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KIRIRI WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION, 2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR
SECOND YEAR, SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION
(ARTS)

KRE 2201-PHENOMENOLOGY OF RELIGION

Date: 10th August 2023
Time: 8.30am-10.30am

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

ANSWER QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Explain the following ideas of the Holy In Phenomenology of Religion
- i. The Holy as numinous (2 Marks)
 - ii. The Holy as Mysterium (2 Marks)
 - iii. The Holy as Tremendum (2 Marks)
- b) Outline views of phenomenology of religion by the following proponents:
- i. Brede Kristensen. (4 Marks)
 - ii. Edmund Husserl. (4 Marks)
 - iii. Gerardus Van Derleauw. (4 Marks)
- c) Discuss the significance of the phenomenology of religious signs and symbols. (7 Marks)
- d) Critique the Functionalist Theory of Religion (5 Marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- a) In the light of Marx Muller's views on religious phenomena, discuss the dynamics of religiosity and spirituality in informal settlements (slums) in Kenya. (10 Marks)
- b) Explain any **two** theories of religion and experience. (10 Marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

Analyze the phenomenology of religious experiences under the following: -

- a) Religious experience and encounter with God. (10 Marks)
- b) Religious experiences and the relationship with the material world. (10 Marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

Discuss the three listed approaches to the study of phenomenology of religion

- a) Historical approach. (5 Marks)
- b) Phenomenological approach. (5 Marks)
- c) Behavioral or social approach. (5 Marks)
- d) Philosophical approach (5 Marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

“Bungoma Principal Magistrate Tom Olando has today, Tuesday, May 16, 2023 ordered the release from custody of controversial preacher Eliud Wekesa alias *Yesu wa Tongaren* after the police failed to prove claims of cultism against his New Jerusalem Church. He had been accused of running a religious cult in Tongaren, purporting to be Jesus Christ, teaching radical ideologies to his followers The prosecution asked the magistrate to release the accused and close the case affirming that findings by the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) did not offer any grounds to implicate ‘the man of God’, whose real name is Eliud Wekesa...” *Kenya News Agency*, Thursday, June 22, 2023

- a) Discuss characteristics of *Yesu wa Tongaren* which makes him be described as a charismatic cultic leader (12 Marks)
- b) Comment on why you think the police failed to prove claims of cultism against *Yesu wa Tongaren* with his New Jerusalem Church. (8 Marks)