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KIRIRI WOMENS' UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION, 2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR
FIRST YEAR, FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION
FOR THE BACHELOR OF EDUCATION
(ARTS)
KLT 2306-WEST AFRICAN LITERATURE

Date: 15th August 2023
Time: 11.30am-1.30pm

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

ANSWER QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- With reference to the historical background in the West African literature development, explain **four** reasons why European's attitude towards colonialism changed. (8 Marks)
- Referring to the earliest West African prose, explain how West African writers capture the historical concerns of West Africa. (6 Marks)
- Examine the main points of view explored by West African writers in West African prose. (7 Marks)
- "Africa is a massive continent with diverse religious traditions, to the extent that within the same tradition there have been variations." Discuss this statement with reference to West African main religious traditions often reflected in West African literature. (9 Marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- To what extent does Ayi Kwei Armah pursue the social political issues in *The Beautiful Ones Are Not Yet Born*. (10 Marks)
- "Chinua Achebe sees the novel as a teacher". Discuss. (10 Marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- "Negritude is a movement of sensitization of African issues". Examine the background that gave rise to this movement. (10 Marks)
- Examine the place of a woman in Africa with reference to Beatrice and other women featured in Achebe's *Anthills of the Savannah*. (10 Marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

Read the following poem and respond to questions thereafter

David Diop, *Africa*

Africa tell me Africa
Is this you this back that is bent
This back that breaks under the weight of humiliation
This back trembling with red scars
And saying yes to the whip under the midday sun
But a grave voice answers me

Impetuous son, that tree young and strong
That tree there
In splendid loneliness amidst white and faded flowers
That is Africa your Africa
That grows again patiently obstinately
And its fruit gradually acquire
The bitter taste of liberty

- a) From knowledge gained in this course, place this poem historical context of West African literature. (8 Marks)
- b) Analyse the different stylistic devices utilized in this poem. (6 Marks)
- c) Describe the persona in the poem. (4 Marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- a) Using a text of your choice studied in this course discuss the roles of **five** characters there in.(10 Marks)
- b) Citing examples from novels and plays studied in this course examine the main themes explored in West African Literature. (10 Marks)