



INTERCONGREGATIONAL INSTITUTE – (ICI)
Institute of Philosophy, Human Sciences and Religious Studies
An Affiliate of the Catholic University of Malawi

END OF SEMESTER I EXAMINATIONS (DECEMBER, 2020)
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
COURSE TITLE: ISLAM
COURSE CODE: RSS 3102

TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Answer all questions in section A
2. Choose only two questions from section B
3. Write in your own words, be clear and brief

SECTION A (20 marks)

1. With relevant examples, expound 5 categories into which the Sharia Law has been codified? **(10 Marks)**
- b) Describe Fulani and Toucouleur period in the history of Islam in West Africa **(4 Marks)**
- c) Compare and contrast the Qadiriya Muslim Brotherhood and Tijaniyya Muslim Brotherhood. **(6 marks)**

SECTION B (40 marks)

2. Being a good Muslim requires responding positively to diversity and being proactively engaged in wider society. Using Quran and Sunnah sources, demonstrate that dialogue (understood as meaningful engagement with people of different outlooks and backgrounds) is a part of the fabric of Islam. **(20 Marks)**
3. Members of a Muslim Community in Eastern Malawi torched the office of a Catholic Primary School head teacher after he turned away female pupils wearing the hijab (Police Spokesperson James Kadadzera told AFP), from the Qu’ranic perspective as a Special Advisor to the President of Malawi prove that Islam is a religion of peace. **(12 Marks)**
- 3.b. Compare and contrast Mu’tazilites school and Ash’arism school of Islamic thought **(8 Marks)**

4. The recent rise in Islamic fundamentalism linked Islam to acts of terrorism and has worsened the prejudices that non- Muslim have against Islam. Based on Hadith, Sunnah, Sharia Law and Quran present a critical prose at Inter-religious gathering. **(15 marks)**
- 4b. Write short notes on salat **(5 marks)**

END OF QUESTIONS

THEMATIC ANSWER SHEET

Question 1

- The word Sharia originally means “the way to the watering place but as applied to God’s law, it means “the path to God’s commandments”. It is God’s law as an ideal; it is what is contained within revelation, associated with God and truth. It thus inspires loyalty and commitment.
- The Shariah has been codified into five categories:
 - a. a) What God has commanded e.g. Do not commit adultery
 - b. b) What God has recommended but not made strictly obligatory: praying 5 times a day, Pilgrimage
 - c. c) What God has left legally indifferent: stoning an adulteress
 - d. d) What God has deprecated but not actually prohibited:
 - e. e) What God has expressly prohibited e.g

Question 1 b

- During the period of decadence, the Qadiriyya Muslim Brotherhood, introduced by Ben Abd-el-Karim Ben Muhammad al-Maghili at-Tilimsani commonly known as Al Maghili and his disciple, Sheik Umar al-Bakkay.
- The latter was responsible for introducing the Qadiriyya Brotherhood to the Moors, the Sarakolle, the Songhai and the Fulani. The teaching of these two masters brought about the awakening of Islam especially in the Fulani settlements of Fouta Djalon, Fouta Toro, Gobir and Macina.
- The Fulani of these centres, tired of their traditional chiefs whose rule was not very much compatible with Islam, revolted against their local sovereigns and installed their own and established the administration based on the Shari’a Law.
- Alfa Ibrahima Ba and Ibrahima Sori ruled Fouta Djallon from 1725 to 1805; Tierno Souleyman Ba and Almani Abd-el Kadel in Fouta Toro, about 1776; Uthman Dan Fodio in Gobir and Sokoto, about 1810 and Sekou Amadou in Macina, about 1820.

Question 1 C

- The ideology of the Muslim Brotherhood is mainly focused on reform of existing political systems in the Arab world. It embraces the idea of political activism and social responsibility, organising charitable works and social support programmes as part of its outreach to its core support base of lower-income populations.
- The **Qadiriyya** Qādirīyah, *Qadri*, *Qadriya*, Kadri, Elkadri, Elkadry, Aladray, Alkadrie, Adray, Kadray, Kadiri, Qadiri, Quadri or Qadri) are members of the Qadiri tariqa (Sufi order). The tariqa got its name from Abdul Qadir Gilani (1077–1166, also transliterated Jilani), who was

a Hanbali scholar from Gilan, Iran. The order relies strongly upon adherence to the fundamentals of Islam.

- The **Tijāniyyah** is a Sufi tariqa (order, path), originating in the Maghreb but now more ... Qadiriyyah **brotherhood**, focusing on social reform and grassroots **Islamic** ... 1983) in Egypt; the centres of Shaykh **al-Islam** Sidi Ibrahim Riyahi Tunisi (d. ... crumbled but the **Tijāniyya** remained the predominant Sufi order in the region..

Question 2



Question 4b

- The *salat* is the ritual prayer. Every Muslim who has reached the age of puberty, man or woman must pray five times a day. Other types of prayers and invocations are called *du'a*. On Friday, men must meet at the mosque for the noonday prayer, which includes a sermon called *khotuba*.
- The prayers are said in Arabic and ritual purity must be observed by all. Ablutions are carried out by those who feel ritually impure and women do not practice ritual prayers during their menses. For the same reason, Muslims remove their shoes before starting ritual prayers.
- This ritual purity comes from the very nature of Allah who is both *al-Zahir* (the Outward, the Manifest) and *al-Batin* (the Inward, the Hidden); the worshipper must also be pure outwardly and inwardly. He asks God to purify him from the sins he committed with his hands, mouth, feet, ears etc by washing them.
- Prayer purifies the faithful; it contributes to the forgiveness of his/her sins, gives him strength to do his duty and helps him to be steadfast in trials. The five ritual daily prayers are:

-*Al-fajr* (dawn prayer)

-*al-zuhr* (noonday prayer)

-*al-asr* (afternoon prayer)

-*al-maghrib* (evening prayer)

-*al-isha* (night prayer)

- Hadith is what Muhammad said and Sunnah is what he did while Sirah is his life. The whole program of Islamic spiritual life comes from “the good model” (*uswatun hasanah*).
- Hadith, Sunnah and Sirah go together. The Hadith is the supreme commentary upon the Qur'an and a treasury of wisdom for walking the path of divine Knowledge.

