileged Class
    d. World-rejecting asceticism
    e. Mysticism and salvation

M.A. Examination 2024

Semester – I

Comparative Religion

Course: MACOMRCP102

History of Comparative Religion

Full Marks: 60 **Time: 3 Hours**

Answer **any four** questions

Each question is of value as indicated in the margin

1. Give a brief account of the Judeo-Christian religious attitude of exclusiveness in medieval Europe. How did this attitude impact their understanding of other religions during that time? 10+5

2. Give an account of accumulation of religious materials for academic study in Europe during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, through their connection with other contemporary religious cultures and through archaeological discoveries of ancient cultures. 15

3. Discuss some developments in the nineteenth centuries that has shaped the course of Comparative study of Religion. 15

4. Describe the role of Frederich Max Muller in the Comparative study of Religion. How and why did he relate the science of mythology with the science of religion? Discuss. 15

5. Explain the contribution of some modern Indian thinkers in promoting interreligious dialogue and interreligious harmony. 15

6. Write short notes on **any two** of the following: 7.5+7.5

    a) Ancient Greek mindset towards other religious cultures
    b) Euhemerus and Euhemerism
    c) The theory of evolution in Comparative Religion
    d) Confucianism in the Age of Reason

M.A. Examination, 2024

Semester – I

Comparative Religion

Course: MACOMRCP101

Phenomenon of Religion

Full Marks: 60 **Time: 3 Hours**

Answer **any four** questions

Each question is of value as indicated in the margin

1. Who are the three groups that pose a challenge to any scholarly inquiry into religion? Discuss after Wilfred Cantwell Smith. 15
2. Describe the different meanings of the ancient Latin term 'religio' with special reference to the use of the term by Lucretius and Cicero. 15
3. What developments in the nineteenth century created a sense of 'religion' as an 'objective reality out there'? Discuss after Cantwell Smith. 15
4. What are the different interpretations of the terms 'Religion' and 'religions' that we have inherited today? Discuss after Cantwell Smith. 15
5. Describe the process of naming of Hinduism and Sikhism in India. 15

   Or,

   Describe the process of naming of Chinese and Japanese religions. 15
6. Write short notes on *any two* of the following: 7.5+7.5
   a) *Nostra religio* and *Vestra religio*
   b) *Vera religio* and *Falsa religio*
   c) Religions as sociological and historical processes
   d) Religions as organised systems of ideas and beliefs

M.A. Examination 2024
Comparative Religion
Semester – 1
Paper- MACOMRCP104
Different Methods of Study of Religion

Time: 3 hours | Full Marks: 60

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin.
Answer **any four** questions from the following

1.	How does Sigmund Freud describe religion as illusion? Critically evaluate its merits and demerits.	7.5+7.5=15
2.	What is religion as collective unconscious? How does Carl Jung justify it in his writings? Explain.	5+10=15
3.	How did William James define religion? Discuss his view about the extreme 'pathological' cases of religion.	5+10=15
4.	Write a short essay on the Anthropological approaches to the study of religion.	15
5.	Discuss how magic is integral to the understanding of religion.	15
6.	Discuss the contributions of James Frazer to the understanding of religion.	15