International Islamic University Islamabad
Faculty of Islamic Studies (Usuluddin)
Department of Comparative Religion

Admission Test Fall 2021

Subject: Comparative Religion
Total Marks: 100

Level: PhD
Duration: One hour

Question 1: Write a short note on the following: (30 marks)

a) Avatars in Hinduism

b) The Doctrine of Atonement in Christianity
c) The first and second destruction of Jerusalem


d) Guru Granth Sahib


e) The concept of *yin* and *yang* in Taoism/Daoism


Question 2: Tick in front of the correct option: (10 marks)

i. Ezra is a popular personality of:
   A- Zoroastrianism  B- Manichaeism
   C-Eastern Christianity  D- Judaism

ii. Arya Samaj was founded by:
   A- Sri Shankar Acharya  B- Ram Mohan Roy
   C- Dayananda Sarasvati  D- Sri Ramakrishna

iii. Buddha was born in what is today:
   A- Bhutan  B- India
   C- Nepal  D- Sikkim

iv. The founder of Jainism is:
   A- Ramanujacharya  B- Vardhamana Mahavira
   C- Jainam Mahant  D- Chaitanya Mahaprabhu

v. Coptic Christianity has a significant presence in:
   A- Egypt  B- Lebanon
   C- Croatia  D- Vatican

vi. The Father of modern political Zionism is:
   A- Moses Mendelsohn  B- Theodor Herzl
   C- Shimon Peres  D- Benyamin Netanyahu

vii. Dine-e-Ilahi was introduced by:
   A- Ghiyas al-Din Balban  B- Dara Sikoh
   C- Shah Wali Ullah  D- Jalal al-Din Akbar

viii. The father of the modern discipline of comparative religion was:
   A- Gerardus van der Leeuw  B- Rudolph Otto
   C- Max Müller  D- Mercia Eliade

ix. Bhagavad Gita is the last part of:
   A- Vedanta Sutra  B- Mahabharata
   C- Ramayana  D- Bhagavata Purana

x. Avesta is a holy book of:
   A- Confucianism  B- Vedic Religion
   C- Zoroastrianism  D- Vajrayana Buddhism
Question 3: Is it possible to approach the study of religion without being judgmental? Argue from the Islamic perspective. (15 marks)
Question 4: “With the progress and accumulation of scientific knowledge, the room for religious beliefs decreases as scientific knowledge replaces religious explanations and therefore makes them redundant.” Critically evaluate this statement.

(15 marks)
Question 5: Propose a research topic for your possible doctoral dissertation, explain your central research question(s), and elaborate your methodology how you would try to get at the plausible answer(s). (30 marks)
International Islamic University, Islamabad

Faculty of Usuluddin

Department of Comparative Religion

PhD Admission Test  Session: Spring 2021  Maximum Marks: 100  Time: 2 Hrs.

1. Explain why you want to join the PhD program in Comparative Religion at the Faculty of Usuluddin here, mentioning your goals and telling us its importance for you.
2. The Messenger of Allah Muhammad (peace be upon him) interacted with non-Muslims through his blessed life. It drew from Quranic principles as we know well. Discuss with examples from Quran and his (peace be upon him) blessed life.
3. Answer briefly:
   a. Anthropology of Religion

   

   b. Philosophy of Religion
c. Three religious minorities in Pakistan other than the Christians and Hindus and their location

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d. Any two Muslim scholars' contribution to Comparative Religion

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