

**2023**

**SOCIOLOGY**

**Paper : SOCHC3066**

**( Sociology of Religion )**

Full Marks : 80

Pass Marks : 32

**Time : 3 hours**

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks  
for the questions*

**1. Choose the correct answer (any six) :      1×6=6**

**(a) According to whom the word religion  
has its origin in the Latin word  
rel(i)igio?**

- (i) Majumdar and Madan**
- (ii) Max Muller**
- (iii) Herbert Spencer**
- (iv) Pierre Bourdieu**

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- (b) Which religion believes in the concept of 'Samsara', the cycle of birth, death, and rebirth?
- (i) Christianity
  - (ii) Islam
  - (iii) Hinduism
  - (iv) Jews
- (c) What is the term for the government that officially endorses and supports a particular religion?
- (i) Secular
  - (ii) Theocracy
  - (iii) Democracy
  - (iv) Monarchy
- (d) Which branch of philosophy is concerned with question about the nature of reality, including those related to religious concepts?
- (i) Metaphysics
  - (ii) Epistemology
  - (iii) Ethics
  - (iv) Aesthetics

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- (e) What is the term for a form of prayer that involves conferring one's sins and seeking forgiveness from a divine authority?
- (i) Intercession
  - (ii) Meditation
  - (iii) Repentance
  - (iv) Praise
- (f) Who authored *On the Jewish Question*?
- (i) Max Weber
  - (ii) Karl Marx
  - (iii) Emile Durkheim
  - (iv) Georg Simmel
- (g) The practice of alms giving, common in many religious traditions, is often seen as an antidote to
- (i) asceticism
  - (ii) greed and accumulation
  - (iii) avarice
  - (iv) austerity

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(h) The 'end times' in Christian eschatology often includes the belief in the return of

(i) the Antichrist

(ii) the Messiah

(iii) the Dalai Lama

(iv) the Prophet Muhammad

(i) In Hinduism, the spiritual discipline of 'Sannyasa' often involves a life of solitude and renunciation. What is renounced in this practice?

(i) Material wealth and attachments

(ii) Enlightenment

(iii) The pursuit of knowledge

(iv) The physical body

(j) Who authored *The Golden Bough*?

(i) Frazer

(ii) Durkheim

(iii) Weber

(iv) Marx

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2. Answer the following questions (any five) :

2×5=10.

(a) Define 'accumulation' in religious context.

(b) What is the concept of religious pluralism in society?

(c) Why is religion considered as a group phenomenon?

(d) What do you mean by theodicy?

(e) What is a 'totem'?

(f) What is religious sect?

(g) Define rationality as elements of religion.

3. Answer the following questions (any six) :

5×6=30

(a) How do ascetics typically lead a life of self-denial and simplicity?

(b) How do different religions view the pursuit of material wealth?

(c) How do different religious traditions address the problem of evil and suffering in the world?

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( Turn Over )

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- (d) Discuss briefly the paths and pillars of Bhakti.
- (e) Elucidate the concepts of sacred and profane.
- (f) What do you mean by myth?
- (g) Discuss briefly the simple forms of religion.

4. Answer the following questions (any two) :  
10×2=20

- (a) What is eschatology? Explore the concept of heaven and hell. 3+7=10
- (b) What is Sufism? Discuss the spread of Sufism in India. 3+7=10
- (c) What do you mean by ritual in religious practices? Discuss the functionalist perspective on ritual. 3+7=10
- (d) What is pilgrimage? Explain Turner's typology of pilgrimage. 3+7=10

5. Answer the following questions (any one) : 14

- (a) Provide a general overview of Shaman with appropriate examples. What are the functions and role of Shaman? 7+7=14

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- (b) Write an essay on space and time in religious context.
- (c) Discuss in detail the complex relationship between the State and religion in contemporary society.

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