

M.A. Examination, 2026

Semester – II

Comparative Religion

Course: MACOMRCP201

Ritual Studies

Time: 3 hours

Full Marks: 60

Answer **any four** questions

Each question is of value as indicated in the margin

1. Briefly describe the evolution of ritual theories from the nineteenth century to the present time. 15
2. Discuss the theory of ritual given by Clifford Geertz and show the patterns of dichotomy and dialectics embedded in it. 15
3. Discuss the nature of ritual theories that understands ritual as performance. What are the drawbacks of this group of theory? 9+6
4. What do you understand by "ritualization"? Explain how Catherine Bell defines ritual through the process of ritualization. 5+10
5. How does Catherine Bell establish the fact that formality, fixity, and repetition are not integral characteristics of a ritual? Explain with suitable examples. 15
6. Write short notes on any two of the following: 7.5x2
 - i) Failed ritual (Clifford Geertz)
 - ii) Text building and textuality
 - iii) Participant-Observer in ritual
 - iv) Ritual as window of culture

M. A. Final Examination – 2026

Semester - IV

Comparative Religion

MACOMRCP 202 – Philosophy of Religion (Advanced)

Duration: 3 Hrs.

Max. Marks: 60

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin

Answer Any FOUR of the following questions:

1. How does Kierkegaard attempt to associate truth with subjectivity? Explain. **15**
2. Write a short essay on the close relation between Kierkegaard's personal life and his philosophical reflections. **15**
3. Provide an account of the Nietzschean critique of morality based on his work, *On the Genealogy of Morality*. **15**
4. Examine and compare the secularization and the ontotheological theses of Nietzsche's proclamation of the death of God. **15**
5. Explain briefly the methodological and typological phenomenology with appropriate examples. **15**
6. Write a short note on Any Three of the followings; **5 + 5 + 5**
 - i. Edmund Husserl
 - ii. G. Van der Leeuw
 - iii. Joachim Wach
 - iv. Mircea Eliade
 - v. Rudolf Otto

M. A. Examination 2026
Semester II
Comparative Religion
Course: MACOMRCP 203
Religion in the Contemporary World

Time: 3 Hours

Full Marks: 60

Questions are of value as indicated in the Margin

Answer any FOUR questions

1. Why does T. N. Madan think that though the ambiguity of Secularism was at one point considered its strength its vagueness is now a poor foundation for clear-headed public policies? Explain and examine. 15
2. Do you agree with the view that, though Secularism and Secularisation are sometimes said to be distinct from each other, they are mutually dependent categories? Justify your answer. 15
3. How does Ashish Nandy argue against the western notion of Secularism in his 'Manifesto'? How do Bilgrami and Vanaik respond to his position. Elucidate. 10+5=15
4. Explain the Mohd. Ahmed Khan Vs Shah Bano Begum Case of 1985. Do you agree with the view that the case weakened the position of Legislature and Executive in the Indian Democracy? Justify your answer. 8+7=15
5. Why does Gandhi think that religion and politics should not be separated from each other? Is it appropriate to call him the father of Indian Secularism? Explain and Examine. 5+10=15
6. Write a detailed note on the historical development of the notion of Indian secularism from 1885 to 1947. Did the judgement of Supreme Court of India passed in 1996 regarding secularism contributed to its further development? Analyse. 10+5=15

M. A. Final Examination – 2026

Semester - IV

Comparative Religion

MACOMRCP 204 – Methodology, Textual Study & Dissertation

Duration: 2 Hrs.

Max. Marks: 20

Questions are of value as indicated in the margin

Answer Any FOUR of the following questions:

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| 1. Explain briefly the importance of research with appropriate examples. | 5 |
| 2. Describe briefly the qualitative method of research. | 5 |
| 3. Why is the review of literature important in the process of research? | 5 |
| 4. What is planning of research? | 5 |
| 5. What are the differences between footnote and in-text citation? | 5 |
| 6. Illustrate a sole authored book Bibliography in both APA and Chicago styles. | 2.5 + 2.5 |
