

**ESO-15**

**Bachelor Degree Programme  
(BDP)**

**Assignment for students admitted in  
July 2023 and January 2024 Sessions**

**Elective Course in Sociology-15  
(Society and Religion)**



**School of Social Sciences  
Indira Gandhi National Open University  
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068**

## ASSIGNMENT

Dear Student,

You will have to complete one assignment for an eight-credit elective course in Sociology. This is a Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA).

It is important that you write answer to all TMA questions in your own words. Your answer should be within the approximate range of the word-limit set for a particular section. Remember, the constant practice while writing answers to assignment questions help you to write better answers to questions in term-end examination.

The TMA is designed to enable you to write answers to different categories of questions. The Assignment is divided into three sections. Section 1 comprises 2 descriptive questions of 20 marks each. Descriptive Category Questions are meant for writing essay type answers, with an introduction and a conclusion. Here, the evaluators have been asked to judge your ability to describe that you know about the topic in a systematic, to-the-point and coherent manner.

Section 2 comprises 4 questions that of 12 marks each. Here, you are requested to first analyse the topic in terms of arguments and explanations and then write the answers in a concise as well as precise manner. The evaluator shall assess your ability to distinguish, compare and contrast, or, present clear understanding of concepts and processes.

Section 3 comprises 2 questions of 6 marks each. These are meant to enhance your skill of recall in brief the relevant/precise information about persons, writings, events, exact definition to terms, or clear understanding of concepts and processes.

The completed assignment should be sent to the Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you as per the schedule given below:

<b>No. of Assignment</b>	<b>Date of Submission</b>	<b>To be sent</b>
<b>July 2023 Batch</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup> March, 2024</b>	<b>To The Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you</b>
<b>January 2024 Batch</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> September, 2024</b>	

You **a must obtain receipt from the Study Centre for the assignments submitted and retain it.** If possible, keep a xerox copy of the assignments with you. The Study Centre will have to return the assignments to you after they are evaluated. Please insist on this. The Study Centre has to send the marks to the SED Division at IGNOU, New Delhi.

**Indira Gandhi National Open University**  
**Elective Course in Sociology: ESO-15**  
**Society and Religion**  
**Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA)**

**Maximum Marks: 100**  
**Weightage 30%**

**Programme Code: BDP**  
**Course Code: ESO-15**  
**Assignment Code: ESO-15/AST/TMA/2023-24**

**Answer all the questions.**

**Section-I**

**Answer the following questions in about 500 words each. Marks**

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| 1. Explain the functional theories of religion.                        | 20 |
| 2. Describe the Mukanda or circumcision ritual practised by the Ndembu | 20 |

**Section-II**

**Answer the following questions in about 250 words each.**

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| 3. Explain the psychoanalytic approach to rituals.        | 12 |
| 4. Discuss Weber's understanding of religion and economy. | 12 |
| 5. Outline the nature and development of civil religion   | 12 |
| 6. Explain the origins of Veerashaivism.                  | 12 |

**Section-III**

**Answer the following questions in about 100 words each.**

- |                                   |    |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| 7. Who is a shaman ?              | 06 |
| 8. What are confirmatory rituals? | 06 |