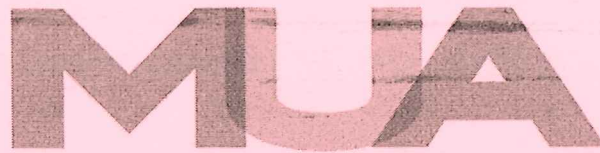


The
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UNDERGRADUATE UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP
DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

BDS 101: SOCIAL STRUCTURE AND CHANGE

DATE: 4TH APRIL 2025

DURATION: 2 HOURS

MAXIMUM MARKS: 70

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Write your registration number on the answer booklet.
2. **DO NOT** write on this question paper.
3. This paper contains **SIX (6)** questions.
4. Question **ONE** is compulsory.
5. Answer any other **THREE** questions.
6. Question **ONE** carries **25 MARKS** and the rest carry **15 MARKS** each.
7. **Write all your answers in the Examination answer booklet provided.**

QUESTION ONE

Read the Case Study below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

The rise of technology in the 21st century has led to transformative changes in social structures and interactions globally. The introduction of digital platforms, such as social media and e-commerce, has altered how people communicate, socialize, and engage in economic activities. In urban areas, digital technology has facilitated the growth of virtual communities, allowing individuals to connect across geographical boundaries and engage in a wider range of activities, from political activism to online commerce. For instance, social media platforms have provided marginalized groups a voice, enabling them to mobilize and advocate for their rights and interests.

In rural settings, technology has brought about both opportunities and challenges. On one hand, advancements in agricultural technology have improved productivity and access to markets for farmers, leading to economic growth and enhanced livelihoods. On the other hand, the digital divide remains a significant issue, as many rural communities lack access to reliable internet and technology, which hampers their ability to participate fully in the digital economy.

Furthermore, the interconnection of global markets due to technological advancements has led to the reorganization of labor. While some jobs have been created, many traditional roles have been rendered obsolete; resulting in increased inequality and social stratification. This evolution has implications for social mobility, as individuals navigate the changing landscape of employment and education in an increasingly digital world.

Required:

- a) Analyze the impact of technology on social change and social organization. **(5 MARKS)**
- b) Discuss how social stratification has evolved in the context of modernization and globalization. **(10 MARKS)**
- c) Evaluate the challenges and opportunities posed by technological advancements for social mobility in contemporary societies. **(10 MARKS)**

QUESTION TWO

- a) Examine the causes of social change and provide examples of each. (7 MARKS)
- b) Discuss the theoretical perspectives on social change and how they explain the dynamics within societies. (8 MARKS)

QUESTION THREE

- a) Discuss the various forms of social stratification and their implications for societal development. (7 MARKS)
- b) Evaluate the importance of studying social stratification in understanding contemporary issues in society. (8 MARKS)

QUESTION FOUR

- a) Explain the concept of social mobility and its types. (7 MARKS)
- b) Identify the barriers to upward social mobility and suggest potential solutions to overcome these barriers. (8 MARKS)

QUESTION FIVE

- a) Analyze the characteristics of different societal development stages and their relevance in today's global context. (7 MARKS)
- b) Discuss the impact of societal development on individual and collective well-being. (8 MARKS)

QUESTION SIX

- a) Assess the role of globalization in shaping social interactions and institutions in contemporary societies. (7 MARKS)
- b) Critically examine the positive and negative aspects of globalization on local cultures and identities. (8 MARKS)

